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NAUMANN dossier

Chief, EE

27 January 1953

Chief of Base, Pullach

Operational

UTILITY's Views on the British NAZI Arrests

1. UTILITY was in Bonn 22-23 January. He brought back the following impressions:

a. Sir Iven Kirkpatrick has, subsequent to the arrests, sold the government, including UFFHUST, a bill of goods. Kirkpatrick's position was that the British arrests in themselves could have been justified and would have had only minor political consequence had not the American public opinion survey been released immediately subsequent to the arrests. In other words, the American responsibility was greater and the act more damaging.

b. Otto JOSE related his view of the case. He stated that he had received an unqualified statement from the senior "MI-5" officer in Germany that British intelligence knew nothing about the arrests before they occurred.

c. In discussing the case with the government, the British vaguely inferred that ZIPPER was involved. This fell flat with UFFHUST and CAUSA since they had been fully briefed by UTILITY on the ZIPPER connection to the group weeks before the arrests.

2. I asked UTILITY what motive the British had. His reply summarized:

a. There has been a good deal of speculation about a bilateral German-American armistice pact if the EDO treaty fails. I know there is nothing behind these reports; however, they persist and have some popular support.

b. I relate the timing of these arrests in some way to CHURCHILL's visit to the United States. The British relationship vis-a-vis the USA is always complicated by the fact that, on the one hand, cooperation between the USA and the UK is essential, and, on the other, the UK would like to play a more decisive role in European affairs than the present position of the USA will permit. Also, the UK is probably apprehensive that the USA policy vis-a-vis the USSR will become harsher than the UK believes desirable. They would like to reduce USA influence in Europe where it runs counter to UK interests.

c. The Nazi arrests in Germany at this time will have such an impact on popular opinion abroad—particularly in France, the USA and the UK—that the British felt it would effectively forestall any movement for an independent US treaty with Germany.

Distributions:

3 - EE
3 - CCM

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3. UTILITY, returning from Bonn, took the night train to Bern and stopped over two hours before catching the next train to Munich. There he saw "Onkel Busch" (UIRICH) who advised him that the Nazi arrests had, indeed, had a great impact on foreign opinion; and, that the impression would be altered little by what might develop or fail to develop in subsequent investigations.

4. The discussion then turned to personalities in the recent arrests, the UJ Drollery 7 and UJ Drollery 8 cases, a number of personalities common to all three and the role of the British in each. Particularly regarding the UJ-Drollery 7 case, UTILITY's voice reflected a good deal of sarcasm and bitterness. He stated that they had dropped KLINT under British pressure but that he would have a position in the GIE as soon as it was legally constituted. Regarding the UJ-Drollery 8 case, he acidly remarked that they (ZIPPER) at least were producing their agent in the case to give testimony. This was probably meant to be a dig at the British for not producing their information on the case.

5. GHEIN and JAKOBI, ZIPPER 35's two most active case officers, have both been in contact with Werner NAUMANN. [] saw JAKOBI at the 35 office on the 22nd; he was extremely friendly and cooperative and told Harrison that he was summarizing the file, which [] noted was fairly thick, in a report "for UTILITY to give [] saw both GHEIN and JAKOBI socially 23 January, but a suitable moment to discuss the case did not present itself (alas, it's Fasching in Bavaria!). [] is visiting GHEIN during the next few days and will solicit his views. However, it would appear that the file is concentrated in JAKOBI's hands.

6. Finally, pointing out the not-too-happy histories of the Drolleries 7 and 8, I told UTILITY that we had to have a detailed history of the ZIPPER/NAUMANN relationship; that [] was at their disposal to be told the whole story...presumably by someone from UTILITY's office..

7. We shall wait and see what these various approaches bring. By intent, we have avoided asking the ZIPPER AOP office for their file; in fact, the American AOP office has been instructed to show disinterest. If all other channels fail to clarify the ZIPPER relationship, we will go back to this channel.

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