

EGFA-16554

SECRET

TO : Chief, ER 5 June 1957

FROM : Chief of Base, Frankfurt INFO: COS  
PCB

SUBJECT: General -- Operational/UPSWING/CART/LC IMPROVE  
Specific-- CARETINA's Plans for Publication of his  
Memoirs

Reference: EGFA-16536

*copy of Pennington [ ] (copy)*

During [ ] contact CARETINA expressed the following thoughts in regard to what has been published of his war time experiences and how he hopes to handle the remaining material.

A. CARETINA showed [ ] four copies of the Identity 1 (issues for the last two Sundays in March and the first two in April) containing a series of sensationalized articles entitled Identity 2 and illustrated in part by pictures of CARETINA, including some in which photomontage was used to heighten the dramatic effect. CARETINA explained that these articles were based on material which he had prepared and which his literary collaborator, Identity 3, had then peddled to the newspaper, but that his original article had been badly distorted because, in his weakened physical condition, he had permitted Identity 3 and the representatives of the newspaper to brow-beat him into withdrawing conditions he had established to insure a fair presentation of his story. The story was that an operation had been organized to assassinate Identity 4 as retaliation for the assassination of Identity 5 by British agents, and that CARETINA, who had been in charge of the successful investigation of the Identity 5 assassination, had been called into consultation as an advisor on operational planning. (The operation was later called off by Hitler.) CARETINA had prepared his article as a balanced account of both operations, making clear his own modest participation in the second, and had insisted on written guarantees that his text would be used without material changes and other safeguards. When he reluctantly withdrew his conditions under the combined assault of Identity 3 and the British, who insisted that the material would have to be reworked by a British writer to give it punch and appeal, the published version altered the sense of the whole thing by playing down the Identity 5 case and making CARETINA the man in charge of the Identity 4 operation. CARETINA feels that he was deceived by his reliance on the British sense of "fair play" and is now ruefully assessing the damage. (He still holds all rights of publication in any other country and has rejected the recent advances of the Identity 6, which wants his articles but not on his terms.) Although he probably cleared the matter, in principle at least, with the Identity 7 before making the sale to the British, he seems to feel that the form in which the material was published, even in England, may have hurt

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RI COPY

[ ]

his chances of getting a civil service appointment, partly perhaps by publicizing him as an intelligence officer but more by reason of increasing his political inacceptability, particularly if the German elections in September should lead to a government with SPD participation. The sensational treatment of the articles may also, he feels, leave a bad taste by reawakening old enmities. In any case, he has learned a lesson and will be much more careful in the future.

B. CARETINA explained that he withheld the names of all participants in the German assassination operation, though he was heavily pressured by the British to reveal them, and adds that he will not disclose identities or any other information of possible continuing operational significance in anything he writes, not even to Identity 3. (It might be noted that the facsimile reproduction of CARETINA's closing words to his report on the Identity 5 assassination -- "Made in England" -- which [ ] noted in one of the British articles was forged by CARETINA for this purpose. His copy of the original report still reposes, he told [ ] in its original hiding place in Thuringia.)

C. Meanwhile Identity 3 far from sharing CARETINA's embarrassment, is pressing him hard to prepare more material. However, CARETINA explains, many of the things he has in mind make it necessary for him to seek out old friends and colleagues to get their slants on the incidents in order to complete the story, and this means travel, which he is simply not up to at the moment. Identity 3 has eagerly volunteered to overcome this difficulty by driving CARETINA about the country to call on his friends, but CARETINA has no intention of compromising these people, many of them living under false names and most of them in straitened circumstances, to Identity 3 or anyone else. [ ] gained the impression that CARETINA might possibly suspect Identity 3 of ulterior motives in pressing his own solution so vigorously, but all he really said was that none of them would talk to Identity 3 anyway and that since he would expect to cut them in on the proceeds, a move which would pain Identity 3 acutely he preferred to keep Identity 3 out of it.

D. It is legitimate to speculate whether CARETINA's connection with British journalists might cover a deeper connection to British Intelligence, and whether Identity 3's own eager interest might be a reflection, in view of some of the possible traces on him, of Soviet interest in CARETINA and his associates. [ ] guess, is that the first is probably not true. He cannot judge the second at all.

E. CARETINA has rejected Identity 3's earnest arguments that his material will lose all value if the SPD should win the next German election and now seems to be thinking more along the line of preparing the rest of his material in book form, perhaps then selling pre-publication magazine rights.

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He feels that magazine publication too far in advance is likely to take the bloom off the book and he seems to have decided that Identity 3's professional judgment of this point is not disinterested. This together with the likelihood that the Identity 7 is not pleased with the performance to date may influence CARETINA to abjure further publication for the time being.

APPROVED

Enclosure: SEPARATE COVER  
Att. A - Identity List

Distribution:

- 3 - EE w/encl. (Direct)
- 3 - COS (1-COS/CE) w/encl.
- 2 - POB w/encl.

*GRK*

S/C ATTACHMENT A TO EGRA-16554

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IDENTITY LIST

- Identity 1 - London Sunday Pictorial
- Identity 2 - "My Orders: Kill Churchill"
- Identity 3 - Dr. Waldemar Lentz
- Identity 4 - Churchill
- Identity 5 - Reinhard Heydrich
- Identity 6 - German magazine Quick
- Identity 7 - Bundesnachrichtendienst