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DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

MBB/W-

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

28 July 1950

Chief, Foreign Division "W"

ATTN: []

SOB Security

KAPOR

REF : MOB/A-6463, WASH 10500

1. We concur completely with the introduction to [] splendid letter. Paragraph 2 is simply dealt with, since we have cabled authorization for evacuation of files. We assume that you have already coordinated this matter between SOB and COS. In connection with crypto material, Comsec Security has suggested that the SOB clerk remove the envelope containing the combination to his safe from that of the (C) each morning, to reduce the availability of this combination. They also point out that you should hit on some means of ensuring that you retain only one copy of all cable traffic at SOB after action has been taken. This point will require your decision as to the practicability of maintaining only one central file for all cables, or the alternative of keeping cables of general import in a central file and distributing the one file copy of cables on specific cases to the file concerned. Please let us know what your solution will be. For the record, we heartily agree that an attempt to either blast or burn the SOB building, would be completely useless, and would do more harm than good. We hope you understand the necessity for expanding your intended one filing cabinet to two. This was decided on in the interest of harmony with Comsec Security, and with the knowledge that Comsec and Registry material will undoubtedly occupy a separate safe quite comfortably. For your information, there is still no better way of destroying files than by the combustion of gasoline, oil, and air.

2. Your plans for individual personnel sound good, though we realize there will be a thousand details to work out; at any rate you have the necessary basic approval to proceed. You also have our emphatic agreement that the problem is urgent and should receive precedence over all other operational matters. Personnel cover arrangements will depend mainly on your judgment of what will best serve individual cases. From memory, we believe that only three men now in SOB would qualify for individual [] and [] these are [] and [] (or the former possibly as [] and [] as a [] office here (OAN) advises us that IAD should be able to provide all documentation necessary for German cover, and has asked to be notified immediately should this not be

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the case. [] can be provided with a Costa Rican passport on short notice, provided you send us the necessary information. We have his personalia on file here, except whether or not he has a smallpox vaccination scar, and his exact height. Please include these facts in your next letter. What we will need is a detailed statement of his proposed cover, plus a passport photograph (size 1 3/4" x 2"). In any case, his antecedents, route to Germany, and other pertinent facts will have to be thoroughly "cooked". GAD here suggests you give us these details as completely as possible, and we will return you the completed cover. (Incidentally, GAD says that [] will probably have to let his hair grow.) If you have any other candidates for other than [] or [] please notify us promptly and completely along the lines suggested above, so we can get to work.

3. It appears that the bulk of BOB personnel might best be covered by variations []. Laying this on might require or be expedited by support from here, but we have had no opportunity of consulting the Army as yet. Please have Executive Officer, Karlsruhe explore his coordination possibilities on the ground, since we feel that they will probably suffice. Outlined below are our preliminary ideas for various groups of BOB personnel:

a. Enlisted personnel -- transfer to various [] in BMP. Slots will have to be arranged for them, probably without benefit of I/O, as couriers and in other non-sensitive jobs. The men involved will have to be provided with dummy records omitting their assignment to DAB and recording a neutral service history, and they may have to be desotod (to outward appearances) in some cases.

b. Secretarial staff -- place as [] This will require Invitational Travel Orders and briefing of the families chosen to take them in. In any case where you decide a false name should be used, the Army will have to supply cover documentation, except for one letter per person from NICOB, stating that the passport of the individual concerned has been picked up for revalidation. For this reason we feel that true identities should be used wherever possible.

c. Operations staff -- transfer to [] in neutral slots. This will have to be laid on with NICOB, and all necessary documentation can be provided by that office. The same general requirements will prevail as for enlisted personnel.

4. Some minor points that occur to us remain to be mentioned here. First, we believe that staff personnel assuming a new identity should first leave Berlin under their present identity, and then return after a few days, use a new billet (normally acquired) with new servants, and have no trace remaining of their former identities. Second, it seems that anyone using [] will require two stories. The first will be the fiction of his [] local residence wherever he is, and will have to be good enough [] under normal circumstances in present-day Berlin. The second story must be ready for use when Soviet authorities check records and discover

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that the person concerned is living "black" in Berlin. This will have to explain his reasons for so doing in a sufficiently plausible manner to get the culprit off with at most a light punishment, and must naturally not attract scrutiny by Soviet GS personnel.

6. With regard to your SB(III)s, we shall immediately undertake to do everything we can. We are already trying to learn the chances for your being given J and E sets, and have discussed the caching of money with Finance. Without reference to your letter, [] recently volunteered the suggestion that DAD's sizeable stock of gold coins should be cached for the use of stay behind operations, as many as one thousand coins per cache; I felt that caches for the use of native agents should be more numerous and contain fewer coins, each succeeding cache to be identified to its intended user as the old one is depleted, but it should not be difficult to reach an agreement that large caches of gold coins are to be made available to American stay behinds both in Berlin and in Western Germany. More on this as soon as we have news. We shall immediately approve your proposals for buying clothing and other material as soon as you can state them fairly definitely. We have nothing to report yet on food and arms for caching, or on escape routes and safe house plans outside of Germany, but will try to track them down immediately. We agree that personnel going underground should be given lethal tablets, and shall expect a further requisition of these items from [] soon as we know fairly precisely how many will be needed for all Germany. Incidentally, all expenditures and requisitions in connection with preparations for our American staff personnel to go underground in Germany should be accounted for under Project CASPER, since we are asking for approval for the whole basic idea of American stay behinds under that name.

8. Finally, we realize that our function in this project can be only that of support, suggestion and, we hope, helpful criticism. There will be many phases of this idea that must be explored in the field, where most of the possibilities are comparatively ready to hand. However, so that we may react speedily and accurately to your proposals, please make sure your correspondence on this subject errs on the side of over-completeness. Send your ideas for the cover of various individuals separately and quickly, with all details. Also, give new thought to the security of the installation, with a particular eye to the Motor Pool and other services. We feel that personnel security in SOB will not reach a practical level until you are somewhat protected against your own labor force. In addition, please be as circumspect as possible with your plans [] for the simple reason that in the event of Soviet occupation of Berlin the entire U.S. colony will be subjected to intensive interrogation. If too many members of that group have noticed irregular assignments, you risk defeating your own purpose immediately. In closing, we repeat that complete details of your plans should reach us as quickly as possible to facilitate our action.

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