

AIR TOUCH

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

TAB-W-1651

VIA _____
(Specify Air or Sea Touch)

DISPATCH NO. TABW 1651

Chief of Station,
Chief, Foreign Division

SECRET CONTROL
U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

2P

MICROFILMED
MAY 10 1953
DOC. MICRO. SER.

TO General Operational Matters

DATE OCT 11 1950

FROM Walter RAUFF, was. Abdullah RAUF, Walter RAUF, Dr. HOMSI,
Rauf-WALTER

SUBJECT GENERAL

1. Subject is reported to be a former German SS Colonel and police official who in 1943-44 cooperated with the Allies in Italy as a double agent. He was later interned in a concentration camp in North Italy, from which he escaped in 1947. Having allegedly obtained false documents from a Syrian Army Lieutenant, subject then went to Syria where he served with the Syrian General Staff and later with the Direction General of Police. In March 1949, he was expelled from Syria under suspicion of aiding the Syrian Communist Movement as an agent of a German named VON LIPKAU.

2. Following his expulsion, he proceeded to Lebanon where he reportedly made plans to accompany VON LIPKAU to India for the purpose of disseminating Communist propaganda. Since the plans could not be carried out and he was unable to remain in Lebanon because he had been compromised with VON LIPKAU, RAUFF returned to Italy. After a brief stay in Rome, he reportedly went to South America. It was believed that he intended to go to Argentina or Venezuela, although his wife was heard to make a statement during their stay in Rome to the effect that they hoped to settle in Ecuador.

3. RAUFF and his family allegedly embarked from Genoa on 1 December 1949 aboard the SS CONTE GRANDE for South America. It could not be ascertained under what name or with what documents he departed for South America. One source believed that he was in possession of a Syrian passport in the INTEGRATION DIVISION and that his trip was paid for by the British.

4. It was reported that RAUFF was considered by German compatriots and even by ex-Nazi and SS elements as a "cold egoist who for some time has placed aside his own ideals and who is capable of anything" for personal gain. He was born in 1906. He reportedly became an officer in the German Navy in 1924. In 1936 he was promoted to Commander, but was later forced to leave the Navy following a divorce inasmuch as the case was not in accordance with German Naval Regulations. Some time later, he was named a Lt. Colonel in the SS Obersturmfuehrer and held the post of director of the Berlin Police from 1938 to 1941. He was then sent abroad first to Corsica, thence to Tunisia and finally to Italy as a Standartenfuhrer in Milan. In 1943-44, convinced that the war was going against Germany, he allegedly entered into contact with the Allies and in favor of the latter carried out double agent operations.

(Coordinating officer)

(Authenticating officer)

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