

SECRET

EWVA-46088

Chief, EE

Chief of Mission, Frankfurt

Operational/CART/CABANJO

CARAVEL's View of CABANJO Case

1. On 20 and 24 July I discussed the CABANJO case with CARAVEL. The latter confirmed in all respects Bonn's reporting of the case.

2. CARAVEL, as CABANJO's superior and as acting chief of his office, has reviewed the accusation against CABANJO as well as CABANJO's statement (which was forwarded to EE as an enclosure to EWVA-4637). CARAVEL states that the accusations and the rebuttal are 100 per cent contradictory, and resolution of the case boils down to the problem of determining which side's version is closer to the truth. Under the circumstances there was no choice but to suspend CABANJO and he will stay suspended until the Federal Disciplinary Court in Berlin reaches a decision.

Rehnke

3. CARAVEL stated that CABANJO's services are sorely missed, particularly because of the added work-load imposed on his office as an aftermath of the John case. The possibility of utilizing CABANJO covertly during this period was suggested by several Bonn officials, but was rejected by CARAVEL because of political considerations.

4. CARAVEL's estimate is that the Disciplinary Court is qualified and determined to conduct an investigation of the CABANJO case along strictly legal lines and their decision, judging by past experience, can be accepted as valid, whatever the outcome of the case. The composition of the Disciplinary Court is such that the benefit of the doubt would be given to CABANJO rather than to his accusers. CARAVEL believes also that the Disciplinary Court can be expected to show a sympathetic attitude to a defense based on the "chain of command" principle.

2 August 1954

Distribution:

- 5 EE
- 1 Bonn

CABANJO = Theo Saeveke
CARAVEL = Paul Dickopf

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