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MGH-W-135

AIR POUCH TO BERLIN

[ 9  
Berlin, Germany

2 July 1947

British-Sponsored Anti-Soviet Press Campaign.

REF: BSC-751, 28 May 1947.

1. In connection with subject report, the age old question of the differentiation between PR and SC type of material has come up again. Recent experience has shown that it is almost impossible to separate the two completely, and we believe that the best results can only be attained by conducting effective secret intelligence operations which, if successful, will yield both types of intelligence. However, we strongly believe that a definite differentiation should be made between clandestine and overt information. It becomes awfully easy to consider any information which is received from an agent or contact as "secret", and this results in over-classification, which we are objecting to only because in many cases it shows a lack of awareness in the mind of the intelligence officer as to the value of the information supplied by the agent. The subject matter of BSC-751 is for the greater part public knowledge, and we believe that upon your taking over again the direction of the Berlin station, it might be advisable to reorient your staff as to the necessity of concentrating on the procurement of genuinely clandestine intelligence.

2. In connection with CAMLET's political convictions, we call your attention to MGB-2224 of January 1947, which sheds an entirely different light on his possible affiliations. You may have seen this, but we are quoting parts of this report since we do not know whether SC Berlin ever made any notes on it.

3. PR source [ ], SPD reporter with a definite anti-Communist bias, states that CAMLET is on good terms with KPD leaders in Wilmerdorf and Neukölln and attempting to win them away from their party. Subject is especially well known in Neukölln, where he grew up. Source feels that subject plays a more important role than SUHR and NEUMANN. Consciously, however, he keeps himself

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in the background, his object being to let other SPD leaders gradually wear themselves out. He is on very good terms with members of the labour party, however, is less liked among British military circles. His influence and devotion is felt in labor circles and by lesser functionaries, but not in the Central Committee.

4. Attached to the same report, "various reports about the SPD-SED problem and the SPD leaders, emanating from different reliable sources", have the following to offer on CAMLET. "The Communists exert a far greater influence on SPD leaders in Berlin than is generally suspected. Subject, who belongs to the left-wing of the SPD, has always endeavored to get on well with communist officials and is secretly opposed to Dr. SCHUMACHER whom he considers too conservative, although he is aware that the Party needs SCHUMACHER to attract German conservative elements and to win favor with conservatives in England. He is the leading man, whose final word stands, although he chooses to remain in the background. He has, for some inexplicable reason, a great hold over other SPD officials; his policy is to retain those mentally inferior to him and to eliminate those who surpass him. He comes from a Communist background (worker's family), is a Communist at heart, and hates everything smacking of bourgeoisie. Any attempt to win him over to a more conservative outlook would be useless. Dr. von KYBERN, Chief of the Economic Section of the Telegraf, and subject met through Konrad MORGENSEN who works at OMGUS (probably in the Department for Education). Both Subject and KYBERN are reserved and may become a potential danger due to the fact that they do not disclose their real inclinations and are, thanks to their outwardly correct bearing and SPD membership, occupying leading positions in the Central Administration and other high German offices, although they are Communists in their outlook and strongly anti-American".

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