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Chief of Station, Bonn

Chief, Berlin Operations Base

INFO: EE, COM, CADRAIN

CALL/ [] Operational

Source in SED ZK

Ref: SBRLN-9628, SBCNN-0835, SBRLN-9663, SBONN-0843, SBONN-0841

1. I discussed this complex with [] on 21 June. We both agreed that the identification of []'s political source should be further pursued for reasons set forth in SBRLN-9663.

2. CAMLET, whom I questioned regarding this matter avers that the alleged [] source is not located in the ZK of the SED, but that the political info with which [] scored such a spectacular hit was obtained from a CAMLET-controlled source whose cryptonym is "REIZEND". When pressed for identification, CAMLET vouchsafed the following data: The source is a ranking LDP functionary and official in the Ministry of Trade and Supplies, formerly headed by HAMANN. I asked CAMLET to make available to me all reports previously supplied by this source. (Possibly this source also played a role in CAMLET's 1952 attempt at defecting HAMANN; see cable traffic).

3. As [] pointed out, CAMLET may not necessarily know all the DDR sources operated by []. However, in matters as important as these, I am prone to believe that any top level SED penetration of the SED would sooner or later become known to CAMLET - at least its existence. This notwithstanding, it strikes me as odd that a high-ranking LDP functionary should be able to get advance notice on developments as important as the appointment of SEMENOV.

4. To round off the picture as we see it here, your attention is drawn to the following passus in the 14 June 1953 (Fernausgabe Nr. 161) issue of the Neue Zürcher Zeitung, page 2, column 3, title: Die Taktische Schwenkung in der Sowjetzone, datelined O. P. Berlin, 12 Juni: "Die Erklärungen, die der SPD - Abgeordnete Herbert Wehner kürzlich abgegeben hat, lassen die Vermutung aufkommen, dass der west deutschen Sozialdemokratie, analog zu früheren Fällen, gewisse Informationen aus Ostberlin zugespielt worden sind."

Date of origin: 21 June 1953

*Copy
For Camlet*

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In the light of []' information to the effect that WEHNER has established an informative relationship with Paul RAVOUX, representative of Agence France Press in Berlin, who is believed to maintain numerous Soviet contacts, the MZZ aside takes on added importance. A recent message passed WEHNER by RAVOUX, purporting to set forth the salient principles of the USSR's current Germany policy [] will report on this in detail) suggests that some of the information at the SPD's disposal may have reached the party via the RAVOUX - WEHNER channel. CAMLET is obviously cognizant of the WEHNER - RAVOUX link, since he mentioned to me that RAVOUX proffered his services to the SPD in arranging a contact with Eastern representatives. According to CAMLET, the party's standing policy, in not ever countenancing even informal contacts with the other side on any level, remains unchanged. CAMLET pointed this out by way of answering my question whether he considered possible the existence of an arrangement whereby a ranking SED functionary, with the knowledge and concurrence of the SED Politbureau, passes to the SPD certain information of a political nature. While I would rule out any attempt on the part of CAMLET to deliberately lead me astray, I am not yet prepared to ignore the possibility that the SPD may be in touch with what they believe to be a controlled source of theirs, in actuality, passing them information officially cleared for that purpose.

Approved by:

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