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## OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA: AIR  
SPECIFY AIR OR SEA ROUTE

DISPATCH NO. OBBW-587  
1-309

CLASSIFICATION

TO: Chief of Mission,

DATE: JUN 30 1953

FROM: Chief, W

INFO: Chief of Station,

SUBJECT: GENERAL.

SPECIFIC:

Otto Rolf Steinhilber - ESPIONAGE

REF: CEBA-526

AM	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
AS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
PS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
FI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1. Referenced dispatch was the first indication of any activity by ESPIONAGE in the Congo, and thus ESPIONAGE was supply no explanations as to what he might have been doing there. However, in view of the wide and continuing interest shown in Mussolini's former ESPIONAGE recouper, we have abstracted the following recent reports from the volumes of information available on subject as being most indicative of his recent activities.
  - a. June 1952 - ESPIONAGE reported that subject was maintaining contacts with the Soviets for German technicians in Egypt, and that this technical group would eventually be furnished arms for participation in an East-West struggle against western allies.
  - b. January 1953 - ESPIONAGE reported that subject, traveling with Spanish passport #9957, had arrived in Cairo prior to 4 January 1953 from Madrid, and that the Egyptian Minister of the Interior had warned the Minister of Foreign Affairs when subject offered his services to the Egyptian government that subject was an American agent. It was believed that this accusation may have resulted from some self-utilized contact by subject with the Air Attache's office in Madrid.
  - c. January 1953 - In a ESPIONAGE-monitored broadcast it was stated that the former German colonel had been in Cairo for two weeks to conclude agreements on behalf of the industrial

ESPIONAGE  
 & CNEA/1  
 COORDINATING OFFICER  
 NE/Bevut, Congo  
 SECRET/CONTROL  
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 CLASSIFICATION

/organization (unknown)

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

f/c/NE/2

C/AE

FORM NO. 31-23  
JUN 1949

- EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
- (2)(A) Privacy
  - (2)(B) Methods/Sources
  - (2)(G) Foreign Relations

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

Declassified and Approved for Release  
by the Central Intelligence Agency  
Date: 2001, 2005

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organization (unknown) which he represents.

- d. January 1953 - Cairo reported that subject was listed as a graduate engineer, a dealer in cement, on his passport, # 957, issued 3 June or 6 March 1952 in Spain. It was further reported that he had offered his services at Egyptian army headquarters as a parachute expert.
- e. February 1953 - Cairo reported that subject's business in Egypt was (a) representative of armament concern in Spain to discuss arms purchase with Egyptians; (b) advisor to the Royal Egyptian Army on sabotage methods, including a reconnaissance of the Canal Zone area; (c) sale of 10 A-51 Ds and 10,000 rounds of 75-mm mortar ammunition which had been considered with representative of the Egyptian Government. Subject said he would return to Egypt in a week or two to discuss further "business" with the Egyptian Government.
- f. February 1953 [ ] reported that subject departed 29 January for Madrid and was said to be entrusted with a mission for NAJIB.
- g. February 1953 - [ ] reported that subject was said to have been called to Egypt by General NAJIB to function as military advisor.
- h. May 1953 - [ ] reported that subject, Joachim HENTSLER and Wilhelm WELT are said to maintain constant contact with former SS officers in Syria, Saudi Arabia, and Palestine.
- i. April 1953 - [ ] reported that subject was said to have been hired by the Egyptian Government to set up a military academy for air.
- j. April 1953 - [ ] reported that trainees at two newly-established centers are being instructed in guerrilla warfare techniques by German officers and that the overall direction of any guerrilla attack against the British would be performed by subject, according to Egyptian army officers at these centers.
- k. April 1953 - [ ] reported that according to one source none of the German advisors to Egypt saw subject during his stay in Egypt, and that "competent" Egyptian officers disclaimed that subject had applied for work there, but in source's opinion subject went to Egypt to consummate an arms deal.
- l. June 1953 - [ ] reported that subject was listed among German business men engaged in arms trade, that he had visited Egypt from November 1952 to January 1953 offering arms and

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/advice on

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advice on command training and was reported to have visited the Canal Zone to advise on command and sabotage tactics.

- n. June 1953 - In an FBI-monitored broadcast emanating from Cairo it was announced that subject had been received by Lt. Col. Gamal 'ABD-al-NASR, Secretary of the Liberation Organization, who extended the former's residence in Cairo. 'ABD-al-NASR had visited Egypt for the first time at the beginning of 1953 and had announced that he was prepared to place himself and his military experience at the disposal of the Egyptian Government.
  - n. June 1953 - The Journal d'Egypte, reporting on an interview subject had with Gamal 'ABD-al-NASR on 12 June, commented that subject had had a great deal of experience in command training and subject had said his visit with NASR was personal, that he was in Egypt because he was interested in the export of German machinery.
  - o. June 1953 - C [ ] reported that one of its sources had expressed the opinion that subject had been sent to Egypt most recently by the British to "tease the Egyptians."
2. As is evident from the above, the question of what 'ABD-al-NASR may be doing anywhere is completely moot. Further, in view of the fact that most of the above information is control and the remainder covert, and that it could not all be of interest to [ ] re the Congo visit, it is suggested that you advise [ ] that we do not know what subject may have been doing in the Congo, but that we do know he has been active in the Near East recently and that his reputation is such that a great deal of conjecture was provoked as to whether or not 'ABD-al-NASR was involved in attempts to set himself up as a military consultant to the Egyptian Army on guerrilla warfare should it be used against the British.
3. We have no trace definitely identifiable with William HARRACH, but submit the following on one William EFFORTI-HARRACH, born 28 April 1915 in Budapest, formerly Hungarian Vice-Consul to Paris (1943-45). This William HARRACH at one time worked with the Hungarian Purchasing Commission of War Surplus Properties in Paris, and also at one time was connected with the Hungarian Air Defense. He entered the United States in June 1947 (according to him "rather than return to Communist Hungary") to do studies in International Studies, and expressed his desire to obtain U.S. citizenship. For your information, HARRACH applied for FBI employment in May 1949 and was last known to be living at 1506 Florida Ave., Washington.
4. [ ] may be given the information in paragraph three.

/In the

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In the meantime, [ ] has been asked for details on the William HARRACH employed by Pan American Airways, which should soon be available. You will be forwarded any relevant information obtained.

5. [ ] and [ ] will be interested in any further information developed on SKORZENY in the Congo or elsewhere.

[ ]  
[ ]

14 July 1953

Distribution:

- 2 - [ ]
- 1 - [ ]
- 2 - ME
- 1 - Registry

WE-2/[ ] /mac

WJ

APR 18 1953

EH

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[ ]