

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA: AIR
SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

DISPATCH NO. BOGW-6166

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION
CLASSIFICATION

DATE: APR 10 1953

TO : Chief of Mission, Frankfurt
Attention: Pullach/*C*

FROM : Chief, ES

SUBJECT: GENERAL - Operational
SPECIFIC - Walter VAETH

MICROFILMED
MAY 6 1963
DOC. MICRO. SER.

The following 430th CIC Detachment report, information dated 27 August 1952 and evaluated C-3, is forwarded on the chance you have not seen it:

"Walter VAETH, Vienna IVLN, Weehringerstrasse, is allegedly employed by a West German Intelligence Agency. Previous co-workers of VAETH were Willi LANDIG and Rudolf HIND. Subject was formerly a ~~LEADER~~ in the SD. Subject was recently in Gmunden, Upper Austria, where he visited a number of former Nazis."

Distributions:

- 3 - Pullach
- 1 - Fran
- 2 - EE/FIZ
- 1 - REG

6 April 1953

HMS:mjs / EE/FIZ

INDEX

CS COPY

ABSTRACT INDEX
DATE 20 APR 1953

RELEASED

COORDINATING OFFICER

AUTHENTICATING OFFICER

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION
CLASSIFICATION

GPO 63-28073

FORM NO. 81-28
JUN 1949

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Letter VAE TH

Extract of EGIA-13569, dated 15 April 1955 - Original filed -ZUGBRATL-201 in RI
cc filed -Buero BAVARIA dossier

On 22 October 1954 Buero BAVARIA (a ZIPPER field unit operating in Austria) was informed by ex-ZIPPERite V-11414 that a member of a Western intelligence service, presumably German, had been arrested by the Criminal Police in Vienna. Through his contacts to the Vienna Police, ex-V-11414 was subsequently able to learn the name of the person involved who, it turned out, was V-11547, Handelsvertreter p of Buero BAVARIA, who was name traced by POB with MGLA-10490/1 of 27 February 1952.

V-11547, who had failed to report his arrest to Buero BAVARIA, was immediately ordered to come to Salzburg where he was interrogated on 24 October by V-11540. The interrogation disclosed that V-11547 had become thoroughly blown to Austrian Police through his own stupidity.....He was immediately put on ice and subsequently reported dropped as of 31 January 1955.

Information supplied on the incident by ZIPPER, which was based on info obtained through the Vienna Police and the interrogation of V-11547 by Buero BAVARIA, revealed the following: On the afternoon of 15 October 1954, V-11547 met with V-11553 in Vienna. After business was concluded V-11547, who carried a briefcase, went on a drinking spree, first with V-11553, later alone, which lasted until well after midnight. When it came time to pay, V-11547 was unable to foot the bill (he has only a faint recollection of the entire incident) and on departing left his briefcase as security. On returning to the restaurant a few hours later to redeem his briefcase, V-11547 was arrested by Austrian Police.... The briefcase ~~apparently~~ was found to contain incriminating material which clearly showed that V-11547 was engaged in intelligence work. V-11547, on arrival at the Police station, underwent a body search. He later was thoroughly interrogated by Oberkommissar Dr. REIDINGER, who refused V-11547's request to notify CIC remarking that he was perfectly aware that V-11547 had an emergency number..... Dr. REIDINGER ordered a house search; he also found out about V-11547's "conference" room at Lerchenfelderstrasse 113,... The search yielded an unbelievably large amount of incriminating papers which were confiscated by the Police but later returned to ZIPPER (no doubt, after having been photostated).....Among the papers was a memo covering a recent conference between V-11547 and V-11540 with a list of targets to be covered by V-11547. Among these is a cryptic entry "Westliche Deinsten". ZIPPER did not elaborate on this point.... The Austrian police know that V-11540 was V-11547's superior.

The most damaging info, in as far as ZIPPER's future activity in Austria is concerned, which came to the attention of the Police, is that Buero BAVARIA has been trying, contrary to the ZIPPER/GRENGULF-1 agreement, to operate through persons connected with the Austrian government. In addition to ~~the person mentioned above~~ Frans HAVEL, to whom Buero BAVARIA intended to establish contact, Austrian Police identified V-11831. In this connection, Dr. REIDINGER quoted an entry from the confiscated papers, namely "transmittal of mail from Austria to the CSR through the regular courier channels of the Austrian Foreign Office". He told V-11547 that it had not yet been decided whether any steps would be taken against V-11831's employer firm.

The security flap of V-11547 has struck a severe blow to Buero BAVARIA's Czech efforts & Danube interests in Vien & makes it imperative that they review carefully all their operations to determine how far their activities, agent personnel, & contacts have been compromised thru the V-11547 flap. As a first step, V-12088, V-11553, V-11958, V-11831, and V-11949 were put on ice, and the safe house facilities at Lerchenfelderstr. were given up...ZIPPER Hdq acknowledged the fact that this is a severe blow to their relationship with the Austrian authorities; further that the attempted exploitation of V-11831 was really the Hqs fault, since they never got around to severing this contact even though the fld unit was fully aware that it was contrary to ZIPPER/GRENGULF-1 agreem