

Don

Cambio

21 May 1951

Teltowerdamm to 4 Heerfurthstr.

1600

REMARKS:

NEXT APPOINTMENT

DATE: 23 May 1951

by call

TIME

PLACE: same

ACTION TO BE TAKEN BY OPERATING OFFICERS:

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

Cambio

1. Source returned to West Berlin on 16 May 1951 after having made the trip from Siegmars-Schönau to Stralsund sitting in the front seat of a truck driven by a Russian soldier, first name Nikolai, whom Cambio has known for some time. Nikolai promised to transport Cambio and Cambio 10 for two bottles of schnapps and one wrist watch which Cambio bought in West Berlin for 12.50. As stated in report, the drivers do not know their destination when they leave Chemnitz other than assuming that it is to be a Baltic port. If all is true what Cambio states about trip is actually true, I should say that he has a fairly good eye and line of mularkey for keeping himself out of trouble. He had hoped to be able to get some washed ore from the washing unit (Obj 1/98) in Johanngeorgenstadt over Pflingsen, but his subsource there, a guard, was not on duty as planned. At any rate, he thinks that he will be able to get a sample of this washed ore; also expects to get one of the metal tags which are nailed to the canisters. As he sees things now, he assumes that the ore is washed in Johanngeorgenstadt (as well as other washing units manned exclusively by Soviets), shipped by truck to Siegmars-Schönau with the tags canisters soldered shut and tagged. Although we have no way of knowing yet, it seems unlikely that the crates are opened and the ore further treated in Siegmars-Schönau. The last time that the Germans handle the canisters is, for example, outside of the washing unit in Johanngeorgenstadt where Germans load them into the trucks. When they arrive in Siegmars-Schönau they are unloaded by Soviet personnel beyond which we presumably know nothing except that they later leave Siegmars-Schönau in trucks for the Baltic coast or in sealed cars for unknown destination. For that reason, it seems like the next step logically is to send Cambio off to Wüstenbrand, outside of Siegmars-Schönau (west), which is the freight station for Wismut. As Cambio understands it, box cars from other Objekte come to arrive at Wüstenbrand from which they are shipped on a siding into the enclosed area of Wismut in Siegmars-Schönau. Box cars that leave Siegmars-Schönau usually come out sealed to Wüstenbrand. On each side of the box car is a bill of lading which contains the following information

Freight	(The freight master has a bill of
From	lading in his file for each car
To	leaving his station.)
Via	

According to Cambio, the word Erz does not appear as the freight; he states that Phorphyrit stands for Erz II, Basalt stands for Erz III while he does not yet know what the cover material for Erz I (assuming there is Erz I in Wismut) is. The afore I propose sending him to Wüstenbrand for a few days to see for himself how the shipping there works and also to try to recruit a sub-source in this railroad freight station to submit the data on train numbers, number of cars, whether sealed or not and what stands on the bills of lading.

2. On 26 May 1951 comes his comrade Cambio 2, a driver who drives in his own vehicle Soviet personnel around on inspection trips to various Objekte and

to Karlshorst. He supposedly has quite a few Siegmars-Schönau telephone numbers, pictures of Soviet officers. At any rate, I would like to debrief him and assign him some low-level targets on personnel changes etc. if he seems capable. Ok to talk with him?

3. In about a month's time Cambio seems to have organized the flow of information on transport units on a continuing basis. On each installation his sub-sources are covering, he has personally checked for a day or two but makes it a point of specifying what he himself has seen and what has been submitted to him by his various sub-sources. The information received is not high-level, being mostly numbers of vehicles and train box cars with some approximation of their contents. [] will be able to check these figures and statistics against other information to give us some idea of Cambio's reliability. Cambio has been made to understand however that Siegmars-Schönau is the main target and given an inkling that we are somewhat interested in eventually effecting some sabotage, not on a pit to pit basis, but on a more telling scale when we find out weak links in the Wismut program.

4. On his sabotage activities I have ascertained the following story. In 1949 he was pilfering large amounts of paper from Wismut in Johanngeorgenstadt and supplying it to one Günther Ostermann, a young Latin schoolteacher in the highschool there, who was printing anti-communist pamphlets for an LDP resistance group which called itself "Anti-Cominform". In August of the same year Ostermann was arrested and interrogated and since disappeared. Later, after Cambio left, Cambio's wife was interrogated by the SSD and asked if she knew that her husband had been supplying Ostermann with the paper for these pamphlets. Ostermann however was also mixed up in sabotage activities. Cambio stole dynamite (he was the security engineer for a number of pits) and blew up six shaft towers (Fördertürme) at Sachsen bei Georgental, Meschegrün and Zobbes. His collaborators were Ostermann, Cambio 7 and Cambio 8. He does not know how much Ostermann was broken but since the other Combios are still around he thinks it is all right. When he was arrested in November 1949, Yevduchenko (mentioned in a Cambio report) read out a sentence of 25 years forced labor to Cambio for economic sabotage and stealing explosives. There was no mention made of the use of the explosives in the court order. On that same evening Cambio was taken to Czechoslovakia, put in a private house under no guard and later visited by a Soviet officer who took his money to be changed into Kronen and informed Cambio that he would learn of his new work the following day. After the Soviet officer left, Cambio did too--for West Berlin. When arriving here, he read the first account that Pit # 57 in Johanngeorgenstadt had undergone a terrific explosion killing a huge number of people. According to Cambio he himself organized this sabotage action which was very simple since the Soviet to save cable had run one through instead of around a powder magazine where all the mining explosives were stored. It was not easy to place some explosive by the cable which when it heated up passed onto the powder magazine which exploded killing "only 56 people"---and a good thing too since they were all with one exception SED activists. If there happen to be any eye-witness accounts of this explosion, I would like to see them. For the time being, let's keep him in mind for possible sabotage work in this field.

5. Cambio has requested me to get him an Arbeitsbuch so that he can go to work for four to six weeks in Siegmars-Schönau as a loader. His present phony pass which we supplied him is unsuitable for this purpose since it labels him an Maschineningenieur. He would like to go as a simple Forstarbeiter, a refugee from Schlesien, looking for lucrative work at Wismut. I have not warmed up to this idea for a number of reasons which can be summed up the risk is not worth the uncertain information or even leads he might collect in Siegmars-Schönau. He has been around that neck of the woods since 1945 and though he claims he can disguise himself with a different haircut and by means of a paraffin injection in his nose, I remain dubious. I think that he should now be used in "Ustlenbrand" and then saved for later in the meantime directing his sub-sources.

6. Perhaps we can check his statement that he, after much persuasion, conducted one Major Vasilii Koffner, a Soviet Jew and City Commandant of Altenburg over the border on 21 October 1949 and presures that Koffner is now in Munich.

160 11-620 41