

Station: Berlin

Report No: 605/MGB-306

615.1

Reference: AB 52

Report Date: 8 November 1946

Source: Ford *CF*

Information Date: Current

Evaluation: B

Date Info Received: 25 Oct -  
5 Nov 46

SUBJECT: PERSONALITY OF FORD--AN EVALUATION.

Reference: RIR 591, 594, 595, and 602.

1. Subject may be considered the prototype of the misguided German intellectual. According to his own statements, he entered the National Socialist Party in 1933 for idealistic reasons, aware of and fully supporting the basic principles of that organization. Despite his superior education he found no flaws in the way the party was managed and claimed never to have wavered in his support of the NSDAP. Not till 1945 did his first doubts appear about the ultimate fate of Germany under Nazi management and only on the night of 1 May 1945 did subject become fully disillusioned concerning Adolf Hitler and his work. On 2 May 1945 subject was captured by the Russian forces occupying Berlin.

*CF* 2. Following his capture and subsequent internment in the Ruedersdorf PW Camp, this ardent Nazi got in touch immediately with the camp organization of the ANTIFA (the block of anti-fascist Germans). Subject did not consider it necessary to inform the ANTIFA about his previous activity on the propaganda staff of General HEINECKE, and was, as a result of this reticence eventually put in charge of one of the PW battalions at Ruedersdorf. When subject's past became known in the camp, he was arrested and transferred to the care of the MVD at Weissensee, from where he was "liberated" by Captain SKURIN on condition he would work for the Soviets in the capacity of an agent.

3. During his preliminary interrogation, subject insisted that one of the motivating reasons for his work with SKURIN was his inherent friendship for the Russian people, although he disliked Communism. This, in the opinion of writer, need not be taken seriously. Subject is not pro-Russian and his profession of sentiment for the Russian people is simply a means to reassure his own conscience about doing agent work (in this case, a mere man-hunt), that is a type of activity which most Germans were taught to believe was essentially dishonest. Subject was more or less forced into that type of activity, true, but there is no evidence to indicate that he ever considered abandoning the service of the Russians. On the contrary, he seemed to be rather satisfied with the arrangement of receiving pay and a Number I Ration Card for doing actually very little. It must also be remembered that subject was thoroughly aware of the fact that in Berlin he would be classified as more than a nominal Nazi and could not find any employment save that of physical labor.

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4. We believe subject consented and will continue to work for us willingly simply because he considered us a better investment than the Russians, both as far as his immediate personal needs were affected and also as far as the ultimate arrangements concerning his physical security were concerned. He will work for us, especially if he remains convinced that this activity will not involve any physical jeopardy. Subject has now abandoned his original line and stated he really liked the Americans best of all--which may very likely be true. Subject comes from the bourgeois circle and may be assumed to have the traditional and customary pro-Western orientation characteristic of most Germans.

5. Subject is undoubtedly an opportunist with very few moral scruples. He possesses a certain amount of charm and his demonstrated willingness to work for us should not lead future case officers to believe that subject can really be trusted. His activities for this office will be of a limited nature only and care will be taken that no information of value should be accidentally revealed to subject.

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