

Camisade

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OFFICIAL DISPATCH

VIA AIR POUCH

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Dispatch No: KAPOK B-76

BSC/Ops/173

15 October 1947

TO : Chief, Foreign Branch "F"
FROM : Chief of Station, Heidelberg, Germany
SUBJECT : General : CAMISADF-WEBB Project
Specific: "ALEXANDER" Materializes

NOTE: This report is one of a series dealing with the CAMISADF-WEBB project to have a U.S. officer or civilian meet clandestinely with a Russian officer or civilian. The last report in this series was BSC/Ops/172, which described the first meeting between CAMISADF and "Mr. WEBB".

1. According to CAMISADF, the new Russian case officer who appeared on the scene on 4 October 1947 made an appointment with him to pick him up in front of his lodgings at 2000 hours, Monday, 13 October 1947 (cf BSC/Ops/168). The officer told CAMISADF they would then go to a Russian cabaret - either the "Neva" or the "Koskva", and gave CAMISADF the impression that this would be for the purpose of meeting the Russian officer who would later meet Mr. WEBB. The undersigned met CAMISADF at 2115 hours, Tuesday, 14 October, and CAMISADF stated that the Russian officer together with a new female interpreter, picked him up promptly as scheduled on Monday.

2. The Russian officer asked CAMISADF where he would like to go, to which CAMISADF replied that he had understood they were to go to a Russian cabaret. The Russian answered that the Russian cabarets were all closed on Monday nights, and they would have to find a German one. He asked CAMISADF if he knew a good night club on Friedrich Strasse (an important street bisecting Unter den Linden in the Russian Sector of Berlin). CAMISADF replied that he knew nothing about night clubs anywhere in Berlin, since he could not afford to patronize them. The Russian then said they would drive around for awhile and see if they could find a night club with some Russians in it.

3. Driving up along the demarcation line between the Russian and French Sectors of Berlin, they visited several night clubs in turn. At each night club the Russian varied their method of entering. At the first he went in alone, telling CAMISADF to follow him shortly and sit down at the same table without appearing to recognize him. At the next, the girl and the Russian went in and CAMISADF followed, sitting at a separate table. At the third, CAMISADF went in first, and the Russians followed. They stayed only five or ten minutes in each of these cabarets; the Russian, after looking around carefully, would say there were no Russians there and they would leave. The Russian finally came out of one club which he had entered by himself, and told CAMISADF there was some sort of a Slav in it. He claimed not to know whether he was a Russian, a Yugoslav, a Pole, or what, but he instructed CAMISADF to go in and sit as near to him as possible. He himself left the club soon afterward, telling CAMISADF to strike up a conversation with the Slav.

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Russian counterpart of WEBB

4. After a few moments, CAMISADF took advantage of an opportunity to sit at the same table with the Slav, offered him a cigarette and a glass of schnapps, and opened a conversation with him with surprising ease. In the course of an extremely brief conversation it developed that the Slav was a Russian, an officer in the Soviet Military Administration, who did not like to patronize Russian cabarets because he was tired of being forever in the company of Russians. He admitted further that he was ashamed of the many mistakes the Russian administration of Germany had made, ashamed of the lack of consideration shown by Russia for other countries, and an admirer of Western countries and peoples. He said that, in fact, it was one of his most profound ambitions to become acquainted with a cultured American with whom he could discuss literature, art, the theater, and journalism. CAMISADF confessed thereupon that he was a musician, a music and drama critic, and numbered a few Americans among his acquaintance. The Russian appeared quite taken with CAMISADF, and they made a tentative engagement to go together to the theater on Thursday or Friday night, the 16th or 17th of October. Leaving the cabaret, the Russian boarded a Ksrlhorst streetcar.

Field Comment: CAMISADF's house was placed under surveillance for us by CIC at 1200 hours Saturday, 11 October (the time of the customary weekly meeting between CAMISADF and his Russian case officers), and at 2000 hours, Monday, 13 October. Results of the surveillance indicated CAMISADF to be telling the truth about the fact that his case officer did not come to him on Saturday, but he did pick him up at his house at 2000 hours Monday. In a further effort to verify CAMISADF's story of the Russian reaction to the CAMISADF-WEBB project (now becoming, admittedly, a bit fantastic), [] and the undersigned will interrogate CAMISADF in detail at 1900 hours on Wednesday, 15 October. There is, of course, little doubt that the Russian officer CAMISADF met in the night club is intended to play the role of "ALEXANDER" or "NICHOLAS" opposite our "WEBB".

5. CAMISADF's next appointment with his Russian case officer is for 1100 hours, Wednesday, 15 October.

[]
SC Berlin

J.P.P.
G.L.P.

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