

**DISPATCH**

**SECRET**

PROCESSING

	REQ. DONE	ACTION	ATTEND
Chief, EE		MARKED FOR INDEXING	
INFO. COS FOB MLB BOB		NO INDEXING REQUIRED	
PRIM. Chief of Base, Bonn		ONLY QUALIFIED HEADQUARTERS DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING	
SUBJECT OPERATIONAL CART Morale in the SG-BKA		ABSTRACT	
ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES		MICROFILM	

1. We have observed the morale of SG personnel in the wake of the Spiegel Affair to be in a critical state. However, we hasten to add that the latter case and the SG's involvement therewith is by no means the sole cause of this situation. The basic problems are more deep-seated and involved, among other things, a certain loss of confidence of late, on the part of the SG rank and file, in their Chief, Dr. Ernst Brueckner.

2. The SG's detachment, geographically, and also to a large extent operationally, from its parent organization, the BKA in Wiesbaden, has given rise to problems in the administrative field, the only area in which the BKA exercises meaningful control over the SG. The SG, being merely one of several departments within the BKA, does not have the organizational superstructure and the attendant higher ranks of an independent agency. Furthermore, SG personnel on virtually all levels have long felt that the character of their mission and the responsibilities which they discharge justify higher grade scales than those provided by the current T/O. They are convinced, however, that BKA Headquarters not only fails to understand this viewpoint, but also occasionally appropriates for the other departments in Wiesbaden some of the choice grades which rightfully belong to the SG T/O. One of the aims, among others, of the SG reorganization which took place some months ago was to justify the upgrading of a number of slots. Indeed, Dr. Brueckner had hoped that the new organizational scheme would open the way for a promotion for himself to Leitender Regierungs- und Kriminal Direktor. However, the long awaited promotions did not materialize and the disappointed SG personnel were convinced that the primary blame lay with BKA Headquarters. Although Dr. Brueckner allegedly did his best to obtain the grade increases for his organization, his lack of success in the eyes of his subordinates tended to reflect adversely upon his leadership. Finally, in approximately early October 1962 the entire SG Betriebsrat resigned in protest against the prevailing personnel policies. (Comment: The Betriebsrat is an advisory body whose elected members are drawn from all levels of the organization. It exercises a certain limited influence over administrative affairs of the organization, particularly on matters affecting the welfare of employees.) An election for a new Betriebsrat

CONTINUED

Dist:  
3 EE  
2 COS  
2 FOB  
2 MLB  
2 BOB

*Handwritten star and initials CE*

DATE TYPED		DATE DISPATCHED	
28 Dec 62			
CROSS REFERENCE TO		DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER	
		BONA-24995	
CLASSIFICATION		HEADQUARTERS FILE NUMBER	
SECRET		32W 005 055 [redacted] (Dr. Brueckner)	
ORIGINATING			
OFFICE	OFFICER	TYPIST	INT.
COORDINATING			
OFFICE SYMBOL	DATE	OFFICER'S NAME	
RELEASING			
OFFICE SYMBOL		OFFICER'S SIGNATURE	

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

was scheduled on 31 October. By advance agreement all employees cast blank ballots as a manifestation of continuing discontent with prevailing policies. When this occurred the SG was already deeply involved in the criminal proceedings against the publisher and the editorial staff of Der Spiegel and Dr. Brueckner was absent on the first phase of a six-week trip to the Middle East to arrange the security measures for the state visit of President Luebke to Pakistan, Thailand and India.

3. In the past many SG staffers have been critical of Dr. Brueckner's practice of selecting the choice foreign trips, arising in connection with the SG's security mission, for himself. The SG was brought into the Spiegel Case approximately five days before the beginning of his trip to the Middle East and the first arrests were made the evening before his departure. Feeling ran high in the SG that he should have cancelled the trip and sent a subordinate in his stead. This feeling was intensified when the SG began to draw press criticism for its role in the affair which some of the more extreme articles likened to the Gestapo. Although every phase of the action against Der Spiegel was carried out under the immediate supervision of the Office of the Chief Federal Prosecutor (GPA) with one or more officials of the latter establishment present at the scene of each action, the SG nevertheless suffered from lack of the type of leadership which only Dr. Brueckner with his legal training and background could provide. This is not to imply that Dr. Brueckner's presence would have affected the GPA's handling of the case in any of its fundamental aspects; but his absence at such a critical time, when viewed against his earlier failure to obtain the desired T/O grade increases, tended to compound the conviction on the part of many of his subordinates that he lacked concern for their interests.

4. Many of the SG staffers view the handling of the Spiegel Affair with mixed emotions. Taking the purely bureaucratic view, they are convinced that the evidence at hand clearly justifies the action taken against the magazine. Indeed they claim to be appalled at the latter's information procurement techniques which they describe as more similar to the methods of a Soviet Bloc intelligence service than of a Western press organ. According to SG officials, abundant evidence of bribery and blackmail by Der Spiegel was developed, but legal technicalities may very likely preclude its introduction in court. Many of the SG staffers feel that it makes little sense for them to continue their efforts against low level agents of Eastern Intelligence Services if the practices of Der Spiegel are to be tolerated. On the other hand they find the actions against the sources of Der Spiegel, in some instances, to be distasteful, not only because some of the victims are basically decent people, but also because the standards employed by the GPA in moving against the sources are not uniform and are apparently colored by political considerations. For example, many SG officials have expressed the opinion that, if uniform standards were applied, proceedings against virtually all key FDP parliamentary personalities would have to be initiated automatically. (Comment: It is understood, of course, that such action would not be possible unless parliamentary immunity were first lifted in each individual case; this would require special parliamentary approval.) This situation has given rise to confusion and doubt in the minds of a number of SG staffers and moved several of them, including Theo Saevecke, Chief of the Investigations Branch, in early December to offer their resignations. It has not been determined by OCA whether these resignations have been accepted, but it appears doubtful that this action will result in their actually leaving the SG.

5. Thus, upon his return from the Middle East, Dr. Brueckner found his organization to be virtually in a state of chaos. His entire attention since his return has been directed toward restoring its order and morale. He has spent considerable time conferring with key officials of the GPA, and, according to one report, he was called to the Interior Ministry to explain his failure to cancel his trip when he learned of the impending action against Der Spiegel. Meanwhile, open and frank criticism of Brueckner by his subordinates appears to continue unabated.

A. The foregoing is an attempt to describe the situation presented within the SA as observed over a period of several months through CIA contacts with that agency. We are confident that this is not an exaggerated portrayal. On the other hand we doubt that the current difficulties will produce any lasting serious effects or that Dr. Brueckner will fail to survive them. Although, under the circumstances it is difficult to justify his absence during the recent critical period, he is also, in a sense, a victim of circumstances. His intelligence and professional competence are well recognized, but in recent years he has not been fully satisfied with his job, perhaps because he feels that it is not sufficiently challenging and from a career standpoint represents a dead end. This may also account for his inclination to travel frequently. Nevertheless, shortly before he undertook his recent trip he firmly predicted that it would be his last. Whether the recent episode will move him to settle down and devote more attention toward running his organization remains to be seen. There can be little doubt, however, that he is fully capable of putting his organization back on a sound footing if he applies himself seriously to the job.

7. This report is based upon information developed by Boem Base. Some of the information contained herein has been confirmed by the local ID USAFBI liaison representatives. Dissemination has also been made to the latter as well as to the OSI liaison officer.

