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STRATEGIC SERVICES UNIT, WAR DEPARTMENT
MISSION TO GERMANY
U. S. Forces, European Theater
APO 757

19 June 1946

SUBJECT: Captain Lucien Conein

TO: Director, SSU/WD, Washington
Attention: Chief, Personnel Branch

1. Reference is made to AMZON Cable No. 313 and Washington No. 911, above subject.

2. In the overall planning for the reorganization of AMZON and the streamlining of Services personnel (as discussed by Mr. Lewis on his recent trip to Washington), it was decided to combine responsibilities of several Services Branch officers, thus automatically eliminating the position of Mess and Club Officer.

3. Original plans called for the recruitment of two junior officers from the United States, both of whom have indicated they are not interested in the assignment offered. In addition it has become an urgent necessity to immediately assign a junior officer to conducting and liaison duties out of the Office of Chief of Mission. Captain Conein has been assigned to this task in addition to his duties as Mess and Club Officer. The time spent on supervisory control of the messes and clubs has reached the point where it entails a total of only about four or five days per month. These duties are principally accountability both for supply and cash funds connected with the messes and clubs. The duties of the conducting and liaison officer are most peculiar in nature in that no set schedule of duties can be outlined at least with respect to time. There have been individual conducting assignments that involved a minimum of a few hours of a given day and other times such conducting assignment actually lasted two or three or more days. These assignments come up at unusual times and it is imperative that we have available such junior officers to meet all demands made upon us when they actually arise. On the other hand, the essential mess and club duties may be very well "sandwiched in" between the more important duties of the conducting officer.

4. There has been some discussion as to the unreliability of subject officer for reasons unknown to the writer. While it is perhaps true that during the war no one ever took a dim view of free wheeling operations, sufficient time has indicated by daily observation both on duty and in social activities that

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subject officer now realizes that the war is over and we are only interested in that type officer personnel who have their feet on the ground. He has demonstrated from time to time since he has been on his present assignment that he can do almost any job asked of him. He has shown imagination, initiative and energy in overcoming obstacles encountered in setting up our two messes and clubs, which are currently operating with maximum efficiency and smoothness.

5. In view of the above, we are retaining subject in his new assignments.

For the Chief of Mission:

LOUIS E. KUBLER,
Lt. Col., Ord. Dept.,
Executive.

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