

HQ & HQ DETACHMENT
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
European Theater of Operations
U. S. ARMY
(MAIN)

APO 413
5 July 1945

SUBJECT: Miscellaneous Agent Affairs

TO : Lt. Frank Jex, Mission to the Netherlands.

1. We have received communications addressed to Louise and enclosed with your letter of 25 June and forwarded them to her training area where they will await her upon her arrival from Holland. We are sorry you were not informed regarding the ultimate results of our attempts to provide her with the leave she had been told she might expect. The discontinuation of operational plane service to Eindhoven precipitated us into difficulties: although Dutch have daily planes to Eindhoven, the Dutch Navy was not prepared to authorize air transport for Louise's trip and refused to honor American orders. Further, her having enlisted in the Dutch Navy made it a bit irregular for us to cut orders for her.

A storm brewed and broke in the local teacup, abetted by drafts from the Administrative Office, the Director's Office, and the Adjutant. Jan threw oil on the troubled waters and Louise's diffident and charming presence did the trick: OSS orders and ATC service to Brussels and return. The trip from Brussels to Nijmegen and return was to be Louise's responsibility, and Brussels was to arrange to receive and dispatch. The Dutch Navy relieved us of responsibility for her personal safety or for her tardiness in returning to her post of duty.

2. Yesterday, in response to your query as to whether the matter of missing Virginia-Georgia funds had been cleared up, Col. Alcorn opined that the end of the month would bring forth a solution. The facts have meanwhile to be presented to the Board of Review and if it is decided that the loss must be sustained, the Dutch will be expected to stand their share of the loss. It strikes Alcorn as mighty peculiar that the funds missing are the eminently negotiable American dollars and Swiss francs.

3. I had hoped that Jan Laverge's letter would lay to honorable rest the corpse of the bank account matter, but upon receipt of your letter I conferred with Mr. Hartog and arrived at the following statistics:

DOCUMENT NO. 008657/002
NO CHANGE IN CLASS.
DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED BY S 2010
NEXT REVIEW DATE
AUTH: HR 702
E: 80-9-9 REVIEWER: 287330

Wielinga: Mr. Hartog is unable to open an account for Wielinga as the latter is not in the U.K. Mr. Hartog still has the money and contemplates ultimate disposition of the matter in a short while; since he plans to leave soon for Holland, it is possible he and Frits can reach an agreement on the soil of Holland. That failing, he will write Frits. Frits is of course at liberty to accept his pay in Dutch guilders in Holland.

6
WN-008657-1

Van Duyn: Opened his own account while in the U.K.

Swagemakers: Jan's letter should certainly have settled this as far as it can be settled here pending your next move. You of course have registered Alcorn's comment that we are doing these boys a dubious favor by facilitating bank accounts. I assure you that his 4 comments are motivated not by a caviling reluctance to submit to the agony involved in the process but rather by regard for the following considerations:

- a) the stability of Dutch currency (after all, the French franc is still going strong)
- b) the menace of the possibility that foreign accounts may at any time be impounded (for years even the British will be strictly limited as to the amounts they may remove from the U.K.)
- c) the fact that our control and our capacity for service end as soon as the money is deposited; and even were we to be of service the day is approaching when London will have seen the last of us.

4. Col. Alcorn is in accord with your desire not to dun the Dutch for a share in the administrative expenses of Melanie Base.

5. We are pleased to hear that Louise's certificate is on its way.

6. As you may know, Major Jacques Beau is now in charge of the liquidation of agent affairs and in possession of all agent files here. I shall be pleased to continue to cooperate with him in the processing of any matters you have still to commit to his care until the date arrives when my transfer to the Far East becomes an accomplished fact.

7. I hope you received the tires in good order. Dutch transport is not as easy as it may sound from the richness of their air schedule; an export licence, one of the necessary formalities, is regarded here as a formidable obstacle.

8. I am relieved to hear that the files arrived safely. Were it not to court the impossible, I should express the hope that your completed files be as beautiful as ours.

AURELIUS J. PARENTI