

SECRET-SECURITY INFORMATION

Memorandum for the Record
July 16, 1952

Subject: The Kaiser Ministry and the Coordination of Resistance Groups

Herr Karl J. Germer, Political referent for the Kaiser Ministry in Berlin, talked to me on July 15th about the necessity for more coordination between resistance groups in Berlin. Herr Germer, who described himself as a younger associate and good friend of Minister Kaiser's in resistance work against Hitler, is an anti-Schumacher member of the SPD and appears to be a person of considerable initiative and liberal persuasions.

Herr Germer stressed that the need for coordination was ever more pressing. Berlin itself was too small and the area of its resistance activities was becoming too circumscribed to permit indefinite duplication and uncontrolled competition. Funds were also harder to come by than formerly. There was duplication both in the work done and in the payment for the work -- Herr Germer cited one group which he long suspected to be paid both by the Americans and by the Kaiser Ministry for the same work. There was also considerable inner politicking. This situation damaged both the extent and quality of resistance work and occasionally aided deterioration of both resistance morals and methods.

uhd?
Kampf

Most important was the damage to security of many private or semi-private operations within the resistance field; Herr Germer felt the Kaiser Ministry somewhat responsible for the general activities and security of resistance work and felt that when such breaches of security occurred Ministry representatives here tended to be blamed for them by Bonn. Furthermore, the Russians, Herr Germer thought, were now far more determined than before and with far more aggressive means to penetrate Western agencies. Amateurish work was more dangerous than ever. The Burianek affair in the Kampfgruppe should serve as a warning. It was only the first such case in the Kampfgruppe; worse cases are to follow.

cic?

Herr Germer wanted in the next month to form a small curatorium to exercise some coordination over resistance work. The curatorium was to be composed of the one pertinent member each from the Kaiser Ministry, the Senat, the SPD, CDU, and PD and each important resistance organization. It was to be rather informal, primarily a point of contact where problems could be ironed out on a personal basis between the responsible people concerned. This informality and lack of records would prevent making it a particular object of espionage. While U.S. representatives were not to be included, Herr Germer hoped that there would be a good connection with them, since otherwise, groups which were supported financially by the U.S. would always use U.S. support as an excuse for non-cooperation, a practice which Herr Germer cited

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as being currently present. Herr Germer thought that there was considerable sentiment favorable to such development in Berlin. Perhaps because of past security problems, Herr Tillich of the Kampfgruppe had appeared to be especially anxious to see the curatorium established.

True?

I told Herr Germer that I personally had nothing to do with resistance activities but would attempt to pass his comments on. Herr Germer said he would inform us of further developments.

Jerry:

① Please get report on Burianek's affair + establish CIC sponsorship, if it was indeed sponsored by CIC.

② Was report written by Henderson? Who is he? Was Hauck in or thru in Berlin?

③ Is statement about Tillich above true?

BE/PUB/GHenderson/hr
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④ How do our major groups feel about curatorium?

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