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TO : Chief, EE

DATE: _____

FROM : Chief of Station, Germany

Info: COS

SUBJECT: GENERAL— BEDOX/Operational

SPECIFIC— BECRIPPLE-2 Progress Report on East German Refugee Debriefings

Reference: EGB-A-20697 dated 16 February 1955

1. Introduction: We have continued to use BECRIPPLE-2 for the screening of East German refugees during the period 28 February - 9 May 1955. This screening of refugees was carried out in order to obtain exploitable operational leads to individuals of interest to BEDOX operations. This program is one part of BECRIPPLE-2's overall activity and it has been carried out in a professional and competent manner.

2. Screening Activities: The below listed East German refugees were screened by BECRIPPLE-2 during the period 28 February - 9 May 1955:

a. Wilhelm SEROKA. Subject was born on 30 July 1910 in Tannenberg. Subject's last residence in East Germany was Frankfurt/Oder, Kleiststrasse 2. SEROKA was employed as a fireman in the East German Reichsbahn prior to coming to West Berlin and is a former SPD man who joined the SED in 1947. Subject was debriefed on potential operational leads but these were not exploited due to the fact that subject had worked for the SPD Ost Buero prior to defecting to West Berlin. BECRIPPLE-2 interviewed subject on 28 February 1955.

b. Heinz HENTSCHEL. Subject was born on 29 June 1919 in Dresden. HENTSCHEL's last address in East Germany was Frankfurt/Oder, Friedrich Handelstrasse 28. Subject was employed as a railroad locomotive engineer in Frankfurt/Oder from October 1953 - March 1955. HENTSCHEL traveled on the Frankfurt/Oder-Brest run with brigade 130 prior to June 1954 and was a SSD spotter in these brigades for SED members who could be used as SSD informants. HENTSCHEL attended the SED district party school in Wandlitzsee from January - June 1953. This individual became of interest to ODOPAL for security reasons during BECRIPPLE-2's processing of

Approved [Signature]

AKR:jrw
14 July 1955

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subject, therefore we did not finish the debriefing of this individual, but let ODOPAL pick him up in refugee channels for exploitation. BECRIPPLE-2 interviewed subject on 23 March 1955.

- ~~+~~ c. Karl PETER. Subject was born on 29 July 1895 in Frankfurt/Oder. Prior to his arrival in West Berlin PETER lived in Furstenwalde, Gartenstrasse 39. Subject has been a railroader since 1910 and prior to his defection from East Germany subject was involved in shuttling freight trains in the Furstenwalde-Beeskow area. Subject was debriefed on operational leads but these leads were not of interest to us because we discovered that subject had been working for the "Frein Juristen" since 1953. BECRIPPLE-2 interviewed subject on 24 March 1955.
- ~~+~~ d. Friedrich Joachim SCHRAMM. Subject was born on 27 July 1934 in Senftenberg-Hoerlich. SCHRAMM's last residence in East Germany was Frankfurt/Oder, Goerlitzerstrasse 23. SCHRAMM was employed in Frankfurt/Oder as a customs official and he had one exploitable lead to a customs official in Frankfurt/Oder. As this customs official was not in a position to assist us in the furtherance of the objectives of the BETA project this lead was not followed up. The personality information on the members of customs service in Frankfurt/Oder has been incorporated into our operational files. BECRIPPLE-2 interviewed subject on 25 March 1955. ~~+~~
- ~~+~~ e. Helmut WEISS. Subject was born on 12 December 1934 in Wolgast. WEISS lived in Wolgast, Kronwikstrasse 8, prior to coming to West Berlin. Subject was employed by the DSU from 4 August 1954 - April 1955. Subject did not have any exploitable operational leads. BECRIPPLE-2 talked to subject on 28 April 1955.
- ~~+~~ f. Hans LEHMANN. Subject was born on 13 March 1936 in Schnellenfurt, Kreis Rothenburg. Prior to leaving East Germany subject lived in Neusorge/Nyski. LEHMANN was a member of the Grenzpolizei from 15 March 1954 - 19 February 1955 and saw most of his service near Nyski. BECRIPPLE-2 debriefed subject on border controls and patrol techniques but subject did not supply any new information on border controls in East Germany. BECRIPPLE-2 debriefed subject on 5 May 1955.
- ~~+~~ g. Hans SEILER. Subject was born on 21 May 1928 in Seitendorf, Germany. Prior to his arrival in West Berlin subject lived in Zittau, Humboldtstrasse 12. Subject was debriefed on friends or contacts in Seitendorf, (Zatonie district Zgorzelec) Poland but subject did not possess any exploitable operational leads. SEILER was a weaver by profession. BECRIPPLE-2 debriefed subject on 9 May 1955.

3. Field Comment: The refugee screening during the period 28 February - 9 May 1955 did not produce any exploitable operational leads but it did give us extensive personality data on individuals who may be of interest to us at a future date. This personality data has been recorded in our operational files. We will continue this program in order to keep abreast of developments in the railroad circles which are concerned with the transit traffic from East Germany to Poland and in the DSU. Our need for agent material for the [] and [] projects has been eliminated,

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therefore we are using this screening process as a means of obtaining operational intelligence which we can use in testing our existing [] or [] assets. This operational intelligence is also used by us in planning the future development of the [] and [] operation.

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