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FPX/1635

Station: SCI FRA. E, Paris Base

Report 1

S-307

Reference:

Report Date: 26 Dec 1944

Source: SCI Interrogation

Information Date:

Sub-Source: OSTRICH

Date Info. Received: 24 Dec. 1944

Evaluation: B-2

SUBJECT: Questionnaire on RSHA Section, Amt. VI/S

Handwritten initials: "A. H. C."

The following questions on activities of RSHA Amt. VI/S were prepared by VBZ and answered by OSTRICH thru SCI interrogation:

Q. 1. Why did OSTRICH have to report to Dr. HUEGEL of the SD Stuttgart:

A. Subject does not know why he had to report to Dr. HUEGEL of SD Stuttgart. (We assume, although your question is not precise on this point, that you are interested in Dr. HUEGEL's reason for sending him). HUEGEL was the man in Abt. VI SD Leitabschnitt Stuttgart who was interested in Switzerland.

Q. 2. Can he describe the building, organization or personnel of the SD Stelle at Rheinsburgstrasse 2, Stuttgart?

A. The exact address of the SD Stelle at Stuttgart was 32 Rheinburgstrasse, a large building of at least five stories in a business section. Subject thinks it has probably been destroyed in subsequent bombardments. Chief of the Leitabschnitt was Obersturmbannfuhrer STEIMLE, who in 1943 became Chief Abt. West, Berlin. His successor was Sturmbannfuhrer BOEHM. All SD activities in Wurtemberg, Baden and Alsace were directed from Stuttgart.

Q. 3. Can he explain why Dr. HUEGEL ceased to be interested in his Swiss reports early in May 1943?

A. Subject thinks there were two reasons; for one, he asked for too much money, and Dr. HUEGEL got tired of being continually asked for more. Also, at that time he thinks that Germany decided to adopt another policy toward Switzerland. Certainly AST agents received orders to cease working against Switzerland about that time;

Q. 4. Can he give any details about the SD Aussenstelle, Mulhouse?

A. Title was SD Hauptaussenstelle, Mulhouse. In April 1942 the Chief was Hauptsturmfuhrer Ernest MAYER, from Lorrach, who later went to Strasbourg as Bds and remained there. He was

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succeeded by Hauptsturmfuehrer OTT, a native of Stuttgart who formerly had been SD Chief at Mulsheim. OTT was in turn succeeded by Sturmbannfuehrer BLECHER, of Stuttgart. Most recent Chief was Hauptsturmfuehrer PODRATZ, who had been in Warsaw. The Mulhouse office was largely concerned with reporting local public opinion, etc. and had almost no espionage or CE activity.

Q. 5. Has he anything to say about DAUFELD or SCHWARZENBACHER?

A. These names mean nothing to him.

Q. 6. What plans for evacuation have been made at the school?

A. We assume that you refer to A-Schule West. In September 1944, while informant was at Badenweiler, a certain Oberscharfuehrer HENN came there from the A-Schule West to teach. He reported that the school had been evacuated to the Steiermark, but did not name a specific location. The Belgrade school had also been evacuated to the same region.

Q. 7. Did subject hear talk of evacuation to, or any form of SD work at DEVENTER, ENSCHEDE or ODENZAAL?

A. There was a W/T school at DEVENTER, in the Kurhof, 11 km from the town. The Chief was Untersturmfuehrer GERDES, and he was succeeded by an Untersturmfuehrer MENZEL (alias FRETSE). Enschede and Odenzaal remind him of nothing.

Q. 8. Had the Feuerwerker Schule, State Experimental Laboratory or the Engineers' School in Berlin any regular connection with the SD, or are we to understand that only very special SD candidates were sent there for training?

A. There was a school for instructors in sabotage at the Feuerwerker Schule, to which only members of the SS were admitted. It had been organized by WV/F. In this sense the connection between the Schule and the SD may be said to have been "regular".

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Q. 9. Does he know whether the Hotel ROXY, at which he stayed, is still standing? If not, where do Amt VI agents in Berlin stay?

A. Undoubtedly the ROXY has been destroyed. VI/S now lodges its agents at Friedenthal or at an Anlaufwohnung in the Hammerstrasse, in a Berlin suburb whose exact name he doesn't remember.

Q. 10. Is he of the opinion that SKORZENY and BESEKOW were anxious to have as little to do as possible with KNOCHEN and his staff?

A. He says that SKORZENY and BESEKOW always came to KNOCHEN for help when they needed it, but that didn't prevent them from making reports from time to time which were not favorable to KNOCHEN.

Q. 11. Does he know of any earlier SKORZENY missions than the liberation of MUSSOLINI?

A. He knows of no earlier missions.

Q. 12. Was Dr. KNOCHEN in agreement that the kidnapping of PETAIN was advisable, and that SKORZENY was the right person to undertake the operation?

A. He doesn't know whether Dr. KNOCHEN was in agreement or not. Details of the plan had already been arranged by Berlin, and when SKORZENY asked for help there was nothing KNOCHEN could do but assent.

Q. 13. Had the "JEANNE" mission any connection with SKORZENY's SS Jagdverbande? Has he any knowledge of the role of the latter, particularly in Western Europe?

A. The "JEANNE" mission had no connection with the SS Jagdverbande. This latter is the new name for the Brandenburg Division, a name which has existed only since October. The Jagdverbande is controlled by VI/S, and as far as he knows, their

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future missions will be of the same nature as their past activity, He knows no details. He has furnished a separate report on them and on Oberfaehnrich SCHWINN.

Q. 14. What part will be played by the HSSuPf's of RSHA within Germany in coordinating or controlling German resistance activities?

A. SUBJECT is sure that German underground activity will be controlled personally by HIMMLER at the top, and that no HSSuPf will be able to do anything not ordered by him.

Q. 15. Is SKORZENY destined to control underground resistance and sabotage within the Reich? If he is, what arrangements has he made for the decentralization of his authority? Will such decentralization be based on the Wehrkreise?

A. SKORZENY may play a chief role, again under HIMMLER. Subject knows that VI/S is already establishing depots in Germany. The organization will probably be based on the Wehrkreise, with SS leaders.

Q. 16. What connection is there between SKORZENY's organization and general Nazi plans to go underground? In particular, does SKORZENY take account of the "Fuenfergruppe" or any other type of local underground resistance unit?

A. The word "Fuenfergruppe" means nothing to informant. As for preparing the resistance, he thinks it certain that VI/S is training saboteurs and will as a result have much to do with German resistance.

Q. 17. What part did VI/S play in penetrating the Maquis in French Savoy?

A. Subject knows something about everything VI/S did in France, and he feels sure they had nothing to do with penetrating the Maquis in French Savoy.

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Q. 18. What is the precise nature of SKORZENY's control over Abwehr Gruppe II units in the West?

A. He knows no details whatever.

Q. 19. Do the Jagdverbaende in any replace or render obsolescent SS 502 Jaeger Battalion?

A. The Jagdverbaende in no way replaced or rendered obsolescent the SS 602 Jaeger Battalion. The Battalion is still at Friedenthal. It is a Waffen SS organization attached to RSHA for special duty.

Q. 20. Does subject know of any SKORZENY camp or establishment in the COLOGNE area?

A. No.

Q. 21. Is BADENWEILER confined to SKORZENY's personnel?

A. When he was at BADENWEILER, Sonderkommando VI/S was the only organization there. He has heard that later 60 or 70 ~~men~~ former Miliciens had been sent there for training. MOREAU told him this recently.

Q. 22. What does he know of SKORZENY's area commissioners?

A. Subject knows nothing about them.

Q. 23. Has SKORZENY's organization absorbed any parts of Referat VI F originally devoted to sabotage. What is present relations of VI/S and VI/F?

A. VI/F nowadays is concerned only with procurement and distribution of materiel. All actual sabotage activities are in the

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Q. 24. What HQ in Germany does SKORZENY use in addition to Friedenthal and Berlin?

A. No other.

Q. 25. Is it intended to move those parts of the RSHA still in Berlin to other areas, e.g. Vienna, in case of an Anglo-American advance?

A. Yes; RSHA has already been evacuated to various areas just outside Berlin because of bombardments. SUBJECT has no idea where they can go next.

Q. 26. Further description and identification of MOSER; connection, if any, with German I.S.

A. Subject is reluctant to give any further description and identification of MOSER, apparently for fear we will molest him. He considers MOSER a true friend, with no G.I.S. connections whatever, and was quite emphatic on these points. We did not press him too closely on this point in view of his attitude.

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