

XK 1226
10 July 1944

123 100 111 112
Collection of IS
TRANSLATION (Polish)

Copy to 62 Tokyo
2 July 46

OF

ACHLEDER'S STATEMENT

Complete translation
in copy to 62 Tokyo
DB # 123 - 2 Oct. 1946

KUNCEWICZ - Polish N.D.

A careful watch by my 'Hauskapelle', working under my orders, on the Manchurian Embassy in Berlin resulted in a letter from the Embassy and destined for Italy, falling into German hands. The Embassy was suspected of carrying on intelligence work detrimental to Germany's prosecution of the war -- a member of the Embassy had tried to recruit a German national as an agent.

" It was addressed to the General of the Jesuit Order, Count LEJACHOWSKI, well known as a fanatical Polish patriot who though well in the seventies, was still a very vigorous man. The typewritten letter bore a handwritten signature, practically illegible, which might possibly have been 'KUNCEWICZ.' The main part of the fairly comprehensive letter consisted of reports on the fate and work of Catholic priests and parishes in German-occupied POLAND and LITHUANIA. It added suggestions for the further development of channels by which information could be passed; the writer laid the greatest stress on the need for careful camouflage -- the Manchurian and Japanese diplomats were to be kept in ignorance of his true position. He also informed his correspondent of the days on which his agent in Rome prepared courier post for Germany, as well as the days on which he himself in Berlin prepared post for, and received post from, Poland.

The tone of the letter was deferential and indicated a personal acquaintanceship. ~~As far as I can remember, this happened in the middle of 1942.~~

" Investigations carried out by my subordinates revealed that a Pole, KUNCEWICZ, though not on my official list, was in fact employed as assistant at the Manchurian Embassy, and had been supplied with a Manchurian passport.

" At this juncture, the Abwehr was obliged to bring in the Gestapo on the case. The latter arrested KUNCEWICZ in the street.

" The Manchurian and Japanese diplomatic representative took no steps towards finding KUNCEWICZ, and when several days later the Embassy was informed of what had happened (as far as it was in the German interest to do so) they professed complete agreement with the German measures taken.

" As a result of KUNCEWICZ's cross-examination -- the Abwehr was not present but was kept informed of the statements made -- as well as further private inquiries, the following facts became known:

" KUNCEWICZ was formerly an officer in the Polish Army, trained in intelligence work. He had, in all probability, been working for the Japanese diplomatic representative in Warsaw even before the outbreak of war in 1939, because after the military collapse of Poland in 1939 he found protection and employment at the Embassy there, was given a Manchurian passport and an appointment in Berlin.

" For the remainder of the war, a Manchurian/Japanese Consulate-General functioned in Warsaw and kept in constant touch with the Japanese and Manchurian Embassies in Berlin through a diplomatic bag. Poles were also employed in this Consulate in Warsaw.

CONOVER says that implies that the Manchurian Consulate in Warsaw was made after early 1942, and that the Japanese Embassy had been abandoned before that.

"KUNCEWICZ admitted that he had received current miscellaneous information from Poland and Lithuania via his agents employed at the Consulate-General -- which served as a collecting point -- through the diplomatic bag. He denied, however, that the information was of a military nature. The information was then forwarded through a Japanese/Manchurian courier to the office of the Military Attache at the Japanese Embassy in Stockholm, Sweden. There, working as a colleague of the Japanese Military Attache (Col. ONODERA -- promoted in 1943 to the rank of General) was a former Polish colonel and intelligence officer called Piotr or Peter IMANOW, who held a Japanese passport; his real Polish name became known later on, but I can no longer recall it. Oberst. Dr. MACKISZ, who until the beginning of 1945 worked in Stockholm for the Abwehr, knows all the details on the subject.

"KUNCEWICZ received directions and considerable sums of money through the same channels from Peter IMANOW, which he forwarded via Warsaw to members of his intelligence net in Poland and Lithuania. IMANOW kept in constant touch with the Polish Government in London through the Japanese Embassy in Stockholm, and after Japan's entry into the war through the Polish Embassy in Stockholm.

"The Japanese Military Attache in Stockholm, General ONODERA, was Military Attache in Lithuania years before the war; it is therefore probable that his close relations with Peter IMANOW date from that time. ONODERA claimed to have used IMANOW to receive information from London; I am ~~not~~ certain that the latter had channels through Finland and the Baltic countries to agents on the Russian frontier, and that he supplied ONODERA with Russian and most probably German military information.

"The German authorities drew Gen. ONODERA'S attention to the dangerous character of his colleague. The Swedish Intelligence finally also grew suspicious of IMANOW. The latter left for London in 1944.

"KUNCEWICZ was, at the time of his arrest, suffering from a chronic illness, and died during his imprisonment before being brought to trial -- the latter information was supplied by the Gestapo.

"In parenthesis, there was never any evidence to show that the Jesuits used the many channels available to the Catholic Church for passing military information.

"The General of the Order, Count LEDUCHOWSKI, died during the war."

(signed) — Joachim HOHLER

-17 May 1946-