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May 65

BIOGRAPHIC SKETCH ON HUBERT SCHRUEBBERS

Hubert SCHRUEBBERS is President of the West German Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution (BfV), the internal security organization.

SCHRUEBBERS was born 3 November 1907 in Recklinghausen, North Rhein-Westphalia, Germany. He is a graduate lawyer, first serving as legal civil servant in Berlin beginning in 1935. From 1939 until his provisional appointment as BfV President in 1955, SCHRUEBBERS held the post of prosecuting attorney in federal and state courts in the cities of Bochum, Dortmund, Hamm, Arnsberg, Cologne, Karlsruhe, and Dusseldorf. He served with the German Army from August 1943 to May 1946 attaining the rank of Sergeant. In September 1944 he was captured and interned by the British and was released in May 1946.

SCHRUEBBERS was appointed provisional president of the BfV in August 1955 upon the retirement of Hans Jess, successor to Otto John. On 19 December 1955, he received the formal appointment. Prior to his BfV presidency, SCHRUEBBERS possessed neither experience nor technical knowledge of the intelligence or security fields. After his appointment his stated preference for lawyers and his replacement of a number of experienced intelligence officers in the BfV by inexperienced lawyers was at first a source of dissatisfaction within the BfV. Since then he and his officers have survived several serious public attacks which caused complete reorganization of the BfV in terms of personnel as well as operational procedures. He is now in the process of restoring order and rebuilding morale within the organization in order to continue carrying out efficiently and effectively the internal security of the West German Federal Republic.

SCHRUEBBERS, who was never a member of the Nazi Party, has no announced political affiliation but as a Catholic and a conservative, he has leanings toward the Christian Democratic Union (CDU). It was thought that he was also in good standing with the Socialist Party of Germany (SPD), however, the recent Parliamentary investigations into BfV activities reveal that SCHRUEBBERS' position was very precarious, and at one point it was uncertain whether or not he would be asked to resign.

SCHRUEBBERS' rank as head of the BfV is Ministerialdirigent. He does not enjoy the prestige or rank of General GEHLEN, Chief of

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the Bundesnachrichtendienst (BND). and is known to be somewhat jealous of him.

SCHRUEBBERS, who speaks and understands a fair amount of English, made a two-week visit to the United States in May of 1957, and was briefed and entertained by CIA officials. He did not, however, meet the Director of Central Intelligence. He also visited London in 1960 and has consistently expressed an attitude of wholehearted cooperation with Allied Agencies in Germany. CIA officials in Bonn have had extensive contact with SCHRUEBBERS and found him to be a friendly and congenial individual. Although he took over the BfV without experience and with little comprehension of the potential value to his service of close cooperation with CIA, he has gained much professional experience and has become increasingly impressed with CIA's competence as a service. According to a recent assessment of SCHRUEBBERS, it was stated that he values the liaison relationship with CIA above all other liaison maintained by his service. It is felt that his strong positive orientation toward CIA, combined with his position, makes him a valuable contact deserving of continued attention. Aside from his current caution with respect to undertaking operations with flap potential, experience has shown that he is generally very amenable to CIA proposals for joint operational activities or support of CIA proposals by his service whenever possible. It will be to CIA's benefit to meet with President SCHRUEBBERS at this time to offer assistance and guidance and to assure him of our continuing support.

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