

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Sk...

7712 E.C.I.S., APO 72
U.S. Army, c/o Postmaster
New York, New York.

2 February 1949

Dear Sir:

With regard to the questions you ask in your last letter I can give you the following information for what it is worth.

The subject "escaped" from our interrogation center in Oberursel, a small town about ten miles from Frankfurt on the road to Darmstadt, about three months ago. I would hardly use the term escape, for in reality he was aided and abetted in his desires in order to find out where he wanted to hide out, and who the people were who were willing to keep him. He is now once more with us, although no longer on this continent, and his services are being put to some use. It must be remembered that in spite of all his play-acting and posing he still has a very excellent knowledge of intelligence and can be of definite use to our people.

As to the local authorities wanting him, I believe it would be more accurate to say that the Austrians rather than the Germans are interested in his whereabouts. He is, after all, an Austrian, and the majority of his more infamous acts were committed against his own people. There are undoubtedly several German officials who would like to have him, but this is mainly from a mercenary point of view, for they would be paid quite handsomely if they could succeed in turning him over to the gentlemen to the east. If anyone, other than ourselves, is really interested in him, it is undoubtedly the assorted members of the Politburo. My own personal opinion of the man is that we have already played him for what he is worth, but he is too dangerous to let go. He is in a position at the present time, where he would have to sell to the highest, or any bidder, and, being a professional soldier, I doubt whether he would have any scruples as to which political side he sold his services.

Insofar as the document I have already sent you is concerned, I should like to repeat that I sent it mainly for your magazine's benefit. If it is any use to you as a check against the information you already have, I can assure you that the facts, even though they are somewhat dramatized by the author, are for a very large part correct. I have since talked to various other members of the expedition, and they concur with all the major points in the story. Of course they themselves live in the reflected glory, but one German

- EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
- (2)(A) Privacy
- (2)(B) Methods/Sources
- (2)(G) Foreign Relations

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2001, 2005

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or Austrian if you wish, is not too prone to praise another. As to doing anything else with material, I feel that would only act as a counter story to your own, if published in another magazine, and I would prefer to let the matter drop if that should be the case.

Many thanks for what you have done in the matter. I'm afraid I can't be too specific about the subject's activities at the present time for obvious reasons, however should the time come when we can give you all the facts without endangering security I shall let you have a detailed account. You can form your own conclusions from what I have already told you in this letter, and should you want to use any of the information I can't see where it would do any harm.

Sincerely yours,

P.S. Cherwell was formerly the main interrogation center for the German Luftwaffe, when questioning our pilots after they had been shot down.

D.H.H.