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DISPATCH NO. NSMA-1492

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TO : Chief, Foreign Division W DATE: 6 April 1951

FROM : Chief of Station, C-1

SUBJECT: GENERAL - Operational
SPECIFIC - Otto SKORZENY
Ref: NSM-543; C-1 696

1. Otto SKORZENY and his "wife," Ilsa FINKENSTEIN, have now been in Madrid for several weeks following their recent trip to Germany. Due to the illness (jaundice) of the Countess, she hasn't been too active lately, but Otto managed to accompany Willy KESSER-SCHMIDT during the latter's visit to Spain.
2. According to the source, SKORZENY stated that the Russians will shortly begin a campaign to win over all Germany by "raising the voice of Hitler" as a uniting element. Unfortunately, this is as much as the source got as to how Hitler would be used by the Soviets. To counter the Hitlerian propaganda, however, the Western Germans have, according to SKORZENY, asked him to be their rallying point.
3. SKORZENY is at present quite preoccupied with his personal difference with General DOERR. The latter is supposed to have stated that SKORZENY is not a soldier, but a "punk." SKORZENY on the other hand is going to "slap" DOERR one of these days, or so he told the source. SKORZENY has apparently developed the friendship of Ramon SERRANO SUÑER (they recently "embraced" in the bar of the Palace Hotel), and he is going to tell DOERR that SERRANO SUÑER will have him thrown into jail. The DOERR-SKORZENY feud has not yet developed beyond the comic opera stage, but SKORZENY's query as to DOERR's intelligence activities on behalf of the U.S. strikes a more serious tone.
4. SKORZENY asked the source if he could find out if General DOERR is working for the Americans in Spain, and stated that it is known that he has been working for the U.S. in Germany for the past three years. In this connection, SKORZENY added that he, even though he considers himself a friend of the source, would not pass to him information regarding Spain or Spaniards. This would be a violation of the loyalty owed his host, that is, Spain.
5. SKORZENY further informed the source that he was at present very angry with General SPEIDEL for the following reason. SPEIDEL privately agreed with SKORZENY that his plan to bring the cream of Germany's soldiers

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EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

- (2)(A) Privacy
(2)(B) Methods/Sources
(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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here to be trained was a good one. However, when two Spanish officers asked SPEIDEL's opinion of the scheme, he supposedly said that he would never back such a proposal.

6. In regard to his military training plan, SKORZENY added that the Spanish Cabinet had considered his proposal, and that FRANCO is supposed to have mentioned SKORZENY as the man to be in charge of the training program. This information, according to SKORZENY, was given him by a Cabinet Minister.
7. Comment: The possibility that SKORZENY is working for [] and that he would like to check on DOERR through the source is not overlooked. SKORZENY's remark to the effect that he would not report on his Spanish friends strongly implies that DOERR is doing just that and that SKORZENY finds this reproachable.

SKORZENY's idea of SKORZENY's importance appears to be responsible for the material in paragraph 2 above. As SKORZENY is older and more experienced than the source of this material, it may be that he thinks that the source will believe anything.

To date, no other source has been able to corroborate SKORZENY's statement that FRANCO mentioned him as the person to train German contingents. Neither has Madrid any evidence that SKORZENY's plan is anything more than his own pipe dream.

(The source is the same as the source of [] ^{Washington} 696.)

cc: Wash 3
File 2

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