

178012

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2008

Report No. B - 2461

12 April 1945

XARZ-25169

FROM: BERN
 DATE OF INFO: 10 April 1945
 DATE OF REPORT: 12 April 1945
 EVALUATION: F-2
 SOURCE: German official who deserted to Switzerland February 1945 and is now seeking our favors, via 441
 COUNTRY: GERMANY
 SUBJECT: Notes for the "Gallery of War Criminals" - SS-Obersturmbannführer Wilhelm BEISSNER
 DISTRIBUTION: Paris, Caserta, Washington, Files (3)

1. Wilhelm BEISSNER was Gestapo Chief in LODZ, Poland, and ZAGREB, Croatia. He is one of the important Gestapo men whose mission was almost exclusively in various German-occupied countries. He is said to be one of the cruellest Gestapo officials, responsible for the death of a great many Jews in Poland, as well as a number of other victims in districts where he had been stationed.

2. Beissner is 35 years old, 1m80 tall, brunette, hair parted on the left-hand side, bad teeth, speaks with a slight lisp, looks much younger than his age. As a result of an accident, one of his hands (the informant was not sure which one) has very noticeable white spots, due to some acid having been spilled on it. Informant thought that almost half of his hand is covered with these spots.

3. Beissner has a diploma as "Volkswirt" (doctor of agronomy). Prior to the outbreak of the war, he was a "Referent" in the "Ausserpolitisches Amt" (an independent affiliation of the German Foreign Office) of which Rosenberg was the head. He was specialist for the Balkan states and had a great deal to do with the Iron Guard Putsch in Rumania. Simultaneously, he was SS-Hauptsturmführer (Captain) in Himmler's "Hauptamt" (head office).

4. At the outbreak of the war, he went to Poland and was made Chief of the Gestapo in LODZ where he was known for his cruelties and persecution of the Jews. After 3 or 4 months in this position, he returned to Germany and was promoted to Sturmbannführer (Major).

5. His next job was in the RSHA (Reichssicherheits-hauptamt - Himmler's organization), where he became the "Referent" for the Near East, including Iran, Iraq, and Afghanistan. At the end of 1939 and beginning of 1940, he made several trips to these countries. Early in 1941 he was sent to Yugoslavia where he was very friendly with

act
X
X

Ben BS Jul 91
 B-2461 441
 Folder
 B of 10

CS COPY -1-

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority NND 37210
 NARA Date 2-27-08

STOJADINOVITCH. After the occupation of Yugoslavia, he was appointed Gestapo Chief in ZAGREB where he distinguished himself with further cruelties and persecutions, simultaneously accumulating quite a fortune for himself.

6. In Zagreb, he had difficulties with the German Ambassador KASCHE and at the latter's insistence was recalled to Berlin. Towards the end of 1941 we find him again in the RSHA, having a roving commission which included travels to Greece and later on to North Africa. In 1942 he was in North Africa with Rommel on a special mission for Gestapo, jointly with another member of the organization by name of WEGKE. Towards the end of 1943, beginning of 1944 he returned to Berlin and was promoted to Obersturmbannführer (Lt. Col.) At that time he was appointed the "referent" for Switzerland, travelling a great deal and remaining practically at no time in Germany. It is from outside of Germany that he directed his work in Switzerland. Our informant last saw him late in December 1944 and early in January 1945, in MILAN.

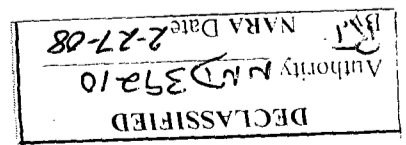
7. Beissner is married and has one child. He is on bad terms with his wife and they are now separated. Frau Beissner used to complain to our informant's wife how badly he treated his child, beating him constantly. He is vengeful and evidently possesses a number of other objectionable characteristics.

8. One of his friends in Berlin was Dr. DHAWAN, an Indian who has lived in Germany for the last 20 years having been condemned to death by the British. Dhawan is head of Indian propaganda in the Reichspropaganda-Ministerium. His Berlin address is Droysenstrasse 14. The Berlin address of Beissner can be found in the telephone book where he is the only man by this name spelling it with two "s".

jbw

- 2 -

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



(32)

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE WAR ROOM
LONDON.

WAR ROOM PUBLICATION

4 Sept 1945

SF.4/22/W.R.O.3a

4th September, 1945.

Ant VI Order of Battle

Note: The following paper deals with Ant VI with the exception of the Mil Ant, Gruppo VI S and Gruppo VI Z.

This publication cancels Appendix I to War Room Publication SF.4/22/W.R.O.3a dated 27th July 1945, which now should be destroyed.

This appendix has now been brought up to date, and attempts to cover all Ant VI officers of the following categories:-

- (a) Ant VI officers at the R.S.H.
- (b) Ant VI officers on the staff of Bds's.
- (c) Ant VI officers acting as representatives in neutral countries.
- (d) Ant VI representatives in SD-stollen in Germany.

It should be noted that the list does not cover the following classes:-

- (a) Non-commissioned officers; though high grade civilian specialists employed in technical sections are included.
- (b) Officers of Gruppo VI S or VI Z.
- (c) Mil Ant Officers.
- (d) Abwehr officers who have posted to Gruppen of Ant VI as a result of the absorption of the Abwehr.

As is inevitable in a list of this kind there are omissions, but it is not that these omissions are either numerous or serious. It is not proposed to subsequent lists of Ant VI officers. A liquidation report on Ant VI, replacing covering note of the War Room publication mentioned above, is in process of preparation and will be issued when reports on outstanding leading characters are received from the field.

Those personalities considered priority targets are indicated with an asterisk in the appendix.

For easy reference personalities under arrest are underlined in column 2.

AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 372-10
NARA Date 2-27-08

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority NND 37210
 NARA Date 2-27-08

EXACT COPY

INDEX

INDEX of the R.S.H.

<u>NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RANK</u>	<u>REFERENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PRESENT LOCATION AND REMARKS</u>
19	ALBERTOTTI, Herman	Stubaf	VI D1	Apr 45	Reported at Tegernsee Apr 45.
73	ACHMETZELI, Prof.		VI G 2	Apr 45	Arrested by 21st A.C.
3	ADRENS, Heinrich	Ostuf	VI B	Apr 45	Apr 45 reported to be at LAUBENSTEIN.
3 +	ALTSCH	Hastuf	VI B(4)	Apr 45	Subsequently reported to be VI Kult, VI D (2) & Unit IV. Reported at FRESSBERG in Apr 45. Probably now in B.V.H.L.
88	AMHOR, Eain	Ostuf	VI A (4)	Nov 43	Reported at MUNICH in Apr 45. Also reported to have been killed.
25	ANDERLACH, Otto	Ostuf	VI E (4)	Apr 45	Unit VI representative in Madrid, 1945.
19	ANGLD, Theo	Ustuf.	VI B	Apr 45	Arrested by 12th. A.C.
214	ANER	Stubaf	VI B	Apr 45	
250	ANSBURG, Dr. Arthur	Stubaf	VI C 2	Apr 45	
066	BACHHAUS, Alfred	Hastuf	VI C (2)	Apr 45	22 Apr 45 reported at SCHWERIN.
	BANDORF, Dr. Holant	Ustuf	VI E (1)		B&S Verona Apr 45.
24	BAUER, Jakob	Ostuf	VI E (3)	Apr 45	VI representative SD Leitabschnitt Stuttgart 1944.
	BAUER, Josef	Ustuf	VI W1	Nov 43	
171	BAUS, Ferdinand	Hastuf	VI E (4)	Nov 43	Reported as VI A 2 late 1944, replaced by KLEINERT.
51	BECKER, Hans	Hastuf	VI D 4		Unit VI representative in Argentina. Arrested U.S.A.
18870	BECKER	Ustuf	VI B	1944	VI Referent SD Aussonstello Loornuch, 1944.

Beissner

TRACES

Primer Only

10 November 1949

RE: MGLA 595

BEISSNER, Col.

German Primer

BEIS(S)NER, Sturmbannführer. Born 18 August 1911. Commanded a Sipo and SD Kommando in Tunis during German occupation. Destined for Lisbon in June 1943. Posted to RSHA VI C in November 1943, where he directed the establishment of an espionage network in the Near East operating from Italy. Visited Rome in this connection in December 1943 and later visited Zagreb. Reported in April 1944 to be working under MOYZISCH in Turkey. Appointed Ustuf on 20 April 37. On the staff of SSHA in November 1938. In Athens on July 1943. Party No. 374, 194. SS No. 65, 698. Speaks French with an accent. Height 5'11" (180 cm). Heavy build, thick chestnut hair; plastered back, scar on left cheek running from ear to mouth, large white mark on left hand. Possibly identical with Heinrich MEISSNER.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2008

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 37210
NARA Date 2-27-08

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2008

ENCL 50 To
MGLA-2228

C

ÖSTERREICH
DEUTSCHLAND

9.5.1950 (P/01435)

Betr.: NACHRICHTENAGENT WILLI BEISSNER

Zeit des Vorgangs: Ermittlungsstand Ende April 1950

FT 1 / TT 2 b

Rupert MANDL von der GEHLEN-Organisation hat, einer vertraulichen Information zufolge, dem Nachrichtenagenten Dr. Erich MÜLLER (der diese Kenntnisse in einer Meldung an die Generaldirektion für die Öffentliche Sicherheit verwertete) mitgeteilt, dass der ehemalige SS-Sturmbannführer WILLI BEISSNER bis vor kurzem mit französischer Billigung unter einem Decknamen in FELDKIRCH gelebt habe; er sei dort mit dem BDOc in Verbindung gestanden. Jetzt arbeite BEISSNER in MÜNCHEN mit dem ehemaligen Sturmbannführer ^{Leitner} ROBERT KRAUS zusammen, der vorübergehend im Amt VI des Reichssicherheitshauptamtes Referent für Jugoslawien war.

Welcher Art diese Zusammenarbeit ist, hat MANDL angeblich MÜLLER gegenüber nicht näher umschrieben; vermutlich handelt es sich um eine Tätigkeit für die GEHLEN-Organisation.

WILLI BEISSNER war beim aussenpolitischen Amt der NSDAP (Amt ROSENBERG) Referent, ging dann aber hauptberuflich zum SD, und zwar glaublich im Jahr 1940, über. Er war als Sturmbannführer dem Amt VI zugeteilt und gehörte mit Dr. RAUFF dem Einsatzkommando Tunis, und zwar als Verbindungsmann zum Grossmafti, an. Später war er beteiligt an den Kapitulations- und Friedensgesprächen zwischen Obergruppenführer WOLF, Botschafter RAHN und Kardinal SCHUSTER von MAILAND. Aus einem

formally filed SALZ-CIA PRO-2
Bv 7

NOT AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 372-10
NARA Date 2-27-08

US-Internierungslager in Italien flüchtete BEISSNER, vermutlich mit französischer Hilfe, und begab sich in die französische Besatzungszone in Österreich.)

T

C-3

W

UNRELIABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 37210
NARA Date 2-27-08

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY
SECURITY INFORMATION

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

COUNTRY	Italy/Egypt	REPORT NO.	CS-7845
SUBJECT	Prospective Purchase by Egypt of Arms in Italy	DATE DISTR.	30 April 1953
DATE OF INFO.	Prior to 7 November 1952	NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED	[] (early December 1952)	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

SOURCE: An individual with good contacts in Italian Commercial circles (B).
Appraisal of content: 3.

1. Acting through a certain Hasset (fnu), who is described as a technical consultant to Prime Minister Najib, Egypt is negotiating with an unidentified Italian firm, located at 20 Viale Majno in Milan, for the purchase of a substantial amount of arms, the value of which is in the amount of several billions of lire. Such arms include: machine guns of 127-20 and 40 mm., and cannons of 90-105 mm. and 88 Skoda.
2. Hasset has been carrying on negotiations through a certain Beissner (fnu) who wrote the owner of the above mentioned firm in Milan, advising the latter of his forthcoming trip to Italy. Beissner also mentioned that he had conferred with Najib on 2 October 1952, concerning the deal and hoped to conclude it satisfactorily through Spain, if the Americans did not object.
3. Also, reportedly involved in the transaction is an unidentified Bremen firm (Germany) which employs a certain Beckroege (fnu) and a certain Kausel (fnu).

Washington Comments.

1. The Milan telephone directory (1951-1952) reflects only the names of individuals at this address; no firm is apparently listed there. Thus, it is possible that an individual or individuals at the stated address are agents or representatives of a firm which is involved in the transaction, but which is not located at the stated address.
2. Our files indicate that Beissner may be identical with Willi Beissner who was involved with a firm in Munich, Germany, called "Omnia", reportedly a cover for French Intelligence activities. In another report, dated 10 March 1952, Beissner is reported to have left Germany in 1951, and to be in Cairo working for the French.
3. In a previous report, entitled: "Lists of Communists, Couriers, Propagandists, Terrorists, and Foreign Agents Subversively Active in Northwestern Germany," the name of Johann Beckroege is reflected under date of 9 July 1948. The report is as follows:

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	x	ARMY	x	NAVY	x	AIR	x	FBI	x	AEC		OIT	x	
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	---	--

(Note: Washington Distribution Indicated by "X"; Field Distribution by "#")

EE	x	SR		[]	2x	WE/FI/C	[]	2x					
FE		WE	x			EE/FI/C	[]						
NE	x	WH				NE/FI/C	[]						
SE		STD											

OIR-602

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY

SOURCES METHODOSEMPLOYED 382B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 37210
NARA Date 2-27-08

report also reflects that Beckroege was born on 27 March 1902 and resided at 18 Goslarerstr., Hastedt, Bremen.

SECRET/CONTROL - U. S. OFFICIALS ONLY

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 37210
NARA Date 2-27-08

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2008

SECRET/NOFORN
CONTINUED CONTROL

JAN 1959

BEISSNER, Willi (Dr.)
aka JAEGER

Attachment to Hook Dispatch 1069.
2 February 1959
Filed: 210 Middle East

Date of Birth: 15 August 1911
Birthplace: Kruskeberg, Germany
Education:
Family:
Present Address: Cairo, Egypt

Career: Beissner was connected with the German IS throughout the war. In 1940-1941 he was in Tunis working as a liaison officer between Germany and the Grand Mufti. Later he was assigned to the capitulation and peace conferences held between General Wolfe, Ambassador Rahn and Cardinal Schuster of Milano. Beissner escaped from a US internment camp in Italy, probably with French help, and came to the French Occupation Zone of Austria. After the war he was probably connected with the French IS. He left Germany in 1951 or 1952 after becoming involved in blackmarket transactions. He eventually turned up in Egypt in 1952. He may be the Egyptian representative of the Spanish arms factory "Alfa." Beissner is a business partner of Joachim Hertslett in the Cairo firm known as the "Egyptian Continental Trading Co." This firm has a bad reputation and is blacklisted by the West German Embassy in Cairo. It deals in a wide number of European commodities, and reportedly dabbles in illicit traffic in arms and strategic materials. In any case Beissner has close contacts with Otto Skorzeny who now lives in Spain and is a representative of Alfa. Beissner appears to have plenty of money, never seems to do any work, and is in immediate contact with all questionable characters arriving in Egypt. Reportedly, Beissner is also in contact with the ex-Grand Mufti and numerous ex-Nazis including ex-General Otto-Ernst Rahn, and Communists. In 1958 subject reportedly was in contact with Leverkushn and Rademacher, Hans MERTENS (ODINEX agent). Possibly is an UPSWING source.

Other: Beissner speaks excellent French and some English.

Contacts: Grand Mufti SKORZENY, Otto
Mets, Ina LEVERKUSCHEN, Paul
HERTSLETT RADEMACHER, Franz aka F. Bartolome
HEIMANN, Sam'ad ROSSELLO
RAHNER, Otto Ernst VOSS, Wilhelm
Gay, Albert BASTIAN, Heinz

SECRET/NOFORN
CONTINUED CONTROL

3di/Beissner

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 37210
NARA Date 2-27-08

1111 REISSNER:

WINTERSTEIN said that UPSWING had a "lose Verbindung" with REISSNER. When asked what he understood by loose connection, WINTERSTEIN said that although there was contact UPSWING was not capable of giving any real direction to REISSNER, nor was UPSWING really able to influence his activities. WINTERSTEIN commented further that it was unlikely UPSWING would be able to tighten the contact in view of REISSNER's previous SD history and his deep involvement in weapons

trading with the Arab world. WINTERSTEIN claimed that REISSNER travels frequently from Cairo to Western Europe and made numerous trips to West Germany. WINTERSTEIN concluded by saying that he thought it was very probable that REISSNER had a close contact with the Egyptian I.S. and that UPSWING was keeping this probability very much in mind in any of their dealings with REISSNER.

DEST [illegible]

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 392-10
NARA Date 2-27-08

DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION SECRET	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. EGHA-20132
TO INFO	Chief of Base, Munich COS, EE	HEADQUARTERS <input type="checkbox"/> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NO. FFW:X-BEISNER, Wilhelm
FROM	Chief of Base, Bonn <i>AS</i>	DATE	22 November 1960
SUBJECT	CART/Liaison/CAMOG Wilhelm BEISNER	RE "43-3" - (CHECK "X" ONE)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ACTION REQUIRED	Per para 2	NO. INDEXING REQUIRED	
REFERENCES		INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ DESK ONLY	

1. Attached is a copy of a report received from the local OSI liaison officer summarizing his recent discussion with SG representatives on the investigation of

No 20/N ¹⁵⁴⁰ *BEISNER, Wilhelm
born 18 August 1911 in Kruecksberg
German national

who was the target of an assassination attempt in Munich on 16 October 1960.

2. Since this case is being investigated by the IKA Munich we assume that MOB is receiving reports of interest to AIS and is also furnishing the IKA with AIS traces. We would appreciate being advised if this assumption is correct. If not please furnish traces on BEISNER suitable for passage to the SG.

Encl: A/S, H/W
used R. 1st 6 Dec
Distribution:
2 - MOB w/att
2 - COS
1 - EE w/ATT

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007 2006

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

FORM 53b 10-57 (40)	USE PREVIOUS EDITION. REPLACES FORMS SI-28, SI-28A AND SI-29 WHICH ARE OBSOLETE.	CLASSIFICATION SECRET	<input type="checkbox"/> CONTINUED	PAGE NO. 0
---------------------------	---	---------------------------------	------------------------------------	---------------

HQ COPY CS COPY HQ COPY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 37210
NARA Date 2-27-08

CONFIDENTIAL

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : (See Distribution)

DATE: 10 November 1960

FROM : OSI/OCA, Bonn

7-5

SUBJECT: (U) Dr. Wilhelm HEISNER
Born 18 August 1911, Krueckeberg, Grafschaft Schaumburg
German National

1. Reference is made to press reports regarding assassination bombing attempt against SUBJECT at 1845 hours, 16 Oct 60, in Munich, Germany.

2. On 7 Nov 60 Herr HOHN, EKA-SG, advised the writer that this case is being investigated by the LKA Munich, however, EKA-SG is assisting and is following this case with interest due to the possible FLN involvement.

3. HOHN furnished a brief initial report by LKA Munich, which is summarized here:

a. At the time and date stated above, SUBJECT entered his automobile in front of 10 Hause Bluetenstr., Munich. As he drove away there was an explosion which caused considerable damage to the car and seriously injured SUBJECT. One leg had to be removed and his eyesight is in danger. He was not able to be interviewed at the time of this report.

b. SUBJECT and his wife have resided in Egypt for a number of years. They traveled to Tunis on 10 Oct 60 and departed there by air on 14 Oct 60 for Munich. SUBJECT's wife was registered with the police at 11 Bluetenstr. since that date. They had planned to settle in Tunis.

c. SUBJECT had purchased his car on 15 Oct 60, from a dealer in Munich, and parked it at the above address on the evening of 15 Oct 60. He first used the car again at the time of the explosion.

d. No arrests have been made to date. The technique used in the bombing is similar to previous cases in Germany involving the FLN - or at least Algerian weapon and munition dealers.

e. SUBJECT's wife has refused to furnish information.

4. HOHN noted that the mention of an involvement of an "Allied" service by the press is not true.

5. ACTION: HOHN stated that the SG would appreciate any background information known on SUBJECT in US files. It could be, however, that LKA has already requested this through OCA Munich, or some other

CS COPY

att. to E6NA-20132

CONFIDENTIAL

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NARA 37210
NARA Date 2-27-08

CONFIDENTIAL

7-5, Subj: (U) Dr. Wilhelm HELSNER

10 Nov 60

US agency there. It is therefore requested that recipients review appropriate files on SUBJECT and furnish this office with information releasable to the SG on SUBJECT. In the event such information has been furnished LKA, please advise.

6. It is assumed here that US agencies will receive information on this case from LKA Munich, therefore it will not be necessary for additional information to be obtained from the EKA-SG. If this is not the case, please advise.

7. OCA Bonn is requested to send a copy of this memorandum to OCA Munich for information and action deemed appropriate.

8. This memorandum classified CONFIDENTIAL to protect investigative information. Regrading data cannot be predetermined.

C. L. Martin
CLAUDE L. MARTIN
OSI Liaison Officer, OCA

DISTRIBUTION:

Mr. GERNAND, IDUR/OCA
OSI Dist 70 (PSI Div)
Mr. VAN NOY, Legat, AmEmb Bonn
(INFO ONLY)

CONFIDENTIAL

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 37210
NARA Date 2-27-08

Frankfort, November 2, 1961

B
AK-12

A COMPLETELY RELIABLE	1 TRUE
B USUALLY RELIABLE	2 PROBABLY TRUE
C FAIRLY RELIABLE	3 POSSIBLY TRUE
D NOT USUALLY RELIABLE	4 DOUBTFUL
E NOT RELIABLE	5 PROBABLY FALSE
F CANNOT BE JUDGED	6 CANNOT BE JUDGED

GERMAN ADVISORS IN EGYPT

A West German military source reports that for some months a German group, which advises the Egyptian Defense Ministry on military and arms industry questions, as well as tactical and technical matters, has been building up in Cairo. It is directly under the General Staff and is supported by King Farouk himself.

The German technical personnel are divided into two groups, one military and one technical.

General Fahrbacher is occupied with the setting up of the military group. He is an artilleryist, in peace time the Commander of the 5th Infantry Division, then commanding general of the VII Corps, then of the XXVII Corps, later an Army group Commander in Normandy and the defender of Lorient. General Fahrbacher, himself, assembled his staff of advisors, and his first group consisted of Colonel Muenzel, Chief of Staff, and Captain zur See von Berchtolsheim, as Naval Adviser, who came to Egypt in May of this year.

In August, the second group arrived under the leadership of General Braun, an artilleryist, Commander of the 3rd Bavarian Mountain Division, who took care of bringing more officers from Germany. Recently there have been no more German arrivals, which would seem to indicate that the extension of the staff is completed. It is possible that there will be a further extension in the spring.

At present, there are in the German group the following advisors:

General Fahrbacher, (Artillery)
Colonel Muenzel (General Staff)
General Braun (Artillery)
Captain Berchtolsheim (Navy)
Herr Koeninger (Civilian, Naval Artillery)
Colonel Trebber (Infra-red Specialist)
Colonel Boehmert
Colonel Du Bouchet (Munitions technical specialist)
Colonel Kurt Forstel

SECRET

85-7-4-10
C

AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 37210
NARA Date 2-27-08

Captain Kausmeister (former head of an army munition depot)
Major Herting (Parachute Troops)
1st Lt. Koerber

An unconfirmed report tells that General Wittner has also been hired and General Payerlein, who was formerly the second in command to Rommel, has been approached. Whether the brother of Captain zur See, General von Lerchtohnitz, former Military Attache in London, is there is not yet clear. On the recommendation of General Geyr von Schweppenburg, Colonel Wittner, who has special knowledge of anti-aircraft matters, was invited to Egypt. Whether he has accepted is uncertain.

The equipment and technical group was set up by Dr. Voss, a former director of the Skoda factory. Voss secured a number of technical engineers experienced with tanks, night sight, and rocket matters, who formerly worked for the Rheinmetall and Krupp firms.

The engineers come under a two year contract, renewable on both sides yearly, and terminable on three months' notice. They live with their families and receive 1200 RM monthly, tax free. Twenty-five German children go to schools. The Egyptian Government pays for the two-way transport of the families, rental cost for three rooms, and a yearly trip to Europe on a six-week vacation.

These conditions have made very good relations with the Egyptian officers possible. The two German groups have to reckon with the slow pace of oriental labor and the careless manner in which orders are carried out. German is widely known; the performance of the Afrika Corps has received much comment, and the reputation of Rommel has become almost legendary. Above everything, there is a violent hatred of the British, which in one way makes the work of the Germans easy, but on the other hand requires them to be prudent in order to avoid difficulties that might be produced by the British still present. The German officers, who come with official German passports and carry on their work with the knowledge of the German Government, keep strictly in the background in political affairs and limit themselves to their technical work. They give no tactical orders. The fact that, in contrast to the English and French, the Germans now have no political ambitions in the Near East, is, next to their recognized military skill, the strongest factor in their favor. It enabled them to overcome the resistance of the British. Obviously, the group of German advisers is closely watched by the British.

The first objective of the commission is the tactical reorganization of the Egyptian Army. After this, the emphasis will be on the building up and instruction of the artillery, including naval artillery. Later, the establishment of armored troops will be undertaken, and then a parachute unit will be formed. On the psychological side, the first need is to win

SECRET SECURITY INFORMATION

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Authority NARA Date 2-27-08
NARA 37210
DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

over the older Egyptian officers and to persuade the younger ones to carry out their duties like soldiers. This can only be attained if real authority is established among the officers.

Besides these official groups of German technicians, there is another German group in Egypt which has no connection with these advisers. It consists of former extreme S.S. people, who are working with the Arab League. To this group belong, among others:

- (SS-Oberfuehrer) Birlewanger
- (SS-Standartenfuehrer) Bollmann
- (SS-Gruppenfuehrer) Kazmann
- Willi Beissner (RSHA), alias Jaeger

Whether SS-Oberstirnbannfuehrer Siekmann (RSHA) is still in Egypt is not certain.

This group is very close to Jean Beauverd.

SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

DECLASSIFIED
 Authority NARA 37210
 NARA Date 2-27-08