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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

RECEIVED
GENERAL ROOM

SEP 3 1942

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CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER
Director of Naval Intelligence
Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir: There is being transmitted herewith a memorandum containing additional information obtained from the eight German saboteurs who were recently apprehended.

I thought this information would be of interest to you.
Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

- Enclosure
- cc: Brigadier General Hayes A. Kroner
- General Staff
- Chief, Military Intelligence Service
- War Department
- Washington, D. C.

The Source of this Information shall NOT be disclosed to anyone outside the Naval Service.

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SEP 3 1945

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MEMORANDUM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RECEIVED
MAIL ROOM

MEMORANDUM

1945 SEP 4 AM 8 55

Further inquiry of the German saboteurs with respect to plans for landing of additional agents in the United States from German submarines has determined that the most ideal spot for landing agents is a sandy strip of beach at a place where deep water can be found close to shore. A rocky stretch of coast would not be considered as it is too dangerous for the submarine, since the hull of the submarine might be punctured in such a landing. The best locality for such a landing would be a deserted stretch of beach near an inhabited locality so that a sudden approach of strangers would not cause any undue suspicion. A beach is preferred near thickly wooded areas, in order to afford the agents a place to hide immediately after their landing. The eight German saboteurs who were landed were instructed to explain to anyone questioning them after their landing that they had been either fishing or bathing. One of the saboteurs mentioned that if Germany ascertains fishing is restricted on the beaches, the subterfuge of bathing would most likely be used.

One of the saboteurs indicated that as a result of the apprehension of the two groups of German saboteurs, the Germans probably would not attempt another landing of agents in the United States, realizing that the coast line is now well guarded. This individual suggested that any additional landings would be made in Mexico.

Questioning of the saboteurs failed to elicit any information which would indicate that shore lights assisted the submarine in spotting merchant vessels. In this regard, one of the agents recalled hearing Captain Linder of Submarine U-202 make a statement as the agents were being landed at Long Island, that it was the first time he, Linder, had ever seen the shores of the United States. Captain Linder's original instructions were to approach the shore during the daytime and observe conditions at the place selected for the landing before an attempt was made to land the saboteurs. This was not done, however, in connection with the landing at Long Island, because of the heavy fog which prevailed in that locality at the time the landing was to be made.

With respect to possible future landings of German agents from German submarines in the United States, it was suggested that the German Army Intelligence had planned to send such a group to the United States as early as July, 1941, but because of a number of difficulties encountered, principally the objection of the Gestapo, which desired to use its own agents for such activities in the United States, considerable time was lost. Permission

*Germany
Army
Intelligence
objection
Gestapo*

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was finally granted to Army Intelligence to handle sabotage activities in the United States. One of the German saboteurs who was apprehended stated it was his understanding that the question of whether any further groups would be landed in the United States would depend upon the success or failure of the first two or three groups sent to this country. Due to the apprehension of the two groups of saboteurs, it is possible that the High Command of the German Army will be held responsible, in which case Heinrich Himmler, the head of the Gestapo, who is a keen rival of Admiral Canaris, who is in charge of Intelligence for the German High Command, will take this opportunity to prove that Army Intelligence is unable to successfully handle sabotage and espionage in other countries. It was pointed out that if Himmler succeeds in obtaining control of espionage and sabotage activities in foreign countries, Gestapo agents coming to this country will undoubtedly use entirely different methods of entrance and can be expected to be better equipped and trained than were the men sent over by Army Intelligence.

It was also suggested as a possibility that the Army Intelligence might be clever enough to place the blame for the apprehension of the German saboteurs on Captain Linder, the commander of the submarine, for not strictly complying with his instructions. If this effort is successful, Army Intelligence will try to send additional groups of saboteurs to the United States.

Information was obtained from one of the German saboteurs relative to the organization of the Lehrregiment which is a unit including all persons assigned to special duty in the German Army on order of the High Command. This unit is known as Lehrregiment, Brandenburg ZbV800 and is apparently engaged in training agents and soldiers for espionage and sabotage activities behind enemy lines and in neutral countries. The actual base for this regiment is in the town of Baden near Vienna. The main training camp is located at Messeritz which is located near the towns of Frankfort, Oder, and Landsberg. The name of this camp is Regenwurm-Lager, which in English means Rain-Worm Camp. The purpose of the camp, its name and the nature of the training given are one of the most guarded secrets of the Intelligence Department of the German Army. The regiment is officially known as a pioneer unit which would be equivalent to the Engineers in the United States Army. The designation of the pioneer unit is a black insignia on the shoulders of the German Army uniform. Only one of the eight German saboteurs was assigned to this camp and he was there for only a few days. The other apprehended saboteurs had no knowledge of this regiment and several were not certain they were in the German Army.

It was stated that in order to keep the identity of this regiment and its training and purpose secret, the villages surrounding the camp have been completely evacuated and the camp is actually a two-hour walk from the railroad station in the town of Messeritz. These towns are used by the troops

*Info Germany
Fr. Pol
Secret
Training
Police
Sabotage*

*Mud-worm
or Rich-
worm.
Term
"Rain-
worm" is
used in
only a
few
places
in the
U.S.*

in their training. Army patrols systematically cover this area to prevent anyone from approaching the camp, which is partly surrounded by a stone wall and consists of a great number of stone buildings. The buildings are spread widely over the camp and are cleverly camouflaged in order to prevent them from being discovered from the air. The commander of the camp is a Colonel who gives out the orders of the day. However, he has nothing to do with the type of activities the men engage in after leaving the camp.

The men for this regiment are carefully selected from all parts of the Reich and countries presently associated with the Reich. Men in this regiment also come from occupied countries, neutral countries, and enemy countries, such as India, Ukraine, Syria, and Egypt. Most of the men in this regiment are under forty, but there are a few exceptions. Every man who goes to the camp is classified and a registration card is prepared in duplicate, one copy being maintained in the main administration building and the other in his company file. This card contains the usual personnel information and includes education and training, occupation or business and experience, ability as a linguist, and whether the foreign languages they know were learned in Germany or by residence in a foreign country in which that language is spoken. The card also indicates whether the individual has any travel experience in foreign countries. Additional information is obtained such as knowledge of photography or drawing, ability in sports, and to indicate any experience in driving automobiles, airplanes, motorcycles, railroading, boxing, shooting, sailing, et cetera. This record also contains the life history and photograph of a member of the regiment, his military experience, and a complete record of his relatives and their addresses. The members of the regiment are classified and assigned to certain companies in accordance with their abilities and experience. Men who had a knowledge of the United States were concentrated in the Third Company of the Third Battalion of this regiment.

Companies of the Lehrregiment may have up to 600 or 700 men. However, the full complement is never collected in one place or present at the camp, but as a matter of fact each company usually has a maximum of forty or fifty men at the camp at any one time, the rest of the men in the company being away from the camp on special assignment. It was stated that on an index card for each member of the Lehrregiment is a notation as to his assignment. One of the saboteurs knows that on the bottom of his card was the word "Pastorious" which meant that he had been assigned to the sabotage group known as the Franz Daniel Pastorious group to come to the United States. Another index card was seen at this camp bearing the notation "Unteruehuien SOS" which, in English, means "Undertaking SOS," which is probably a code name for some project where this man is engaged in either espionage or sabotage activities. It was reported that when a member of the regiment completes an assignment he returns to the camp and stays for a short time until reassigned on a new mission. It

Pastorius - ? after he
founder of Germanium -
Philadelphia - Pa.

Unternehmen

is believed that the principal object of the training in this camp and perhaps similar camps in Germany is sabotage. It is known to one of the apprehended German saboteurs that a number of the men from this regiment were sent to the Russian front in groups of four or five. These men would join a regiment on the Eastern front wearing the uniform of the particular regiment they were assigned to. The mission of these men was to penetrate the Russian lines at night for the purpose of blowing up bridges and railroad stations behind the lines.

It was reported that there is a branch of this regiment at Brandenburg, Germany, known as the Feldzeugmeister-Kaserne, where a limited number of men are stationed who are receiving military and technical training. There is also located at this place a huge storeroom of civilian clothes which are of foreign origin. This camp was not visited by any of the apprehended saboteurs.

Canaris is head of German intelligence

According to one of the saboteurs, Admiral Canaris is the head of all intelligence for the German High Command. A Colonel Schmidt, located in Berlin, is one of the ranking officials of the Army Intelligence Section. Lieutenant Colonel Marguerre is a technical specialist and is the head of the Scientific Department of the Lehrregiment. Under Colonel Marguerre are Major Hotzel, Captain Astor, and Lieutenant Walter Kappe. Colonel Marguerre appears to be in charge of the factory which makes the various sabotage devices and other equipment which was furnished to the saboteurs for use in the United States. He is also in charge of the laboratory where Doctors Walter Koenig and Gunther Schultz (previously named as Helmuth Schultz), instructors at the sabotage school at Quentz Lake, are employed doing experimental work and perfecting new sabotage devices. Lieutenant Walter Kappe interviewed the recruits for sabotage activities in the United States and apparently decided whether the recruits could be used by the Lehrregiment. Kappe also appeared to be in charge of the training at Quentz Lake. It was stated that Gunther Schultz is believed to be a member of the Lehrregiment. The two doctors teach at the sabotage school at Quentz Lake from Monday to Thursday. On Thursday evening, they leave, apparently to work in a laboratory.

*PK
cancel
all names*

One of the saboteurs stated that while at the sabotage school he was shown pictures of smoking pipes, walking sticks, and a suitcase which are new sabotage devices. The pipes and walking sticks are incendiaries and operate on the same principal as the pen and pencil sets which the saboteurs brought to the United States. The suitcase is reported to contain certain chemicals in the lining which will cause ignition in some manner unknown to the informant. It was stated that this suitcase is cleverly constructed so that an ordinary examination would not reveal its true nature. Suitcases of this type were intended for use in starting fires in railroad stations. The manner in which this device functions was not revealed.

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There was a Captain by this name on the Great German General Staff (Dept. III B) who was directly implicated in the conduct of sabotage operations in the U.S. during the last war. OP-16-2

- 5 -

Information was obtained indicating that Doctors Schultz and Koenig received letters from sabotage agents working in various foreign countries requesting additional equipment while they were instructing at Quentz Lake. It was indicated, however, that the two groups of German saboteurs who came to the United States in June, 1942, were the first German saboteurs to come to this country.

At the Lehrregiment camp near Messeritz, one of the saboteurs saw a number of Indian troops being trained. He also reported that former members of the German diplomatic corps in Iran were also receiving training at this camp in the spring of 1942.