

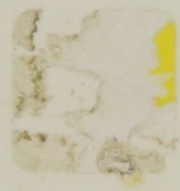
PF41930/V1-V2

ERNST. WOLLWEBER.

PF41930/V1-V2

W  
46

KV2/3054



PF41930/V1-V2



Register No. PF.41930 WELLENWEBER Minute Sheet No.

Vol I closed at serial 96a dated 16.2.48.

97.

.6.48. From SIS re WOLLWEBER.

97a.

98.

.6.48. From SIS re WOLLWEBER.

98a.

99

17.7.48. Extract from Home Office file re continuation of H.O. circular.

99a

100

Original in PF.41911 JENSEN

Copy in PF.41930  
E. WOLLENWEBER.*unc 29/7*  
B.2.B. (through B.1.A)

Since 1941 it has not been our principle to recommend the exclusion of Communists as such from this country, but rather to arrange for our immediate notification if they should arrive here so that we can cover their activities. This policy was adopted because in no instance was there any ground for assuming that after they arrived in this country they would be promoting subversive activities here.

JENSEN, however, and WOLLENWEBER, whose PF.41930 with Home Office files W.338 are attached, may perhaps deserve different treatment. I should be grateful for your comments on both these individuals unless you would prefer to deal with the Home Office direct.

B.1.B.  
27.7.48.*M.J.E. Bagot.*  
M.J.E. Bagot.

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101.

PF.41911 (JENSEN)

✓ Copy to PF.41930.

B.2.b., through B.2. and B.2.b.

I can find no evidence that JENSEN (subject of this file) is a spy. He cannot therefore reasonably be excluded from the country on counter-espionage grounds. WOLLENWEBER (according to Winston Scott's report at 83b in PF.41930 attached) was "believed" to be running Russian agents from Berlin into the British and American Zones of Germany, and there has been a statement that he was imprisoned by the Swedish authorities in 1942 on a charge of sabotage. The evidence is however insubstantial and does not seem to me to justify exclusion on counter-espionage grounds alone. I should be inclined to think nevertheless that on grounds of general undesirability it would be as well to exclude WOLLENWEBER ~~at least~~ from the United Kingdom and that in his case Miss Bagot's letter to the Home Office at 72a might be upheld.

In connection with both these cases I should be glad if B.2. would confirm that B.2.a. is concerned only with members or agents of Russian or satellite secret intelligence organisations in this country; Communist agitators, propagandists and informers serving the ~~British~~ Communist Party being the concern of B.1.a. while in the U.K., of B.1.b. while abroad. If this assumption is right, B.1.a. should be the section principally concerned as to whether JENSEN and WOLLENWEBER should be allowed to come here or not.

Th

B.2.a.  
10.8.48

J.C. Robertson.

102.

Copy of Minute 88 on P.F.41930.

C.1.a.

24.8

With reference to H.O. files, J. 220 and W. 338 attached, I should be glad if the circulars against Erik Aage Richard JENSEN and Ernst WOLLWEBER could be maintained.

B.1.b.  
23.8.48.

M. U. E. Bagot

103

10.5.49. Translation from Dziennik Polski

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103a.



Register No.

Minute Sheet No.

104.

3.5.49. To S.I.S. enclosing copy of 103a, and asking their comments.

104a.

105.

15.6.49. From SIS re VOLLWBER.

105a.

106.

11.7.49. From S.I.S. ref. 105a re sinking of s.s. Kominform.

106a.

107.

25.7.49. Report received from Baron Van Moyland on information from Danish Police. 107a.

108.

*5th 5/17/49.  
BIB.  
D.B. 19/7*

\_\_\_\_\_ handed me the attached document on Monday. The information has been obtained from the Danish Police and contains certain comments by the Dutch Police.

\_\_\_\_\_ who may or may not have passed it on to us.

The report seems to me to display considerable ignorance about the whole structure of the Russian machine, e.g. if any organisation does exist in Copenhagen, it certainly is not a branch of the Moscow Politburo.

Perhaps B.l.b could comment on this report and see that it reaches the appropriate file.

D.D.G.  
13.7.49.

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[P.T. Over



109. (Copy in SF.413/3)

D.D.G. through D.B., B.1. and B.2.b.

The document at 107a is reminiscent of a number of statements which have emanated from MAUVE sources, and it may well have been based on the reports described at 105a and 106a.

A few true statements with regard to individuals have been so much embroidered that the resulting picture bears little resemblance to that presented by all the facts at our disposal.

WOLLWEBER, who was one of the key figures of the International of Seamen and Harbourworkers, returned to Germany from Moscow in March, 1946, and has since been working in Berlin under Soviet auspices. On the other hand, so far as we know, the International of Seamen and Harbourworkers has not been revived, and the new W.F.T.U. Maritime Union of Seamen and Dockers, so far as we can tell on present information, is a replacement rather than a descendant of the I.S.H.

We have no reason yet to assume that the new seamen's organisation has been given the same responsibility for the organisation of courier work on behalf of Soviet military intelligence as was given to the I.S.H., although the resources of the new Maritime Union will no doubt be used as occasion arises. In view of the development of commercial air travel, it seems probable that such work will be controlled directly in the U.S.S.R. and not delegated to the Maritime Union, although it will no doubt be used on an ad hoc basis.

B.1.B.  
2.8.49.

M.J.E. Bagot.

110

4.4.50 B1b/290 Source Report re WOLLWEBER

111.

20.8.51. Draft G.Circular to H.O. re WOLLWEBER

111a.

112.

21.8.51. To M.I.6. re members of the WOLLWEBER Organisation.

112a.

113.

30.8.51. To M.I.6. further to 112a re members of the WOLLWEBER Organisation.

113a



MINUTE SHEET

Reference.....

114.

..8.51. Extract from H.O. file and reply to H.O. re WOLLWEBER 114a.

115.

..9.51. From S.I.S. re BARGSTADT ment. WOLLWEBER. 115a

4.9.51. From S.I.S. - Extract from Swedish report on 23 cases of R.I.S. activity in Sweden from 1940-42 - re WOLLENWEBER. 115b.

116.

18.9.51. From S.I.S. replying to 113a 116a

117

*Transferred to P.F. 146.618 (authority of B1B)*

28.9.51 ~~From S.I.S. further to 116a~~ 117a

118.

C.4.a. *This has been done - vide 119a.*

Please see Amendment 6 to the S.I.C.V. form, giving another alias for WOLLWEBER which does not appear on the Circular. Could it be added, please?

B.1.B  
24.4.52

*JE. Bagot*  
M.J.E. Bagot

119.

26.4.52. To Immigration Branch adding alias of WOLLHUBER to G. Circular. 119a.

120.

4.9.52. Ext. from pamphlet "Der Apparat", ment. WOLLWEBER. 120a.



121.

5.11.52. Letter to M.I.6. re WOLLWEBER.

121a.

24.1.53. Ext. from B.4.D Source report on Purges in Eastern Germany mentioning  
WOLLENWEBER

121b

122.

4.3.53. From SB re WOLLWEBER.

12

123.

5.3.53. From C.C. Lanes - information received re WOLLWEBER and  
sabotage in U.K.

123a

124.

6.3.53. Interim reply to 123a.

124a

6.3.53. Ext. from Ministry of Transport ment. WOLLWEBER.

124b

125.

B.2., through C.2.

Please see 123a. C.2. will be in the best position to give a preliminary assessment of this rather unlikely information. There is also an S.B. report at 122a giving another story about WOLLWEBER's connection with alleged sabotage in this country.

Will B.2. then consider whether WASSERMAN should be interviewed. We do not, incidentally, appear to have a record of the information WASSERMAN states that he gave Brigadier Harker in 1945 about WOLLWEBER.

D.B. *D.G. White.*  
6.3.53.

126.

B.2.

I cannot offer you much comfort on this. We have no information about any incidents on "Antarctic Ocean" or "Centaur". The following is our information on incidents on the other vessels mentioned at 'X' of Wasserman's letter:-

R.M.S. Empress of Canada - This was a total loss by fire. There is no information, nor ever likely to be any, to indicate whether the fire broke out accidentally or not.

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MINUTE SHEET

Reference.....

R.M.S. Queen Mary - Between 2nd and 5th December 1952 five independent fires broke out in cabins. It is certain that these fires were not accidental but despite an exhaustive enquiry by the Southampton Police, no clue to the culprit could be found. In four of the cases the material ignited was bedding.

R.M.S. Queen Elizabeth - Two fires broke out on 28th and 29th January 1953, both were in cabins. The first fire was again bedding and the second a heap of rags and sweepings. Again the Southampton Police concluded that the fires were not accidental and no culprit was discovered.

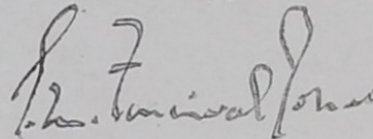
There has been a number of other cases of damage to Merchant vessels during the last few years. Most of them have occurred while the ships have been refitting or under repair i.e. not during normal turn-round.

H.M.S. Triumph - This incident took place at sea; it involved damage to the valves and pumps of the main machinery.

H.M.S. Warrior - Damage was done to electrical cables on the bridge while the ship was at Plymouth.

H.M.S. Indomitable - We have no report on the incident on this Aircraft Carrier but it seems likely from the Press report that the incident was accidental.

C.2.  
10.3.53.



127

B.2.B.

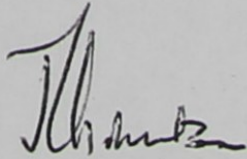
Please see 122a (addressed initially to B.2.B.) 123a and minutes 125 and 126, and let me have your views.

At first sight, I am inclined to agree with D.B. that WASSERMAN's information appears "rather unlikely". On the other hand, it is to some extent corroborated by the police report at 122a, which is consistent with such of WOLLWEBER's record as I have had time to read in this file.

In making your assessment of the significance of WOLLWEBER, and of the recent information which has been received about him, I suggest that you should consult Miss Bagot, some of whose expert knowledge in this connection was set down in minute 109 in 1949.

I am inclined to think that WASSERMAN ought to be interviewed, if only in order to ask him upon what evidence he bases the very positive statement made in his letter at 123a, and what his sources are. I should however like your opinion before advising D.B.

B.2.  
12.3.53.



J. C. Robertson.



Copy of SF 412-GENERAL (vol 4)

B.2. through B.2.B./Mr. Reed. 7/14

Reference minute 127.

I have carefully examined WOLLWEBER's file (PF 41,930) and the file containing the [redacted] paper on the so-called WOLLWEBER Sabotage Organisation (SF 412/Gen. Supp.) in connection with this matter. I have also discussed the matter at length with B.1.B./Miss Bagot and Mr. McCaul.

I think that the B.1.B. paper on the International of Seamen and Harbour Workers issued in December 1949 probably contains the best available analysis of the sabotage activities alleged to have been carried out by WOLLWEBER and the I.S.H. during the 1930's. From the study of these activities in the paper it is clear that the I.S.H. as such was probably <sup>not</sup> involved in marine sabotage of the kind popularly attributed to it between 1930 and 1937, when the I.S.H. was dissolved. Thereafter certain acts of sabotage appear to have been committed though our evidence concerning them is too unsatisfactory and fragmentary to permit further conclusions to be drawn about them. However, B.1.B. consider it possible that the marine sabotage which occurred after 1937 was committed by a group, possibly of former I.S.H. members, who had been trained for the purpose in the Soviet Union, the latter country having, about 1937/8 when the approach of war was becoming increasingly obvious, decided in favour of more direct action against the shipping of its potential enemies. The only real evidence concerning these acts of sabotage is afforded by the trials and sentences of a number of persons, including WOLLWEBER, in Copenhagen in 1941. This evidence, however, may well be coloured as it emanated from criminal processes which took place under the German occupation of Denmark.

To come to the letter at 123a - this contains a number of statements which can be said to reflect on the reliability of the source. These are:-

- a) that "WOLLWEBER's boys in the Seamen's Unions" are responsible for acts of sabotage committed in 8 named British ships. B.1.B.'s comment is that WOLLWEBER's connections with the I.S.H. ended when the latter Union dissolved about 1937. They also comment that none of the Trade Union Internationals founded under the W.F.T.U. to replace the extinct I.S.H. appear to have taken over the conspiratorial activities (e.g. anti-Colonial work, collection of information by Seamen's net-works) formerly carried out by the I.S.H. It seems doubtful, therefore, whether the expression "WOLLWEBER's boys in the Seamen's Unions" has any current significance.
- b) that "every fire in any ship" of the Western allies since 1945 has been the work of the Comintern. Apart from its sweeping nature, this statement is incorrect in that the Comintern has been dissolved some ten years.
- c) that WOLLWEBER is in contact with his local agents by W.T. and gives all his orders by this means. This is unlikely to be true since it implies that a W.T. net-work exists in the U.K. through which WOLLWEBER would have given instructions to his British agents

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## MINUTE SHEET

Reference PF 41,930.

in British ports for the recent alleged sabotage of a number of British ships.

The information contained in serial 122a has come to notice from other sources and is being dealt with by B.1.B. It will suffice here to say that one of the charges made in 122a, namely that WOLLWEBER is organising a spy net-work throughout the world, has been made before, has been investigated by M.I.6. and has been found to be baseless. It would therefore seem unwise to regard it at this stage as corroboration of the information provided by WASSERMAN.

My personal view is that WOLLWEBER's reappearance in the Communist shipping world is a convenient peg upon which to hang any "act of sabotage", including accidents and acts committed by disgruntled seamen and dock workers, and that in order to kill this particular hare it might well be worth asking WASSERMAN for the sources of his information to enable us to give it proper assessment.

*A. F. Burbidge*  
A. F. Burbidge.

B.2.B.  
7.4.53.

129

8.4.53. Note for file re WOLLENWEBER.

129a

10.4.53. Ext. from M.I.6. re. Soviet inspired sabotage of British shipping, ment. WOLLWEBER.

129b.

130.

14.4.53. Draft letter to C.C. Lancashire, re. WASSERMAN.

130a.

131.

B.2. Through B.2.B. Mr. Reed. m 15/4

Reference Minute 128, I have filed a draft letter to C.C. Lancashire for D.B's signature at Serial 130a.

[OVER



As you will see we are asking if C.C. Lancashire has any objections to our interviewing WASSERMAN.

*A.F. Burbidge*  
A.F. Burbidge.

B.2.B.  
14.4.53.

132.

*Our enquiries are still proceeding in light of an MI6 report.*  
*C.2* ✓ C Mr. Lee. Through B.I.B. Mr. McCaul.

To see Minute 128 (a spare copy of which is pinned inside the cover of this file for B.I.B. to P.A. in S.F.412/4).

I understand that B.I.B. have taken up the report at Serial 122a which has come to our attention from other sources. It seems preferable, therefore, that B.I.B. should supply Special Branch with an answer if they deem it worth while.

*A.F. Burbidge*  
A.F. Burbidge.

B.2.B.  
14.4.53.

16.4.53. Re-draft of letter to <sup>135a</sup> C.C. Lancashire at 130a.  
*see*

133a

134.

✓ D.B.

Please refer to your Minute 125.

The report at 123a (which you acknowledged provisionally on March 6th) has now been considered by C.2, and also by B.2.B. in consultation with B.1.B.

The comments of B.2.B. are summarised at length in Minute 128, and more briefly in the draft letter to C.C. Lancashire which has been prepared for your signature at 133a. I think that the conclusion reached by B.2.B. is correct, and that there is little or nothing in the report. At the same time I consider that it would be businesslike to see the informant, give him an opportunity to amplify his information, and ask what his sources are.

B.2.  
16.4.53.

*J.C. Robertson*  
J. C. Robertson.



MINUTE SHEETReference PF. 41930.

135.

22.4.53.

To C.C.Lancs in reply to 123a and further to 124a.

135a.

136.

27.4.53.

From C.C.Lancs in reply to 135a.

136a.

28.4.53.

Ext. from M.I.6. re. WOLLWEBER.

136b.

137.

B.2.*B.2.B. (AFB) 4/5  
for action.*

*30/4*  
To see the letter from C.C. Lancs.  
at 136a. Will you please now make arrangements  
for the interview of WASSERMAN and his wife.

D.B.

28.4.53.

*D.G. White.*

138.

5.5.53.

Ext. from R.C.M.P. ment. WOLLWEBER.

138z.

20.5.53.

To WASSERMAN arranging an interview.

138a.

139.

4.6.53.

Report of interview with WASSERMAN.

139a.

140.

R.2. through B.2.B. Mr. Reed. *most interesting*  
*4/6. - m. 4/6*

To see Serial 139a.

*A.F. Burbidge*  
A.F. Burbidge.

B.2.B.  
4.6.53.



141.

D.B.

Please refer to Minute 137.

WASSERMAN has now been seen, and the report of the interviewing officer (Mr. Burbidge) is at 139a. As you will see, although WASSERMAN was invited to bring his wife with him, he did not do so. Such information (and it was not much) as he was prepared to give about his sources was unimpressive, and C.C. Lancashire's suggestion that he is considerably under the influence of De COURCY was confirmed in the mind of the interviewing officer.

I do not know whether you will wish to write further to C.C. Lancashire. If you do, a draft for this purpose is filed at 142a.

*J. C. Robertson*  
J. C. Robertson.

B.2.  
9.6.53.

142.

9.6.53. Draft letter to C.C. Lancashire re interview with WASSERMAN.

142a

143.

10.6.53. To C.C.Lancs re interview with WASSERMAN.

143a.

144

11.6.53. From C.C.Lancs re WASSERMAN

144a

145

25.7.53. Cutting from "Daily Worker" re WOLLWEBER.

145a

146.

28.7.53 Copy of Inward savinggram  
29.7.53. Cutting from Summary of World Broadcasts. Part III.

146z  
146a.

FILE CLOSED

147.

November 1953. ~~Copy from Intelligence Digest.~~ Copy of extract from Intelligence Digest.

147a.

148.

1.4.54. c Ext. from J.I.C.

148a.



MELCHIOR, Otto Adolph.

Immigration Officers' Report. Port of Harwich.

Subject: MELCHIOR, Otto Adolph.

Nationality: Danish. Occupation: Secretary and Doctor of Economics. Born: 10.6.04 at Copenhagen. Passport: B2196/34 - Copenhagen - 2.6.34.

This alien arrived on M/V Esbjerg from Esbjerg this afternoon.

He stated that he was in transit to Antwerp for which port he had a through ticket. He added that he would then, in a day or so, proceed to Paris for a short holiday.

He was travelling in the company of Erik Aage Richard JENSEN, Leif Olaf FOSS and Ernst WOLLWEBER - for all of whom see separate reports.

He said that he had known JENSEN for many years in Copenhagen. They became acquainted when alien, as a member of the University Students' Union, heard JENSEN give an address at one of their meetings. He denied that he was a member of the Communist Party but admitted that he is a socialist and has some sympathy with the aims of the Communists. He also denied that he would attend the conference in Antwerp to which JENSEN was going, and pointed out that he is not a seaman. He is employed in the Invalidforsikringsretten (? the Danish Health Insurance Dept.), and is a government servant. He had no knowledge of WOLLWEBER and had never seen him until they met on the ship.

H.M. C.I.O. agreed that he be C/L "in direct transit" to Antwerp. He sailed on s.s. Antwerp for Antwerp this night.

8.6.34.



WOLLWEBER, Ernst.

Immigration Officers' Report. Port of Harwich.

Subject: WOLLWEBER, Ernst @ WOLLENWEBER @ SCHMIDT @  
CHRISTIANSEN @ CHRISTENSEN and now @ JOHANNESSEN,  
Rangvald.

Nationality: German. Occupation: in ppt Member of Reichstag.  
Born: 29.10.98 at Hannoversch-Munden. Passport: 521/65/31 -  
Berlin - 3.9.31.

Arrived on the m.s. "Esbjerg" from Esbjerg, 8.6.34.  
Returned on the m.s. "Parkeston" to Esbjerg 8.6.34.

This alien produced the attached Norwegian passport (No. 1708/33 issued at Bergens on 9.8.33 in the name of Rangvald JOHANNESSEN) and also a landing card, which gave the same name and nationality and his occupation as fireman, and said that he intended to travel to Antwerp the same evening for the purpose of spending a short holiday in Belgium. He produced a through ticket to Antwerp.

It had been observed that he travelled in the company of an alien who had proceeded to another examination table. Reference was made to the examining I.O. and it was discovered that his companion was Leif Olaf FOSS, subject of circ. B 2714.

Particular attention was then paid to the other passengers with the result that it was ascertained that both of these aliens travelled in the company of Erik Aage Richard JENSEN and also Otto Adolph MELCHIOR (for FOSS, JENSEN and MELCHIOR please see separate reports).

These four aliens were put aside until the other passengers had been dealt with and it was then discovered that JOHANNESSEN is intimately connected with FOSS. During this later examination JOHANNESSEN remained silent but FOSS took complete responsibility for him and said that he is a Norwegian seaman who has been out of work for the last two months. Because he - Foss - had found it necessary to make the journey to Antwerp, for one day for health reasons, his friend had decided to make the journey also.

The photograph in alien's passport did not appear to be of him and, as it had already been ascertained that JENSEN had made the journey in order to attend a seaman's conference in Antwerp and that he is the Secretary of the Danish seamen's union, it was considered certain that alien's journey had political significance and was not one for pleasure purposes. In view of the importance attaching to the arrival of these four aliens, I gave instructions that they be detained pending the arrival of the C.I.O. who had been communicated with, as had also the local S.B. officer.

Each alien was examined separately by the C.I.O. (for the results see separate reports on FOSS, JENSEN and MELCHIOR).

It was pointed out to the C.I.O. that alien did not appear to be the proper owner of the passport which he had produced and alien was, therefore, asked to fill in an embarkation card. This card is also attached and it will be seen that he spells his alleged name incorrectly.



-2-

As the result of further questioning, it was admitted that JOHANNESSEN is not alien's name.

A German passport was then produced which showed that alien is the former Communist Member of the German Reichstag, Ernst WOLLWEBER, The particulars as given in the passport head this report.

WOLLWEBER's recent history is as follows:-

From November 1932 until the Hitler regime he was Communist Member for the district of Altona (he had in his possession a Deutsche Reichspost Fahrkarte No.530, issued in Berlin on 21.11.32 and a Deutsche Reistatag Fahrkarte No.530 which was issued in Berlin on the same date).

In February 1933 he left Germany for Danzig and, after idling there for 7 months, visited Poland for a further 2½ months. He then stowed himself away on the Polish steamer "Kaaborg" at Gdania and landed illegally at Oslo.

There can be no doubt that he has been actively engaged in Communistic circles in Norway and Denmark before making the present journey in order to attend the Belgian seaman's union meeting in Antwerp. It was admitted that FOSS had obtained the passport of another seaman for alien's use and the excuse given was that, had he presented his own passport, he anticipated experiencing difficulties.

There is equally no doubt that WOLLWEBER, FOSS and JENSEN are three very prominent members of the Communist Party in Europe and it appears that MELCHIOR, who is a well educated man and of different class to the others, is connected with that party, perhaps in an advisory capacity.

WOLLWEBER was refused leave to land under Art.1(3)g. Impounded passport, landing and embarkation cards and refusal slip are attached hereto.

(It is doubtful whether alien could be recognised from the photograph which was issued with circ.S.C.8406 and the following apparent features are observed. He is 5ft 2ins or 5ft 3ins in height, top of head bald, and a very blotchy, purple complexion. Dark brown eyes).

9.6.34.

H.M.C.I.

It was not until it became apparent to these four communists that he entertained grave doubts regarding the identity of the holder of the attached Norwegian passport that JENSEN came forward and asked to be allowed to make a confession to me. He then stated that JOHANNESSEN was, in fact, a German political refugee named WOLLWEBER, and subsequently produced the latter's German passport. Questioned separately, WOLLWEBER gave the additional information regarding himself, which is set out above. It is thought that the German's three colleagues were fully aware of the fact that he intended to attempt to pass through our control under the name of JOHANNESSEN. It should be pointed out that a visa is necessary for a German to enter Belgium.



Copied for SF 725

CUTTING FROM SUMMARY OF WORLD BROADCASTS, Part III no.219 of 29.7.53.R.  
P.P.A.  
PF 41930  
BIB  
R.8.53

R4 418

146

Ministry of State Security ReorganisedErnst Wollweber's New Appointment

The Premier's Press Office announced: "The Ministry of State Security will be incorporated into the Ministry of the Interior as a State Secretariat (als Staatssekretariat eingegliedert). The Minister of State Security, Wilhelm Zaisser, has been relieved of his office. Under-Secretary of State (Staatssekretaer) Ernst Wollweber has been placed in charge of the State Secretariat of the State Security." (ADN 18.41, 24.7.53)

A DPA report from Hamburg recalled that Wollweber took a prominent part in the sailors' mutiny in Kiel in 1918. He sat in the Prussian Diet and the Reichstag, but also did a great deal of illegal work. In the Comintern Wollweber was the expert on Scandinavia, and during the second world war he was arrested in Sweden, sentenced to three years' penal servitude for working as a Communist agent, but later handed over to the Soviet Government. In April 1946 he was appointed deputy Director-General of Shipping, and in 1950 was made joint Under-Secretary in the Ministry of Transport (DPA 20.10, 24.7.53. Wollweber became Under-Secretary of Shipping only a little while ago - ADN 30.4.53)

AP R-1  
15/8/53



S. Form 81/rev. 1.52.

CONFIDENTIAL.

EXTRACT.

Extract for File No.: PF 41, 930 <sup>24 48</sup> Name: WOLLWEBER

Original in File No.: PF 147, 069 - ZAISSER. Serial: 19a Vol.: Receipt Date: 28.7.53.

Original from: Inward Saving Telegram. Under Ref.: No. 23 Saving. Dated: 26.7.53.  
(Berlin to F. Office).

Extracted on: 12.8.53. by: JWH Section: R.6.

Copy of INWARD SAVING TELEGRAM, From Berlin to Foreign Office,  
mentioning WOLLWEBER.

Cypher/OTP  
and By Bag

FOREIGN OFFICE AND  
WHITEHALL DISTRIBUTION

General Coleman  
No. 23 Saving  
July 25, 1953

R. July 26, 1953

PRIORITY  
CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Wahnerheide telegram No. 315 of July 25  
Repeated for information Saving to Foreign Office

H.Q. N.A.G.

Office of Minister President of DDR announced last night that

/Ministry for State

• If the original is in the file of an individual  
include the name of the file owner

146 ~~18~~ 2

*Ph 26*  
*2.10.53*  
*178.53*



S. Form 81/rev. 1.52.

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No. : ..... Name : .....

Original in File No. : \* ..... Serial : ..... Vol. : ..... Receipt Date : .....

Original from : ..... Under Ref. : ..... Dated : .....

Extracted on : ..... by : ..... Section : .....

Ministry for State Security (SSD) would be absorbed in Ministry of Interior and that its Minister Zaisser was dismissed; Wollweber was appointed State Secretary in charge of State Security.

2. .... Following are possible grounds for Zaisser's dismissal:

(a) Failure of SSD to predict disturbances of June 17 and their subsequent ineffectiveness in coping with them.

(b) Internal SED politics. There is long-standing enmity between Zaisser and Ulbricht. Zaisser has close links with important ex-Spanish Civil War elements in KVP who have for some time been discontented and restless; his removal should serve to tighten party discipline.

(c) A further stage in tightening of the reins begun by replacement of Fechner by Benjamin; Zaisser having more accurate and realistic information about degree of unrest in DDR may have been a proponent of "new deal" which Ulbricht is apparently striving to shed as quickly as possible.

/ A post-Beria

\* If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner



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## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No. : ..... Name : .....

Original in File No. : \* ..... Serial : ..... Vol. : ..... Receipt Date : .....

Original from : ..... Under Ref. : ..... Dated : .....

Extracted on : ..... by : ..... Section : .....

(d) A post-Beria reshuffle of secret police; Zaisser was a personal friend of Beria who was responsible for rescuing him from Soviet gaol where he was imprisoned as scape-goat for Spanish Civil War.

3. All four reasons may have contributed to Zaisser's downfall but (d) is probably the most important. As part of Ministry of Interior SSD's independent existence now ceases and it will no longer have separate voice in Council of Ministers where it will be represented by Stoph, Minister of Interior a seasoned Communist and strong party man. Wollweber is an expert saboteur and agent-runner but not an executive or a strong personality; he can be trusted not to start em-pire-building.

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• If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner



CUTTING RE WOLLWEBER FROM "DAILY WORKER" OF 25.7.53.

# Minister is relieved of security post

**H**ERR WILHELM ZAISSER, Security Minister of the German Democratic Republic, has been relieved of his post, it was officially announced in East Berlin last night.

The Ministry for State Security is to become a State Secretariat in the Ministry of the Interior, an announcement from the Press office of the Prime Minister stated.

Herr Ernst Wollweber, State Secretary for Waterways in East Germany, has been appointed leader of the new secretariat.

Herr Wollweber, 53-year-old former sailor, was a Communist member of the German Reichstag for the last four years before Hitler came to power in 1933.

31 Recd

Pope  
n.e. 63-11-5.  
acd/BIB  
4.8.53



1424 41930

## COUNTY POLICE HEADQUARTERS

SECRET & HUTTON, PRESTON  
PERSONAL. LANCASHIRE

Telephone: Preston 4811.

Your ref.

PF.41930/D.B.

11th June, 1953.

Dear *Duh.*

Many thanks for your  
 letter of the 10th June, 1953,  
 about the result of the interview  
 with Wasserman.

I am sorry that it was  
 not more satisfactory.

Yours *smv.**h-mi*

D. White, Esq., C.B.E.,  
 Box No. 500,  
 Parliament Street B.O.,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

✓  
*Mr Burbridge* 15/6

*B.2.B.*

*nm*  
 15/6 -

*12/6/53*  
*17/6/53*

55/19



SECRET & PERSONAL.

PF.41930/D.B.

10th June, 1953.

Will you please refer to correspondence ending with your letter of April 24th concerning the WASSERMANS.

WASSERMAN has now been interviewed but unfortunately we did not succeed in persuading him to bring his wife. He explained that she would not be able to add anything to his knowledge of the WOLLWEBER matter. Possibly as a result of this we did not extract any more information about WOLLWEBER than was contained in your letter of March 3rd, nor did we succeed in discovering what the sources of his information were and thus arrive at a closer evaluation of the information.

WASSERMAN appears to be a most odd character and the interviewing officer gained the impression that he is, as you suggested in your original letter, very considerably under the influence of Kenneth de Courcy.

D. G. WHITE

Colonel T.E.St.Johnston, C.B.E.,  
County Police Headquarters,  
HUTTON, Preston,  
LANCASHIRE.



139A  
P.F. 41,930.Interview with George WASSERMAN.

I interviewed Mr. George WASSERMAN in Room 055 at the War Office on the 27th May, 1953 at 2.00 p.m.

Before we got down to details, WASSERMAN explained that he had not brought his wife with him as he had been asked to do, since he was certain she would not be able to help in any discussion of WOLLWEBER.

I then explained to WASSERMAN how we came to be in possession of his letter to Mrs. RUSSELL-COOKE, adding that the reason for the interview was that the Security Service had received information similar to his own and was anxious to obtain at first hand an impression of the reliability of the original sources of the information to use as a guide to any action which may be necessary.

I then selected four statements from WASSERMAN's letter which I put to him individually, asking him in each case if he would explain the circumstances in which he first learned of the particular assertion concerned. In no single case did WASSERMAN satisfy me about the precise quarter from which his information had been derived. Though completely unperturbed when confronted point blank with a question requiring a simple answer, he consistently failed to supply one, preferring each time to evade the issue in some way.

Instead of dealing directly with matters raised with him, he chose to tell me at considerable length how he first came to hear of WOLLWEBER, which appears to have been in 1943 while WASSERMAN was serving in North Africa with the army. Here he met Captain Milo JUREVIC (known as Captain "MILO") a member of the Yugoslav Royalist Army Intelligence Service for whom WASSERMAN has a considerable admiration. Other sources from whom he has from time to time learnt about WOLLWEBER, it transpired, are Count LAZHANSKI (phon) whom WASSERMAN knew in Germany and a certain West German newspaper. LAZHANSKI, it seems, has had first hand experience with the Russians having accommodated them at the end of the war on his estates in Czechoslovakia, though why he should be an expert on WOLLWEBER was not clear. WASSERMAN thought he had read one item about WOLLWEBER several months ago in "Der Stern" a West German newspaper which he described as reputable and reliable. Though WASSERMAN was not absolutely certain, he thought that it was in the "Der Stern" article that he had read that WOLLWEBER was a Soviet citizen.

WASSERMAN used the first half of the interview in a quiet endeavour to impress upon me that he himself had had intelligence experience as a member of C.S.D.I.C. in Italy. He mentioned the names of several senior British officers whom he had known personally and spoke of his liaison with the American Intelligence Services in Italy.

His attitude towards the specific questions I put to him was that the authorities must surely know as much as he did about WOLLWEBER and he felt accordingly that he could be of little help. He also remarked, when the question of the reliability of his sources was raised, that his experience has resulted in his being able to reject a piece of information on sight as being unreliable or conversely to accept it as being clearly reliable without requiring further evidence. Such information as he accepted in this way, he said, was stored up in his "subconscious" which enabled him to produce it in the future with complete confidence. He mentioned that this acceptance or rejection of information at first sight had become a 5th (sic) sense with him.

As an example of his logic and reasoning, I raised again with him on closing the interview, his assertion that WOLLWEBER "is and has always been" in touch with his agents by radio. I told him that if this were true it provided a clear starting point for counter intelligence operations and added that I was anxious to learn of any evidence he might have to support this contention, particularly where this country was concerned.



WASSERMAN replied that this would not help since he knew the Russian codes were unbreakable. When I pointed out that, as he surely must know, it was not necessary to break codes in order to locate radio transmitters, he changed his ground by asserting that where the United Kingdom was concerned WOLLWEBER probably sent his instructions to his agents here by means of couriers of whom, in his opinion, there could be very many, either in the form of travellers, stewards or crew aboard cross-Channel ferries.

WASSERMAN then asked to be allowed to digress a little from the subject and went on to discuss in detail what he thought was wrong with the security situation in this country, ranging over such well-aired topics as BURGESS and MACLEAN and Alan Nunn MAY. It is not necessary to go into detail about his ideas, except that in WASSERMAN's view security in this country, which he believes is completely unco-ordinated within the departments concerned, is far from being what it ought to be and that as a result we can expect at any time to be overthrown by the Communists amongst us especially by those in Parliament and in Government employment. Throughout this part of the interview it was not difficult to trace WASSERMAN's great belief in Kenneth de COURCY, reported by C.C. Lancs.

It is difficult to do justice to the extraordinary prepossession and quiet imperturbability which WASSERMAN confidently radiates. Though he is undoubtedly patriotic and probably well intentioned, his attitude at this interview was one of calm, somewhat contemptuous patronisation of the authorities in what he clearly considers to be their pitifully inadequate and ineffectual efforts to deal with the security situation. The immobility of his features and the serenity of his general demeanour when talking are striking, though I feel that I could more profitably have spent an hour with a Chinese idol.

*A. F. Burbridge*

A. F. Burbridge.

P. 2, P.  
4. 6. 53.



TEL: Whitehall 9400.  
Ext: 393.

Copies to Room 055.  
S.L.B. Mr. Hill.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

138A

P.F.41,930/B2B/AFB.

20th May, 1953.

G.A. Wasserman, Esq.,  
7, Astell House,  
Astell Street,  
London, S.W. 3.

Dear Sir,

I understand that you and your wife have certain information concerning the recent activities of Ernst Wollweber, a member of the East German Administration, which may be of interest to the authorities.

If this is the case, my department would appreciate an opportunity of discussing this matter with you and Mrs. Wasserman, and would be grateful if you would write to the address or telephone the number at the head of this letter with a view to arranging an appointment.

Normal interviewing hours are:

Monday to Friday	10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m. - 12 a.m.

but arrangements could, if necessary, be made at other times to suit your convenience.

Yours faithfully,

*David P. Kennedy*

h Officer in Charge.

Officer in the case: A. E. Burbidge Ext 226

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*17/6/53*  
*22.5.53*



S. Form 81 rev. 1.52.

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No.: PF. 41930. Name: WOLLWEBER

Original in File No.: \*SE. 412/General. Serial: 235a Vol: 4 Receipt Date: 5.5.53.

Original from: R.C.M.P., Ottawa. Under Ref: 53 D 992-2-7-0 5 Dated: 29.4.53.

Extracted on: 28.5.53. by: N.G. Section: R.6.

Extract from letter from R.C.M.P., H.Q., Ottawa, re. item in "Daily Colonist" of Victoria, B.C., mentioning WOLLWEBER in connection with ship saboteurs.

We are quoting hereunder an item taken from the "Daily Colonist" of Victoria, B.C., issue of March 15, 1953.

"Crooner Names as Contact for Red Ship Saboteurs."

LONDON (NANA-Kemnews) - Known by the code name of "Joan" a dance-band crooner in a dance hall in London's dock area has been named as secret contact for Red sabotage agents in Britain.

.....

Behind the Red destruction gangs is 54 year old Ernst WOOLWEBER, Soviet-trained German sabotage expert. His world-wide underground organisation of Red seamen and dockyard workers was responsible for sinking or burning dozens of Axis ships during the war.

.....

WOOLWEBER holds an official post as head of the shipping

\* If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner



S. Form 81/rev. 1.52.

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No. : ..... Name : .....

Original in File No. : \* ..... Serial : ..... Vol : ..... Receipt Date : .....

Original from : ..... Under Ref : ..... Dated : .....

Extracted on : ..... by : ..... Section : .....

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department in the East German transport ministry, but this  
is merely a cover for his real job - organizing a Red spy  
network in ports throughout the world, able to plant agents  
in any ship it wishes.

.....



S. Form 81/rev. 1.52.

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No.: ET. 41,930. Name: WOLLWEBER.Original in File No.: \*SE. 412/General. Serial: 234a Vol: 4 Receipt Date: 28.4.53.Original from: \_\_\_\_\_ Under Ref: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 17.4.53.Extracted on: 28.5.53. by: N. G. Section: R.6.Copy of letter re. WOLLWEBER.

Please refer to your letter SF412/General/B.1.B/MLM of 17th April and to our telephone conversation of last week about Ernst WOLLWEBER's activities.

As I told you, \_\_\_\_\_ has now discovered that the original source of the information we passed to you in our letter of 8th April \_\_\_\_\_ is suspect and that we must presume that the whole story has been fabricated for the benefit of the press and ourselves.

Nevertheless, in view of WOLLWEBER's past history and the fact that his present activities in Eastern Germany are not to be explained by his overt function, we should be grateful for any comments you may have, either on our report or on the press items in the Sunday Graphic and the Sunday Chronicle of 1st March, which might help us to clarify the matter.

.....

*Handwritten:*  
17/6/53  
D.B.2B  
#1.653

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COUNTY POLICE HEADQUARTERS

HUTTON - PRESTON

LANCASHIRE

TELEPHONE: PRESTON 4811.

SECRET.

Your ref.  
PF.41930/D.B.

24th April, 1953.

My dear *Duh.*

**27 MAR 1953**

Many thanks for your letter of the 22nd April, 1953, and for the information you have given me in reply to my letter to you of the 3rd March, 1953, with which I sent you some information I had received indirectly from George Wasserman.

I am interested to know that you do not think Wasserman's information is of much value.

I do agree, however, that in order to clear the matter up you might find it useful to have Wasserman interviewed but I do emphasise that you should, at the same time, see his wife who is a much more balanced woman than her husband and I think she would, in any case, be an interesting contact for your department to have as she is frequently travelling abroad and has some interesting associates on the Continent.

Yours *aye.*

*Kni St John L.*

D. White, Esq., C.B.E.,  
Box No. 500,  
Parliament Street B.O.,  
LONDON, S.W.1.



SECRET.

PF.41930/D.B.

22nd April, 1953.

*My dear St. Johnston,*

Please refer to my letter dated 6th March, 1953 concerning George WASSERMAN.

WASSERMAN's letter has now been examined in the light of our records on the WOLLWEBER organisation and we are left with the impression that his allegations are not really substantially founded. It is true that there have been a number of incidents during recent months aboard British ships both in port and at sea which have resulted in damage to the vessels concerned. While at least one of the incidents mentioned by WASSERMAN is thought to have had accidental origins and a second took place in a vessel at sea and is hence unlikely to have been the work of an agent in the Seamen's or Dock Workers' Unions, some of the damage has undoubtedly been deliberate. This has however not been established as the work of a systematic sabotage organisation or even of Communists.

WOLLWEBER's post war re-appearance in the Communist shipping world has naturally aroused the interest of the press, certain sections of which have also linked him with shipping incidents of the kind described by WASSERMAN. It provides in fact a convenient peg upon which to hang any "act of sabotage", including accidents and acts committed by disgruntled seamen and dock workers.

I may add that we have examined certain press reports concerning other alleged activities of WASSERMAN's and have found them baseless.

In order to dispose of the matter, however, we feel that it would be worth while asking WASSERMAN for the sources of his information. Do you think this is the right thing to do and, if so, would you have any objection to our interviewing him on the basis of the letter you sent us?

*Yours sincerely,*  
D. G. WHITE

Colonel T.E. St. Johnston, C.B.E.,  
County Police Headquarters,  
Hutton, Preston,  
Lancashire.



S. Form 81/rev. 1.52.

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No.: PF. 41,930. Name: WOLLWEBER.Original in File No.: SF. 412/General. Serial: 231Z Vol: 4 Receipt Date: 10.4.53.Original from: \_\_\_\_\_ Under Ref: \_\_\_\_\_ Dated: 8.4.53.Extracted on: 28.5.53. by: N.G. Section: R.6.

Copy of letter, and extract from enclosed report,  
re. Soviet inspired sabotage of British shipping,  
mentioning WOLLWEBER.

\_\_\_\_\_ on Soviet in-  
 spired sabotage of British shipping.

\_\_\_\_\_ this report is for  
 your information only, and should you consider taking any action on it would  
 you please refer to us beforehand.

\_\_\_\_\_ we should appreciate  
 your views on the report as well as any traces you may have on the persons  
 mentioned. Ernst WOLLWEBER is of course already well known to you.

...

*EFB*  
*1.53*

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## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No. : ..... Name : .....

Original in File No. : \* ..... Serial : ..... Vol : ..... Receipt Date : .....

Original from : ..... Under Ref : ..... Dated : .....

Extracted on : ..... by : ..... Section : .....

Ext. from enclosure.

No: 2665

18th March, 1953.

EASTERN GERMANY / U.K.C.E.SOVIET INSPIRED SABOTAGE OF BRITISH SHIPPING

1. The activities of the Soviet sabotage group directed before the war by Ernst WOLLWEBER is well-known to the Security Services of all countries. A description of this group's activity appeared inter alia in Jean Valtin's book, "Out of the Night". WOLLWEBER is believed to have resumed his pre-war activity in this connection and this fact has been known to the Belgian authorities for some time.

2. It seems likely that it was this group that was responsible for the recent wave of incendiarism in British ships. This belief is supported by the following piece of information:

"There are 11 sabotage schools in Eastern Germany directed by WOLLWEBER. Of these schools, two are concerned exclusively with training agents for work in England. These schools are at Goldberg and Warin respectively."

.....

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PF 41930

129a

Note for File.Ernst WOLLENWEBER.

This man returned to Germany from Moscow in 1946. In 1952, we learned that he had been Shipping Director of the German Economic Commission since 1949. He is at the moment the subject of a B.2.B investigation into reports that he is the brains behind an organization for the Soviet Zone of Germany for training British Communists at "sabotage" centres.

N.B. The above note was sent to B.4.D. as a comment on their report in SF 411/Germany, ref. 15/3933 dated 24.1.53.

121b

B.1.B.  
8.4.53.

*True.*  
ACB/BIB



S. Form 81/rev. 1.52.

## EXTRACT.

124

Extract for File No.: PF. 41,930. Name: WOLLWEBER.

Original in File No.: SF. 412/General Serial: 224a Vol: 4 Receipt Date: 6.3.53.

Original from: Ministry of Transport. Under Ref: M.5670/50. Dated: 5.3.53.

Extracted on: 28.5.53. by: N.G. Section: R.6.

Extract from letter, and enclosure, from Ministry of Transport,  
re. article in 'Sunday Graphic', mentioning WOLLWEBER.

The Shipping Federation have sent us a cutting from last Sunday's  
 "Sunday Graphic" of which I enclose a copy.

They say that if there is any truth in the story and there is any-  
 thing they can do to watch and inform upon the movements of any men who  
 may be suspect, they will be glad to be so instructed. Clearly, they  
 are somewhat disturbed about the possible implications.

.....

Ext. from enclosure.

COPY OF CUTTING FROM "SUNDAY GRAPHIC"  
March 1st, 1953.

'JOAN' A CROONER, IS RED AGENT

-MI5 told

Graphic Reported.

British security chiefs last night received reports from the German

83D

1-6

\* If the original is in the file of an individual  
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S. Form 81/rev. 1.52.

## EXTRACT.

Extract for File No. : ..... Name : .....

Original in File No. : \* ..... Serial : ..... Vol : ..... Receipt Date : .....

Original from : ..... Under Ref : ..... Dated : .....

Extracted on : ..... by : ..... Section : .....

Secret Service that a London dance band girl crooner is the secret contact for Communist ship-sabotage agents in Britain.

M.I.5. refused to comment last night, but I understand that the woman is a frequenter of entertainment haunts.

The Bonn agents - who smuggled their information out of East Germany at the risk of their lives - claim that:

1. A training school for saboteurs - renegade British seamen and dockyard workers - has been set up on a small island in Lake Schwerin.

.....

4. Responsible for the school establishment is 54 year old Ernst WOLLWEBER Soviet-trained German saboteur who, during World War II was responsible for the sinking of dozens of Axis ships.

. . . . .

\* If the original is in the file of an individual include the name of the file owner



1249  
PF.41930/D.B.

6th March, 1953.

PERSONAL.

Dear Sir. Johnston, B30

Many thanks for your  
letter of 3rd March enclosing  
WASSERMAN's letter about WOLLWEBER.

This is only an interim  
reply to tell you that we have  
nothing against WASSERMAN. We  
have considerable records of  
WOLLWEBER, which are being studied  
in connection with your letter,  
and I will let you know what we  
think about this story as soon  
as possible.

Yours sincerely,

D. G. WHITE

Colonel T.E. St. Johnston, C.B.E.,  
County Police Headquarters,  
Hutton, Preston,  
LANCASHIRE.

W. L.



## COUNTY POLICE HEADQUARTERS

PERSONAL. *General (Vol. 4)* HUTTON - PRESTON  
LANCASHIRE

TELEPHONE: PRESTON 4811.

3rd March, 1953.

*Recd 5.3.53.*

Dear Dick,

... Mrs. S. Russell-Cooke, who is a sister-in-law of Jasper Harker, has received a letter from a friend of hers called George Wasserman alleging that the recent fires in ships in this country are, probably, the work of a sabotage gang. I enclose a copy of this letter.

I wrote to Mrs. Russell-Cooke to ask her to let me have some information about George Wasserman and she has now replied to say that he is a German Jew who left Berlin and came to this country about 1936 to start his own banking business. On the outbreak of War, he joined the Forces and became naturalised as soon as possible after 1945. He has been in business making and selling electric lawn mowers but, recently, has given that up and is now acting as a "middle-man" for various foreign concerns.

He is married to a woman who is Alsatian by birth and who, I understand, did some extremely good work when attached to the U.S. Forces in France and Germany.

Mrs. Russell-Cooke says that George Wasserman is clever and astute; madly pro-British and anti-communist but I gather that Jasper Harker did not have a very high regard for him.

The Wassermans have, in the past year, been on a long tour through Germany and have collected, I understand, some interesting facts about the Neo-Nazi movement.

Mrs. Russell-Cooke is of the opinion that it might well be worth while interviewing both Mr. Wasserman and, particularly, Mrs. Wasserman for whom Mrs. Russell-Cooke has a high respect.

I understand that George Wasserman has a great belief in Kenneth de Courcy which I do not think you will regard as a very good recommendation.

I leave it to you to do what you think best with this information.

As, however, I am likely to meet George Wasserman from time to time, I would be glad to know, in confidence, at a later date, whether or not you think there is anything in his information so that I can judge the veracity of any other story he may tell me.

Yours *aye.**Eric St John*

D. White, Esq., C.B.E.,  
Box No. 500,  
Parliament Street B.O.,  
LONDON, S.W.1.

*11/6/53*



123<sup>a</sup>COPY.

G.A. WASSERMAN.

7, Astell House,  
Astell Street,  
London, S.W.3.

Flaxman 1148.

21st February '53.

Dear Mel,

Repetition of statements is either boring or serves a purpose. This one I have repeated so often, that it probably comes under both headings.

After I was demobbed in Oct. 45 I told your brother in law at a lunch we had that the burning of some ship had been the work of Ernst Wollweber. Since that time nothing has changed. Since the beginning of this year Ernst Wollweber's boys in the seaman's unions have again been quite active and can claim the following:

X | "Antarctic Ocean" in Hamburg, "Empress of Canada" the two "Queens" the carriers "Triumph" "Warrior" "Indomitable" "Centaur" etc.

Ernst Wollweber, born in 1898, secretary of state in Mr. Pieks East-German government, is head of the technical school of the ministry of transport, Dept. shipping. Official name: "Fachschule des Verkehrsministeriums, Abteilung Schifffahrt". This is the official, Kremlin sponsored sabotage school of the Komintern. This school is located in LADEBOW near Stralsund. He lives in Berlin-Lehnitz. After the first world war he was trained in Moscow and founded the "ship-sabotage centres" in Copenhagen and Stockholm. These centres "specialised" in the sabotage of ships which had been bought by the Franco government during the civil war. Wollweber is and has been for some time a Soviet citizen and returned to East-Germany with the "allied" occupation troops, i.e. the Russians. He is and always has been in contact with his local stooges by W.T. and gives all his orders by this means. Every fire in any ship belonging to an allied nation has been since '45 and will be for ever after the work of the Comintern through Wollweber in LADEBOW.

If I say for ever after, I mean of course as long as the Comintern fights its cold war against the freedom loving nations. It should be quite clearly understood that from Ladebow also other activities are organised such as strikes etc. etc. It is the main centre for all these activities. No doubt all this is known to the powers who deal with investigating these fires, but I thought this might be another good opportunity to go on record.

Please ack. receipt of this letter,

Love to you      David  
Yours as ever,

(SIGNED)      GEORGE W.



Special Branch,

New Scotland Yard,

LONDON, S.W.1

371/53/22.

ENCL <sup>2 pages</sup>  
 TO <sup>LM</sup> **B2B**  
 REF **R. 41930**

3rd March, 1953.

Copies in SF. 412 -  
 GENERAL.  
 (Vol. 4)

M.I.5.

I enclose a copy of a report regarding the call at this office of two journalists employed by the "Sunday Chronicle". I am having a few enquiries made in an endeavour to identify the woman "Joan" but I should be grateful for your comments on the matter.

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*H. Burt*  
COMMANDER.



122

COPY

S.B. No. 1 (Flimsy)

## METROPOLITAN POLICE

Special Report }

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SPECIAL BRANCH,

28th day of February, 1953

SUBJECT

Callers.

Reference to Papers

At 3.45 p.m. to-day, [Conrad PHILLIPS] and James G. CAMPBELL, two journalists employed by the "Sunday Chronicle" called at this office and were seen by Detective Sergeant Wood and myself. They held respectively Press Passes numbered 865 and 732 issued by the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis expiring 31st October, 1953, and said that they had been sent along by the Editor of the "Sunday Chronicle" to give some information emanating from Germany:

They then produced a cablegram received from Antony TERRY, the foreign correspondent of Mercury-Kemsley Foreign News Service in Berlin, reading as follows:

"A dance band crooner by the code name of 'Joan' working in a dance hall in London's dock area, is said to be a contact for 'Red' sabotage agents in Britain. Information smuggled straight out of Eastern Germany by German 'M.I.5' agents and said to be sufficiently important to have been transmitted immediately to Bonn is believed to tie up with recent outbreaks of sabotage on British ships.

"British communists are being trained in 'sabotage centres' in the Soviet Zone of Germany in the methods of how to destroy British merchant ships and Royal Naval vessels by causing mysterious fires and explosions.

"A 54 year old Soviet trained German by the name of Ernst WOLLWEBER is the brains behind the organisation. He is said to have been the person responsible for the sinkings of German, Japanese and Italian ships during World War 11. One school is at Lake Schwerin, about 25 miles from the Baltic port of Wisman, and another is at Warin, in the northern part of the Soviet Zone. WOLLWEBER is described as the head of the East German Transport Ministry but this is said to be mainly a cover

M.P.-52-48010/20M W112 (2)



Page No. 2.

for his real job of organising a spy net work throughout the world.

"At the end of the course last November, 96 British Communist seamen and 18 dockyard workers were passed out as 'fully trained for dockyard sabotage' and sent to the United Kingdom via Holland.

"Journeys to and from the Soviet Zone are usually made with false papers and under cover names. According to German secret agents' records some are listed as "HAZZARD", "SOLDER" and "BAKER". Their task was to report to a dance hall in London's dock area for instructions which were to be given by 'Joan'."

The callers were thanked for their information and stated their intention of continuing enquiries with a view to obtaining a story for tomorrow's edition of the "Sunday Chronicle".

Search has been made in Special Branch registry with the following results:

Ernst WOLLWEBER. According to Special Branch file 320/FNS/156, a person named Ernst or Ernst Friedrich or Anton WOLLWEBER @ WOLLENWEBER @ CHRISTENSEN @ SCHMIDT was under notice in June, 1934 when M.I.5 stated that he was the Chairman of the General Section of the International of Seamen and Harbour Workers; Home Office circular S.C.8406/W.338/H.O. dated 29.3.1938 described him as a prominent German communist born 29.10.1898 at Hannoversch-Munden, who in March, 1937 was employed in the Trade Union Department of the Central Committee of the German Communist Party in Paris. WOLLWEBER had been refused leave to land at Harwich on 8.6.34 when in possession of a Norwegian passport in the name of Ragnvald JOHANNESSEN.

A further circular under the above reference number was issued by Home Office on 8.9.51 regarding WOLLWEBER in which he was said to be Under Secretary of State for Shipping and employed by "Deutsche-Wirtschaftskommission"; he was listed as a prominent German communist and one of the key figures in Communist Seamen and Harbour Workers, working in Berlin under Soviet auspices. Home Office directed that he should not be granted a visa nor allowed to land in the United Kingdom, and that M.I.5 should be informed by telephone of his arrival.  
( S.B. files 371/51/71 and 371/51/86 refer).

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3. 122

The other persons mentioned in the cablegram, "Joan", "HAZZARD", "SOLDER", and "BAKER" cannot be identified in the indices. (It seems improbable that "HAZZARD" is identical with A.G. HAZZARD of 238 Westcott Crescent, W.7, included in a list of members of the Ealing Branch of the Communist Party in March, 1943 - S.B. 371/52/110 refers, copy of report sent to M.I.5).

Of the journalists responsible for this information, there is no trace in Special Branch records of TERRY and [redacted] but [Conrad PHILLIPS] who had been described in September, 1941 by a Communist Party member as a "real communist", was reported on by police on 10.7.1944 as a good all round journalist holding definite left wing views, usually associating at the Press Club with communists or those with communist sympathies. (S.B. 402/44/766 and M.I.5 203,951/F2a/WO. refer).

*J. Bursnell*  
Inspector.

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*L. Grant*  
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT.



S. Form 81

## EXTRACT.

1216

Extract for File No.: PF 41930 Vol 2 Name: Ernst WOLLENWEBER.Original in File No.: SF 411 Germany Vol 27 Serial: 1088b Receipt Date: .....Original from: B.4.D Under Ref. 15/3933 Dated: 24.1.53.Extracted on: 1.4.53. by: A. Capel-Dunn Section: B.1.BExtract from B.4.D Source Report on Purges in Eastern Germany mentioning  
WOLLENWEBER.

..... It has been learnt from the "I.W.E." news bulletin in Berlin that there are rumours in Berlin about the impending arrest of the following persons:-

.....

Ernst WOLLENWEBER, Under-Secretary of State for Transport; Communist, Socialist Unity Party.

.....

ACN/RIB

1.4.53



P.F. 41153 (KIPPENBERGER)  
 P.F. 69330 (REIMANN)  
 P.F. 41930 (WOLLWEBER) ✓  
 P.F. 42876 (ULBRICHT)  
 P.F. 45929 (DAHLEM)  
 P.F. 147069 (ZAISSER)  
 P.F. 46219 (WOLLENBERG)  
 P.F. 41678 (PICK)  
 P.F. 46637 (SCHREINER)  
 P.F. 64187 (STAHLMANN)  
 S.F. 411/GERMANY/9.  
 L.B.

5 November, 1952.

P.F. 46219/D.1.B./MJB.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

You may be interested to see the enclosed pamphlet by Erich WOLLENBERG, entitled "Der Apparat - Stalin's Fünfte Kolonne", which has been published by the Federal Ministry for All-German Affairs in Bonn.

The <sup>information</sup> ~~individuals~~ in the pamphlet about the author and the following individuals is in line with that of our records:-

Wilhelm ZAISSER.  
 Wilhelm PICK.  
 Arthur ILNER.  
 Albert SCHREINER.

Walter ULBRICHT.  
 Ernst WOLLENBERG.  
 Franz DAHLEM.

We have no record of SCHREINER, and only possible traces for the following:-

Heinz HOFFMANN and Vinzenz MULLER, who may be identical with personalities mentioned in a report sent to you under our S.F. 411/Germany/9/D.1.B./MJB, dated 13 February, 1951.

Karl MARCH, who may possibly be identical with one Kurt MARCH, who was reported in the Sunday Chronicle of 26 November, 1950 as having been trained in Moscow and to be a specialist in armed warfare.

Erich GLUCKSBAUM may be identical with a man of the same name mentioned in your C.X. 6561/V, dated 24 June, 1951.

We should be grateful if you will return the pamphlet to us in due course as it is the only copy we have. We shall also be glad if you would confirm or refute our tentative identifications.

Yours sincerely,

M.J.E. Bagot.

Enclosure.

MJB/JH.

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Extract from pamphlet entitled "Der Apparat - Stalin's Fünfte Kolonne",  
filed at 36a in P.F. 46219/WOLLENBERG.

P.F. 41930.  
-----

120a

Ernst WOLLWEBER.

Was a member of the First M. School in Moscow.  
Leader of the "Diversions-apparat" (sabotage organisation)  
which was started in 1941. Former Communist Reichstag  
Deputy. At present Deputy Director General of sea and inland  
navigation in the Soviet Zone of Germany.

Officially WOLLWEBER is only Deputy Director General  
of sea and inland navigation in the German Democratic  
Republic, but the result, as is well known to all, is that  
what is on one side of the Iron Curtain, a Government Dept.,  
is on this side, a secret service. Thus the centre of the  
activities of the "Old Diversion specialist" (i.e. WOLLWEBER)  
lies not in the German Democratic Republic, but in the Federal  
Republic and especially in Bremerhaven, the biggest disembar-  
kation port of the U.S. army. In Bremerhaven no ship's cargo  
can be unloaded without WOLLWEBER being informed of the  
smallest detail, whether it is arms, munitions, provisions, or  
the personnel.

WOLLWEBER was responsible for the Hamburg dock strike

pages 13,21, in 1951.  
43.

The above pamphlet deals with the activities of personalities, Directors  
and deputy directors of the Military Police, who still play a leading role  
in the Hierachy of the German Communist Party and state organisations.

4/9/52.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
BIB/34.  
10.10.52



119a

C.4.a./PF 41930

H.M. Chief Inspector,  
Immigration Branch,  
Home Office.

WOLLENWEBER E.F. or A.  
S.C. 8406.

May the additional alias of WOLLHUBER  
please be added to the above circular.

26th April 1952.

PSJ/JC.

DTB/RK  
28/4/52  
CIA/VR  
26/4/52

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**Secret.**

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

dated 27.9.51.

28 SEP 1951

Dear

Miss Bagot,

TO BIB  
REF PF 41,930.

I apologise for the delay in replying to your PF. 41930/B.1.B/MJEB of 30th August, 1951.

[ We have no record of LUND or ~~LEUKERT~~ ] copy for P.F. 146,347.

[ KOTWIAK ] was mentioned in various reports on alleged Communist espionage activity in SCANDINAVIA, to which I have referred in previous letters. I have now discovered a note in our file to the effect that the Scandinavian authorities eventually reached the conclusion that these reports were the product of one source's imagination. It is a pity that they evidently did not tell their Dutch friends.

We also have traces of ~~YEMOFF~~ who appears from our records to have existed only in the imagination of a certain Roger HENTGES. The latter's career has demonstrated the correctness of Belgian police report on him in 1935, in which he was described as "a braggart, liar, unworthy of the slightest confidence and a romancer in character."

We have a mention of ~~KAPITULNICK~~ as a Jewish merchant and KPD member in COLOGNE, repatriated from BRUSSELS in 1946 through the agency of CALPO.

Yours sincerely,

For

Miss M.J.E. Bagot, M.B.E.,

M.I.5.

H.O.16./11.46.

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S. Form 81

# SECRET

## EXTRACT.

115B

Extract for File No.: P.F.41930. Name: WOLLENWEBER, Ernst.

Original in File No.: SF.441/Sweden. Supp C. Serial: 3a. Receipt Date: 24.9.1951.

Original from: ..... Under Ref. .... Dated: 21.9.1951.

Extracted on: 30.10.1951. by: B.E. Section: B.2.b.

on twenty-three cases of R.I.S. activity  
in Sweden from 1940-42 - re WOLLENWEBER.

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SECRET

115B/1344  
21.11.57  
86/Bab.  
30.10.57.

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"The Sabotage Organisation WOLLWEBER"

The following were sentenced on 12.11.41 by Jukkasjärvi Tingslags County Court: former German citizen Ernst Friedrich WOLLWEBER, Swedish citizens filer Gustav Adolf SÖDER, crane repairer Johan Edvard NYBERG, general labourer Gösta Sigfrid ANDERSSON, electrician Karl Viktor SUNDBERG, iron worker Johan Adolf MARKSTRÖM, transport worker Erik Herman LUNDAHL, rough labourer Gustaf Anton CEDER and railway worker Sven Magnus Hjalmar SVENSSON. They were given prison sentences of different lengths for their activities in a secret organisation whose aim it was to work against fascism by sabotage, chiefly consisting of blowing up ships by dynamite.

Wollweber was sentenced to 3 years' hard labour for stealing explosives with intent to damage property, and for forgery. Wollweber was the leader of the organisation.

Wollweber instigated thefts of dynamite from the mines in Kiruna to further the purposes of the organisation. This dynamite was then stored in various places in the country, and was to be used for sabotage of ships on Wollweber's orders.

The crime of forgery consisted of using false passports on journeys in and out of Sweden.

Söder was sentenced for participation in destruction on ships, for procuring and storing explosives, knowing they were to be used by someone else to damage property, and for first theft to hard labour for 4 years.

Knowing of its illegal origin and the purpose for which it was to be used, Söder stored and transported stolen dynamite and other sabotage material for the organisation during the years 1937 and 1938. Thus in May 1938 he transported 15 kg. of a consignment of dynamite which he had taken from Nyberg in Kiruna to a storage place in Malmö, whence the dynamite was then collected by a Danish citizen, who took it to Copenhagen, where it was on Wollweber's orders used to blow up two Spanish trawlers lying in Fredrikshavn.



Söder had for some years been a member of the Swedish Communist Party, but when he in the spring of 1937 joined the sabotage organisation he was ordered to stop paying his dues to the Party, so that he was no longer officially a member of it, although his ideological attitude remained totally unchanged.

Nyberg was sentenced for participation in destruction on board ships, for procuring explosives, for theft, and for unauthorised handing over of a pistol and ammunition to hard labour for 3 years! 6 months.

On repeated occasions during the period August 1937 - March 1938 Nyberg, partly himself in company with Sundberg and Markström, and partly by instigating these two to the same, stole explosives knowing they were intended for the use of the sabotage organisation. 15 kg. of the stolen dynamite was then collected by Söder and Nyberg, and was later used to blow up the Spanish trawlers in Denmark.

Nyberg was in the Communist organisation from 1919 to 1931, but he then left the Party because of practical and political dissensions. However, he still retained his Communist outlook.

Gösta Sigfrid ANDERSSON was sentenced for procuring and storing explosives, for theft and unauthorised possession and handing over of a pistol plus ammunition to hard labour for one year and six months.

Andersson collected explosives from Nyberg, knowing what they were to be used for, and then stored them. In addition, he obtained pistols and ammunition for his organisation. Andersson is to be regarded as having been one of the leaders within the organisation. In this capacity his task was, amongst other things, to form groups who in case of war could be used for sabotage and partisan activities in this country.

Without being politically organised, Andersson has been a Communist sympathiser since 1929. He reached the rank of



9/3

Lieutenant on the Government side in the Spanish War, and was fully trained in partisan work. This was his principal task during the Spanish War. His sympathies for Communism were strengthened in Spain. He was a convinced anti-Fascist.

Sundberg and Markström were sentenced for participating in destruction on vessels, for procuring explosives and for theft by breaking in to one year's three months' hard labour.

Sundberg and Markström stole explosives in conjunction with Nyberg for the organisation. Part of these were taken to Denmark, where they were used against the aforementioned trawlers, while the remainder was transported to different parts of this country, where it was stored for sabotage.

Sundberg was a member of the Swedish Communist Party from 1922 to December, 1939.

Markström joined as a member of the Communist Youth Club in Kiruna in 1921, and later became a member of the Swedish Communist Party. In September 1939 he left the Party, as "he did not approve of the Russian entry into Poland".

Lundahl was sentenced for storing explosives, knowing what they were to be used for, to hard labour for eight months.

Lundahl stored explosives for the organisation in his own home, as well as in another's. In addition he provided accommodation to foreigners who were members of the same organisation and who were living illegally in the country.

Oskar Harry ERIKSSON was sentenced for the same crime as Lundahl to hard labour for six months.

Eriksson was an assistant to Gösta Sigfrid ANDERSSON. He has never been politically organised, but is an anti-fascist. He fought as a volunteer on the Government side in the Spanish civil war.



Risto was sentenced for participation in procuring and storing explosives to six months hard labour.

Risto's crime consisted of assisting Gösta Sigfrid ANDERSSON in the storage and transport of explosives intended for sabotage.

He too was a former Spanish volunteer. He had at various times been a member of the Swedish Communist Party, but between these periods he was ruled out as a member because of non-payment of subscriptions. In his attitude he is a Communist and anti-Fascist.

Ceder was sentenced for storing dynamite to five months hard labour.

He stored dynamite and sabotage materials for the organisation. Apart from that he arranged transport of dynamite to Holland, where it was to be used for sabotage.

He became a member of the Communist Party in 1920, but when he was recruited into the organisation in 1936 he stopped paying subscriptions to the former. This was done in accordance with instructions for the activities of the secret organisation.

Sven Magnus Hjalmar Svensson was sentenced for the storage of explosives, knowing their purpose, to 3 months imprisonment, the sentence being conditional.

Svensson stored explosives for Ceder in his home, and had known that Ceder intended using them for sabotage.

He joined the Swedish Communist Party in 1921 and had from time to time filled certain local confidential posts.

The High Court increased Gösta Sigfrid ANDERSSON's, Erik Herman LUNDAHL's and Oskar Harry ERIKSSON's sentences, as they had been guilty of sabotage since the passing of the anti-sabotage law on Dec. 18 1940. Andersson's sentence was increased to two years' six months hard labour, Lundahl's to one year's four months and Eriksson's to one year's hard labour.

+++++

The preceding is the epilogue to the most comprehensive investigations of political crimes ever carried out to date by



9/5

the Swedish Police. On account of the number of people involved no real shadowing could be carried out to any satisfactory degree. The leaders and men of the investigating force had instead to carry out, after mass arrests, a veritable mosaic work with the information received from the various individuals who had been arrested, so as to reconstruct the secret sabotage organisation. This work was made very much more difficult by the fact that each separate member only knew the very limited part of it which concerned him alone. The entire organisational plan was known only to the leaders, and these were, God knows, not loose mouthed or easily intimidated, but were rather hard schooled fanatics. Up to date no less than 80 persons have been arrested during the investigations, and apart from this a very large number of people have been questioned for information. The great majority of those interrogated are to be considered as Communists and Communist sympathisers. During this the Police came upon information which lead to the discovery of a new and active branch of this sabotage organisation. A fuller account of it is given under the heading "The Hagge - Baier - Jonasson case".

+++++

The origins of the case and the course of investigations

In August 1938 the C.I.D. in Stockholm was informed by letter by the Security Police in Berlin that since about two years ago, i.e. 1936, there had been a considerable number of acts of sabotage in European waters against ships of various nations, especially German, Polish, Italian, Spanish and Japanese. Sabotage had been carried out by explosives and arson on board ships. It was considered that it could already then be established that it was not a case of isolated instances of sabotage, but that it was a question of sabotage organised by the Bolshevik - Anarchist front. In this connection the Security Police in Berlin informed the Swedish Police in an attachment to the letter in question of the cases of sabotage which had already occurred.



9/6

At this time (August 1938), although it could be assumed with a high degree of certainty that it was a case of internationally organised sabotage spread over large parts of Europe, there was no direct proof of this. In September, 1938, a conference took place in Berlin of Police Authorities from Scandinavia and Western Europe, and it was agreed that the attempts, in so far as the tactical execution and use of material were concerned, originated from one and the same organisation.

In consequence of what has been discovered about this organisation up to the first part of 1941, the following can be said about it in general:

The organisation for sabotage of shipping was built up on the orders of prominent personalities within the Soviet Union. It had as its aim an activity encompassing the whole world, and existed not only on the European continent, but also in the Far East. The most important harbours in the North Sea and Baltic have top priority in the European area. The European area was divided up into departments for Swestern Europe, Scandinavia and the Baltic States, and the H.Q. was first in Copenhagen and later in Paris. A responsible chief was to be appointed for each of these Departments. This had, however, only been carried out for Western Europe, while Scandinavia and the Baltic States were for the present under the H.Q. in Copenhagen.

The leading personalities who appeared in the forefront of the organisation in the European area were well-known former big functionaries within "Internationale der Seeleute und Hafenarbeiter" (I.S.H.).<sup>152</sup> The leader directly responsible for the Soviet Union was the former German Communist M.P. Ernst WOLLWEBER. The leader responsible for Western Europe, who in this capacity appears to have been under Wollweber, was the Dutch citizen and Communist member of the Town Council in Amsterdam, the former Club Secretary in the Interklubb in Rotterdam, Josef Rimbertus SCHAAP.

As soon as the Swedish Police got to know about the sabotage organisation (in 1938) they set in motion extensive surveillance



9/7

and investigation activities here. In February 1939 rough labourer Gustav Anton CEDER informed the State Police in Lulea that he had belonged to a secret sabotage organisation since the late autumn of 1936. This organisation was found to be a branch of the above mentioned international organisation. Ceder, in his statements to the Police gave information about several members of the organisation, many of whom, however, were only known under a pseudonym. A lead was, however, obtained to further surveillance and investigations, and these were then carried on without interruption and with great energy and vigour by various Police Authorities in the country. After the outbreak of war in the autumn of 1939 the work of the Police was further intensified. By this time some of the members of the organisation had been identified in Sweden, and they were put under strict surveillance by the Police.

On May 18, 1940, the German citizen Ernst WOLLWEBER was arrested on Otteböl Railway Station near the Norwegian frontier, and was taken to Stockholm. So as to (if possible) gain further time for thorough investigations and to obtain full knowledge of the sabotage gang's connections in Sweden, Wollweber was accused of certain passport falsifications, for which he was sentenced to 6 months' hard labour. The work continued during the rest of 1940 and the beginning of 1941. Various branches of the sabotage league were discovered in Sweden. Thus, here in Stockholm a group of policemen were detailed to a special Commission which was exclusively occupied with this work. A continuous collaboration was established during the entire time with different Police Authorities in the country, and fairly good knowledge was obtained of the activities of the various members of the league. At last the investigations had gone so far that action against the league was considered advisable. Since the beginning of 1941 particularly valuable information had been received from the Danish Police Authorities regarding the collaboration of the sabotage organisation active in Denmark - against which the Copenhagen



9/8

Police had taken action - and the Swedish organisation. The information received from Denmark was of a particularly serious nature against both Wollweber and other members of the league resident in Sweden. Through this and through the investigations which had been undertaken in Sweden such strong circumstantial evidence was considered to have been obtained that it was highly probable that the members of the league could be rendered innocuous by long prison sentences. A number of arrests were made in 1941 this country on June 4th/according to a special plan worked out in advance by the Stockholm Police, of persons suspected of being members of the sabotage organisation. As the investigations had shown that the Swedish Communist Party could be suspected of being a centre for recruiting of members and for economic help to the organisation, a comprehensive raid was also carried out in the Communist H.C. in No. 84, Kungsgatan, in Stockholm. Through these actions the Police were to a great extent successful in obtaining knowledge of the sabotage organisation's work in Sweden. It was brought to light that dynamite had been stolen in Kiruna and taken to Denmark, where it had been used for sabotage on ships. In addition it came out that a couple of the members of the organisation had manufactured technical aids consisting of ignition apparatus, mines, etc., for the organisation.

The work within this sabotage organisation was organised on classical Russian conspiratorial lines. Meetings between different members of the gang took place in the way we have seen repeated in practically all cases of Russian espionage. Thus when members earlier unknown to each other met, they used as identification bits of paper torn in two and bearing wavy lines which were to fit against each other, or pencils broken in two whose jagged edges had to match exactly.

As it may be of use when investigating future cases of sabotage, a little of the tuition imbibed in Spain by Gösta Sigfrid ANDERSSON is given below (and which he, incidentally, passed on to some members of the gang) regarding methods of



fire-raising using sulphuric acid in a mixture of chlorate of potassium and sugar:

" 1. A bottle of thin glass is to be filled with petrol, into which should be poured a certain quantity of sulphuric acid, which settles on the bottom of the bottle. The outside of the bottle should be covered with a thin layer of glue, and it should thereafter be rolled in a mixture of chlorate of potassium and powdered sugar, which sticks to the glue. When such a bottle is crushed fire results. In Spain the bottles had chiefly been used for fighting against armoured cars (stridsvagnar).

2. A glass bottle should be filled with petrol, and a certain quantity of sulphuric acid poured into it. The cord<sup>K?</sup> should be hollowed and its underside glued over with a thin piece of paper after the hollow in the cord<sup>K</sup> has been filled with a mixture of chlorate of potassium and sugar. This kind of incendiary is to be used in cases where a certain length of time is required before ignition. When used the bottle should be turned upside down, when the sulphuric acid starts eating away the paper glued over the under side of the cord. Ignition occurs at the moment when the paper is eaten through and the sulphuric acid reaches the mixture of chlorate of potassium and sugar. This kind of ignition is to be specially used for firing aeroplanes and buildings on airfields.

3. Aluminium bronze and iron colour (aluminiumbrons och järnfärg) should be mixed with each other in given proportions in some suitable plate receptacle. This mixture should be ignited by the sulphuric acid in conjunction with chlorate of potassium and powdered sugar, while ignition can be delayed in various ways.

4. It is possible to produce an electric ignitor for dynamite by oneself by leading the conductor threads from a battery into a tight metal casing filled with a mixture of chlorate of potassium and sugar. The points of the two conductors drawn into the casing should be connected by an extremely thin metal thread. When the conductors in the casing become current conducting by being connected to an electric battery, the thin thread begins to



9/10

glow on account of the resistance, and the mixture in the casing is lit and causes an explosion, which makes the dynamite explode in the same way as an ordinary percussion cap.

5. In Spain Andersson also learned the following simple method of manufacturing an explosive. Equal parts of chlorate of potassium and powdered sugar are mixed together well. Of this mixture 90 grammes should be mixed with 8 grammes liquid paraffin (?kerosene) and worked together carefully. The mixture should thereafter be left to congeal, and becomes hard as stone in the shape of the container in which it is packed. This explosive should be detonated by an electric ignitor of the construction described in point 4. Andersson was taught in Spain that an explosive of this manufacture had greater effect than dynamite, and he had himself seen that the mixture in question was explosive."



**Secret.**

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

dated 18.9.51

R5B2

19 SEP 1951

TO: ~~1315~~

REF TF 41,930

Dear

Miss ~~Bagot~~ <sup>5th Sept</sup>, 21/9/51.

Reference your PF.41930/B1B/MJEB of 21.8.51. - 112a

In 1949

on most of the individuals listed in your letter. Comparison of the reports, which dealt mainly with alleged international illegal Communist activity, suggested that they all emanated from a single source, possibly the Karl BARGSTADT who is second on your list and who deserted the KPD for the SPD in the summer of 1948. Early in 1949

gave us a copy of BARGSTADT's account of his past Communist activities. This was of historical interest only but concluded with the statement that BARGSTADT was convinced that the post-war Communist organisation in Scandinavia was similar to the one in operation before the war (i.e. WOLLWEBER, the ISH etc.) BARGSTADT's report also circulated in Germany and it seems probable that he was endeavoring to cash in on his past, since there was nothing to suggest that he was well informed on post-war Communist activity. We have no more recent information on him and there is nothing to suggest that his breach with Communism was not complete. According to his own account he was imprisoned by the NKVD from June 41 - May 42 and his wife died in Saratov gaol early in 1942. Kurt Hermann Rudolf ADAM is mentioned in reports referred to above.

Alfred Emil BEIN is identical with the Alfred BEIN mentioned in the "Purple Primer". Considered by us in 1945 as a hopeless psychopathic case and a liar. BEIN was arrested by the Danes in 1947 for illegal frontier crossing and again in 1949 for burglary. On the second occasion he denounced HENTGES to the Danes as a Soviet agent.

over.....

H.O.16./11.46.

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**Secret.**

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

(2)

PF 146217

[Heinrich Gustav Wilhelm BUHR] was mentioned in the reports referred to in para 1. above, probably because of his activities in Scandinavia and Spain after 1933.

We have fairly full information on his past. In 1932 he owned two long distance haulage concerns in Hamburg; since 1945 he has apparently tried to reactivate his transport business, and has visited Hamburg from Sweden for this purpose. He has relatives in Hamburg and during a visit there in 1950 saw Herbert WEHNER, of the SPD, to whom he had previously written asking for admission to the SPD. WEHNER remained convinced that BUHR was still a Communist. During this visit BUHR also contacted Heinz PRIESS, chief editor of the KPD Volkszeitung, with whom he was believed to have discussed the fate of other ex members of the International Brigade. According to the German Police BUHR gave the impression of having abandoned all contact with the KPD, with the exception of PRIESS.

PF 146314

[Albert August Heinrich FLEISCHER] is carded in Gestapo records as an informant from 1943 onwards. Head of the E. Ressort of the KPD AM Apparat in Hamburg area in 1933.

PF 146315

[Hugo GILL.] One of the leading Communists in Hamburg since 1946. Appointed second chairman of KPD Hamburg in Feb 51.

PF 146328

[Rolf Konrad HAGGE.] In 1949 head of Abteilung Grenzpolizei und Bereitschaft, Land Mecklenburg. In 1949 we received various reports (including those referred to in para 1. above) which suggested that HAGGE was engaged in intelligence activities, but they were never confirmed.

PF 146326

PF 146325

[Karl HOFFMANN and Lothar Theodor HOFFMANN] both featured prominently in the reports referred to in para 1. above. We have been unable to identify Karl. Lothar is reported to have been turned by the Gestapo in 1941; an unconfirmed report stated that he rejoined the KPD in 1946, when he was in Hamburg. In August 1950 he was reported to be an active member of a Communist discussion group in Copenhagen.

over.....

H.O. 16./11.46.

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**Secret.**

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

(3)

PF 146324

[Johannes JENSEN.] No further information.

PF 146334

[Stephan KORSKI.] No further information. We have only one mention of him and cannot confirm the details given by the Dutch.

PF 146331

[Walter SKOTAREK.] Reports that he was engaged in intelligence work were investigated by Intelligence Division in 1949/50 and could not be confirmed. SKOTAREK was Orgleiter of the KPD in Duisburg in 1950 but there is no evidence that he acted as liaison between Belgian, Dutch and German couriers.

PF 146332

[Gustav Karl STANNEK] was reported in 1949 as a known Communist who was living quietly in Landskrona and was not observed to take part in any Communist activity.

PF 146333

[Hans Heinrich Hermann STUT] (real name STUT) X We have no recent information. STUT was still in Sweden in March 1948. He had been repatriated to Germany in 1946 but had returned to Sweden in February 1948.

It is probable that the Dutch obtained some of their information from one or other of the Scandinavian services, particularly in the case of HOFFMANN.

Yours sincerely, -

Miss M.J.E. Bagot M.B.E.

M.I.5

H.O. 16./11.46.

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1149

Immigration Branch  
Home Office.

Reference the above minute. The oversight is regretted. May the latest details as contained in our draft circular please be added as an addendum to SC.8406.

We agree with your proposed new coding (SHA)

M.I.5/C.4.a./PF.41930  
31st August, 1951.  
PSJ/PMB

Agreed with B.L.b.  
Miss Bagot

From H.O. file W.338

M.I.5

WOLLWEBER is already the subject of a gating circular issued on 29.3.38 which appears to have been overlooked.

For observations please.

(sgd.) .. CHING-LEN

24.8.51.

11/15/51  
24/8/51

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Copies for: PF.146,577. (KAPITULEO)  
 PF.146,610. (KOTWIAK)  
 PF.146,347. (LEUKERT)  
 PF.146,618. (LUND)  
 PF.146,612. (YEMOFF)

SECRET

113a

30 August, 1951.

PF.41930/B.1.D(MJIB)

112a

In continuation of my letter PF.41930/B.1.B(MJEB), the following are further brief case histories provided by the Dutch for entry in the S.I.C. Black List:-

KAPITULEO, Joseph. @ KAPITULNIK @ KAPITULEC.  
 Russian.

Born: 24.11.05. Iatowis.

Brief case history: Was formerly affiliated to the "Spartacus Association" in Germany. Travelled with a mission to Russia, where he performed secretarial work for the communist party. Is said to have been People's Commissar in the Caucasus. Returned thereafter to Germany. Escaped in 1936 to Belgium, was arrested by the Belgian Police (in Brussels) in 1937 on charge of falsifying passports and identity cards, and of recruiting volunteers for the Spanish Red Army. Probably also belonged to the WOLLWEBER Organisation. In 1945 he went clandestinely to Germany, where he is supposed to stay at present at 37 Bisheiligenstrasse 37, Cologne, Ehrenfeld.

KOTWIAK, Kurt.

Brief case history: Is a former K.P.D. functionary. Is probably appointed to the Russian Commercial Delegation in Copenhagen (possibly a cover). Was said to be the liaison-man in 1949 for the communist contact with Kiel and Malmo.

LEUKERT.  
 Swedish.

Brief case history: Was formerly of Russian nationality; is now a naturalised Swede. Was in 1940 appointed to the Russian Embassy in Stockholm, and was in 1949 employed by the Russian Embassy in Copenhagen. Is said to have sent a message via Flensburg to Germany by courier, in association with C. R. LUND, containing particulars about commercial statistics, the feeling of the population of Sweden, as well as a plan for the posts of agents. He is also regarded as the liaison-officer between the Embassies in Sweden and Denmark on the one side and the secretaries to the communist parties on the other.

LUND, Celius Rosager.

Danish.

Born: 15.11.07. Skarup.

Brief case history: Since 1933 affiliated to Danish Communist Party. Leader of the communist publishing house "Tiden" in Copenhagen.

YEMOFF. @ PERRIE @ LASKY @ PERICHIER.  
 Russian.

Brief case history: Was first military attache in Paris. Was transferred to Stockholm in January, 1947. Is supposed to be leader of the Russian Cominform, Section West in Stockholm, the following countries coming within his Section: Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Holland, Belgium, France, England, W. Germany and Italy.

Yours sincerely,  
 M. J. E. BAGOT.

2.6/65  
 MB/SI



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**SECRET**

Copies in: PF.146313 (ADAM) PF.146326 (HOFFMANN, K.)  
 PF.146330 (BARGSTADT) PF.146325 (HOFFMANN, L.T.)  
 PF.146214 (BEIN) PF.146324 (JENSEN)  
 PF.146217 (BUHR) PF.146334 (KORSKI)  
 PF.146314 (FLEISCHER) PF.146331 (SKOTAREK)  
 PF.146315 (GILL) PF.146332 (STANNEK)  
 PF.146328 (HAGGE) PF.146333 (STUDT)

PF.41930/B.1.B(HJEB)

21 August, 1951.

The following are among the brief case histories provided by the Dutch for entry in the S.I.C. Black List:-

ADAM, Kurt Hermann Rudolf, @ POHL, Karl Otto (born 1.11.03. Vienna)  
 German.

Born: 22.11.03. Stettin.

Brief case history: Since 1920 affiliated to the K.P.D. First lived in Germany. Fled in 1935 to Russia. Went in 1937 via Finland and Sweden to Copenhagen, where he reported on December 19, 1937 as communist refugee. Travelled on a false Austrian passport in the name of Karl Otto POHL (see alias). Fled in 1943 from Denmark to Sweden, returning to Denmark after the German capitulation. Attended the Lenin School. Was in 1945 reported as an agent of the K.P.D. in Copenhagen.

BARGSTADT, Karl, @ JACOB @ KAREL @ GERARD.  
 German.

Brief case history: Before 1933 organisation leader of the Communist Party in Hamburg. Worked with the WOLMEBER Organisation when staying in Holland. He was technical leader. Made bombs and experimented with bomb models. Was probably never arrested by the Germans, and is supposed to be in Hamburg at present.

BEIN, Alfred Emil.  
 German?

Born: 13.12.21., Copenhagen.

Brief case history: Was (probably in the war) sentenced in Sweden to 14 months' imprisonment on charge of espionage. Since then he has had contact with members of the WOLMEBER Organisation. Was arrested in 1946 in Belgium on charge of illegally entering the country. During his confinement he got into contact with HENTGES, Roger Frederic Rene, with whom he agreed to work for the Russian Intelligence Service. Received money in 1947 for information furnished to HENTGES. On 23.4.49 expelled from Denmark to Germany. About May 1949 he lived at 14b, Rehllings uber Lindau, Bodensee, Germany. He then told that he had the chance of passing the Swiss frontier.

BUHR, Heinrich Gunther Wilhelm.  
 Probably German.

Born: 11.1.06., Hamburg.

Brief case history: Went as political refugee to Denmark on 14.10.34. Passed the Danish frontier illegally, in which he was probably assisted by the I.R.H. On 19.3.35 the I.R.H. reported that BUHR left Denmark for Norway. From 19.8.36 till 22.8.36 he was back in Denmark on his way to Spain. He was then travelling on a Swedish alien's passport. When returning from Spain he settled in Sweden, where he was employed as a driver by the firm of Siden & Co. He was also affiliated to the I.R.H. In the spring of 1949 he was said to be forming an illegal organisation in Stockholm and Goteborg. In that time he also intended to run a coach line from Sweden to Germany.



~~SECRET~~

German ?

\_\_\_\_\_

German ?

to send three agents to Denmark, where L.T. HOFFMAN was to procure a position for them. L.T. HOFFMAN was to be in contact with the agents in Denmark.

RECEIVED 1971

German.

trial case history: before 1935 or 1936

probably in Leningrad. Fled to Denmark in 1934, was arrested there on charge of illegally entering the country. Left later for Norway, but fled to Sweden on the invasion of the Germans. Here he was convicted for ship's sabotage on 28.9.41. Was a co-operator of the WOLLWEBER organisation. Was sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment, but fled in 1945 to the Russian zone of Germany. Fought as an officer (of the International Brigade) in the Spanish Civil War. Thereupon followed a course for partisans in Moscow. Was ordered by WOLLWEBER in 1941 to conduct the sabotage against two vessels in the port of Stockholm. Is at present head of the police in Mecklenburg and checks all traffic across the frontiers and the Baltic ports.

German.

Brief case history: Information dated July 1949: HOFTMANN is a Communist. Used to be a co-operator of the AM Apparatus. After the war he was sent by the Russians from Schwerin to Warnemunde, where he was made Kriminalkommissar. Is supposed to be a link of the intelligence service with Denmark and Sweden.

Form: 11.1.05, Hamburg.

German.

United States Department of State

Brief case history: Since 1926 affiliated to the K.P.D. In 1932 followed a course of espionage in Moscow. Was sentenced to 4 years' imprisonment in Germany, but already released in Dec. 1932. Fled in 1937 to Paris, then fought in the Spanish Civil War. In Spain he was the right-hand man of Wilhelm ZAISSER, the present head of the E. German People's Police. Returned in

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- 3 -

SECRET

112a

1939 to Germany, where he was an illegal worker, fleeing the same year to Denmark. Was handed over to Germany in 1941 and sentenced to death. The sentence was, however, not executed. Worked with the AM Apparatus and economic espionage for Russia. Returned to Copenhagen in 1947, where he was charged with building up connections for espionage services. Is concerned with the Trading Co. "Prospektion" (probably a cover firm).

JENSEN, Johannes.

German.

Born: 25.6.07., Hamburg.

Brief case history: JENSEN is a professor of atomic science by profession. On 3.11.48. he went to Copenhagen, where he had a room in the Hotel "Kongen af Danmark" at 15 Holmenskanal. A few days afterwards he lived in another room, which was used as an office by the trading company "PROSPEKTION" and by the "BORNHOLMS TURIST BUREAU", which are probably both cover firms. Interested in these firms or holding leading positions in them are Lothar Theodor HOFFMANN and Albert August Heinrich FLEISCHER. JENSEN lived in the offices till his return to Germany on 25.11.48.

KORSKI, Stephan, @ SVEND.

Brief case history: 1948, acted as agent for the Russian Embassy in Copenhagen; his sub-agent being one MARTINSSON, of Copenhagen. 16.3.49: agent of the Russian Embassy in Copenhagen. He attends to the payment of all agents in Denmark, to their passports for leaving and entering the country.

SKOTAREK, Walter, @ TOON @ HENK.

German.

Born: 1.11.1900., Magdeburg.

Brief case history: 1919-25: member of the German Metal Workers' Union. 1925-28: member of the German Union of Workers in Building Trade. 1929-33: Technical leader of the "Rote Sportseinheit". 1930: member of the K.P.D. 1935: fled to Holland (Rotterdam). Helped by I.R.H. May 1937: head of the training course for emigrants in Holland. 1938: arrested and interned by the Dutch Police. 1940: taken over by the Germans and transported to a concentration camp. 1941: convicted for high treason. 1945: back in Duisburg. 1950: organisation leader of the K.P.D. at Oberhausen (unmasked Tito propagandists). Is supposed to act as accommodation address and to form a liaison between Belgian, Dutch and German couriers.

STANNEK, Gustav Karl, @ WEIMAR, Aurelius, (born 8.4.01., Warschau)

Probably German.

Born: 3.1.07., Hamburg (Altona).

Brief case history: Was affiliated to the K.P.D. Fled illegally to Denmark on 9.9.34., travelling under the name of Aurelius WEIMAR (born 8.4.09 in Warsaw). On 17.5.35 he fled from Denmark to Sweden, where he lives at present.

/STUNE,



- 4 -

SECRET

STUET, Hans Heinrich Hermann,  
 @ EICHEL, Walther Hermann Hans (born 25.1.1896, Hamburg)

German ?

Born: 13.3.1896., Hamburg.

Wife: Agda Johanna Johansson, born 30.9.1905.

Brief case history: After Hitler's seizing of power in Germany, he fled from Germany to Denmark, travelling under the name of Walther Hermann Hans EICHEL (born 25.1.1896 in Hamburg). Fled in 1936 from Denmark to Sweden, where he stayed till 1948. Returned in 1948 to Germany, where he was a functionary of the German Communist Party in Hamburg in 1948.

We had no previous record of any of the above mentioned individuals. As you know, it has been agreed that the S.I.C. Black List cases shall be included in the Home Office Suspect Index. In making application for their inclusion, we have to provide a reason for the request. Can you help us with the above, please, as the brief case histories seem hardly to justify entries in the current Home Office Suspect Index.

Yours sincerely,

M. J. E. Hagot.

MJEB/EBP

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11/9

20th August, 1951.

G.4.a./PF116795.  
 PF 145912.  
 PF 64187.  
 PF135388.  
 PF 146362.  
 PF 41930.

H.R. Chief Inspector,  
 Immigration Branch,  
Home Office.

I attach hereto draft circular and case sheet  
 in respect of the under-mentioned:-

PARAYEV Alexandr Alexandrovich @ PARAYEV @ PARAYEV @ PARAYEV @ FOMINEN.	G. 1736.
ZAITSKY Fedor.	G.1737.
ZAITSOVA Alexandra Fedorovna.	G.1738.
STALDMAN Richard @ STEWART	G.1739.
ROSSI Maria Maddalena.	G.1740.
MASTICH Francisca Cornelia nee PATRIPILONY	G.1741.
WOLLENBERER Ernst Friedrich @ WOLLENBERER Anton.	G.1742.

If approved by you I should be grateful if you would very

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/ kindly

11/9 20/8/51

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kindly let me have six copies of the printed  
circular.

Brigadier W. H. Hinchley Cooke.

Copy to Commander, Special Branch, New Scotland Yard.

PM/20.

Encl.

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IMMIGRATION BRANCH,

HOME OFFICE,

PRINCETON HOUSE,

271, HIGH HOLBORN,

August, 1951. W.C.1

SC.

To the Immigration Officer:

WOLL(EN)WEBER, Ernst Friedrich or Anton

Entry for Suspect Index:

WOLL(EN)WEBER, Ernst Friedrich or Anton

'98 /N/Ge or Ru/Trades Unionist/bol/A/  
SC.Born: 29.10.98, Hannoversch, Minden. Nationality:  
German or Russian.Occupation: Employed by "Deutsche Wirtschaftskommission"  
in East Berlin. Said to be Under-Secretary of State for  
Shipping.Prominent German Communist. Was one of the key  
workers in Communist Seamen and Harbour Workers, now working  
in Berlin under Soviet auspices.Inform M.I.5 by telephone of arrival/departure and  
forward address, also information concerning visas and any  
documents of a political nature.C.P.J. RUCK  
H.M. Chief Inspector

SECRET

All Ports.

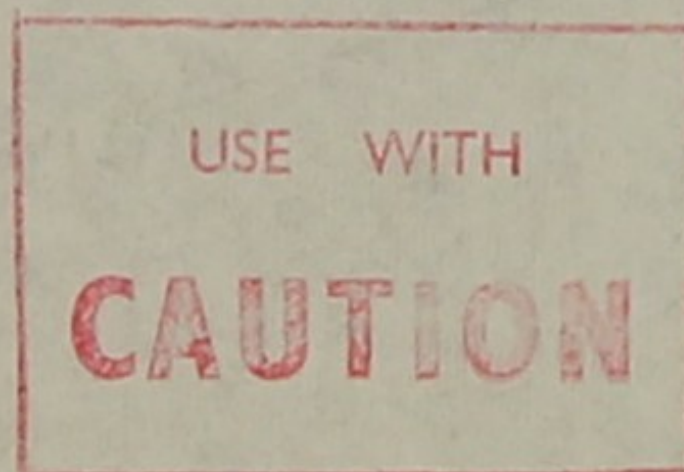


1st April, 1950.

14 APR 1950

WOLLWEBER, the German Communist, has become Head of the Navigation Dept. in the East German Ministry of Transport. Before the war he was District Secretary of the K.P.D. for Silesia in Breslau and during the war was Group Leader of the exiled German Communists in Copenhagen and later in Stockholm.

B16/290



*Handwritten:*  
24/4/50  
B16/290

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File in  
East WOLLWEBER's ff  
(2 WOLLWEBER)

*Handwritten:*  
relia  
Tobago



ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE

Report received from

on 25.7.49.

(see min. 108).

107a

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✓

27/17

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850

SUMMARY OF A REPORT  
FROM RELIABLE SOURCE.

From general confidential enquiries in Danmark the underfollowing has been ascertained:-  
In Copenhagen they are establishing ,a secret Russian organisation,which is a branch of the Moscow Politbureau, directed from Wesermunde and Swerin.

Manager of the Copenhagen Office is stated to be Lothar Theodor HOFFMANN, born at Leipzig 16.2.03 ,who is domiciled No 180 a Noerrebrogade Copenhagen. In order to camouflage his political doings, this man also is owner of an Im and Export firm called "PROSPETOR" which firm is situated at No 15 Helmskanaal Copenhagen.

From confidential enquiries about HOFFMANN it has been seen that on 30.3.49 he wrote a letter to a certain Herbert Friedrich ANDREAS, born at Hamburg 1.10.14 an editor by trade, who is domiciled at Amsterdam No 40 Rokin. The name of sender was given as "HOFFMANN c/o NIELSEN No 180 a Noerrebrogade Copenhagen". Investigators have not been able to take notice of contents of letter.

From further enquiries it appeared that H.F. ANDREAS had visited Copenhagen on 7.11.47. He called on HOFFMANN as mentioned and he visited also the Ministry of Justice, where he applied for permission for a stay in Copenhagen for about five days, in order to visit business connections, such as Poul Verner Lauritz KLINGE of 23 Grund Fvigsve Copenhagen. He visited Copenhagen again on 25.7.48 and reported with the Aliens police there, giving his address as No 26 Plantage-Middelaan Amsterdam. ANDREAS visited Mrs. Gudrun Howalt OLSEN, of No. 10, 3rd floor J.C. Brands Vej. This woman is linked up with Lothar Theodor HOFFMANN.

According to information received ANDREAS is living somewhere at the Hague and is known to be a member of an International Communist Terrorist Organisation.

All the above mentioned are seriously suspected of making pro-Russian propaganda and also of dealing with military and economical espionage, in Belgium, Danmark and Sweden. Investigations about the above meant organisations and persons begun ca six weeks ago, but no concrete facts have been found at present. One link in Germany however, is in close connection with the Communist party and supplies fresh information regularly, but yet it is difficult to give a general view re:- those secret organisations.

Alfred Emil BEIN, born 13.2.21 in Copenhagen, has been deported d.d. 23.4.49 re theft from Danmark to Germany. Before, he has been convicted to 14 months imprisonment in Sweden, re:- espionage. From that time he kept in touch with persons of the WOLLWEBER ORGANISATION, which during the occupation was called, "ANTI GERMAN TERRORIST ORGANISATION". In 1946 BEIN had been arrested by the Belgian Aliens police regarding illegal entry. He was put in detention in St. PETIT CHATEAU Brussels. There he became acquainted with Roger Frederic Rene HENTGES, born 16.1.17 Schaerbeek, a commercial agent by trade. HENTGES had been arrested concerning his pro-Russian activities, and he also had admitted to be the leader of the OD-ZARY-DO-ZERY group, which is a small section of the Russian Legation in Paris, Rue de Grinelle. BEIN, before his arrest was an agent in the pay of the Russian Intelligence group. Just before his release from prison BEIN and HENTGES had agreed that BEIN in future would work under HENTGES for the Russian Information Service.



-2-

It has further come to light that BEIN in his residence in Copenhagen in 1946 was visited by HENTGES, who then was in company of Paul Tos TULIEN LA ROCHE born 31.7.20 in Antwerp, domiciled No 144/B Lose Rue de Argile- and of Rene George TRENTZEZEAUX born 8.1.10 at Herseaux, a commercial agent by trade. Those people had been travelling between Antwerp, Brussels, Copenhagen, Oslo and Stockholm. It is also highly possible/HENTGES/that did meet the Russian YETMOFF, in Danmark as well as in Sweden. YETMOFF is said to be leader of the Russian Information Bureau SECTION WEST in Stockholm, which through YETMOFF controls SWEDEN, NORWAY, Danmark, the Western Allied Zone of Germany, The Netherlands Belgium and British controlled countries. It has however been proved that HENTGES has met YETMOFF in Brussel in September 1948 and in Milan in October 1948. HENTGES was in Danmark and in Sweden in July 1948, travelling on passport No C.O.55922 issued in Luxembourg, in the name of Robert LENZ, born 26.2.17 in Luxembourg, of Luxembourg nationality. In addition to that he also used the names of Roger HEIN, Roger CLASEN, Alfred BEIN, (probably identical with A.F.E.BEIN) as well as the name Lucks of CLAESSENS. BEIN at present is said to be working in Belgium, the Surite there fore will be notified.

A certain MARION Roger, born 29.8.06 at Paris, residing Rue de l'Echique, has been staying in the Offices of HOFFMANN in Copenhagen, Nothing about his activities however is known.

HERVIEU, Albert Gast on, born 28.7.10, residing in Sweden, Stockholm or Copenhagen. He has been suspected of military espionage and is stated to be or to have been linked up with la ROCHE mentioned before. The two brothers of HERVIEU, named Henri born 24.12.12 and George, born 16.3.09 residing in Sweden do not appear in the lists of suspects.

Max DUREAU, residing Rue Hobloun 73 Brussels, is a connection of HENTGES who uses him as a link between HENTGES and the Russian Legation in Paris. There is nothing known about his special activities in this matter.

HENTGES uses the address Avenue Voltaire at Schaerbeek near Brussels for contacting agents. The woman living there is said to be a sister in law of HENTGES and named Marvelline WOUTERS.

As leaders of the International Seamen's Help are mentioned ~~to be~~ Heinrich Hermann Johan RADDATZ born 2.3.09 Krefeld, domiciled in Herne Westphalia Germany and MULLER George born 18.9.00 or 09 at Antwerp, probably residing in Danmark. Sailors of Rhine ships are acting as couriers and are establishing contacts for the Scandinavian countries. Round about 1933 the I.S.H. was known to be a communist organisation with branch offices and links to all countries. It is understood that the illegal couriers-services are working via the I.S.H.

The names YETMOFF, R.G. TRENTZEZEAUX, - P.G. HERVIEU, - H. HERVIEU, - A.G. HERVIEU, - M. DUREAU, - M. WOUTERS, - G. MULLER do not appear in the Netherlands Card indexes.

The name MARION, appears without any christian name he is described as senator. On 7.2.48 he was a member of the C.P.B. (communist Party Belgium) "CILACE". He makes propaganda between agriculturists of the Ardennes and Marchin. It is not known whether he is identical with Roger MARION.

About HENTGES it is known that he was convicted in Belgium to 1 year and 2 months imprisonment re embezzlement committed three times. His name appears in the Belgian police blacklist.

The name RADDATZ is known (without further details) as a communist and one of the leaders of the V.V.N. (Verenig-



-3-

gung Verfolgten des Naziregime). It has not been ascertained whether this man is identical with the above mentioned H.H.J. RADDATZ.

The name LAROCK (without further details) is registered as chairman of the Congres Belgian Socialist Party, and HENRY LA ROCHE alias STEIN, born about 1922, residing at Heide near Antwerp, is a member of the White Brigade. It is not known whether LAROCK or LA ROCHE are identical with the above mentioned Poul T.J. la ROCHE.

The Hague 12.5.49.



**Secret.**

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

106a

of 8th July 1949.

B.B.  
 PF 41930

B2B 7/7

Dear Miss Bagot, 27.7.49.

Please refer to our

of 13th June 49.

now informs us that the reports referred to in our letter of above reference have turned out after investigation to be almost entirely based on the fantasy of the source. The sinking of the S.S. Kominform with all hands will therefore appear in due course in Lloyds Gazette.

Yours sincerely,

Miss M.J.E. Bagot, M.B.E.  
 M.I.5.

14.  
 H.O.16./11.46.

28/12  
 27/7

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**Secret.**

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

185a

dated 13th June, 1949.

Dear Miss Bagot, *16/6/49*

Reference your PF.41930/B.1.b./MJEB of 30th May, 1949.

*x4/3*  
*13/3*

a series of reports alleging an intelligence network operating under WOLLWEBER and HOFFMANN with its base in Warnemuende. These reports we have not bothered to pass to you as a critical analysis of them has led us to the conclusion that they were most unreliable. It is quite certain among other things that WOLLWEBER is still in Berlin and has not been away from that city for anything more than 48 hours since he took over his present post as Leiter of the Abteilung Schiffahrt in the Zentralverwaltung des Verkehrs. The reports also reeled off all the old familiar ISH names but we are satisfied that the allegations made against them have not been substantiated.

We were rather interested therefore to learn by your letter that the Danish Press has also got hold of the story, but a much more elaborate one. Our reports were confined to rather modest courier and intelligence activity in the Scandinavian countries and Northern Germany, but your report is painted on a much broader canvas; we need hardly point out the absurdities of this press account of the affair which has managed to cram nearly all the old bogies into seven paragraphs, and in any case as you rightly point out, the fact that WOLLWEBER is described as being in Poland casts doubts upon the whole affair.

However, we shall bear in mind this account of the S.S. Kominform.

"Battling through the Baltic on this mad June day,  
With a cargo of agents  
Pamphlets and armaments  
For Iceland, Palestine and the U.S.A."

we shall let you have those parts of it which have any validity.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Bagot, M.B.E.,  
M.I.5.

*25 JUN 1949*  
*BTB*  
PF 41930

H.O.16./11.46.

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SF.411/3

104a

SECRET

30th May, 1949.

SF.4193B/B.1.b/174B

Dear [redacted]

I should be grateful for your comments on the attached copy of a translation of an extract from "Dziennik Polski" dated May 10th, 1949.

According to our information Ernst WOLLMEIER works in Berlin and not Poland, and therefore the report seems improbable.

Yours sincerely,

H. J. E. Bagot

H. J. E. Bagot

HJEB/SEC

GA

SECRET

25  
Sunc 1818  
30/5/49

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Copy sent to: S.I.S.  
 Copies in: SF.413/3  
 SF.411/3

Translation from Dziennik Polski, dated 10.5.49.

*Handwritten:*  
 B.I.C. 15/49  
 from B2u/8m  
 17/5  
 103a

Under the Direction of German Communists.

A Cominform Base on the Polish Coast Sends  
 Weapons and Secret Propaganda to the United States  
 and to Scandinavia.

Copenhagen, 9.5.49.

The Danish press is discussing widely the role of Poland, as an 'assault' base of the Cominform for the Scandinavian countries and the United States. The Cominform Network in Poland calls to mind the former organisation of the Comintern's 'agentura', and is based on similar principles for work, ~~however~~ it is better organised and acts more cleverly.

The Danish press considers that the dispositional centre of the Cominform's secret net-work is on the coast, probably in Gdańsk or in Gdynia. The chief of this assault base is the German communist Ernst WOLLWEBER. Before HITLER took over the government, he was a member of the Reichstag, and after the war, during 1945 to 1948, he directed communist work from Stockholm for the whole of Scandinavia and Great Britain. In 1948, WOLLWEBER was expelled from Sweden and went to Poland.

His closest collaborator is another German communist, Karl HOFFMANN. Both these Germans are now in Poland, where they have received (Polish) nationality, and hold passports made out under Polish names.

Illegal communist 'transports' are continually leaving Gdynia for Scandinavia, ~~Iceland~~ Iceland, USA, and Palestine. By this route also a courier post is dispatched, as well as secret propaganda, weapons and Cominform agents. These transports leave in part on Polish merchant ships, and partly on cutters and trawlers of the Polish fishing fleet, working along the Norwegian and Icelandic coasts.

The smuggling of arms and propaganda materials, as well as the care given to the "exported" agents, is attended to by cells of the secret communist net-work, which, in various countries, come to the surface under cover of ordinary commercial companies, very often of a mixed character, for instance:- Norwegian - Czech, Swedish - Polish, and so on. These cells are, simultaneously, centres of Russian espionage, and collect for Russian's use not only information of a military character, but also all information concerning ~~State~~ State institutions and offices, as well as important branches of industry.

Branches of the secret communist net-works are sown through all the most important ports. The Danish press holds that the Cominform net-work possesses agents in Scandinavia and in Great Britain, placed in what ~~can~~ <sup>may</sup> be described as key positions.

Many communist agents try to get to Scandinavia by pretending to be political refugees from Poland or from other Satellite countries, and often try to awaken confidence in this role by smuggling themselves over on ships, as illegal passengers. But as a rule such agents do not remain long in Sweden or in Denmark, and after obtaining documents, depart further to the west, to the territory allotted to them on which to do communist work.



99A

Extract from Home Office file W.338. (see 74a)  
Ernst WOLLWEBER.

---

MINUTES

M.I.5.

Do you wish the circular to be maintained  
pse?

14.7.48.

*Recd. 17.7.48.*

Home Office.

We should be glad if the circular for Ernst  
WOLLWEBER @ WOLLWEBER might be maintained please.

M.I.5/PF.41930/C.4.a.  
2nd September, 1948.

(sgd) C.Laird-Clowes.

*24/1/48*  
✓

*98*  
*27/5*



Copy for Miss M.J.E. Bagot, M.I.5.

me

98a

No. 197

3 June 1948.

My dear

Your letter No. 752 of 27 January 1948 referred to the reported distribution of large quantities of printed material by the Wismar Branch of the Internal Waterways and Shipping Section of which Ernst WOLLWEBER is the Director.

Your information is supported which states that WOLLWEBER's department employed about 35 persons until the end of 1947, at which time the staff was increased. that the department employs about 60 persons including some Russians. WOLLWEBER is to be engaged in the despatch of Communist propaganda abroad, particularly to the U.S.A. how this is sent, except that it is loaded at WISMAR and ROSTOCK. This information can in my opinion be considered reliable.

You may also be interested in the attached background information on WOLLWEBER, which was prepared

In view of WOLLWEBER's past activities in connection with the I.S.H. one is tempted to speculate as to whether he might not be making use of some of the old members of this organisation. Contact between a certain number of them in Europe was reported to have been re-established after the war. And in July 1946 George MULLER of Antwerp sailed for Cuba in S.S. "Norse King", possibly, it was suggested, with the object of re-establishing contact with his brother in U.S.A.

Yours

Copy to Miss M.J.E. Bagot, M.I.5.

ENCL. 2 pages

ha 5 JUN 1948

TO

REF

PF 41930

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WEBER returned to Berlin from Moscow in March 1946. He arrived with facilities accorded to a member of the new aristocracy; a Soviet plane was put at his disposal for his flight from Moscow to Berlin, and food and transport in Berlin were immediately put at his disposal by the S.M.A. Karlshorst. At the end of March 1946 General KVASHNIN Chief of the Dept. of the S.M.A. Karlshorst, telephoned the then director of the Department of the German Central Administration Dr. HERBST, and informed him that the S.M.A. would shortly be appointing a man to his department to have the rank of Departmental Head and to be put in charge of the administration of inland waterways and harbours. This was WOLLWEBER. WOLLWEBER further informed him that the object of the appointment was to acquaint WOLLWEBER with the administrative practice of the government and that he had had many years' experience as a member of the Binnenschiffern. Dr. HERBST had not had any experience as a Government executive. Dr. HERBST therefore detailed to train him in this respect.

WOLLWEBER was found to be an awkward and unwilling pupil, who resented being taught anything in view of his high position within the party. After a few months, when Dr. HERBST saw that progress was not being made, he remonstrated with WOLLWEBER and told him that he had been instructed by KVASHNIN to train WOLLWEBER, and that this could not be helped. WOLLWEBER insisted on leaving the office in the middle of the day and was very indignant and openly told HERBST that his job as a functionary in the German Central Administration was a mere formality and that it was principally to detract attention from his more important political work, which he gave as the reason for absconding from the office. Dr. HERBST's reprimand, however, must have had some effect on WOLLWEBER's conscience, as he subsequently complained to General DRATVEN of HERBST's curious behaviour, with the result that HERBST was informed that his functions as general Director of his department would cease as from 31.12.46., and that these would be taken over by WOLLWEBER. As however HERBST was a qualified man, and both KVASHNIN and DRATVEN, head of the Landwirtschaft Department of the S.M.A., thought highly of him, he was given the post of Director of the Generalinspektion Wasserwirtschaft, which continued to handle all technical matters connected with the inland waterway department, thus conveniently relieving WOLLWEBER of some awkward work.

WOLLWEBER did not actually take over his position as Head of the Schiffahrt Department until 1st Feb. 1947. It is an open secret within the German Central Administration that WOLLWEBER was doing other things besides running this department, but no-one had any precise information as to what this activity was, except the fact that there was "political work". He is known to have made frequent trips to Wismar and Rostock. The increase in the staff of his department was also viewed with some suspicion, as other departments of the German Central Administration knew that his real work did not warrant such an increase. The Schiffahrt Department is now known in the German Central Administration as the "dangerous department", and persons who are not connected with it deem it prudent not to ask any questions. Those who have, have received unwelcome answers from the M.V.D. representatives. These are two Russian officers who appear in mufti, and for the last three months have been inhabiting

/ Room 4305 of the



Room 4305 of the German Central Administration.

WOLLWEBER's principal assistant and general confidant is Frau Maria WEISS, who is known as a fanatical Communist. She is left to look after the political affairs of the department during WOLLWEBER's absences. She is a shrewish woman of about 45 who has actually never been married, but uses the title 'Frau' to preserve a certain bourgeois dignity. She was born in Switzerland and is believed to have spent the early years of her life there. Before the war she was a secretary in the chocolate factory in Neukoeln, and during the war became secretary to the Schiffahrt Betriebesverband, which was an N.S.D.A.P. organisation. She first got into the Central German Administration as personal assistant to KEUHN in the Personnel Abteilung. In view of her present close collaboration with WOLLWEBER, it is to be presumed that she worked for the Communist Party all through the war.



**Secret.**

97a

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.  
of 3 June 1948

Dear Miss Bagot,

In view of ~~Ernst WOLLWEBER~~'s past connection with I.S.H. you may be interested in the attached report on his recent activities, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ who is different from the one mentioned above, WOLLWEBER's department employed about 35 persons until the end of 1947, at which time the staff was increased. \_\_\_\_\_ has now learned that the department employs about 60 persons including some Russians. WOLLWEBER is stated by him to be engaged in the despatch of Communist propaganda abroad, particularly to the U.S.A. He does not know how this is sent, except that it is loaded at WISMAR and ROSTOCK. This information is probably reliable.

I think Mr. Hamblys-Scales might be interested in part of the attached report.

*Yours sincerely,*

ENCL. - 2 pages.

5 JUN 1948  
B.B / B2B

REF. PF 41930

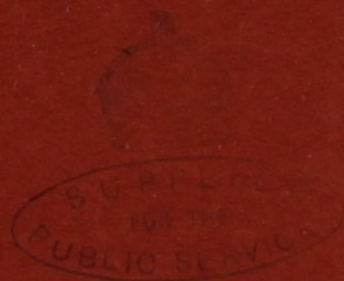
0.16./11.46.

FILED



VOLUME 1







Register No.

Minute Sheet No.

18.6.30.	Extract from M.I.1c report re WOLLENWEBER	0a. 1x
25.6.30.	Extract from Scotland House report re - 1.	0b. 1x
30.9.31.	M.I.1c report re WOLLENWEBER. (cross reference to) 2.	1a.
22.7.32.	M.I.1c report re - (Cross reference to) 3.	2a.
15.11.32.	Cross reference to M.I.1c report re - 4.	3a.
30.5.33.	Cross reference to M.I.1c re - 5.	4a.
9.6.33.	Extract from M.I.1c report re -	5a.
3.6.33.	Extract from M.I.1c report re - 6.	5b.
28.6.33.	Extract from M.I.1c report re - 7.	6a.
28.6.33.	M.I.1c report re -	7a.
13.7.33.	Cross reference to S.I.S. report re -	7b.
20.7.33.	Extract from M.I.5 report re - 8.	7c.
21.7.33.	Photograph of WOLLENWEBER. 9.	8a.
22.7.33.	To H.O. re question of circular re WOLLENWEBER. 10.	9a.
26.7.33.	Extract from M.I.1.c. report re WOLLWEBER. 11.	10a.
3.8.33.	M.I.1.c. report re Ernst WOLLWEBER @ CHRISTENSEN.	11a.
8.33.	Cross reference to M.I.1c report re -	11b.
8.33.	H.O. circular re - 12.	11x.
9.8.33.	To H.O. re - .	12 a.
	13.	
S.3.a.	To see 11x, please.	
31.8.33.		

*Incorrect Filing. (Left-hand side of File)*  
*Je C4A 31/8/51*

*6-1/5*

*J.H. 11/11/51*



14.

1.9.33. Extract from M.I.1.c. report re. WOLLWEBER.

14a.

15.

9.9.33. From H.O. reference to 9a re WOLLENWEBER.

15a.

16.

14.9.33. To H.O. in reply to 15a, enclosing 40 photograph of WOLLENWEBER.

16a.

*Incorrect fil. Left hand side of 17. File 24A 3/18/51*

~~20.9.33. H.O. circular for WOLLENWEBER.~~

17

18.

*S.9. G. H. 2/11/51*

To see 17a, please.

S.3(a).  
26.9.33.

*G. H.*

19.

3.10.33. Cross reference to WOLLENWEBER as Editor of "Rote Wacht". 1

20.

1.11.33 CX/9351/12 from S.I.S. re SCHMIDT, @ of -

2

21.

2.11.33 Cross-reference to report re - from S.I.S.

2

3.11.33. H.O. Circular re WOLLENWEBER.

21

22.

15.11.33. To M.I.1.c.

22

23.

15.11.33. To H.O. re 17a.

2

*Incorrect fil. Left hand side of 24. File 24A 3/18/51*

~~27.11.33. H.O. Circular re WOLLENWEBER.~~

25.

*S.9(a). 2/11/51*

To see 24a, please.

S.3(a).  
29.11.33.

*G. H.*

26.

29.11.33 Cross reference to O.F.2/5 regarding -

2

27.

8. 1.34. Cross reference to S.I.S. report re - .



Register No.

Minute Sheet No.

	28.	
22.2.34.	Cross-reference re - .	28a.
	29.	
8.3.34.	From H.O. in reply to 23a. re - .	29a.
	30.	
15.3.34.	To H.O. in reply to 29a.	30a.
	31.	
29.3.34.	H.O. Circular re WOLLENWEBER. <i>in H.</i>	31a.
	32.	
6.4.34	Extract re - from S.I.S. report	32a
	33.	
7.4.34	S.I.S. report re -	33a
	34.	
28.5.34.	Cross-Reference re -	34a
	35.	
14.6.34.	Cross reference from S.I.S. report re - .	35a
	36.	
20.6.34.	Cross-ref. re -	36a
21.6.34.	S.B. report re JENSEN, MELCHIOR, WOLLWEBER and FOSS.	36b.
	37.	
23.6.34.	H.O. File No. W.338 re WOLLWEBER.	37a.
25.6.34.	Cross reference to rest of - from S.I.S. report.	37b.
	38.	
26.6.34.	H.O. file as at 37a returned.	
	39.	
27.6.34.	To S.I.S sending Immigration Officers' reports re WOLLWEBER, JENSEN, FOSS and MEHCHIOR and enclosures to same.	39a.
	40.	
25.7.34.	Cross reference from O.F.2/8 re - .	40a
26.7.34	Cross-reference re -	40b
	41.	
1.8.34.	Cross reference from S.I.S. report re - .	41a