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PF153678/V1

NAMBIAR A.G.N.

PF153678/V1

SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER

Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date	Serial No	Star Designation	Date

KV2/3904

S. 960 Edn2

PF153678/V1

SECRE

No. 6862

16th March,

SWITZERLAND/INDIA

COUNTER ESPIONAGE

A.C.N. NAMBIAR

1) Subject has now obtained an Indian passport and has established a friendly relationship with the recently appointed Indian Minister in BERNE.

2) He denies having taken part in any activity on beh of the communists, although he admitted having visited MOSCOW on one occasion. He claimed to be slightly acquainted with BOSE.

3) Subject is a sick man as a result of a severe s fracture, and at present only writes an occasional for the HAZADAN House and the BOMBAY CHRONICLE. H if his health permits, to become the official corre in Switzerland of an Indian newspaper.

Hindustan Standard

SECRET

No: 6702
1 Mar 48

SWITZERLAND/INDIA
COUNTER ESPIONAGE
A.C.N. Nambiar

1. A.C.N. Nambiar arrived in Switzerland in July 1947 from GOETTINGEN, GERMANY, on the strength of his Military Exit Permit, and informed the local authorities that he wished to undergo eye treatment.

2. In October 1947 subject requested the authorities to return his Exit Permit as he needed it in order to obtain an Indian passport from the External Affairs Department in New Delhi. On this occasion he was asked a number of questions concerning his activities, and he replied that at the time he was doing nothing except undergo treatment, but he was endeavouring to obtain employment in Switzerland with the assistance of the Indian Government either as a representative of a newspaper or possibly in some official capacity on behalf of the Indian Government.

3. Subject is still living at the Limmat Quai address with a Swiss family who are known locally to have been active communists for several years although they are not registered Party members.

Eva + her sister were both Communists in Berlin

Limmatquai 80, Zurich address of Frau Walter nee Eva Geisler

We now know that a passport was issued in New Delhi on 29.9.47 bwS

Airmail No. I.P.I./..127..

2153
Rw 30/10

27th October, 1947.

S.L.O., New Delhi.

With reference to your PF/MD/19 dated 7th October, 1947, I attach (in duplicate) a note which will probably give the D.I.B. the information he has asked for.

(V.W. Smith)

for Director General.

Enclosure in duplicate.

VWS/ERW

SECRET

Ref: D.I.B.'s No.22/X.Br/45-(1)
dated 6.10.47.

27th October, 1947.

S.C. BOSE's Daughter.

There can be little doubt that A.C. NAMBIAR in his letter to A.N. BOSE is referring to the existence of an illigitimate daughter born to Subhas Chandra BOSE in Vienna towards the end of 1942 by the latter's companion and secretary Emilie SCHENKEL. There were very few Indians who were aware that BOSE had become the father of a child during his stay in Germany, but NAMBIAR was one of them. One may hazard the conjecture that the 'very prominent person' referred to by NAMBIAR is Pandit NEHRU, who undoubtedly knows the main facts, and that the 'person who has returned from Europe' is possibly N.G. GANPULEY, who was one of BOSE's co-workers in Berlin.

Mrs. Yes. I wd. add
her "he passed thro
he returned from Europe" referred
to in the letter may be
Campbell 2153

Col.

Pa Rw 30/10

I am wondering whether 21/10
destruction of records has left
D.I.B.'s office with no official
information about the birth of
Bose's daughter. Otherwise surely
we should never have been asked
to comment on Nambiar's letter.
It is for consideration whether
we should enlighten D.I.B. or
play the idiot boy.

I am inclined to reply very briefly
to the effect that Nambiar appears
to be referring to a communication
received, possibly from Pandit Nehru, enquiring
about the ~~[illegible]~~ daughter
born to S.C. Bose in Vienna in
November 1942 by his companion and
secretary Emilie Schenkel. WS
16/10

SECRET No. IPI/..1007

2153

19th October, 1948.

Rw 28/10

Foreign Office, Mr. Halford.

On 5.12.45 under our No. 6907 we forwarded to Mr. Bromley an extract from a statement made after arrest by A.C.N. NAMBIAR, Bose's one-time Minister Plenipotentiary in Berlin. After several months' detention NAMBIAR was allowed to reside at Gottingen under certain restrictions. In July, 1947, he arrived at Zurich in possession of a Military Exit Permit and informed the authorities that he wished to undergo medical treatment. (He was still suffering from the effects of a motor accident in which he was involved some months before the termination of hostilities). Soon afterwards he secured an Indian passport from the External Affairs Department in New Delhi and was thus enabled to return to India, where he arrived towards the end of June, 1948. He has now been posted to Berne as Councillor to the Indian Legation, an appointment which he undoubtedly owes to Pandit Nehru, one of his most intimate friends.

2. During his career NAMBIAR was first an active Communist and later a tool in the hands of the Nazis. He has numerous connections on the Continent and is in a position where, if so disposed, he could do damage to British interests. You probably have a copy of his dossier on record; if not, we can supply one.

V.W. Smith

SFS/IPI

for Director General.

Letter to
Mr Stobart.
Pl see whether
he is on Indexes 16
or 16 SY. Any others. No.
I think not. Rw 21/10

He is on Indexes 16.
See attached. Rw. 21/10.

Also more to KLR
to see with Ref to
Sir P's note on Spotlight
Rpd and Retd.

19/10

SECRET No. IPI/.4C.8

Qu 27/10

16th October, 1948.

[redacted]

A.C.N. NAMBIAR, last referred to in your [redacted] dated 21.5.48., returned to India by air on the 27th June. He is now back again in Switzerland as Councillor to the Indian Legation at Berne, an appointment for which he is without doubt indebted to his old friend Pandit Nehru.

V.W. Smith

for Director General.

SFS/IPI

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I.P.I./ 2697

2153

Rw 10/6

SECRET

9th June, 1948.

Copy to Home Office (Mr. Burley) for information.

C.H.C. (Miss Hanchet)

With reference to my S.P.94-4-69 dated 11th September, 1947, I attach a note about A.C.N. NAMBIAR showing that he now has a passport admitting him to the U.K.

(P.C. Bamford)

for Director General.

Enclosure.

PCB/MRW

SECRET

9th June, 1948.

A.U.M. NAMBIAR.

In February 1947 the India Office informed the Indian Military Mission in Berlin that "it is quite certain that the authorities here would object to NAMBIAR being given a British passport as this would enable him, if he wished, to take up residence in the U.K.". At that time NAMBIAR wanted to go to Switzerland and it appears that ultimately he obtained a Military Exit Permit allowing him to go to that country from Germany.

2. It has recently been learnt that NAMBIAR was permitted to enter Switzerland via Basle on 19.7.47. Subsequently he obtained from the new Government of India, a passport No. 1856 dated New Delhi, 29.9.47 for the British Empire, Europe, U.S.S.R. and various middle Eastern countries.

3. It should be noted that it was not until the 6th December 1947 that H.M.G. asked the Government of India not to grant passports admitting leading Indian collaborators into the U.K. without prior reference. The Government of India might claim that they were ignorant of H.M.G.'s wishes before they received that letter. As a matter of fact they would have known perfectly well that NAMBIAR would be persona non grata in the U.K. - but he is a personal friend of Nehru's which doubtless accounts for his passport.

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Secret.

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

9153
Rw 10/6
dated 21.5.48

I.P.I.

Sent to CRO
9.6.48.

Reference your 1763 of the 12th of April, [redacted] now reports the following details of NAMBIAR's passport:-

Number 1856, issued 29.9.47 in New Delhi, and valid till 29.9.52, for British Empire, all European countries, U.S.S.R., Turkey, Irak, Saudi Arabia, Palestine, Transjordan and Egypt. National status Indian, British subject by birth. On page one the following is written in ink at the top: "Z 272513". Entered Switzerland 19.7.47 via Basle.

Yes: explaining in the circs. the passport was issued. I wd. await reading from CRO + HO before doing anything else (2). 25/5

which shows that the Swiss did allow him in on the strength of a Permit previously issued to him by the I.M.P.

M. A.

Papers are attached.
Rw. 22/5

(S.H.H.M.)

24.

Sir P
we had further tel[illegible]
H.O.
(2) I am ascertaining if practicable from D.I.B. the terms on which a collaborator of class was granted a transit visa
1772 - 1430/21/172

0.16./11.46.

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I.P.I./ 1763

3153

SECRET Rw 10/6

12th April, 1948.

S.I.S. [redacted]

Please refer to your [redacted] dated 24.3.48 about NAMBIAR.

2. We are interested to hear that he has an Indian passport and don't know how he got it. We should much like to know its number and date and place of issue if your contact has in the future an opportunity to get this information.

(P.C. Bamford)

for Director General.

PCB/ERW

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Original on 2291.

2153
Rw 15/6

Note of an interview with

6th April, 1948.

A.C. NAMBIAR is now the official correspondent of the HINDUSTAN STANDARD in Zurich. His address is :-

Muraltohous,
Nuscheler Strasse 24,
ZURICH.

He claims to have gone to Switzerland to recover from his motor accident and rest generally.

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Secret.

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

2153
10/6

[redacted] dated 24.3.48

I.P.I.

Reference our [redacted] of 12.3.48. I attach a further report on A.C.N.NAMBIAR, the information having been supplied by the Political Section Swiss Foreigners' Police, Zurich.

H.D. Para 1
Discussions in relation
to these cases of this kind
3/4

(S.H.H.M.)
2/5.

Lt P.

It would seem that Nambiar is content to remain in Switzerland. Possibly he secured a passport at the Indian Legation.

H.O.16./11.46.

1475 - 1530/25/3/48

bss 25/3

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ACT 1958. July 2013

~~Secret.~~

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

9153
Rw 18/3
dated 12.3.48

Sending address of A.C.N. NAMBIAR when security is Switzerland.

I.P.I.

Reference your IPI/4170 of the 23rd of October, 1947. I attach a copy of a report on A.C.N. NAMBIAR received from [redacted]

Noted. Sir P.

Nambiar's file No. 2153 is attached. Rw. 16/3.

Sir P.

For information.

(S.H.H.M.) 16/3.

15/3

Where did we get the info re his A.C.N. was at the address given in Zurich (see flag)?

H.J. 16./11.46.

Ham DIB via Bombay 16/3.

1425 1030/15/3/48 Queen Slip.

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SECRET

S.L.O., New Delhi

7th October, 1947

PF/ND/13

2153
Rw 30/10

DIRECTOR GENERAL

I enclose copy of a letter from the D.I.B., No. 22/X.Br/45-(1) dated 6.10.47, enclosing a letter dated 19.8.47 from A.C. Nambiar, Switzerland, to Amiya Nath Bose, Calcutta. Any comments you may make on this letter will be appreciated.

K.M. BOURNE,
S.L.O., New Delhi.

Enclosure

KMB/MH

Please put up Nambiar's file of Miss Schenkel.
Did not Miss Schenkel write to Nehru or Sarat Bose?
Trust
16/10.
Kindly see Rw.
Kindly see Rw.
16/10.

R.v.S.
V. likely. Did we tell DIB at the time we liked their ?
14/10

Ed.V.
It seems more than possible that Nambiar is referring to S.C. Bose's liaison & the birth of a daughter. RvS 14/10

Duplicate

9153

Rw 30/10

SECRET.

No.22/X.Br/45-(1)
Intelligence Bureau,
(Ministry of Home Affairs),
Government of India,
New Delhi 3: date 6.10.47

Dear Mr. Bourne,

The attached is a letter dated the 19.8.47 from A.C.Nambier, Limmatquai 80, Zurich, Switzerland, to Amiya Nath Bose, 1 Woodburn Park, P.O.Elgin Road, Calcutta. The letter was seen during secret censorship and was passed on.

We should be grateful for your comments on the letter.

Yours sincerely,

S. Balakrishna Shetty
6/10

(S.B.Shetty).

K.M.Bourne, Esq., C.B.E.,M.C.
Security Liaison Officer,
New Delhi.

Encl: 1.

SKP.

We are not aware that Nambiar was given a passport enabling him to travel to Switzerland

WWS
14/10

SECRET.

Copy of a letter dated 19.8.47 from A.C.N. Nambiar, Limmatquai 80, Zurich, Switzerland, to Amiya Nath Bose, 1 Woodburn Park, P.O. Elgin Road, Calcutta.

.....

I wrote to you immediately after my arrival here, unfortunately I have not yet received any news, from you.

In one of my letters from here this is my third one I had occasion to refer to a matter suggesting a certain responsibility. Since then I have received a note from a very prominent person in Indian public life, asking me for a verification of a report concerning the matter, apparently supplied by a person who has returned from Europe. Good deal of the information concerned in the report is correct, though certain things are capable of lending themselves to misinterpretations. Reports of the nature have appeared also owing to a restlessness on the part of a persons concerned to whom I had repeatedly suggested patience and need of greater care in dealing with or rather in regard to the matter. The position is one suited to be complicated by the tendency of some to seek an advertisement in connection with the affairs which is eminently of a private nature. I have requested the person who has written to me to handle the matter with discretion informing and consulting in the best way your father. I hope all sensation will be avoided. I have done my duty as best as I could in this as in other matters.

As regards myself, I am trying to get a badly needed and long delayed medical treatment and to fix up my affairs as best as possible. My situation complicates and makes not easy many things. Anyway, I hope I will be able to get out of a hole and once be in a position to rest on my own feet in accordance with my wishes.

I shall be writing to you again soon. Meanwhile I hope to have some news from you.

With all good wishes.

Fol (S) 108/47.

SECRET.

Dear Stuart,

Would you please refer to your letter dated 9th December, No. 181/37/G about A. C. N. Nambiar.

It is quite certain that the authorities here would object to Nambiar's being given a British Passport as this would enable him, if he wished, to take up residence in the U.K.

We are therefore not prepared to make any recommendation to the Foreign Office on Nambiar's behalf. If, however, he wishes to return to India, authority will, of course, be given for him to be issued with an Emergency Certificate for travel to India by a specified route.

Yours sincerely,

(sd) R. N. Gilchrist.

Major-General D. Stuart, C.B., C.I.E., O.B.E.,
Chief of the Indian Military Mission,
c/o H.Q., Control Commission
Germany, (B.E.),
Berlin, B.A.O.R.

SECRET

00385

24th January, 1947.

Miss HANCHET.

I consider that there are grave objections to Mr. NAMBIAR being given a British passport. He was for many years a notorious Communist, being required to leave Germany for his activities in this connection in 1933. He afterwards resided in Prague and Paris. During the war he changed his colours, joined Subhas Bose, succeeded the latter as "Minister Plenipotentiary" and drew a high salary from the Nazis. He was in the U.K. from 1919/21 and again for a short time in 1939. He has not been in India since 1921. A summary of his career is given in Notes on Suspect Civilian Indians on the Continent of Europe (July, 1944).

2. It is quite certain that the Home Office would object to Mr. Nambiar taking up residence in the U.K. which he could quite easily do if granted a British passport. (They might even object to his being given permission to pass through here in transit to India after their recent experience with Ajit Singh). The Foreign Office, moreover, might object to his moving from Germany where at the present time he is relatively harmless, to Switzerland or other European country where, particularly as he is a journalist, he might well become a focus for anti-British activities. In any case, if the Swiss authorities are apprised of his record as they should be, they will in all probability refuse him a visa.

3. It may be argued that once the Government of India assume the power to grant at points outside India British Indian passports, they may give one to Mr. Nambiar. They would have to be reminded of what they are already aware that it would be against the wishes of H.M.G. for any of the collaborators to be given facilities to enter the U.K.

4. I suggest that the answer to the Indian Military Mission should be that H.M.G. are not prepared to grant Mr. Nambiar a passport: if he wishes to return to India, the necessary authorisation will be given for him to be provided with an Emergency Certificate for travel to India by a specified route.

SFS/I.P.I.

(On 9.1.47. I.O. referred to us their papers re Nambiar Pol(s)14/1947 re the request made to the Indian Military Mission by the G/I to arrange for the move of Nambiar to Switzerland and I.M.M. wrote to I.O. re Nambiar being given a British passport)

Col V.

28/11 D/53

The question of a passport for Nambiar has now come up for a decision. S.P.J. is placed in an equivocal position: we must know the onus of decision on the F.O.

As I look at the case F.O. would be ill-advised to grant a passport. I think the reactions of the Swiss should be ascertained in advance. If they say they will not grant a visa the G. of I. can be informed accordingly. Every effort should be made to get Nambiar back to India.

VVS
11/1

Col V.

2153

I have a shrewd
suspicion that Nambiar is
afraid to return to India.
He has enemies, and it will
not be forgotten that it was
directly
he who was responsible for
handing over Amrika Nazumdar to
the Gestapo & thereby indirectly
responsible for his death in an
air-raid at Dresden.

In returning 10. pp
1 minute cancd.

5905

25/11

F 25/11

2153

23rd November, 1946

I.P.I.

to see the attached copy of papers regarding A.C.N. NAMBIAR, which were handed to me by Mr. Ranganathan of the High Commissioner's Office.

s/ C.H.

Copy of letter from Indian Military Mission to High Commissioner's Office, London, No. 181/26/G d. 19.11.46.

Thank you for your letter of 12th November.

I enclose a copy of our latest letter to Mr. Nambiar. It is apparent that he is not anxious to go to India in spite of the fact that every help will be given by the Mission to arrange his repatriation.

We have seen the local Swiss Authorities on his behalf. No country is willing to have a person who has been a collaborator with Nazis. These facts cannot be hidden and consequently his entry into any foreign country becomes difficult. However when his application for a visa is received it will get all the necessary help from us.

Copy of letter from Indian Military Mission to A.C.N. Nambiar, Gottingen, Am Feuerschanzengraben 24, bei Gerling, No. 181/25/G dated 16.11.46.

Reference your letter dated 10th September 1946.

Inquiries have been made with the Swiss Authorities regarding your entry into Switzerland. The Swiss Authorities seemed unwilling to grant you a visa on account of your past history. If you are still desirous to go there the Mission will help as much as possible in forwarding your papers etc. to the authorities concerned. Application form for entry into Switzerland is herewith enclosed. Please send this here duly completed. As you state that for reasons of health you wish to go to Switzerland it will be necessary to provide a certificate from a qualified medical officer to support this.

It is considered advisable that you accept repatriation to India which will be the quickest way of getting you out of Germany.

Extract from enclosure to our No. 57/7 d. 12.11.46. to the I.O.
Draft letter from I.O. to I.S.B.

I should be glad if you would refer to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 215/50/3 dated the 4th November 1946 on the subject of the repatriation of British Indians from Germany.

.....

5. Of the six remaining outstanding cases (namely B.S. Chandra, Dr. K.R. Dhavan, Dr. M.L. Madan, Y.D. Naik, A.G.N. Nambiar and M.L. Vyas) it appears that there is not one who volunteers for immediate repatriation. Each either imposes certain conditions or states that he wishes to go to some other country in Europe or America. One, M.L. Vyas, a leading collaborator, has actually asked to come to the U.K., which is manifestly unthinkable. Another, Y.D. Naik, will probably never live to travel. It is also not clear whether any of the persons named will wish to travel with dependants. Until we are in a position to make some definite recommendation or express some definite intention in respect of each of these six persons, it would obviously be unfair to the Home Office to ask them to arrive at a decision. Again, the suggested endorsement on the Emergency Certificate would probably be effective in some cases, but would it deter Vyas from attempting to complete his studies at the London School of Economics? Certainly the deterrent effect would not be sufficient to prevent Nambiar from trying to make London his temporary home. He has many acquaintances in this country, both British and Indian, and when he realises that Switzerland and Allied countries are barred to him he might well endeavour to settle in the U.K., a possibility which cannot for one moment be contemplated. Hence you will appreciate our reluctance to approach the Home Office regarding Nambiar and Vyas until we are in a position to make some definite statement as to their intentions and give the Home Office some assurance that they will not subsequently have to repeat a policy of generosity.

6. After considering the matter further we are wondering whether it would be wise to try to persuade any of these six men to accept repatriation, for there can be no satisfactory guarantee that the effect of persuasion would be lasting and they would not be tempted to linger in the U.K. Would it not be better to wait until they ask for repatriation of their own free will?

.....

Extract from Notes on Conference held at I.O. on 6.11.46.

APPENDIX B

LIST OF INDIAN NATIONALS WISHING REPATRIATION, BUT WITH CONDITIONS, OR WISHING TO GO TO COUNTRIES OTHER THAN INDIA

Name	Present Location	Remarks
Chandra, B.S.	Langen	Wants to go to Paris, prior to leaving for India.
Dhawan, K.R.	Hamburg	Several conditions
....		
Ezdan, R.L., Dr.	Hamburg	Wishes to go to Vienna
Naik, Y.D.	Berlin	Seriously ill - wants to go later.
Nambiar, A.C.N.	Goettingen	Many conditions
.....		
Vyas, M.R.	Goettingen	Wishes to go U.K., Denmark or France.
.....		

Original in file 5088.

2153
4
10.8

Pol 1010/46
30th July, 1946

Sent to IPI by IO to see and to retain.

Copy of letter from Indian Military Mission to G/I, dated 24.7.46, ref. No. 138/17/G.

Subject: Bank Accounts of Indian Nationals.

1. Please refer to my letter No. 138/3/G dated 30th March, 1946, regarding the application by Allied Nationals for information on securities and monies held in German banks.

2. Mr. A.C.N. Nambiar, an Indian renegade, who has been in internment under instructions of B.A.O.R., and who has recently been released under security regulations at Gottingen, has made application for the return to him of two funds, one for the Free India Centre of RMs. 263,220, which money it is understood was originally paid to him by the German Foreign Office, and a personal account of about RMs. 40,000. Both these accounts were deposited in the Dresdner Bank in the British sector of Berlin. Several other recently interned Indian Nationals have also applied for statements of their Bank Accounts in Germany. (Present rate of exchange, RMs. 40 to one pound sterling.)

3. I have consulted the Chief of the Finance Division of the Control Commission (British Element) in relating to this particular problem and I attach hereto as Appendix 'A' a note on the result of this meeting.

4. In view of the Government of India's policy to allow all Indian Nationals, including those who were recently released from internment, to be repatriated to India, vide G.S. Branch No. 2505/198/S.D.2 dated 11th June, 1946, I foresee a considerable number of requests by these Indian Nationals for money deposited by them in German banks to be unfrozen, to enable them to provide the money required for repatriation.

5. I therefore make the following recommendations, after consultation with the Financial Division of the Advanced Headquarters of the Control Commission for Germany and ask for your confirmation on the points enumerated below:-

(1) That funds standing to the credit of:-
(a) The Free India Centre be wholly confiscated
and
(b) those Indian Nationals who it can be proved were in the pay of the German Government, similar to the case of A.C.N. Nambiar, should have 50% of the credit now standing to their account also confiscated.

(2) That confiscated funds to be available to the Indian Mission for the maintenance of Indians in Germany and such other expenditure in connection with India's Nationals as may seem deserving by the Chief of the Indian Mission.

.....

Appendix 'A'

Extract from Note by Brigadier P.K. Debenham, Chief Finance Division, British Element, Berlin, dated 17th June, 1946.

"The following information has been obtained relating to the Accounts in the Dresdner Bank, Berlin (corner of Kurfurstendamm and Leibnitz Strasse):

Free India Centre Credit Balance RM 263,220 £6580
A.C.N. Nambiar " " RM 39,680.85 £1992

All old Bank Accounts in Berlin are frozen. An Agreement has recently been reached quadripartitely whereby Accounts of United Nationals resident in Germany should be unblocked, if the only reason for their being blocked is that they are Accounts of United Nations Nationals. This Agreement will not affect the above Accounts so long as the Berlin Banks remain closed. It will affect them should they be opened.

The Funds on the Account of the Free India Centre are to all intents and purposes Party Funds and as such should be confiscated similarly to all other Party Funds. It is not thought that these funds would be available for the maintenance of Indians.

In so far as Nambiar's private account is concerned, it would appear probable that the balance of Nambiar's private Account must largely represent payments received from the enemy for his services and be subject to confiscation. Should the Account be unfrozen and still remain blocked under Law 52 Nambiar would ordinarily be entitled to withdraw up to 200 RM per month under General Licence No. 1 and therefore should not require maintenance from your Funds.

Meanwhile Military Government, British Troops Berlin, are being instructed that both the Free India Centre and A.C.N. Nambiar's Accounts should remain blocked if the instruction to unblock Accounts of United Nationa Nationals resident in Germany is received".

SECRET

2153 1715

1st April, 1946.

My dear Bromley,

I return the attached papers with the information that the writer of the letter is a German-born subject (nee Eva GEISSLER) who is now Swiss by marriage. She was for some years before the war the mistress of A.C.N. NAMBIAR, who in 1943 after BOSE's departure for the Far East became the latter's representative in Europe and held charge of the Free India Centre in Berlin. He is now held in detention in a Civilian Internment Camp in the British-occupied zone of Germany.

2. It is known that NAMBIAR wishes to establish touch with his former mistress and it may well be that Frau WALTER's letter is the result of a message which she has indirectly received from him. I do not consider that the Foreign Office need feel itself under any obligation to answer the letter, emanating as it does from an alien of enemy origin whose motives may not be free from suspicion and even if disinterested are prompted only by a past liaison.

Yours sincerely,

T.E. Bromley, Esq.,
Foreign Office.
I.P.I./JIF
Enc.

Forwarded with F.O. Minute
No. K49/GE/15 dated 28.3.46.

253

COPY

Eva W. WALTER

Zurich,
Limmatquai 80,
Tel.27579

February 18th, 1946.

To the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Indian Department,
London.

Sirs,

Kindly give me an information in the following matter:

From Austria I received the nes that Mr. Aratel Candeth Narayanan N a m b i a r has been arrested in Bad Gastein about a half year ago as co-worker of the late Sundash Chandra Bose. Mr. Nambiar was, according to informations received, brought to Braunschweig in the British Zone of occupied Germany. Since then no news of him were obtainable.

Being a long years and devoted friend of Mr. Nambiar and wanting to do everything in my power to help him in his present deplorable state, I ask you to let me know his actual whereabouts. I am the more willing to help him, as I am deeply convinced that Mr. Nambiar acted, as he did, solely as a lover of India and never in the interest of any other power.

I want to emphasise at the same time that I believe in English justice and fairness, and the help I want to give to Mr. Nambiar shall be in full accordance with English law.

Thanking you in anticipation of a soon reply,

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

(sd) EVA W. WALTER

I 110c

2153

SECRET

26th February, 1946.

Mr. SILVER
Mr. GILCHRIST

Eva WALTER (nee GEISSLER) is a former mistress of NAMBIAR. Her name and Zurich address were found on the person of one of the Indians recently released from the Civil Internment Camp at Paderborn. It was obviously intended that the latter should communicate information to her about NAMBIAR.

2. In 1942 or 1943 the late Mr. BEVAN wrote (to the India Office?) enquiring about NAMBIAR, in whom he was particularly interested. He was loth to believe certain reports which had reached him. He was informed that there could be no doubt that NAMBIAR had gone over to the enemy. Possibly he refrained from communicating this information to his daughter.

I give the above from memory. There is no reference to it on my file nor can I give even an approximate date.

3. Miss BEVAN might be informed that NAMBIAR was one of the leading collaborators in Germany but is being treated with great leniency considering the nature of his activities. She might also be informed that her late father was aware of the nature of these activities.

I.P.I./JIF
Enclosure

2153

POL (S) 246/46
20.2.46.

I.P.I.

Will you kindly advise?

R.N. Gilchrist.

Copy of letter No. K 49/GE/15 dated 18.2.46 from Foreign Office to India Office.

The enclosed letter about Mr. A.C.N. NAMBIAR has reached Mr. Arnold Toynbee from Miss Christine BEVAN, the daughter of the late Mr. Edwyn Bevan whose protege Mr. NAMBIAR was.

Miss BEVAN is anxious to know in what quarters she should apply in order to find out where Mr. NAMBIAR now is, and what if anything, she might be able to do on his behalf. She knew him personally over a number of years and is in a position to testify about him.

Mr. Bevan, besides being a distinguished scholar, made it his personal concern to befriend Indian students in London.

I should be grateful if you could let us know as soon as possible what reply we can give to the enquirer.

Copy of letter dated 14.1.46 from Eva W. Walter nee Geissler, 80 Limmatquai, Zurich, to Mr. E. Bevan.

I am coming to you to-day in a great trouble. And only your kindness which you always had shown towards Mr. NAMBIAR and which was of such immense help to him when he had been arrested by the Nazis in 1933 encourages me to write to you in the following matter:

I learnt only a few days ago, through a personal message, that N. has been arrested in Austria about 1/2 years ago. As far as I am informed he was till July/August 1945 in Braunschweig in the English zone but I guess that he meanwhile been brought to England.

I am quite aware that it is not easy to understand the reasons which had induced Mr. N. to do as he did. But, knowing him since many years as an absolute integral person, I am convinced that there must have been very convincing reasons for him to do it. In any case, I think his friends who like him personally, should not judge him, or judge him in any case not hard, the more so as he will stand before very hard judges. How it may ever be, Mr. N. needs now, more than ever, the help of his friends and he can count on my help, as small as this may be, fully. But in order to do anything for him - naming him a lawyer, sending him money or any other things he may need - and allowed to receive - I should know his exact whereabouts. I am quite aware that I am asking you a lot, but you are the only friend I know, Mr. N. has in England. Should you think it impossible to help him yourself, would you advise me please as to where I could get the information asked above. Dear Mr. Bevan, I am hoping in the deep of my heart, that you will, the same as I do, help Mr. N. as far as you can, because you will not condemn him without having heard him.

I should be deeply obliged could you let me have a cable if I can count on you or to whom I should

apply for help.

I am very grateful for everything you will do in this matter and remain

Yours very truly,

(sgd) Eva Walter.

Please be informed that I married in the meantime and that my name is now Eva Walter.

2155

TOP SECRET.

Airmail No. 99.

LONDON

5th February 1946.

My dear Smith,

I attach herewith for your information a copy of a secret report dated 5.2.46, relating to A.C.N. NAMBIAR.

Yours sincerely,

N.P.A. Smith Esq., CIE., OBE.,
Encl. 1.
LMT/IPI.

2153

TOP SECRET. 5.2.46.

A.C.N. NAMBIAR.

V.K. MENON of the India League recently received a telegram from Raghanandan SARAN, 6 Metcalfe Road, Delhi, to the effect that it was understood that NAMBIAR was being brought to the U.K. in custody from Germany and asking MENON to make adequate defence arrangements. MENON reported the text of the cable to a firm of solicitors named Cliftons, with whom he has close contact, and suggested that they should ring up Scotland Yard and the India Office for information. The suggested approaches were duly made, and on 26.1.46, the India Office replied to Messrs. Cliftons stating that NAMBIAR had not been brought to the U.K.: that his case was still under consideration by the authorities in control of the British area in Germany, but that in any event it was not proposed to bring him to trial in the U.K. On 31.1.46, MENON sent the following telegram to Raghanandan SARAN:-

"Your information appears incorrect and unlikely prove correct hereafter. However solicitors watching. Kindly inform NEHRU writing."

Original in 5088.

28.1.46.

2153.

Serial No.	Name.	
I	A.C.NAMBIAR	A.C.Nambiar, a Madrasi graduate aged 50, has been resident in Europe since 1922 and has not visited India since. He has lived for the greater part of this time in Germany. He dabbled in Communism and when the Nazis came to power, was requested to leave Germany, fleeing first to Prague and later to Paris. When the Nazis overran France he sought seclusion in the Vichy controlled area. It was not until the arrival of Subhas BOSE in Germany in 1941 that Nambiar, who had assisted BOSE when on visits to Germany prior to the war, was persuaded by him to become a collaborator. He joined the Free India Centre in Jan. 1942 and eventually became BOSE's Minister Plenipotentiary. He now realises the folly of BOSE's pretensions and has made a clean breast of all the facts within his knowledge. If Nambiar were to return to India he would be lionised as a leading patriot and sponsored by J.L.NEHRU to whom he is well known and much attracted. He would be infinitely more of a danger there than in Europe where his potentiality for harm would be restricted. It is suggested that he be released in a specified locality in the British zone (other than Berlin), reporting his movements to the appropriate authority once a week. Note: The Govt. of India have particularly asked that this man's return to India should be impeded.

BY AIR MAIL.

2153 SECRET.

Intelligence Bureau, H.D.,
Government of India.
D.O.No.SA/605(2) dated New Delhi, the 28th December 1945.

Dear I.P.I.,

Please refer to your airmail letter No.1103 dated the 28th September 1945 forwarding a copy of A.C.N.Nambiar's statement.

We have found this statement to be of considerable interest and I am directed to ask you to convey to Captain Bains our warm appreciation for this very good piece of work.

The difference between the language used in the conclusion and the statement itself is so marked that we wondered whether the latter could have been dictated by Nambiar himself; he seems to have been resigned or willing to make a full disclosure. On the other hand the improvement in language may have occurred when the original statement was being abridged.

Yes.

Yours sincerely,

I.P.I.,

I think we know the answer. Please put up our copy.

WWS

Attached.

VF 11/1.

The statement was edited by Capt. Hood, I think. The original wording was improved in the course of typing.

WWS

I think this will be obvious to D.I.B. when he reads the full manuscript.

10/1

7132

2153

SECRET

V/520

17th December, 1945.

My dear de Gale,

Please refer to your DGD/601 dated the 7th December on the subject of the ultimate disposal of the F.I.C. money recovered from Dagobert HAM and RAMBIAR. You will remember that we discussed this with Colonel Vickery and that it was decided (1) to keep the money at I.S.U. headquarters with a view to ultimate expenditure in connection with the disposal of the I.S.U. detenus, and (2) to open a separate account for this purpose.

2. As regards the money belonging to Abdul Quddus FAROQHI it was felt that ultimately we should probably have to return it to him but that it was important to make certain that he would have no claim to extra payment because of the unusual nature of the currency in which the money was held. It was agreed that this could be ascertained from him when the time came for a final settlement of his case, as he would be sure to bring up the subject himself.

3. Meanwhile a remittance should be made from the cash you hold to reimburse the consular authorities in Prague for payments made to Mrs. FAROQI. I am not quite clear in my own mind how this can best be done and will write to you again on the subject. I am advised that you will not be able to arrange it in direct communication with Prague. It will probably be necessary for you to send some of the money to me so that I may be in a position to settle the account with the Foreign Office.

Yours sincerely.

S.2153

Decipher of D.I.B. private telegram

Despatched: 11.12.45.
Received: 12.12.45.

No.347

Your telegram No.62 of the 1st ultimo. Regret delay which is unavoidable when so many interests, provincial and central, are involved. Now seems safe for us to tell you that it is most improbable that any further prosecutions will be launched in India or at instance of Government of India against civilian enemy collaborators. Likely that Government of India will request that compulsory repatriation of persons in this category shall not take place. In respect of civilian collaborators whose records justify the view that if they were in India their presence might easily add to dangers which attend civil disturbance, the Government are still considering whether they should ask for their return to India to be impeded. Short list has been prepared from Western Surrender and Collaborators' lists and is now with the Government. We will cable decision and names on list as soon as known. Government of India will be replying to Secretary of State's telegram No.26805 of the 4th instant in the very near future. Undesirable for us to initiate action on lines you suggest at this stage and best that Government of India should state their wishes about what they want done to the Secretary of State, leaving it to him to act in manner deemed best.

2. Is it possible that HABIBUR REHMAN would act as agent for us if brought back? Glad to have your views on all aspects as soon as you can give them. We have not put his name on short list put forward but have left way clear to add it if he is not going to be useful otherwise.

3. NAMBIAR's statement is an excellent piece of work. If NAMBIAR could be persuaded to work for us his potential value would be great. Do you think that there are any possibilities in this particular direction? Would not trouble you but essential in the circumstances now obtaining that we improve our intelligence by all possible means.

JIF

Original in file 4920A.

2153

DGD/601

7.12.45.

Dear Vickery,

With reference to your telephone conversation with Gill on 6.12.45 on the subject of the sum of Mks. 41,000 recovered from Dagobert RAM but admitted by the latter to belong to A.C. NAMBIAR, the attached is a copy of Capt. Warren's report regarding the recovery of this money. The money is also referred to in the Interrogation Report of Dagobert RAM by Capt. Warren in the last sentence of para. 19.

Yours sincerely,

(sd) H.O. de GALE.

In the Field
8.6.45.

I.S.U.

RECOVERED MONEY

Herewith the following amounts of money recovered from the undermentioned persons on affecting their arrest today at Worth (Austria).

Dagobert RAM	40.500 Reichmarks.
A.C. NAMBIAR	.500 "

(sd) J.L. WARREN.

Lt. Colonel de Gale reports that this money is mostly in currency notes of rather large denomination.

V.W.S. 11.12.45.

TOP SECRET

No. 1614*

5th December 1945.

2153

Mr. Silver.

I attach an extract from a statement made by NAMBIAR last month on the subject of BOSE's reasons for going to the Far East - a matter about which he was specially interrogated. It is of some interest, and you may like to read at the same time the second enclosure which is a Top Secret document that I should be grateful if you would return to me. It is pretty clear that Germany only agreed to allow BOSE to go to the Far East after they had made an arrangement with Japan whereby India came within the Japanese sphere.

I.P.I./EBP.

Encls.11.

T.S. Line is on T.S. file "R" under date 24/11/48.

Returned by L.O. 12/12/45

SECRET

6907

243

5th December 1945.

14/12/45

Foreign Office: Mr. Bromley.

I attach, for your information, an extract from a statement made in November by NAMBIAR who was the Plenipotentiary in Berlin of the Indian Quisling Subhas Chandra BOSE. NAMBIAR, when interrogated by British Intelligence authorities, made a very full and generally truthful statement.

2. You will note that the information contained in the enclosure about the division of areas between the Germans and the Japanese links up with the information given in T.S. paper on T.S. file "R" dated 24.11.45 of which you have received a copy.

I.P.I./EBP.

Encl.1.

2153

DGD/ 592

29th November 1945.

Col. Vickery.

S.C. BOSE & B. DHATTA 2928

Ref your V/493 dated 12th November 1945.

The following is a report compiled by Capt. N.S. BAINS in consequence of the requests made in paras 2 and 3 of your letter under reference;-

NAMBIAR has been questioned further regarding the antecedents of B. DHATTA @ DUTTA @ DUTT. He belonged to Calcutta proper. He was a student of engineering in the Technical University Berlin, took his diploma and worked in the A.E.S. as an apprentice. He was married to a Bengali girl in Calcutta. While in Berlin he fell in love with a German girl whom he took with him to Moscow in 1931. He did not return to India and might still be in Moscow.

A. BAHADURI of Calcutta mentioned in para 29 of NAMBIAR's statement, who returned to India in 1930 knew this DUTTA very well. A. BAHADURI had married a German girl named ARNHEIM who accompanied the former to India. Both A. BAHADURI and DUTTA were connected with M.N. ROY. NAMBIAR does not know any more details about him, nor does he know his home address or anything about his general background..

The impelling reasons that induced S.C. BOSE to go to The Far East were as follows:-

1. He felt, especially after the Japanese capture of Singapore (15/2/42) that Japan had come to be the major partner in the combination against the British. Therefore he was anxious to be closer to the Japanese H.Q. and the scene of operations - nearer to the Indian Frontier.

2. He (BOSE) was anxious to get the leadership of the Indian movement in the Far East. He definitely felt that it would be difficult to replace RASH BEHARI BOSE at a later stage, who was already inefficiently guiding the Indian movement there.

3. S.C. BOSE felt that by his being nearer to the Japanese H.Q. he could encourage the Japanese to give greater attention to the Indian question especially from the military point of view. NAMBIAR denies any knowledge as to whether the Indian Congress stalwarts like NEHRU were in communication with BOSE while the latter was in Berlin.

4. Neither the Japanese nor the Germans took the initiative, BOSE conceived the idea himself and was very keen on going. The Germans were not enthusiastic and the Japanese were indifferent at the beginning. At a later stage both OSHIMA and RIBBENTROP admitted that BOSE was a shrewed politician. He (BOSE) impressed OSHIMA very much with his idea of going to The Far East and the latter strongly put his weight in favour of BOSE's going there. At the beginning S.C. BOSE could not prevail upon the German-Japanese plans of dividing the spoils in India, which were in the melting pot on the "Pakistan" issue

/page 2.

i.e. the voyage

i.e. having India as a Muslim State under the German domination from North India including Kabul and the N.W.F.P. to the extreme southern end of the Punjab, and for this purpose the Germans were keeping the Grand Mufti in their hands. It was only after a keen struggle that BOSE's efforts swung the pendulum to the other side and the German politicians had to withdraw the so-called "Pakistan" scheme. It had also the support of the German General BANSAL who knew General TOJO. The consent from Tokio came after some time and in the meantime OSHIMA talked to RIBBENTROP in order to avoid the possibility of the Germans placing any difficulty in the way. Even before his meeting with HITLER (29-5-42) BOSE had conceived the idea of going to The Far East. As soon as Japan entered the war he had decided to go to Japan. Whether he had prior to his disappearance from India, negotiated with the Japanese on this issue, is not known to NAMBIAR. At this juncture (Feb 43) the Germans thought that BOSE by being in The Far East would be helping the German cause indirectly by creating more trouble for the British in that theatre of operations.

5. BOSE was still hopeful of Germany winning the war in the West and the fact that Germany was beginning to lose the war there had nothing to do with his departure for the Far East.

NSB/AS

Major,
Indian Security Unit.

Yes. Col V. 4/12

The second part of this report will be communicated to I.O. DIB SIS → F.O.

4/12

I have dealt with I.O + F.O.

DCD/583

Indian Security Unit.

20 Nov 45.

2153

Col. P.C. Vickery, CIE, OBE.

Add. JF 26/11.

Reference your V/493 dated 12 Nov 45.

It is regretted that no extra copies of the typed portion of Capt Bains manuscript are held in this office.

With reference to paras 2 and 3 of your above quoted letter, Capt Bains will question NAMBIAR on these matters on his return from leave.

H.D. Sandale. Lt. Col.
Commanding Indian Security Unit.

EL

Col V. — will you kindly indicate which paragraphs you want copied?

Thanks.
26/11

6400

SECRET

V/493 253

12th November, 1945.

My dear de Gale,

The first 73 typed pages (equivalent to 122 manuscript pages) of Captain Bains' manuscript of the full statement of NAMBIAR sent across by you are in typescript. We would very much like to know if you have a spare copy of this typed portion of the full statement. If so, will you kindly send it over.

2. We should be grateful if you could ascertain from NAMBIAR further particulars about the Bengali, B. DHATTA (Bhupathi), who was mentioned in paragraph 29. Please ask him to supply every detail he remembers about him, his home address and his general background.

3. Will you also please ascertain from NAMBIAR what was the impelling reason which induced BOSE to go to the Far East, and whether the idea originated in his own mind without any encouragement from the Germans or the Japanese. Had the fact that Germany was beginning to lose the war in the west anything to do with it?

Yours sincerely,

Lieut.-Colonel H.O. de Gale, C.I.E.

JIF

2153.

Extract from Camp 020 Interim Report on the Case of Harald Willibald KIRFEL, minuted to I.P.I. via the War Room on 7.11.45.

Relationship between the Soviet Union and India

Kirfel had numerous discussions with the Indian, NAMBIAR, and his associates on the future of India and gives their views as follows:-

> The days of British rule in India are numbered. England has got to give the Indian people their promised freedom. Japanese tutelage would be resisted, even though Free India would be grateful to the Japanese for any help given them in their fight for freedom. It only remains a question as to whether India will become a sphere of interest, or even, perhaps, a sovereign state, of the Soviet Union. The influence of Bolshevist ideology in India is already very strong indeed, and in the event of a Soviet victory would gain considerably in strength. Many millions of Indians are Bolshevists who would welcome an advance of the Red Army through the Khaibur Pass.

In April 1945, Kirfel received, through NAMBIAR, knowledge of the context of a telegram from BOSE to NAMBIAR. This read as follows:-

> "Indian Legionaries must in no circumstance fall into Anglo-American hands without a struggle. If possible, the Legion is to play into Soviet-Russian hands as there is the possibility that the Legion can be further employed, from Moscow, in India's fight for freedom."

Furthermore, NAMBIAR himself stated that, whatever the circumstances, in the case of a German collapse he would try to reach the Russian lines.

2183.

Extract from Camp 020 Interim Report on the Case of Harald Willibald KIRFEL, minuted to I.P.I. via the War Room on 7.11.45.

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135. NAMBIAR.

Indian. Held the position of Minister of State (Staatsminister) as BOSE's representative in Germany. Believed in accepting assistance from Japan and Russia in order to throw off British rule in India. On BOSE's instructions he ordered the Free Indian Legionnaires to surrender to the Russians rather than to the Western Allies. Friend of Germany and the Soviet Union. Strongly opposed to Gestapo methods. Always tried to be objective in his political opinions. Likeable, friendly, quiet and modest. An idealist.

Secret.

In reply, state NUMBER and DATE.

2153

dated 23.10.45.

I.P.I.

Many thanks for your No. 5599 of 28.9.45. enclosing NAMBIAR's statement.

We have taken certain extracts and return the statement herewith.

for S.H.H.M.

20/9

THIS IS A COPY
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS
ACT 1958. July 2013

Mr Gibson M/10 Sir D. Monteath
Mr Donaldson (from 16th onwards) 11.X see paras 164, 165
Mr Patrick (Away till 8th Oct.) M 10.X
Sir C. Kirch

P. (S.) 1875 1945

5609

2153

SECRET

29th September, 1945.

Mr. SILVER

The interrogation of A.C.N. NAMBIAR, lasting five weeks, has been very thorough, and the Indian Security Unit officer who conducted the interrogation, Captain Maurang Singh Bains of Section Z, C.S.D.I.C. (India), is to be commended for an excellent piece of work. The full statement - an unwieldy manuscript - has been reduced to reasonable proportions and a copy is attached. Will you kindly return it in due course.

2. NAMBIAR of course has only a few things to tell us that we do not already know, but he has been able to supply interesting confirmation of some matters which had become previously known to us only from very secret sources. He has also given a very full account of BOSE's movements and actions up to the time of his departure for the Far East in 1943.

3. The report is too long to be read in its entirety, but I think that the following paragraphs will repay perusal:-

Paragraphs

36-42	NAMBIAR is approached by BOSE and after much indecision goes to Berlin.
44	Oath of allegiance to BOSE.
47	Founding of the INDIAN LEGION (also see paragraphs 66-68).
56	Starting of 'CONGRESS' and 'AZAD MUSLIM' radio stations.
58	BOSE's satisfaction with AZAD HIND transmissions.
62	'AZAD HIND' magazine.
67	Germans and Italians confer about Indian prisoners of war.
72.	Difficulties in the INDIAN LEGION.
77	Formation of a Special Police Group (also paras. 84-87).
78, 79	Plans for a Navy and Air Force.
82, 76	Departure of the SWAMI SABOTAGE GROUP.
89-93	Unrest in the Legion.
94	Legion medals (also para. 118).
96	Punishments in the Legion.
100-103	The Legion is transferred to France, but morale continues to fall.
106	Transfer of the Legion to the SS
121-122	Frau von HARBOU.
126	Interesting reference to Dr. ABDUL HAFIZ.
128	BOSE's Planning Committee.
130	Confirmation that BOSE went first to Rome before going on to Berlin.
134-135	Use made of former German missionaries in India.
137-139	Discipline in the Free India Centre deteriorates.
141, 142	Special facilities for the members of the Free India Centre.
144	German interest declines.
154, 155	BOSE's relations with SHEDAI (also para. 160 and 171).
157, 158	BOSE's meeting with Hitler.
160, 168, 169, 171.	BOSE's proposed flight to the Far East in an Italian aeroplane.
164, 165	BOSE's account of his escape from India showing that the Russians knew who he was when they allowed him to travel to Germany.
173	BOSE's child is born.
177, 178	BOSE leaves by submarine.
193-196	NAMBIAR's account of the R.K. set-up.
201	AZAD HIND passports.

I.P.I./JIF
Enclosure.

5599

2153

SECRET

28th September, 1945.

My dear

I attach a copy of the statement made by A.C.N. NAMBIAR, BOSE's representative in Berlin. As I have no spare copy available I should be glad if you would kindly return it after taking any extracts which you may require. Appendix 'A' is not forwarded as it relates to the pre-war activities of NAMBIAR and contains nothing that we do not already know. Appendix 'B', however, gives brief sketches of persons connected with the FREE INDIA CENTRE, including a number of Germans in whom you will be interested. The statement is largely a repetition of what you have already read in the statement made by M.L. VYAS, but there are a few items of additional information which confirm what had hitherto been known to us only from very secret sources.

2. I would draw your attention to the following paragraphs:-

Paragraph 52: Broadcasts intended to cause confusion in India.
Paragraph 71: Reference to LENZ.
Paragraphs 76, 81, 82, 83: Departure of the SWAMI Submarine Group. Special reference to RUPARTI.
Paragraph 86: Reference to Dr. OGILVIE (see also page 13 of Appendix 'B').
Paragraph 122: Reference to SAMANTH's departure for Lisbon.
Paragraphs 126, 127: Interesting reference to Dr ABDUL HAFIZ and a son HARID or HARIF.
Paragraph 130: The opening words show that BOSE went first to Rome before establishing his headquarters in Berlin.
Paragraphs 154, 155, 160, 171: BOSE's relations with SHEDAI far from cordial.
Paragraphs 160, 168, 169, 171: Proposal that BOSE should fly to the Far East in an Italian aeroplane.
Paragraph 164, 165: BOSE's account of his escape from India.
Paragraph 172: Colonel YAMAMOTO returns to the Far East to work with BOSE (see also page 14 of Appendix 'B').
Paragraph 173: BOSE becomes a father.
Paragraph 174: References to two Tunisian Arabs, ABDUL QADER and IBRAHIM HAFIZ.
Paragraphs 177, 178: BOSE leaves by submarine.
Paragraph 190: Message received by BOSE through the German Foreign Office.
Paragraph 191: Interesting references to KENI's activities in Lisbon.
Paragraph 193, 196: NAMBIAR's account of the R.K. set-up.
See also pages 15, 16 and 17 of Appendix 'B' for interesting accounts of GHULAM SIDDIQ and the GRAND MUFTI.

Yours sincerely,

THIS IS A COPY
ORIGINAL DOCUMENT RETAINED
IN DEPARTMENT UNDER SECTION
3 (4) OF THE PUBLIC RECORDS
ACT 1958. July 2013

I.P.I./JIF
Enclosure.

2453

SECRET

AIRMAIL No. 1103

LONDON

28th September, 1945.

My dear Smith,

I enclose a copy of the statement of A.C.N. NAMBIAR, together with two Appendices, one relating to NAMBIAR's activities in Europe prior to the outbreak of war, the other containing some particulars of persons connected with the Free India Centre.

2. The interrogation of NAMBIAR was conducted by Captain Naurang Singh Bains of the Indian Security Unit, whose full manuscript report is in my possession and will be forwarded to you after it has been examined in this office. The statement which is now being sent is in an abridged form and excludes many facts which are now common knowledge. Even so, its length is considerable, though well worth careful perusal.

3. I think you will agree that Captain Bains deserves great credit for so successfully carrying out a very important interrogation.

Yours sincerely,

N.P.A. Smith, Esq., C.I.E., O.B.E.

I.P.I./JIF

Enclosure.

2153

5578

SECRET

V/451

27th September, 1945.

My dear de Gale,

We have duly received the four copies of NAMBIAR's statement and would like to thank all those who have had a hand in the preparation of this important document. We feel that particular credit is due to Captain Bains for so ably and so patiently interrogating NAMBIAR over a long period and for inducing him to give such a full account of the activities of BOSE and the members of the Free India Centre.

Yours sincerely,

Lieut.-Colonel H.O. de Gale, C.I.E.

JIF

DGD/ 444 2153

17th September, 1945.

Colonel Vickery.

SUBJECT: Corrigendum

Reference Statement of NAMBIAR para. 40, line 6, for 'Ebb' read 'Flood' !

22/9

Capt.
Indian Security Unit.

Colonel P.C.VICKERY, C.I.E., O.B.E.

DGD/442 2153

17th September, 1945.

Colonel Vickery.

1k file
2153B.

I enclose Captain Bains' original manuscript Interrogation Report on A.C.NAMBIAR.

WWS 22/9

Capt.
Indian Security Unit.

Colonel P.C.VICKERY, C.I.E., O.B.E.

Enclosure

Col. Smith.

The necessary extracts have been taken. Should this now go to the DIB?

VR.

16/7/46.

The situation has so changed that D.I.B. would probably prefer not to have it. We will hang on to it. VRS 25/7

Ft Gts

Pl have copies made for files
+ a space for me of

1 Paras ✓9 – 12 inclusive
✓26
✓29 first 11 lines

2 Pages ✓206/208
re Dr Abdul Hafiz

Not necessary

I have not read the statement
in full + so may have
not in Pol. have copies of
other pages : I presume we
have copies of those other
personalities – eg. Stephens –
at the end of the statement.

28/11/05

Yes

BWS
30/11

Pages 9 – 12 inclusive 17

26

29 fin 11 lines
(B. Delta 15 h
indexed)

pp 206/208 Br Rose
Harper

Q

1 Bs Delt

2 Re Bos ∈

In file 2153B.

Col. V.

This is the full manuscript report on Nambiar. It will go to D.I.B., but you may first care to glance at the following paragraphs:—

Para. 8. 9. Bhattacharyaya.

" 12, 13 & 14. "

" 14, 15, 16. Nambiar.

" 20 League against Imperialism.

" 22, 28. Indian Congress Bureau.

" 23, 24. Nambiar's visit to Moscow.

" 29. M. N. Roy & students.

" 31. D. N. Banerji.

" 36. Bose's contacts in Berlin (1933).

" 41, 45. Bose & Mussolini.

" 46. Nehru.

" 47. Nambiar in Prague.

" 67. Indian Legion (pp. 60-62).

pp. 257, 257 Shedai's speech. Reference to Arnaldo Mussolini.

pp. 260, 261. Amanullah. Shedai.

pp. 271, 272. Shedai is influential.

pp. 277, 278. Bose's escape from India.

COPY TO I.P.I.

pp. 289, 290. Bosés liaison with Schenkel. Nambiar was under the impression that Bose would drift back to Schenkel now that his mission had failed. (Bosés reported death was later.)

Ves S

8/11

DGD/441 2153

I7th September, I945.

Colonel Vickery.

I enclose two copies of Captain Bains' Interrogation Report on A.C.NAMBIAR.

bwb
23/9

Indian Security Unit.

Colonel P.C.Vickery, C.I.E., O.B.E.

2 Enclosures.

fr Col S

Unless you want us to do anything with this, I propose to keep it with me in case we have occasion to "write up" past history.

29/11

Col V.

Presumably there is nothing new in this. It makes dull reading.

It is Capt. Bains' account of Namaian Indian connections in Europe in the pre-war years.

WS.

27/9

Col V.

This is not wanted by me

Keep in Namaian file

24/6.

WS

30/11

Namier's statement

Para 34 Who & where is Swami Siddeshwaranandz ?

S. of France

Para 54 Do we know where about Italian register of Italian Siddhis is ? What do we intend to do about him ?

No.
We can only interrogate if found.

Para 109 Is it correct that 3 Indian Legionaries were decorated for gallantry ?

Yes.

Para 173 Bose's child. Should this not make cross publicity ?

Too late.

~~Para 85 Diaries~~

Ref. Indexed as marked by Col. S.

I presume that all Germans will be carefully indexed.

Pl consider whether the War Room should be informed & the authorities of any further steps.

28/8/45

NAMBIAR [illegible]

Paragraph 128. Who are DAS GUPTA, G. BOSE of Brunswick, GHOSE of Dharmstedt?

Paragraph 133. Put up BOFINGER interrogation report.

Paragraph 151. Copy paras re F.I.C. finance and put up Bank Statement of NAMBIAR.

Paragraph 190. Copy.

Page 5 Appendix 'B'. Do we know da COSTA?

Para 128. DAS GUPTA = No record.
G. Bose of Brunswick = No record. = Germany Desk to see
GHOSE - cannot identify.
Para. 133 O/C only reference to Bofinger is attd
Para 151 F.I.C. Finance exhs & other papers attd.
Para. 190 Copy attd.
P.S. App. B. No record under "da Costa" but slip file 4326 attd. for reference under his alias of Surendra Nath Kanneji

VF 29/9.

Report cleared

2153

2.7.46
M.H.

DGD/440

I7th September, I945.

Colonel Vickery.

I enclose two copies of Captain Bains' Interrogation Report on A.C.NAMBIAR.

Indian Security Unit.

2 Enclosures.

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INTRODUCTORY TO STATEMENT OF A.C.N.NAMBIAR.

I. The interrogation of NAMBIAR confronted the interrogator with many problems, the chief amongst them being how to obtain all the necessary information and at the same time prevent the statement from becoming too unwieldy.

2. The interrogation proper lasted for five weeks, and it was then obvious that a condensed report would have to be prepared from the original statement, which the interrogator had purposely made very complete and detailed.

3. The attached report is the abridged version of the original, and although many details contained in the original have been omitted, it is believed that all the essential points of the statement have been reproduced. In case it is required to know certain points in more detail than has been given here, the original manuscript statement is also forwarded.

4. Even this condensed report is far longer than the normal interrogation report, and it was considered useful to preface it by the following synopsis:-

Paras	I - 7	NAMBIAR's early life until his emigration to Berlin in I924.
''	8 - I9	His early days in Berlin as a journalist; his contacts with CHATTOPADHAYAYA and M.N.ROY; his opening of the Congress Bureau on behalf of NEHRU, and his connections with the 'League Against Imperialism'.
''	20 - 25	NAMBIAR expelled from Germany in I933 and his contacts with S.C.BOSE and NEHRU whilst in Prague.
''	26 - 3I	NAMBIAR's Indian acquaintances in Prague, his journalistic and other activities there I933-39.
''	32 - 35	NAMBIAR's flight from Czechoslovakia to France and his stay in France up to Aug. '4I.
''	36 - 43	The repeated efforts of S.C.BOSE to enlist NAMBIAR in his subversive activities.
''	44 - 48	NAMBIAR's early days in the F.I.C. office, including his reception in Berlin, and the farewell party to the first Legionaries for Frankenberg.
''	49 - 60	A history of the F.I.C. broadcasting activities with details of the work undertaken by different individuals.

IMPORTANT NOTE.

A.G.N. NAMBIAR.

The subject of this file, arrested in 1945 by the British for collaborating with the enemy and quite expecting to be executed as a result of such activity, is now, nearly ten years later, being elevated to the post of Indian Ambassador in Western Germany. Before this volume is destroyed careful consideration should be given to the question whether his Interrogation Report in this volume is not too valuable to be discarded. It is the only copy on record. The Indian Government is engaged in the preparation of a national history and it may be taken for granted that S.C. BOSE and A.C.N. NAMBIAR will be presented as national heroes. Material on this file may serve to correct the distortions which will inevitably be present in any history composed by Indians who do not have access to all available information on the subject (e.g. NAMBIAR's infatuation with Mrs. NIEDERMEIER, as disclosed by M. R. L. VYAS, an extract from whose statement opens this volume.)

V. W. Smith

E.2.
19.4.55.

Paras	62 - 65	The 'Azad Hind' magazine and other publications in India.
"	66 - 120	A history of the Free Indian Legion as known to NAMBIAR giving:- its formation by BOSE and the Germans; its development at Frankenberg and Koenigsbrueck; and the establishment of the Meseritz group (66-74); NAMBIAR's visits to the Legion and to Meseritz before BOSE's departure to the Far East (75); BOSE's schemes for the first sabotage group (76); for the police group (77); and for training men in other organisations (78-80); BOSE's instructions to NAMBIAR regarding the Legion (81); a history of the two sabotage groups and the Police group (82-87); the transfer to Holland (89-93); medals (94); incidents of ill-discipline (96); the transfer to France and NAMBIAR's visit to Lacanau (100-102); 9 Coy in Italy, JAMIL's propaganda group, and the BHAI BAND Radio (103-105); the transfer to the Waffen SS and proposed change in command (106,108,110,113 & 115); the last contacts between the F.I.C. and the Legion in early '45 (117-119); and Indian civilians in the Legion (120).
"	121 - 122	The activities of Frau Von HARNOU.
"	123 - 125	The F.I.C. lecturers, journalists etc.
"	126 - 129	The Planning Committee.
"	130 - 132	F.I.C.'s connections with the German Foreign Office.
"	133 - 136	" " " " RMG and the Propaganda Ministry.
"	137 - 140	Personal relationship of individuals in the F.I.C.
"	141 - 144	An account of official German interest in the F.I.C. as shown in the Sonderreferat Indien.
"	145 - 149	The last days of the F.I.C. from Jan - May 1945.
"	150 - 152	Finances of the F.I.C.
"	153 - 179	BOSE's journies in Europe and contacts with European politicians from Jan. 42 to Feb. 43; including his contacts with SHEDAI (154-156: 160: & 171); and his plans to leave for the Far East (160: 162: 168-169: 171-172: 177-179).
"	180 - 183	F.I.C. branches in Rome and Paris.
"	184 - 192	Communications between NAMBIAR and BOSE in the Far East.
"	193 - 196	The secret transmitting station 'Mary' in Afghanistan.
"	197 - 200	Repercussions in Berlin of the formation of the Provisional Government.
Appx. 'A'		An outline of subversive activities of Indians in Europe prior to the outbreak of war.
Appx. 'B'		Personalia connected with the F.I.C.

STATEMENT OF A.C.N.NAMBIAR.

Name : Arathil Candeth Narayanan NAMBIAR
s/o : Roman NAYNAR
Caste : Nair
Village : Kadiroor, Nr. Telicherry, North Malabar, Madras, India.

I was born on 15th June, 1898. My father died in 1915 and my mother in 1924. I have two brothers, GOPAL NAMBIAR and BALAKRISHNA, both of whom were looking after land in the village. GOPAL NAMBIAR was also a Captain in the Reserve Volunteer Corps in Malabar. I have three sisters: my elder sister, Madhvi married GOPAL NAMBIAR, Deputy Collector in Tanjore District; my second sister, Narain was married to RAMAN NAYNAR in the village; and my third sister, Lakshmi was married to a lawyer whose name I do not remember. I was married to Suhsni CHATTOPADHAYAYA, the younger sister of Sarajni NAIDU in September 1917. She came to England in 1920, going first to Oxford, and then to London, and subsequently came with me to Berlin in 1924. Towards the end of 1925 she left for India and returned to Berlin in 1927. Having again returned to India in 1929, she applied for a divorce, which was granted in December 1936, by the Madras High Court.

EARLY HISTORY.

2. After passing my B.A., Ll.D., at Madras University, I proceeded to the U.K. to study Economics, arriving there in October 1919. I had obtained a passport from the Madras Presidency which was confiscated by the Germans in 1933. A new passport was issued to me on 31st March, 1933. I do not remember the number of either. The second passport was burned on 20.II.43 at Sophienstrasse, 6, Berlin, as a result of an R.A.F. bombing attack.

STUDENT CAREER IN LONDON.

3. I joined the London School of Economics in 1919, but left after three months, and was later admitted to the London Day Training College. After one year and two months, I took a teacher's diploma, and also taught in two London schools.

RETURN TO INDIA.

4. In February 1921, I returned to India, having decided on the advice

of my friends to take up the teaching profession there. I met Sir A.M. STATHAM, the then Deputy Director of Public Instruction in Madras, who offered me a post as teacher in a school at Coimbatore.

NAMBIAR SWITCHES OVER TO BUSINESS.

5. In the meantime SHANKER IYER, a leading business man in Madras, announced that he wanted a representative for his firm, the ORIENT TRADING COY., in London, and asked me to accept the job, with a salary of £50 per month.

RETURN TO U.K.

6. Accordingly, I left India in October 1921, after passing a necessary apprentice's course in the ORIENT TRADING COY., at Madras. I worked as representative of the above firm in London up to May 1923, but in June of that year, I heard that the Coy. in Marseilles had sustained heavy losses in ground rents and that they had had to wind up their business. I discussed the matter with Professor BEVAN in London. He advanced me some money to tide me over my immediate difficulties and I lived in London for another year, hardly able to make both ends meet. I was advised to return to India and take up teaching again, and Professor BEVAN promised to talk to Lord PENTLAND, who had just retired as Governor of Madras. I met Lord PENTLAND, who promised to assist me, but foolishly I did not avail myself of this opportunity.

NAMBIAR TAKES UP JOURNALISM.

7. In the meantime, JAYASURAYA NAIDU, s/o SARAJNI NAIDU, who was staying in Berlin, arrived in London. I told him of my circumstances and he advised me to go to Berlin, where I could try my hand at independent journalism, and where moreover the cost of living was not so high as in London. He also told me that there was a group of Indians in Berlin at that time, contemplating the foundation of a 'Trade Magazine', which might furnish me with opportunities for journalism.

NAMBIAR GOES TO GERMANY.

8. I accepted the advice of NAIDU. He returned to Berlin and I followed three months later, arriving there in April 1924. In Berlin I met two Indian business men:-

1. N.G.GANFULEY
2. TALWALKAR (now in Bombay)

who were engaged in the export trade in bicycles, unbreakable slate-paper and machinery. I also met VIRENDRA NATH CHATTOPADHAYAYA, my brother-in-law, and I was introduced to his wife Agnes SMEDLEY.

(Comment: an account of the subversive activities of CHATTOPADHAYAYA is attached to this report as Appendix 'A'.)

At this period CHATTOPADHAYAYA was still in his 'anarchist' period, but was already inclining towards Russia, and the Communist programme. His arguments appealed to me and won me over to his views, and I began to take a keen interest in the programmes of both anarchists and communists.

9. During my early days in Berlin I met the following Indians:-

1. CHAMPKE RAMAN PILLAI (dead)
2. BHUPENDRA NATHAN Dutt. (In Calcutta connected with Trade Unions).
3. BANAIK SARKAR (In Calcutta)
4. DHIWAN SARKAR (dead)
5. ABDUL HAFIZ (In Turkey with the Arsenal Factory)
6. SHAHID SHUHRAVARDHY
7. TRIMULA ACHARYA
8. VARMA (Nagpur)

and also quite a number of students, most prominent amongst them being:-

1. ZAQU HUSSAIN (President of Muslim National University)
2. ABID HUSSAIN (Professor in Delhi)

NAMBIAR TAKES UP JOURNALISM.

10. CHATTOPADHAYAYA and GANFULEY had told me that they intended to start an Indo-German Trade review. I started working for this review, and simultaneously started to learn German. I wrote to chief editor RANGA SWAMI of the 'Hindu' published in Madras, and in reply to my letter he offered me the terms of one pound per article. In six months four issues of Indo-German Trade Review appeared but eventually it was discontinued, as it did not prove a paying proposition.

I also started giving English lessons to various Germans and

translated articles from German into English. CHATTOPADHAYAYA also gave several articles on anarchism which I used to scrutinize for him. These articles interested me and gave me a different point of view; they were published in all languages in pamphlet form.

II. From April to October 1924, I lived with CHATTOPADHAYAYA and remained in close contact with his political ideas and activities. I was very impressed by his ideas, but it was obvious that there was at that time little scope for real political activity for him. I continued to study the anarchist theories, but eventually found a greater attraction in the Marxist doctrine.

12. In 1926 I became correspondent for the 'Calcutta 'Forward' with a salary of £6 per month, which raised my total monthly income to 250 RM from my journalism, plus 250 RM from giving English lessons to Germans. In 1927 I also became correspondent for the 'Daily Mail' of Bombay and for the 'People' of Lahore, so that I could afford to discontinue my English lessons.

13. By now CHATTOPADHAYAYA had become an ardent Communist and as I too had written some articles expressing my faith in communism and Russia, M.N.ROY contacted us both with a view to enlisting our help in his activities. A suggestion was made that I should go to India to open a chain of socialist book-shops and publishing houses, but the financial support which ROY hoped to obtain from Russia was not forthcoming, and the idea was dropped. In February 1928 I attended the first conference of the 'League Against Imperialism' in Brussels, and met NEHRU and the other Indian delegates.

THE CONGRESS BUREAU IN BERLIN.

14. When NEHRU visited Berlin after the Brussels conference, he suggested that I should open a Congress Bureau in Berlin to assist Indian students who wished to study in industry and technical subjects. In Feb. ~~1930~~ 1929, I heard from NEHRU that the plan had been sanctioned by the Indian National Congress, and that I was to receive £30 per month for the management and expenses of the Bureau. I first opened an office at 52, Mauzerstrasse, Berlin, and employed a secretary, Frl. GEISSLER, who remained with me

until the end of I93I. The aims and objects of the Bureau were:-

1. To place Indian students in factories.
2. To supply information about educational facilities (especially on technical subjects) in Germany.
3. To help Indian students to get admission to Universities, Technical Colleges and Schools.
4. To try to maintain the Indian National Congress outlook in the Indian students generally during their stay in Germany. Fixing up rooms, arranging for German classes, holidays, etc.

I5. After the Bureau was opened, CHATTOPADHAYAYA tried persistently to bring it under control of the 'League Against Imperialism', but I would not agree to this, and eventually he gave up the attempt. In addition to the help received from Congress, I was also given valuable support in this work by the German Ministry of Education.

VISIT TO MOSCOW.

I6. In July 1929, I accompanied SRI NIWAZ IYENGER, ex-President of Congress, to Moscow, and was present at his interviews with Madame KAMENEVA, the secretary of VOKS and sister of TROTSKY; LUNACHARSKY, Minister of Education; KARAKHAN, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs; BUCHARIN, President of the Communist International; and STALIN. Most of these interviews were arranged for us by SURENDRA NATH TAGORE, nephew of the late Sir RABINDRA NATH TAGORE, then studying at Lenin University.

I7. Also in I929, I was approached by MENKES of the TASS AGENCY in Moscow, who wanted me to supply him with news about India to supplement that which he was receiving from London newspapers. I accepted his offer of 20 RM a month, but this was later raised to 25 RM, to cover my expenses in obtaining Indian newspapers. I based my news items on the following papers:-

1. 'Hindu' Madras.
2. 'Statesman' Calcutta.
3. 'Tribune' Lahore.
4. 'Bombay Chronicle'
5. 'Indian Trade in Germany'
6. 'Capital' Calcutta.
7. 'The Indian Textile Journal' Bombay.

I continued supplying news to the TASS AGENCY until the end of I932, when they terminated the contract.

FURTHER ACTIVITIES IN GERMANY.

I8. In July I93I I attended the second conference of the 'League Against Imperialism' held at Frankfurt, and at which the Indian delegation was headed by SHIVA PRASAD. In June of that year, the Congress leaders in India had been imprisoned on account of the non-cooperation movement, and I could not obtain the normal subsidy for the Bureau in Berlin. I was able to keep the Bureau going for a further five or six months on loans from students whom I had helped to find employment in various factories and from small monthly subscriptions from those who wanted to use the Library I had opened. After six months however I had to close down the Bureau.

I9. In September I93I I was visited in Berlin by the late Sir RABINDRA NATH TAGORE, SARAJINI NAIDU, my sister-in-law, BHAGLE, and K.M.PANIKAR of Malabar. TAGORE and BHAGLE visited Moscow at the invitation of VOKS, and PANIKAR stayed for four weeks with me in Berlin. After the closing of the Bureau, I continued to write articles and reviews for various papers and journals. I maintained contact with CHATTOPADHAYAYA, PILLAI, TARACHAND ROY, GUHA and GANGULEY, but when CHATTOPADHAYAYA tried to obtain a political appointment in Moscow for me, I refused.

NAMBIAR ARRESTED AND EXPELLED FROM GERMANY.

20. I was arrested in I933 by the S.A. and kept for six weeks in solitary confinement. No charge was preferred against me, and I was eventually released as a result of a demand for an enquiry into the matter made in the House of Commons. I was ordered to leave Prussia within a week, and my passport was not returned. Accordingly I left for Prague, with no plans and very little money. On arrival there I met Professor LESNY of Prague University, who encouraged me to stay and within six months I was well established as a journalist.

2I. In July I933, I met S.C.BOSE in Prague, where he stayed for a week. On a later visit that year, I accompanied him to an interview with Dr. BENES, and indeed was present at most of the interviews he had, acting as interpreter when necessary. From Berlin he wrote me saying that he was taking up the

cf. Appx. 'A' para 16.

matter of my expulsion with the German authorities. As a result in October I933, I was informed by the German authorities that my expulsion order had been revoked, and that I should report immediately to the Ministry of the Interior in Berlin. I proceeded to Berlin in November, to find S.C.BOSE still there: I was told officially of the cancellation of my expulsion order, and was also informed that an award of 2,000 RM had been sanctioned me as compensation for the property which had been removed from my house. The Ministry of the Interior also suggested that I should now stay in Berlin and continue my journalistic career there, but I preferred to return to Prague.

FURTHER CONTACTS WITH S.C.BOSE AND NEHRU.

22. Having returned to Prague I entered into negotiations with Prof. LESNY with a view to establishing an Indo-Czech Society there, as envisaged by S.C.BOSE. These negotiations were completed in I934 and the inaugural ceremony was held in Prague in June. I was appointed Joint Secretary, and became sole Secretary of the Society in I936.

23. In November I934, I went to Vienna to see Mrs. NEHRU who was ill in hospital there, NEHRU having written to me asking me to look after her. I also saw BOSE in Vienna, and came to know for the first time of his friendship with Frl. SCHENKL, the daughter of a Vienna postal inspector.

24. In November I935, I accompanied BOSE to meet NEHRU at Badenweiler. I returned to Prague and when BOSE suggested to me in I936 that I should go to Geneva to practice my journalism there, I replied in the negative, as I was well installed in Prague. I met BOSE again at Christmas, I937, on the day he received the news of his election as President of Congress. In Jan. '38 he wrote to me from London asking me to arrange an interview with BENES for him, which I did through the medium of Prof. LESNY. Immediately after this interview, BOSE left for India via Italy.

25. My next meeting with NEHRU was in July '38, when he visited Prague to examine the Sudeten question, and I assisted him in interviewing some of the local German and Czech leaders and journalists, arranging for him a

cf. Appx. 'A' para. 20

meeting with a Sudeten German leader. NEHRU told me that he was founding a new paper 'The Indian National Herald': he made me a correspondent and asked me to send four articles a month at a salary of two pounds per article. I met NEHRU again in Paris in Nov. 1938, when he advised me to remain in Prague as long as possible, and on no account to go to Rome.

NAMBIAR'S CONTACTS WITH INDIANS IN PRAGUE.

26. Of the Indians I met who were paying visits to Prague from India, I remember the following:-

1. David S.ERULKAR, a leading business man.
2. NALINI RANJAN SARKAR, afterwards finance minister of Bengal.
3. Dr. ATTAL, NEHRU's family doctor.
4. GAGGAN L.MEHTA, subsequently President of Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta.
5. Sir VIJYA RAGHANACHARIA, former Diwan of Cochin.

27. The following Indians were living in Prague before the war:-

1. KANU BHAI PURANI
2. AMULYA SEN
3. SULAKHAN SINGH
4. Capt. VALLEDERAS, I.M.S.
5. SWAMI GANIANA NANDA @ GIRI
6. About 15 apprentices at the BATA works at Zlin.

Of the above only No. 5 was still in Prague at the outbreak of war, the others having returned to India. Of the students at BATA's, two did not return to India, HAMID and MUKHERJI. MUKHERJI was married to a Czech girl and met BOSE in Pilsen in August '42. He visited the F.I.C. in 1943 in connection with some celebration, probably Amritsar day, and agreed to join, but could not as there were difficulties as regards his Czech wife. BOSE then thought of sending him to Slovakia as a propaganda-journalist, but the plan did not materialise.

NAMBIAR'S ACTIVITIES IN PRAGUE.

28. I arrived in Prague in April 1933 already established as a journalist, and as representative of the following papers:-

1. 'Hindu', Madras.
2. 'Bombay Chronicle'
3. 'Amrit Bazar Patrika'
4. 'Modern Review'
5. 'Indian Daily Express' (Free Press Journal).
6. I also wrote for the Hindustani Times occasionally but latterly they did not accept my articles; I do notknow why.

I was writing a good deal of book reviews for many papers, confining my articles

to Central European and Balkan States affairs, and not writing anything about Russia. As my articles were also anti-Nazi in tone, I encountered official German opposition, and articles were written against me in India by a German agent called SIMHA. SIMHA's articles were published in the 'Hindustan Times' and the 'Patrika', and he was reportedly paid by the German government.

29. In 1936, I suggested to Prof. LESNY that the Indian Students' Federation should be invited to hold its annual conference in Prague, the conferences in the two preceding years having been held in Rome and Berlin. Eventually the Oriental Institute at Prague issued the necessary invitation, but stipulating that the discussions should be limited to students' affairs. The conference was held in July 1936 and attended by about 100 Indian students from all over Europe. Trouble was caused at the opening session when political resolutions were passed and after four days the Conference was dissolved in a rather dissatisfied atmosphere.

30. Also in 1936, Mr. HLOSKAL of the Czech Export Institute contacted me and sought my advice on the import and export trade with India. My views were accepted by the Institute and I was asked to give publicity in my articles to the points I had raised.

31. Thanks chiefly to the efforts of the Indo-Czech Society, which held monthly meetings of a non-political nature, which I attended, the Czechs were gradually beginning to attain to a clearer understanding of Indian problems, and to adopt a more sympathetic attitude. Simultaneously my own position as a journalist was becoming ever more secure and by September 1938, I was able to move into a modern flat and furnish it myself. My articles continued to be hostile towards the totalitarian powers, especially towards Italy, in spite of BOSE's expressed disapproval.

<u>RAMBIAR FORCED TO LEAVE PRAGUE.</u>

32. My position in Prague was made somewhat delicate as a result of the Munich agreement, and when the Germans occupied the whole country in March '39, I left for Paris and arrived in London in April. Here I spent only a few days before returning to Paris, where I lived at first in the Rue Bois de

Boulogne and after July in the Boulevard Port-Royal. I had already started to learn French in 1938, and now continued my journalism.

33. After the outbreak of war, I remained in Paris as a free-lance journalist until the German occupation. In Paris I used to meet G.K.MUKHERJI, Dr. BANERJI and SEN GUPTA: BANERJI was in those days still a student and wrote occasionally for the 'Hindustan Standard'; MUKHERJI contributed occasional articles to the 'Leader'. When the Germans entered Paris, I moved to Bordeaux and reported to the British Consulate. I was unable to see the Consul however as the place was so crowded, and on the advice of a British naval officer, I decided to report to the Consul at Bayonne, but on arrival there, found that the Consul had already left. The Portuguese Consulate could not help me, and I moved to Biarritz; here I found that Thos. COOK's office, my last hope, had also closed down. Two days later on 23rd June 1940, the Armistice was signed between Germany and France.

NAMBIAR IN VICHY FRANCE 1940-41.

34. I decided that it would be best for me to go to Guthery, about 20 Km. from Biarritz, to the house of my friend SWAMI SIDDESHWARANANDA. Also living at his house, I found SURESH CHANDRA BABU, P.K.BHATT and S.IYER. Here too I met Mme. de SAUSSURE for the first time; she was a follower of SWAMI and an intimate friendship gradually grew up between us. Guthery being in the occupied zone, we moved after I had been there ten days, BHATT, IYER, SURESH CHANDRA and I to Montpelier and SWAMI to Foix.

35. Madame de SAUSSURE joined me at Monteplier and I went with SURESH CHANDRA to join my friend FIGUERIDO at Marseille. CHANDRA returned a month later to Montpelier and I remained in Marseille, writing articles for the Swiss press, and supported by a grant of £9 a month from the American Consulate in Marseille. This monthly grant I continued to receive up to August '41. In December '40, I returned to Montpelier and began to attend the University, continuing meanwhile my articles to the French press. Whilst I was here I learned through BHATT of the disappearance of S.C.BOSE from India and from that date I expected that he would come to Europe to resume his activities here. In June 1941, I was notified by the Vichy Government that I was to leave Montpelier

and accordingly Mme de SAUSSURE and I moved to Foix and joined SWAMI. The SWAMI is a disciple of the RAMA KRISHNA Mission in India, and preaches and teaches the RAMA KRISHNA philosophy. He had several French and American followers who gave him financial support and he always lived very comfortably. He was living at Foix with his housekeeper, Mme. SUTTON. Soon after my arrival in Foix I was asked to leave as it was the capital of the Department, but this order was kept in suspense owing to the intervention of Monsieur ROUNAET of Foix. I was living quietly with my friend and decided to remain.

NAMBIAR RECEIVES BOSE's SUMMONS.

36. It was about the third week in August 1941, that Dr. OESTERREICH, who was employed in the Economic Department of the German Embassy in Paris, visited me at Foix. He told me that the German Embassy would like me to return with him to Paris and that he had the necessary papers for me to travel. He also indicated to me that he had contacted the local French police. I told him that I did not know anyone at the German Embassy, to which he replied that I had nothing to lose. I was still hesitant, whereupon he used the password 'BOSE'. I had little doubt as to the implications of this password, and told him that I would let him know my decision in the afternoon. He was very kind and offered to take me on a visit to a neighbouring town. I however was suspicious and consulted the SWAMI who knew BOSE by name. SWAMI advised me to go, and consequently I met the German and agreed to go with him. We left the next day by train, arriving in Paris the following morning. I had breakfast with him at his house, after which we went to the German Embassy at 10 a.m. where he introduced me to VON NOSTITZ, the man who had despatched OESTERREICH to fetch me. NOSTITZ then telephoned the Hotel Ritz, where S.C.BOSE was staying under the name of ORLANDO MAZOTTA, and asked me to wait in the adjoining room.

37. Half an hour later, BOSE arrived with a German by the name of Dr. WERTH. BOSE greeted me warmly and after introducing me, told me to to talk to Dr. WERTH, while he went to see NOSTITZ. He returned after twenty minutes and we went to lunch at the Tour d'Argent, where IQBAL SHEDAI also

joined us. In the Restaurant BOSE deliberately refrained from discussing anything of importance. SHEDAI and Dr. WERTH left after lunch with BOSE promising to meet me in a cafe at 5 p.m. I was there with Dr. OESTERREICH when BOSE and WERTH arrived as arranged. BOSE asked me to dine with him and to go to a revue at the Ledo, but I declined, feigning tiredness. BOSE took my address and said that he would call at IO a.m. the following day; he then left with Dr. WERTH and Dr. OESTERREICH took me home.

S.C.BOSE DISCLOSES HIS MISSION TO NAMBIAR.

38. BOSE arrived at IO a.m. the next morning with Dr. WERTH, who left immediately. BOSE then had a long talk with me and explained the Indian situation at length. His main points were as follows:-

1. The revolutionary spirit in India had increased greatly, and larger numbers were now anxious for a policy of action.

2. His own popularity had greatly increased, since both before and after the outbreak of war he had toured extensively and now had a large following. At the previous session of the Indian National Congress, he had held a rival meeting, which was better attended than the Congress.

3. He did not consider that GANDHI would lead an active campaign, and considered NEHRU to be quite hopeless on account of his idealism, and lack of realism.

4. The present situation offered a great opportunity to work with the powers that were fighting against the British.

He then asked me whether I knew SHEDAI and what I thought of him. I told him that I had met SHEDAI but had not formed any definite impressions. He told me that SHEDAI was doing Radio work in Italy and that he was taking him to Berlin because he would be useful in starting similar work there. He asked me whether I knew DHAWAN and what I thought of him. I replied that I knew him slightly and that I thought him well-meaning but rather eccentric. He told me that DHAWAN was instrumental in fixing up certain contacts with the Foreign Office and later indicated that he had been to Italy on his behalf. He also said that he had great influence in Andhra, Tamil Province and the North West Frontier. He emphasised that there was an opportunity for serious work in Berlin and that he would like me to join him. At this stage he did not tell me details of his escape from India, but on my enquiry he told me that it had been well arranged. At a later stage he told me the details as I have narrated them elsewhere, (See para.164). I told BOSE that my relations

cf. para 67

with the German Government were strained but he assured me that there was nothing to fear, and that he had been looking for me for the last few months.

39. After this interview which ended about I2 o'clock, BOSE, SHEDAI and Dr. WERTH had lunch with LAVAL, NOSTITZ being also present: I lunched with Dr. OESTERREICH. In the evening, BOSE, WERTH and I dined together and went to a Music Hall called Shamir Zeda. On the third day, we met for lunch at the Hungaria, where SHEDAI was also expected. Evidently BOSE had asked SHEDAI to look out for Indians who might prove useful, but when he arrived, SHEDAI said that the only man he could think of was D.S.M.RAO and that he had been to see him: he was quite a good man but sometimes hopelessly drunk. SHEDAI left that afternoon to meet his French wife in the country and said that he would be back the next day in time to leave for Berlin. BOSE wanted me to accompany him to Berlin but I said that I must return to Foix first. BOSE then had an interview with ABETZ, the German Ambassador in Paris, and on the next day left for Berlin with SHEDAI and Dr. WERTH, while I promised to follow as soon as possible. On the following day, I went round to my flat where I remained about a week; I then returned to Foix, having decided to stay. In the beginning of November, I was summoned before the Foix Police, who asked me whether I had been to Berlin and intimated that I could return there. I pleaded bad health and did not go.

40. In the third week of December I94I, NAIDU came to Foix bringing a letter from BOSE through the German Embassy. In this letter he said that all the work I had done was nothing compared with what lay ahead of me; that Germany was very strong at this time; that there was much work to be done and that I should not hesitate. He ended the letter with the quotation:- 'There is a tide in the affairs of men which taken at the ~~ebb~~ flow.....' NAIDU also showed me a travel permit which he had brought. The information given on the travel permit however was not correct, and NAIDU said that he would return for another. Four days later this arrived by post from the Vichy Government.

4I. On about the 22nd December I94I, I left for Paris and on arrival called on Von NOSTITZ. He telephoned to Berlin and asked for VON TROTT but

Dr. WERTH answered saying that I should be sent to Berlin before Christmas. I had to see MOSTITZ several times about my passport and travel visa to Berlin. He sent me to two or three offices and treated me rather unceremoniously which annoyed me and made me determined to return to Foix; although in this decision my love affairs also played an important part. MOSTITZ was to have fetched me from my house the following morning and G.K.MUKHERJI had already taken all my luggage to the Station, but I left that evening, and arrived in Foix the following day.

42. About 15th January 1942, LEVINSKY appeared at Foix and two days later I left for Paris with him. The next day, I called at the Embassy and LEVINSKY arranged for me to telephone BOSE in Berlin. BOSE told me to come immediately and to try and bring other Indians if I could. The only Indians I saw during this visit were:-

1. G.K.MUKHERJI
2. NAIDU
3. D.S.M.RAO
4. GUJAR's assistant.

In the afternoon, MUKHERJI and I went to a cafe and MUKHERJI said that it would be a good opportunity to work in Germany to make India's voice heard in the world. At that time he did not know that BOSE was in Berlin or that I was going to meet him. I then asked him whether he would accompany me if I went and he agreed to do so. That afternoon, I introduced MUKHERJI to LEVINSKY and told him that he would be coming with me. Accordingly he telephoned Berlin to inform them, and the three of us left for Berlin arriving on 25th January. NAIDU came to the station at Paris to see us off and was surprised to see MUKHERJI. He brought presents for VON TROTT and O.MAZOTTA not realising who MAZOTTA was, and these I took with me and gave to BOSE and Dr. WERTH.

43. Here I would like to point out that my political outlook resembles that of J.L.NEHRU. I am not bitterly anti-British but I do desire the liberation of India from the yoke of British Imperialism. Having trained in politics for the last twenty years in Europe, I might differ in many respects with the great leaders in India. I could not refuse BOSE's request as he had helped me a great deal in building up my career in Europe, and in addition to this, I believed that the British were losing.

NAMBIAR GOES TO BERLIN.

44. BOSE had sent VYAS to meet us at the Berlin Railway Station, and he took us to the Hotel Esplanade where rooms had been reserved for us. After half an hour we were taken to see BOSE at his villa in Sophienstrasse. It was then that MUKHERJI learnt that BOSE was in Berlin and he was naturally very pleased. Fraulein SCHENKEL was also present and we all lunched together. In the evening at 4 p.m. the Indians collected there and there was a tea-party (for details see VYAS statement para. No. 75) to celebrate BOSE's birthday. They all looked very happy and enthusiastic, some of them using the German salute in greeting each other. HABIBUR REHMAN first made a speech in Hindustani and I heard BOSE addressed as NETAJI. Then BOSE whispered to MUKHERJI and me to speak, which we did. I said that I was glad to meet some old friends and pleased to make new ones: I emphasised my hope that we would work in a spirit of comradeship and unity, and my belief that we were lucky to have the guidance of a man who had twice been President of the Indian National Congress and whose national services were without parallel. MUKHERJI eulogised the services of BOSE in very enthusiastic terms. In the end the oath to BOSE was ceremoniously administered and all signed that they had taken it in a book kept by BOSE (NAMBIAR confirms details contained in para. No. 75 of VYAS' statement, but claims that he did not sign). The function came to an end about 7 p.m. MUKHERJI and I stayed for dinner and the others left. After dinner BOSE took us to the Hotel and told us all about the office at 2, Liechtensteinallee, where people had already begun to work. He told us that a car would come in the morning to take us there.

45. Next morning we went to the office. It was on the first floor of a three storied building, of which we later occupied all three stories. There were seven rooms and fourteen men working:-

I.	GANPULEY	8.	DHAWAN
2.	VYAS	9.	LAL
3.	REHMAN	I9.	SWAMINAY
4.	SULTAN	II.	KENI
5.	RAMA	I2.	ABDUL RAUF
6.	AHUJA	I3.	BHATTA
7.	Dr. FARUQI	I4.	KARTA RAM

There were four secretaries:-

I.	Frl. SCHENKEL	3.	Frau DIDERICH
2.	" WENZEL	4.	Frl. KREITSCHMAR

and a representative of the Foreign Office then ZITZEWITZ. BOSE informed all concerned that he had taken me as his Deputy.

46. On the same day (26.I.42) the Independence Day celebrations were held at the Kaiserhof Hotel. About four hundred guests were present including GHULAM SADIQI and OTTO FALTES but BOSE did not attend because he wished to remain incognito. Most of the Indians(as enumerated in the statement of VYAS para. No. 67) were present, KENI read a paper 'What Free India would do' and explained its implication and ABDUL RAUF MALIK gave a talk on India, illustrated with films. BOSE had said that he did not want to attend because he preferred to wait for an occasion which would make his appearance more dramatic. Everyone of us believed in him implicitly and admired his great executive ability, and as part of his plans at that period he was constantly working to get the Germans to issue a declaration about India's Independence.

cf. para. 157.

BOSE FOUNDS THE INDIAN LEGION.

47. On 27th January 1942, BOSE held a meeting in the F.I.C. office as a farewell party to the leading Legionaries who were going to Frankenberg to form the basis of the Indian Legion (for names and other details see statement of VYAS para. No. 79). BOSE spoke in Hindustani: he was emotional and almost wept. He gave each man a flower and said that being in a foreign country that was the only gift he could offer, but the real reward would come to them in due course when India would have been freed by their efforts. Afterwards DHAWAN and one of the Legionaries also spoke. Next morning GANPULEY, BOSE, SULTAN and I went to the Railway Station to see them off. For the first time in my life, I saw Frau VON HARBOU who had also come to see the Legionaries off. (For a detailed account of VON HARBOU's activities see paras. 121-122)

BOSE EXPLAINS HIS ORGANISATION.

48. BOSE then explained to me at length how he had set up the Legion and the F.I.C. and all the difficulties he had met in the initial stages. I will deal first with the organisation of the F.I.C. and its main activities which

later developed under my direct control. These were as follows:-

1. Radio Transmissions in two languages (Hindustani and English) for half an hour.
2. AZAD HIND Journal.
3. Legion.
   (a) Meseritz Special Group.
   (b) Indian Legion at Frankenberg.
4. Lecture Committee.
5. Newspaper Committee.
6. Library.
7. Planning Committee.

RADIO TRANSMISSIONS.

49. Throughout his stay in Germany, BOSE was obsessed with the idea that the Azad Hind transmission was proving very effective in stirring up the masses in India. The Azad Hind radio had been established as an independent short wave station. The duration of the transmissions was fifteen minutes and in the beginning they were made in two languages - Hindustani and English. BOSE was of the opinion that a secret station would attract more listeners than official transmissions. Secondly, a secret station could transmit things which the official station could not. BOSE had laid down the main lines of propaganda with which I concurred. The instructions were typed and distributed to all members, and contained the following points. (Note: The following are in addition to the main points contained in Appendix 'A' to the statement of VYAS):-

England will lose the war for military, economic and moral reasons:-

Military because Britain's enemies were better prepared. The air weapon had reduced the value of a Navy - of which the British were proud - and Germany had the best Air Force. In the last war, Italy and Japan were against Germany: in the present war, they were on Germany's side. France which played an important part in the last war had ceased to exist as a major power.

Economically there was no question of Germany being starved, since the resources of the whole of Europe were at her disposal.

Morally England had not the same vigour that she had in 1914. The British Forces were scattered all over the globe, distances and time were against Britain. Britain had no monopoly of propaganda as in the last war. National consciousness had become much stronger in independent countries such as India, Arabia and the Colonies. British Imperialism in its present form

and Indian Freedom could not exist side by side. An agreement with the British now will have no value after the war. India should make the most of the opportunity presented by the present war.

50. These were the points to be emphasised in selecting news items and in writing news commentaries. BOSE and I used to hold meetings five times a week to discuss the text of the Radio programme. We also used to hold a daily meeting lasting about fifteen minutes of those people engaged on Radio work to decide the news to be commented upon and to settle the talk for the next day. The following were responsible for the Radio Transmissions and pdigrammes:-

1. KENI generally wrote the comments.
2. MAMA wrote the review of Military developments.
3. LAL wrote a weekly survey of events and spoke in Hindustani.
4. Dr. AHUJA translated from English into Hindustani.
5. P.B.SARMA was doing the English broadcasts.
6. Dr. ABDUL RAUF MALIK translated from English into Hindustani.
7. SALEH also translated from English into Hindustani and was an announcer on the Azad Hind Radio.
8. HABIBUR RAHMAN, although still an announcer on the official transmitter came into the Azad Hind Radio work and did translations from English into Hindustani.
9. Dr. FARUQI, when I first arrived was writing talks for the Azad Hind transmissions which he continued up till March 1942.

BOSE had asked me to pay special attention to the Radio work and to the smooth running of the office; to attend to the general welfare of the Members; and to obtain new premises for the office. I started the work with real zeal and vigour. VYAS, I found, was bearing the brunt of the labour, and was working very hard.

5I. BOSE was all the time waiting for a favourable opportunity to make a public statement. He thought this opportunity had come when Singapore fell on I5.2.42 when he made his first speech on the Azad Hind Radio in English, Hindustani and Bengali.

52. Towards the end of March 1942, the programme of the Azad Hind Radio was extended to one hour. The broadcasts continued to be in English and Hindustani. G.K.MUKHERJI also joined the Radio staff; he wrote commentaries in English and shared the English broadcasts with SARMA. LAL's

weekly reviews were discontinued. Instead more time was given to military reports which were written by MAMA. Towards May I succeeded in arranging for the Radio programme to be extended to two hours.

During the months of May - September '42, BOSE wrote several broadcasts on planes being sent to India carrying men to be dropped there for underground work. He gave certain particulars about comrades in India, who were informed about the flights, but gave no names. He called upon the villagers to assist in case the planes landed in an open place. These talks were all pretence and were aimed at increasing the unrest in India which followed the fall of Rangoon. BOSE also wrote talks on Indian currency stating that thousands of Indian notes had been found in Singapore and Burma where they had no value. This was to create panic in India and to get the public to lose faith in the currency of India.

53. In the meantime the following had joined the F.I.C.:-

1. J.K.BANNERJI
2. Dr. A.MAZUMDAR
3. A.NAIDU
4. JHOWRY

Soon after my arrival, BOSE had asked me whether I knew any Indians who would be useful for the work in Berlin, as we were short of good announcers and compilers of news for the Radio. I had mentioned the following:-

1. BANNERJI
2. NAIDU
3. SEN GUPTA
4. BHATT
5. IYER
6. SURESH CHANDRA BABU

In the meantime JHOWRY had been sent to Berlin by RAO. BANNERJI and CHANDRA had promised to come to Berlin to see the work of the F.I.C., before agreeing definitely to join. IYER and BHATT had said that they could not come. BANNERJI first came in May 1942; he declared himself satisfied with the set-up of the F.I.C. and with the nature of the work and eventually returned with ROSSI to stay permanently. NAIDU also came in May 1942: SEN GUPTA and SURESH CHANDRA BABU arrived a little later and the former stayed on from his initial visit and SURESH CHANDRA also returned soon bringing with him RAJ PAL @ RUCHPAL from Paris. The latter volunteered for the Meseritz

Group and was eventually released.

54. More Indian languages were incorporated in the transmissions:-

1.	Bengali	G.K.MUKHERJI and A.MAZUMDAR
2.	Tamil	NAIDU
3.	Pushtu	Hav. AZIM KHAN (P.W.)

A little later Telugu and Persian were introduced. MURTI (P.W.) was brought from the Legion for the Telugu and ABDUL HAKIM, nephew of GHULAM SADIQI, Afghan, for the Persian transmissions. In all these languages an elaborate programme of daily transmissions was started. Apart from these, there were weekly ten broadcasts minute/ in Gujrati, Maharetti and Canarese. The Maharatti talks were given by GANGULEY, the Gujrati by VYAS and the Canarese by BHATTA. BOSE also tried to find speakers in Singalese and Burmese, but failed. In his attempts to increase the personnel of the F.I.C., especially with a view to extending and improving the Radio transmissions, BOSE had always wanted to persuade SAMANT to join. The latter, although he visited the F.I.C. and attended some of the meetings had refused to join, but later became a part-time worker and ultimately a whole-time worker through the efforts of KENI. SAMANT wrote military reviews for the Azad Hind transmissions in place of MANA, as the latter had to work as accountant.

55. The compiling of the scripts was allotted to various members. News Items, which amounted to just over half the programme, were written by VYAS. The regular features of two short talks and one long were generally written by SARMA. I also used to write occasionally, and BANERJI had also started. S.C. BOSE personally wrote a great deal for four to five months. After SEN GUPTA's arrival, he also wrote scripts for broadcasting. All the texts as a rule were written in English and translated into other languages. A listening-in service for Azad Hind had been arranged and extended. MANA was originally in charge and later JHONNY took over. Almost all were employed in turn for listening in. By March 1942, the Radio work was functioning independently and there was no pre-censorship. SARMA, KENI and VYAS were doing practically all the work.

56. We had already contemplated starting a secret Radio station using

the name of Congress to supplement Congress activity in India. But the CRIPPS mission appeared to BOSE to be a sign that India was in a state of great unrest, and made him intensify his activities. This had already been arranged with the Foreign Office. The German Foreign Minister at that time believed implicitly in BOSE's ability and had faith in him as the right propagandist to stir up the masses in India. BOSE was also anxious to extend his broadcasting activity to Rome. (See para. 154). By starting the Congress Radio, he thought he would win over GANDHI's followers to his own violent programme, and by starting the Azad Muslim Radio he thought to counteract the activities of the Muslim League. He wanted to keep these stations secret in order to give the impression that the transmissions were coming either from India itself or from a neighbouring country. Consequently the 'Congress' and 'Azad Muslim' radios were started, but the same station, 'Azad Hind', installed in the Sportsfeld in Berlin,was used. It was obvious that the same wave lengths and frequency were used for all three 'stations', but there was a hiatus of fifteen minutes between different programmes.

<u>The 'Congress' programme was in four languages:-</u>

1. English : texts written by G.K.MUKHERJI and JHOWRY, occasionally by SEN GUPTA and latterly by CHANDRA.

2. Bengali : translation by A.MAJUMDAR; broadcasting by K.K.BOSE and after a while a P.W. named SURENDRA NATH BOSE, who came from the Legion.

3. Tamil : translated and spoken by NARASIMAN (P.W.) who died in a hospital in Berlin at the beginning of March 1945.

4. Hindustani : translation and speaking carried out by CHANDRA and a few weeks later by SAM LAL who had come from Holland.

The time for each transmission was ten minutes.

<u>The 'Azad Muslim' transmissions.</u>

SULTAN was entrusted with the actual broadcasts. BANNERJI was asked to supply the material and ABDUL RAUF MALIK helped him with translation.

57. BOSE was also anxious to arrange transmissions to America and Ireland by a spokesman of the F.I.C. over the official Radio. He had already begun negotiations to achieve this before his departure; after his departure these negotiations were followed up by G.K.MUKHERJI and about the beginning of August '43, weekly transmissions to America were started of about five to

eight minutes duration. MUKHERJI wrote the scripts and until October '44 GANPULEY made the broadcasts, using a cover name. After October '44, BANNERJI attended to both the writing of the scripts and to the broadcasting. The Irish programme, which consisted of a weekly four minutes' broadcast, started much later in about February 1944. Up to October 1944, MUKHERJI wrote the scripts and GANPULEY made the broadcasts, as in the case of the transmissions to America. After October, BANNERJI wrote the scripts and MAMA, as a rule, made the broadcasts. (Note: for details of Radio transmissions NAMBIAR confirms the statement of VIAS para. 70 and Appx. 'A').

58. At one of the meetings held to consider how to improve the Radio transmissions BOSE stated that the German Foreign Minister had congratulated him on the efficiency of the transmissions. RIBBENTROP it would appear, inclined also to the view that these transmissions had contributed to the failure of the CRIPPS' Mission. After the failure of the CRIPPS' Mission, the Azad Hind transmissions were designed to pay closer attention to the internal situation in India. In August and September 1942, when the disturbances in India were at their height, BOSE himself wrote a great deal of the script for talks. For it was believed that the politicians in India were adopting the line of policy advocated by the Azad Hind Radio.

59. In March 1943, ROMESH CHANDRA TALWAR and Hav. BIR SINGH (P.W.) were brought from the Legion; both having been chosen by GURU LAL as announcers. TALWAR worked with the Azad Muslim Radio and BIR SINGH for the Azad Hind. After the move to Hilversum in January 1944, NARASIMAN fell ill; the Tamil programme was dropped completely and the ten minute programme in Canarese in the Azad Hind transmissions was also dropped. SURENDRA NATH BOSE (P.W.) left for the Legion in March 1944, and BHADURI came in his place as Bengali translator and announcer on the Azad Hind Radio. In the meantime, A.MAJUMDAR had left and K.K.BOSE had returned to Hilversum as Bengali Announcer on the National Congress Radio. Early in 1944 Dr. AHUJA left as he wanted to devote all his time to medical work and a month later JHOWRY left to resume his studies in dentistry. In August 1944, Dr. HARBANS LAL

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arrived from Paris and worked on the Congress Radio with SURESH CHANDRA. In September 1944, when the office moved from Hilversum to Helmstedt, SAM LAL dropped out. A.MAJUMDAR left some time in August 1944. He told me that he could not work under CANPULEY and that he was willing to work without a salary in Berlin, where he was prepared to do journalism work and to help the F.I.C. in any other way. I refused to release him but he obtained permission to go to Koenigsbrueck. He returned to Berlin without permission, was picked up by the Police and put in an interrment camp. I saw him there in Feb. '45 , and, at his request, interceded for him with the Police, when he promised to return to the F.I.C. I later heard from NAIDU in Bad Gastein that he had been killed by bombs in Dresden.

60. On 15th March 1945, the AZAD MUSLIM and CONGRESS Radio were dropped and AZAD HIND reduced to half an hour, as the Germans had lost several transmitting stations. In Bad Gastein (April '45) I heard from NAIDU that the F.I.C. transmissions were dropped on 7.4.45. (Note: for details of Indian broadcasts by the RRG, see paras 133-136.)

RECORDS OF THE ZENTRALE.

61. A complete set of records of the Azad Hind and Congress transmissions used to be kept in my office. The files relating to transmissions up to November '43 were at No. 2 Liechtenstein Allee which was burnt down on 22.10.43, and although some of my files were reported saved, I did not see them. Up to this time Frl. IMHOFF had been responsible for my secret correspondence. From November '43 onwards the files were again kept first in 16, Xantenerstrasse, and then in 36, Brandenburgische Strasse. When I left on 3.4.45 for Bad Gastein, the files and the whole correspondence of the office were left in 36, Brandenburgische Strasse. I took a few letters with me relating to correspondence at Helmstedt and eventually destroyed them. (Cf. para. 149)

'AZAD HIND' MAGAZINE.

62. When I arrived in Berlin in Jan. '42, I discovered that the first number of the Azad Hind Magazine had already been published. On an average, only about three thousand copies were printed. The journal was not sold, but

distributed to Universities, technical high schools, to individuals of importance and to journalists - foreign and German; to German Legations and a small number to interested individuals in countries occupied or controlled by Germany. I gathered that originally it had been planned to have DHAWAN as editor, but he was not appointed because BOSE feared that their views would not agree on all matters. I am led to believe this since DHAWAN was supplying reports to the political department of the Foreign Office, which were then passed on to BOSE by the 'SONDERREFERAT INDIEN'. I saw some of these reports by chance and in many respects they were not in line with the views of BOSE. BHATTA was editor in charge of the magazine, and articles were contributed mainly by the staff of the F.I.C. Until he left BOSE himself contributed many articles, some of which appeared under the initials 'O.M.' and a few over the names of other members of the staff. Although intended to be a monthly feature, it was never published regularly. About six numbers appeared in 1942, four or five in 1943 and seven in 1944; after the end of 1944, there was no further issue. It was impossible to publish the magazine regularly because the staff was not large enough. The magazine was subjected to the censorship of the Foreign Office, but this was not rigorous. After May 1942, J.K.BANNERJI became co-editor, and in fact he did most of the work. When SEN GUPTA arrived, he too worked on the magazine, and in November 1942, when BANNERJI left owing to illness, SEN GUPTA assumed the editorship. From 1943 onwards SEN GUPTA did most of the work of the magazine; in 1944 practically half the magazine consisted of articles by him under different names. BHATTA, though he continued as an editor after the middle of 1943, did very little work for the magazine, beyond attending to the distribution and obtaining the necessary material. I was told by BHATTA that a certain number of copies were sent at regular intervals to the Far East, the copies being handed over by BHATTA to BASSLER of the press department of the Foreign Office for further despatch. The magazine was started mainly to bring before the European public the Indian issue according to BOSE's view point, and to supply information on India to European journalists. I do not know whether any copies of the magazine were sent to India through secret channels.

63. I myself contributed one article to Azad Hind on the problems of the peasantry in India. Another article which I wrote for the German paper 'Das Schwartze Korps' in June 1944, was also republished in Azad Hind. The article was a review of the Indian situation, the first part being a historical survey and the second dealing with propaganda and problems affecting India's freedom. It was written at the particular request of VON TROTT and BASSLER of the press department of the Foreign Office. I had very little time to contribute articles to the press and to Azad Hind as I was always occupied with my executive duties. I proposed to bring out an up to date German edition of BOSE's book 'The Indian struggle'. BOSE had written this book up to 1938 and BANNERJI had brought it up to date to include the formation of the Provisional Government of India. It was translated into German by SCHENKL and Mrs. ASSMANN. Professor ALSDORF was attending to the manuscript, but it also could not be published in book form due to lack of publication facilities. When in Germany, BOSE wrote articles to various magazines about the Indian problems. The other members of the staff who were writing for the German press were:-

1. HABIBUR RAHMAN
2. BHATTA
3. J.K.BANNERJI
4. SEN GUPTA.

(Note: NAMBIAR confirms all the details in Appx. 'B' Sec.2 to VYAS' statement and adds nothing fresh).

BOOKS ON INDIA.

64. It was also planned to publish ten books on India by the F.I.C. dealing with present political and social problems there. The first one was on the History of the Indian National Congress in India by G.K.MUKHERJI. The second and third were written and had gone to press, but could not be published, on account of technical difficulties arising from the bombing.

65. The SONDERREFERAT INDIEN brought out nine books; three of them by members of the Free India Centre. One dealt with economic conditions and was called 'Factories in India' by BHATTA; the second was written by BHATTA with the co-operation of a German whose name I do not remember and dealt with the economics of East Asia. A copy of the manuscript of this book was sent to

BOSE probably in 1944. Further books were 'Islam in India' by ABID HASSAN and 'Men and Parties in India' by VYAS. Some other books on India were written by Germans.

THE INDIAN LEGION.

66. When I came to Berlin on 25.I.42, I found that BOSE had definitely decided to raise an armed force to fight against the British for the liberation of India. He discussed his plans with me and I expressed agreement although I was not sure of his success. BOSE was particularly enthusiastic about this scheme. He often told me that this was an old dream of his and that when he was in Europe from 1933 - 1937 he was greatly attracted by the idea of the Legions started by other countries during the last war. BOSE had high hopes of making the Indian Legion an efficient military organisation and also a larger unit than he actually succeeded in raising.

67. After his arrival in Berlin in April '41, the first and practically the only Indian he associated with was Dr. K.R.DHAWAN. The second man he contacted was GHULAM SADIQI of Kabul, who had good contacts with Germans, both in the civil and military departments. In June 1941, Dr. DHAWAN had been sent by BOSE to Italy with Dr. WERTH to contact Indian prisoners-of-war and to submit a report. Later SHEDAI and BOSE attended a conference in Berlin of Italian and German representatives, at which details about P.W. were discussed. It was arranged by the Italian and German representatives with the support of SHEDAI and BOSE that the Indian Legion should be built up in Germany and the Arab Legion in Italy and that P.W. were to be exchanged accordingly. I came to know of this decision later when the Italians created difficulties about sending P.W. to Germany and interested themselves in an Indian Legion of their own. Latterly however, as a result of the intrigues of the GRAND MUFTI, the Germans also started to form an Arab Legion and the Italians formed their C.M.I. The Italian representatives at the conference, who were accompanied by SHEDAI included ALEXANDRINI and GUDEMINI. The Germans were represented by KEPPLER, VON TROTT and Dr. WERTH and were advised by BOSE. As a matter of fact BOSE had already discussed these plans with the Italian Government before his arrival in Berlin.

68. It was in pursuance of the above understanding that BOSE sent DHAWAN with Dr. WERTH to Italy to bring the first convoy of I.P.W. and to report on the morale and inclinations of the P.W. This group of P.W., which was brought back by DHAWAN in June 1941, was headed by Sub. SANT SINGH. I do not know whether this party was brought back for some special purpose and BOSE never talked to me about it. I was informed, however, that BOSE had sent for this party with the main purpose of examining the possibilities of forming a Legion. Dr. WERTH told me that DHAWAN was a troublesome man, as he did not wish to submit any report to BOSE and the Foreign Office on his mission to Italy, nor would he give his opinion on the morale of Indian troops. Dr. WERTH himself had to prepare his report for submission to the Foreign Office.

69. In January 1942, immediately after my arrival, I was informed that the Legion had been formed at two centres, one at Meseritz and the other at Frankenberg. BOSE had already established close relations with the authorities who were in charge of these groups. The Meseritz group was a part of the Lehrregiment Brandenburg, which was responsible for training intelligent soldiers in sabotage, espionage and propaganda. BOSE was continually on the look-out for men who were fit for training at Meseritz. The Legion at Frankenberg was also an integral part of the Azad Hind Movement. As all other Foreign Legions, not on front-line service, the Legion at Frankenberg was under the Reserve Forces under General FROMM who was executed on 20.7.44 in connection with the attack on HITLER. At the O.K.H. in Berlin, Colonel MEYER acted as his deputy, and was in charge of all details relating to the Legion. The Meseritz Special Group came under O.K.W., originally under Admiral CANARIS. His deputy directly in charge of the Legion was Col. VON LAHUSEN, and the latter's assistant Lt. Col. PUTZ. Col. MEYER ceased to be in charge of the Legion when he was transferred to France in July 1943, and was succeeded by Col. VON DER HEYDE, the personal assistant of Count VON STAUFFENBERG, who placed the bomb in HITLER's room on 20.7.44.

70. GANPULEY and SULTAN were selected by BOSE from the F.I.C. to attend to the affairs of the Legion. Their work consisted in visiting the Legion at

regular intervals and listening to complaints etc., which were brought to the notice of the Commanders. They also used to give reports to BOSE. They had no real power and often made themselves unpopular. I also remember them complaining that they were not informed of the conversations that BOSE had with the Foreign Office or the Army authorities with regard to the Legion, and that SCHENKL knew more than they did. I learned that there was a rule that BOSE was not to meet the officers of the Legion without a representative of the Foreign Office being present. This was especially so in the case of the Meseritz Group, but after some time the rule was relaxed.

71. I often met the Commanders of these two groups, Captain HARBIG of the Abwehr, and Major KRAPPE. HARBIG was BOSE's favourite; before the Legion was started it had been planned to send HARBIG and a certain man called LENZ, also from Meseritz, to Afghanistan. HARBIG looked like a Pathan and could easily have passed as one, but did not know the Afghan language. LENZ was working with UZBEKS at Meseritz and knew a number of frontier languages.

72. The numbers of the Meseritz Group did not increase as at Frankenberg because it was undergoing specialist training. In both groups the German Commanders were faced with many difficulties because:-

1. The soldiers thought that they had a right to special considerations, otherwise they could go back as prisoners.

2. Some of the German officers and more especially the N.C.O.s did not understand the Indian mentality, were rough in their ways and used bad language, which, though common in the German Army, offended the Indians.

3. Some of the Indian soldiers were originally non-combatants and could not stand the hard military training, especially in a cold climate.

4. The Indian P.W. were anxious to get promotion and thought they would get it quickly.

5. There was also a certain amount of language difficulty. This created a strange atmosphere but did not lead to acute trouble.

6. As time passed, another fact that led to some tension was the sex question. Ultimately in Holland brothels were established.

HARBIG was an impulsive man and a good many people left his group as he could not deal with the above difficulties. KRAPPE was more tactful and succeeded in keeping his men together. In the initial stages BOSE was very helpful in enabling KRAPPE to keep the team together. He often went to the Legion and

gave lectures, insisting on discipline as the best training even though it involved hardships, and holding out the prospect of a bright future ahead.

73. In July '42, the Legion was transferred from Frankenberg to Koenigsbruck, where there were better facilities for accommodation and training. In Koenigsbruck the Legion expanded and by the time of BOSE's departure, it was a full Regt. in strength. Germany's successes up to August 1942, were the main causes of the success in recruiting to the Legion, and after this period there was no appreciable increase. Originally BOSE had given the Legionaries an assurance that they would not be used on active service in Europe but would be taken to India to fight against the British. Later it was stated that they would be used only against the Anglo-American forces. After November 1942, there were plans to send the Legion out of Germany on the grounds that Koenigsbruck camp was urgently needed for German forces. The first proposal was to send them to Greece, where General FELMY, in charge of the Foreign Legions in Athens was anxious to have them. BOSE however was afraid that they might be used in North Africa or might get mixed up with the Arab Legion, also under General FELMY, and succeeded in putting off the suggested transfer. He was informed however, that the Legion might have to be transferred to some other place soon, and at one time it was proposed to send them to Czechoslovakia.

74. Towards the end of 1942, the interest of the Abwehr in the Meseritz Group definitely slumped, as the German Military situation necessitated the giving up of the more ambitious plans. BOSE tried to retain the interest of the Abwehr, and also tried to interest HIMMLER in the Meseritz Group should the Army drop it. He approached HIMMLER through General LORENZ, whom he had met at the opening of the German-Indian Society at Hamburg and this demarche resulted in the Abwehr carrying on with Meseritz. Actually the Group was dissolved on 13.1.43 and the men transferred to the 950th Regt., then at Koenigsbruck.

75. Before BOSE left Germany, I made the following visits to Meseritz and the Indian Legion:-

(I). In March 1942, accompanied by GANPULEY, SULTAN and KARTAR RAM

I visited Frankenberg. There were about seventy men and I saw them drilling etc. GANPULEY and SULTAN did most of the speaking. GANPULEY addressed the men and thanked the German officer for having undertaken to give the Indian Legion training on the German lines, which was the best military training they could receive.

cf. Appx. 'B': V : 1.

(2). Towards the end of April 1942, Col. VON LAHUSEN under whom the Meseritz Group was, had come on his inspection tour. He made a speech to the men calling for discipline, efficiency and keenness. He spoke in German and GANPULEY translated his speech into Hindustani. Later a social gathering called Kameradschaftsabend, was held. I had a conference with Col. LAHUSEN regarding the nature of the special training and I assured him that the Indian volunteers would not lag behind. He was not optimistic about the efficiency of Indian P.W. volunteers chiefly because of their lack of education and the language difficulties.

(3). At Meseritz I also met MULLAH (SAYED AHMAD SHAH, 22 A.T. Coy.), who at that time was causing trouble by making exaggerated demands for his personal residence. He also wanted to work independently for the Muslims as BOSE for the Hindus. Capt. HARBIG was inclined to be lenient, for the time being, as he had been useful in getting some Muslim prisoners to join the Legion. The MULLAH was said to have overruled the objections of the Muslims to breaking their oath of allegiance to the British by telling them that the Quran exempted a Muslim from an oath if he starved for three days. The MULLAH continued to make a nuisance of himself, drinking and consorting with women and was returned to a P.W. camp.

(4). Towards September 1942, I went to Koenigsbruck with BOSE and stayed there for a night. We saw the P.W. doing drill and some new P.W. who had just joined the Legion being formally enrolled. In the afternoon there was a parade and a march past at which BOSE spoke at great length. The German General commanding the region was also present, as well as Col. MEYER and three other high-ranking German officers, not belonging to the Legion, but on service in the area. BOSE's speech was briefly translated into German by ABID HASSAN. BOSE emphasised the need for discipline and the importance of having faith in German leadership. He also spoke optimistically of the political movement led by him; calling for complete unity and warning against

the danger of allowing themselves to be swayed by provincial or religious feelings. That evening, there was a dinner party given by KRAPPE. Next morning, a party of about 250 P.W. accompanied by AMIN CHAND CHAUDHRI was brought from a P.W. camp. After seeing the P.W., KRAPPE said that it would be good if BOSE spoke to them. This he did and so did some of the Legionaries, headed by MOHD ISHAQ (Jemadar, I.A.V.C.). Some national songs were sung and when BOSE formally asked the P.W. to join the Legion, about twenty volunteered. I was told that a further fifty subsequently submitted to persuasion. During this period between May and October 1942, BOSE visited Koenigsbrueck fairly frequently especially since there was the possibility of the transfer of some Legionaries to Greece and he wanted to keep their morale high.

(5). In October 1942, I visited Meseritz with BOSE and MAMA. BOSE wished to go because the men were complaining that he visited Koenigsbrueck and not Meseritz. He was aware that the Germans had now lost interest in the Meseritz group and that it was likely to be dissolved.

(6). In October 1942, BOSE and GANPULEY went to Koenigsbrueck. While he was here, on 5th or 6th of the month, he learned that arrangements for his flight to the Far East had been completed and that he should return to Berlin immediately. He left the next day. The flight did not materialise however because the Italians could not make satisfactory arrangements. (For details see Paras. 168, 169, & 171.)

<u>BOSE's FIRST SABOTAGE GROUP</u>.

76. About September 1942, RUPARTI of the Abwehr informed BOSE that his Department desired to give special training to four Indians with a view to developing the Abwehr's communications with India. The plan was to send them to the N.W.F.P. or a tribal area. BOSE gave the name of SWAMI as a suitable person to be entrusted with the task of selecting the other three. SWAMI was already well-known to RUPARTI as he had known him since 1932. RUPARTI was one of the foreign directors of the leading German Insurance Coy., ALLIANZ, which had many offices in India, and had also visited India before the war. He was now in the Abwehr as a reserve officer with the rank of Captain, and was especially interested in extending the news service to and

from India. BOSE and RUBARTI met occasionally to discuss this problem. BOSE must have had secret correspondence with the Abwehr but I do not know whether the idea of sending a party to India was that of BOSE or of the Abwehr. In any case, BOSE welcomed the idea and SWAMI selected the following:-

(1). KARTAR SINGH
(2). BHAGWANLU
(3). KANWAL SINGH
(4). HARBANS LAL MEHTA

They left for Cologne and were trained under the direction of Lt. KOSCHIN in W.T., sabotage and commercial espionage. They continued their training at Cologne and other places. BOSE had informed YAMAMOTO, then Assistant Japanese Military Attache, of the training and intended employment. His successor, HIGUTI, was also informed, as he was responsible for the arrangements for sending them to the Far East.

cf. para. 82.

BOSE's SPECIAL POLICE GROUP.

77. About June 1942, when the Abwehr was losing interest in the Meseritz group, BOSE met HIMLER and discussed with him the training of some of the Legionaries in police work, not only the ordinary police work but also that of the special police. I know definitely that he spoke about this matter to General LORENZ about the end of July and wanted him to communicate with HIMLER on the subject. It was done without consulting the Foreign Office because HIMLER and RIBBENTROP, especially the latter, were particular about their departments being kept apart. About September or October, LORENZ telephoned BOSE to say that he had discussed the matter with HIMLER and that he had news for him. I was asked to see LORENZ and not to mention the subject to anyone. LORENZ told me that HIMLER had welcomed the idea, that he would attend to the training and would arrange for the men to be transferred near India at the end of their training. HIMLER evidently had in mind the training of a larger group as he had mentioned to LORENZ that the training could be extended to about two hundred men. Subsequently, BOSE informed KEPPLER of the plans for two reasons. Firstly, because KEPPLER although a Foreign Office man, also belonged to the S.S. and had great regard for HIMLER; and secondly because BOSE's plan of going to the Far East had practically materialised. BOSE informed KEPPLER that it would only be

a small group as it was difficult to take more than twelve - sixteen men from the Legion, without substantially weakening it, and KEPPLER then took up the matter and communicated with HIMMLER. (For details of training etc. see para. 84 - 87.)

BOSE's NAVY.

78. BOSE was also anxious to give a few men training in the German Navy, and in August 1942, he met a Naval officer who was willing to help. BOSE anticipated that small groups of the Royal Indian Navy would fall into Japanese and German hands and he wanted to form a basic naval unit in readiness for this eventuality. He talked to some Indian seamen, but they were not anxious to join. BOSE also sent J.K.BANNERJI to see another group somewhere North of Hamburg, but they were not keen though perhaps one or two might have been induced to join later. The plan was eventually dropped because of the lack of volunteers.

BOSE's AIR FORCE.

79. BOSE was also anxious to have a few men trained in the Air Force and was constantly asking KEPPLER to get something done in the matter. A promise of his to furnish opportunities for service in the Air Force had induced several men to join the Legion including G.S.DEY and RUCHPAL. Later K.R.PAL suggested to BOSE that there would be great propaganda value in even two or three Indians taking part in the bombardment of London. KEPPLER was unable to do anything in this matter however as the Army was opposed to it on technical grounds. KRAPPE also opposed the idea as he knew there were no suitable men and that it would weaken the Legion.

BOSE's LABOUR UNIT.

80. BOSE also had the idea of training some men in the German labour organisation (ARBEITSDIENST). He saw the head of the organisation, Reichsarbeitsfuhrer HIERL, who welcomed the idea, but nothing definite ensued. BOSE had selected JASWANT NAIK for this purpose and on the latter approaching REHMAN, arrangements were made for him to join. The ARBEITSDIENST in Berlin sent him some books and he remained under training unto almost the end.

BOSE LEAVES INSTRUCTIONS FOR NAMBIAR PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.

81. In the midst of these projects BOSE was informed on 5.2.43 that he would be leaving for the Far East. He told GANPULEY and myself straightaway. He said that he would write out a short note about the Legion for Col. MEYER and that Col. MEYER would devote his attention to seeing that the Legion was run and trained on the same lines as in the past. He again expressed his wish that the Legion should be put into action if and when an occasion arose. In several conversations prior to his departure, BOSE gave me the impression that in view of transport difficulties, the Indian Legion could not be taken to the Far East for amalgamation with the I.N.A. This was because BOSE no longer cherished any illusions as to Germany ever reaching Iran and Indian soil. Next day on 6.2.43, BOSE wrote this short note, in the form of a letter to RIBBENTROP, copies of which were given to Col. MEYER, KEPPLER, GANPULEY and myself. The main points were as follows:-

I. The character of the Indian Legion, as an Indian Legion should be maintained.

2. It should not be incorporated into or mixed with any other Legion.

3. If and when committed to action, it should be employed against British Forces only.

4. Promotions of Indians to officer rank should be made as quickly as possible.

5. Indians should have the same position and privileges as the Germans of corresponding rank in the Legion.

6. As and when Indians were promoted to the rank of officer and N.C.O. Germans should be withdrawn from the Legion.

7. The Legion should not be divided on a religious or communal basis.

8. Care should be taken that Legionaries did not fall into British hands.

9. The idea of having a few trained men in the Air Force should not be abandoned.

IO. Instruction should be given in all modern German weapons, including heavy artillery, tanks and anti-tank warfare.

II. The contact with the F.I.C. should be kept up. KRAPPE and MEYER were informed by BOSE that GANPULEY and SULTAN would be in charge of the Legion affairs and that I as head of the Free India Centre would be in charge of the Legion as regards policy.

He asked me to see that the instructions were adhered to as closely as possible, to keep up social contacts with the Legionaries and to take a keen

interest in the Legion generally. BOSE also told me that SWAMI's Group should be sent off as soon as possible. Col. HIGUTI had been kept informed and had given assurances that all possible technical arrangements would be attended to. Before his departure, BOSE also talked to me and RUPARTI separately about the formation of another sabotage group. The trainees were to be selected from the old Meseritz-trained volunteers. BOSE left for the Far East on 8th ~~January~~ Feb?, 1943.

SWAMI's SABOTAGE GROUP.

82. Towards the end of February 1943, RUPARTI reported that SWAMI's group could leave soon and that the Japanese should be informed, A meeting was arranged at my house at which VON TROTT, RUPARTI, HIGUTI, GANPULEY and I were present. HIGUTI said that there would be no difficulty and that a permit could be issued immediately. The Group was to travel by a German blockade runner from the French coast, which was to leave very soon. At HIGUTI's suggestion, SWAMI and party came from Cologne to Berlin a few days later. SWAMI was introduced to HIGUTI and received the papers etc. The SWAMI Group left within a few days for Bordeaux from where they sailed. SWAMI took medical supplies which FAROQHI had purchased and RUPARTI gave them two powerful Radio-transmitting sets. At the beginning of May 1943, I heard from RUPARTI that they had arrived before BOSE but that he did not know at which port.

THE SECOND SPECIAL GROUP.

83. Soon after the first group had left in the middle of March '43, the training of the second group commenced and SULTAN under my instructions and in consultation with KRAPIE selected the following:-

1.	DAULAT SINGH	M.T., R.I.A.S.C.
2.	MIR ZAMAN	I.S.C.
3.	GHULAM GHAUS	"
4.	JOGINDER SINGH	"
5.	AKHTAR MAHMUD	"

Lt. KOSCHIN, from Cologne, took charge of these men but in a few weeks all were returned as they were so undisciplined, especially No. 5. As a consequence, an enquiry was made and Lt. KOSCHIN was found to be partly to blame. All of

the men except No. 5 were eventually trained for six months under another officer, but despite BOSE's frequent requests, they were never sent to the East, as blockade runners ceased to sail and the Japanese could not or would not arrange a submarine. The four men eventually joined the Police Group.

THE POLICE GROUP.

84. In furtherance of the request of BOSE for the formation of a Police Group, KEPPLER arranged a formal lunch party in March '43, to which he invited the following:- (cf. para 77)

1. KALTENBRUNNER (the newly appointed chief of the German Police).
2. Brig. Gen. SCHULTZ (one of KALTENBRUNNER's principal deputies).
3. WERTH or TROTT (probably the former).
4. SULTAN.
5. NAMBIAR.

Some days later, SULTAN, GANPULEY and myself met SCHULTZ and one of his assistants, Dr. HOETZEL. I believe KEPPLER was also present. SCHULTZ produced a training programme for the Group, according to which the men should undergo training in ordinary police work for six months, after which they would be taken over by the SS. SCHULTZ intimated that he would take the men over as soon as they had been recruited.

85. Accordingly, SULTAN and GANPULEY went to the Legion and with KRAPIE's knowledge a number of men were selected, but only after much difficulty, since suitable material was scarce. The following were amongst those selected:-

1. G.S.DEY
2. DUTTA
3. LABH CHAND CHOPRA
4. ARAB KHAN
5. MANJIT SINGH
6. SURENDAR SINGH
7. HARBHAJAN SINGH
8. Dr. PAITHANKAR.
9. SAHIB RAO BHOSLE
10. HAMID-UD-DIN
11. BISHAN CHOPRA

The men were taken to Spandau and GANPULEY and SULTAN were instructed to keep in touch with the police officers training them. After a few weeks, I was informed by GANPULEY that PAITHANKAR, BHOSLE and one or two others were giving trouble and eventually GANPULEY informed me that it was essential to have these men returned. Accordingly, I talked to them and told them that it had been decided to reduce the size of the group and that they would have to return

to the Legion. They resented this and BHOSLE showed extreme annoyance. He told me that he had only joined the Indian Army on the advice of an Indian revolutionary and with a view to aiding the nationalist cause. He did not tell me the name of the subversive group in India with which he was connected but I got the impression that the story was false and that all he cared for was to remain in Berlin to have a hectic time. PAITHANKAR and the other two Maharattas who had been recommended by him also showed resentment but had to obey orders.

86. The group remained with the Police until September 1943, when the SS took charge of them and they went to the Charlottenburg SS Police School at 2, Spandaustrasse, which was under the charge of Dr. HOETZEL. Amongst the instructors was a Dr. OGILVIE, whose father was a Scotsman and [illegible] mother a German. Another instructor was Lieut. HERTULLER, who lived with the men and exercised direct supervision over them. Each man was paid 50 R.M. p.m., but this was later increased to 75 and finally to 100. They received a complete course of training in the duties of both Police and SS. The men were not given German police uniform for fear that they might abuse the powers of the Police. I was informed by OGILVIE that the standard of intellect amongst them was low and they lacked sufficient knowledge of German. The men told me that the SS staff was very interested in Indian political movements, that the discipline was not severe but that they were often taken out on excursions. During the air raids the Police Group was employed in combating the damage and disturbance caused by the bombardments. They also visited other towns in Germany and were given skiing lessons and instruction in the duties of water police. Towards the end of September 1944, OGILVIE left the school and was replaced by Lieut. WINTERSTEIN. After September 1943, SULTAN had nothing to do with the Police Group and very little to do with the Legion. GANPULEY being also at Hilversum could only maintain slight contact with the Group, so Dr. HOETZEL dealt directly with me. After the appointment of WINTERSTEIN, I put REHMAN in charge of the Group. WINTERSTEIN was more practical than OGILVIE and himself took part in their instruction. As BOSE had decided to use them on the Burma front, WINTERSTEIN drew up a programme for their training in

frontier control, which was opposed by Dr. HOETZEL who believed that frontier work could only be done by men with experience of that particular region. WINTERSTEIN was then replaced by Lieut. EVERHART. REHMAN was very interested in the training and at the end of 1944 EVERHART took the Group to Posen where they actually investigated small cases of crime. But with the advance of the Russians, they were transferred to Emden in January 1945. I retained LABH CHAND, however, for employment in the office. From a story told me by the latter of the efforts of the Group to round up a well-known criminal in a certain town, I gathered that they were not very efficient in their practical work. On 15.4.45, EVERHART called on me at Bad Gastein and told me that owing to the heavy bombardment of Emden the Group had been removed to Hallein near Salzburg. On his asking me what he was to do with the Group, I gave him a letter to KRAPPE asking the latter to take the Group back into the Legion. About ten days later, EVERHART came again this time with CHOPRA and told me that communications were so difficult that the men could not be transported to the Legion nor were they keen to return. CHOPRA stated that they would like to remain near Salzburg as they wished to remain in a district likely to be occupied by the Americans or the Russians. As EVERHART intimated that he would not stay with the Group, I agreed to hand over a sum of three thousand marks to be distributed to them. After that I heard nothing further about them except that I knew LABH CHAND was in Berlin looking after my property.

cf. para. 14

87. BOSE frequently wrote asking for the Police Group to be sent to the Far East. He told me that he had a large number of men at his disposal but still wanted me to send these out apparently because he wanted trained men and had great faith in the training given in Germany.

NAMBIAR AND THE LEGION.

88. After BOSE's departure, I visited the Legion again with Col. MEYER, Lieut. Col. HIGUTI, SULTAN and GANPULEY. The last two occupied themselves with the selection of men for the second SWAMI group and the Police group. A field exercise for the Legion was arranged and photographs were taken. I did not quite follow the technical side of the manoeuvres but I gathered that the men

did their work well and without confusion and the only criticism I could make was that there was a certain slowness in translating German orders into Hindustani. In the evening, there was a social gathering at the Officers' mess at which KRAPPE, MEYER and GANGULEY spoke. Their speeches were formal and in praise of the Legion.

TRANSFER OF THE LEGION TO HOLLAND (April 1943).

89. In March 1943, KEPPLER informed me that the OKW insisted on the transfer of the Legion from Koenigsbrueck. He said that they might be sent to Holland, Czechoslovakia or France, and he advised Holland, as that country had the advantages of being more accessible, of possessing better housing conditions, no difficulties over currency and the German Commissioner, SEYSS-INQUART, was personally known to KEPPLER. The decision was communicated to KRAPPE, who, informed the Legionaries, and this resulted in considerable unrest. A few days later, GURBACHAN SINGH, GURMUKH SINGH, JASWANT SINGH THAKAR, ALI KHAN and JAMIL AHMED KHAN came to Berlin and interviewed me in my office with GANGULEY. They declared that there was much anxiety in the Legion as to whether this transfer of the Legion was in accordance with the wishes of BOSE. They were also anxious about the whereabouts of BOSE himself as rumours were circulating that he had been arrested by the German authorities. They also thought that once they had been moved to Holland, they might be employed anywhere without anybody being consulted. They complained that their being sent still further away from India was not in accordance with the former assurance given to them, and their being in Holland might intensify bombardment in that country. They would be entirely isolated and would lose contact with the F.I.C. Moreover, they had no assurance that there was any authorised representative of BOSE in Germany. This latter point appeared to be the main one. GURBACHAN SINGH was the mouthpiece of the men and THAKAR appeared to be the keenest against the move.

90. I assured the men that the transfer had the approval of BOSE and was for technical reasons and practical training. The men were not convinced

but felt that I was not in a position to have the decision reversed. Later, on a visit to the Legion in Holland, I told the men that the chief reason for the transfer was training in coastal defence. I also told them that the rumours about BOSE being arrested were quite unfounded, but I was not able to disclose where BOSE was. I also convinced them that I was the duly accredited representative of BOSE and assured ~~me~~ them that contact between the F.I.C. and the Legion would be maintained.

91. KRAPPE welcomed the idea of a transfer to Holland to get the men away from the influence of Frau VON HARBOU and from the women they had contracted liaisons with. He considered that discipline would improve and that the continual demand of some of the men to return to P.W. camps would abate.

Cf. paras. 121-122.

92. BOSE had never been actually opposed to the idea of the Legion being used for other purposes than fighting the British. I remember him once thinking of employing the Legion in North Africa when ROMMEL's drive on Alexandria was in progress, as he wanted to associate the Legion with it. At that time, he was trying to pay a visit to North Africa himself but he was opposed by both Germans and Italians. The proposal was also not bery keenly received by ROMMEL's H.Q. for military reasons. They appeared to think that the Legion would be more a hindrance than a help. However, KRAPPE and his adjutant, Lieut. KUTSCHER, went to North Africa and watched the operations to gain experience.

93. When it was reported that there was serious opposition to the transfer, KEPPLER and VON TROTT visited Koenigsbrueck with GANPULEY and myself. KRAPPE had informed MEYER that he had to isolate from eighty to one hundred of the mischief-makers. At this meeting at Koenigsbrueck, I heard a young German officer named MULLER advocating that some of the leaders of the strike should be shot, and I strongly opposed this proposal. Col. MEYER, KEPPLER and KRAPPE were for a more moderate punishment and it was eventually decided to punish those who had made propaganda against the transfer. I met a group of about thirty Legionaries in the absence of German officers and spoke to them in English, JAMIL KHAN afterwards translating into Hindustani.

I gained the impression that all was not well with the Legion at Koenigsbrueck. The life was dull; the training had not resulted in a better esprit de corps; expectations of an early German victory had subsided; the strength of Germany's enemies appeared to be growing; Legionaries had no social life; there was friction between Legionaries and some of the German officers; the Indian N.C.O.s did not carry influence with the men because they were inefficient. In the evening, there was a social function - a goodbye party to the Legion - which was attended by two local generals, the Mayor of Koenigsbrueck, EULITZ, and the local Nazi party leader. There were some speeches including one by GANPULEY, who urged that special attention would be paid to the promotion of Indians to officer rank.

MEDALS FOR THE LEGION.

94. (Note: NAMBIAR confirms the information given by SULTAN and others regarding medals for the Legion and SULTAN's part in their preparation, and adds the following information:-)

There were six types of medals which followed the pattern of those laid down by BOSE for the I.N.A. The suggestion originally came from Col. MEYER. The medals were in three categories. Some of them had the design of swords on them and some had the head of a tiger. The third category was just an ordinary medal with the inscription 'Azad Hind' on it. (Cf. paras. 110 - 118.)

OATH CEREMONY.

95. About the time that BOSE and YAMAMOTO were preparing to leave for the Far East (Aug. '42), they visited Koenigsbrueck with GHULAM SADIQI and GANPULEY to administer the Oath of Allegiance to Legionaries. YAMAMOTO took a number of photographs of the Legion for BOSE to take away with him. A few days after my return from Koenigsbrueck, KRAPPE reported that the move to Holland had taken place without incident. A number of the ringleaders of the discontent had been sent to Naundorf to undergo punishment and I was forced to agree with the necessity for this.

INCIDENTS IN THE LEGION.

96. GANPULEY reported that the work of the Legion was progressing

satisfactorily but that a number of incidents had occurred. These included the murder of IBRAHIM in Holland and the murder of HARI SINGH in Meseritz. The latter incident was reported to me by Subedar SANT SINGH. I was not competent to interfere with matters of discipline and punishment within the Legion and therefore could do nothing. In one matter however, when a young Muslim Legionary was accused of rape and condemned to death, KEPPLER sent me the papers from which I concluded that the sentence was exceptionally severe. In the first instance the court had awarded imprisonment for three years but General BLASKOWITZ had remarked that that type of offence was becoming frequent and that a severe punishment should be given. This was supported by KRAPPE and Col. MEYER. There was also a remark that severer punishment than that which would be awarded to a German should be given because of the special erotic character of Indians. I wrote a strong protest to KEPPLER and handed over my protest also to HAILER. I heard later from Professor ALSDORF that the papers had not reached the Foreign Office and he therefore asked me for my statement. I do not know what sentence was carried out but I heard KEPPLER telling BERTLING when the latter was appointed Commander, to ensure that death sentences were not passed for such offences.

cf. para. 108.

NAMBIAR VISITS THE LEGION IN HOLLAND.

97. In July 1943, I accompanied MEYER at his request on a visit to the Legion in Holland. GANGULEY was already there. MEYER wished to meet the General of the Wehrkreis as he had certain matters of equipment for the Legion to discuss. It had already been decided by OKW to commit the Legion to active service. I saw all the Legion in small groups on the parade ground. They were living in isolated units spread over a wide area. On one occasion, I addressed a group and JAMIL KHAN translated what I said into Hindustani. I told them that I was glad to see that their apprehensions at Koenigsbrueck regarding the transfer had not been realised and announced the arrival of BOSE in the Far East. I found that for various reasons the men were more cheerful in Holland than they had been in Koenigsbrueck. The population was more friendly to the small groups than had been anticipated; there seemed little fear of fighting with the British; it was anticipated that promotions were on the way and above all the arrival of BOSE and the news of successes in the Far East helped to raise

their morale. In the afternoon, I went with KRAPPE, Col. MEYER and GANPULEY to see the General at Utrecht, being announced by Major VON PLESSEN. The General expressed his satisfaction with the behaviour of the Legion and promised to provide certain facilities for the Legion.

AZAD HIND STAMPS.

98. About June or July 1943, MEYER informed me that he was being assigned to a new post, and it was on this occasion that he suggested the issuing of stamps to commemorate the Legion and also as a means of propaganda. The idea originated from a Herr DREXLER, a stamp-designer and philatelist, who was living in the same house as MEYER. I handed over the matter to GANPULEY and SULTAN and the latter was very keen to follow it up. (Cf. para 152)

CHANGES IN THE LEGION HIGH COMMAND.

99. A few days later, MEYER was transferred to France and he introduced me to his successor Lieut. Col. VON DER HEYDE. About this time also HIGUTI suggested that the Legion be given training in jungle warfare. KEPPLER and VON TROTT, however, pointed out the lack of facilities for such training in Germany.

TRANSFER OF THE LEGION FROM HOLLAND TO FRANCE.

100. The transfer of the Legion from Holland to France was ordered suddenly, the reason for it being given as better climatic conditions. Only a few days after I first heard of this proposed transfer, I heard that it had taken place. There appeared to have been no difficulties with the men, though subsequently many technical difficulties arose. The Legion was scattered over such a wide area that KRAPPE found it impossible to maintain unity of leadership; the Legionaries complained bitterly of bad living conditions, a complaint with which the German officers sympathised. GANPULEY, meanwhile, kept in touch with the Legion and through his representations it was agreed to concentrate the Legion in a smaller area. GANPULEY kept in correspondence with Lieut. SEIFRITZ, the adjutant, and I kept in contact with VON DER HEYDE, mostly through RAHMAN, for technical matters. But owing to the difficulties of communications we heard less news of the Legion. From a memorandum written

by GANGULEY and presented to the German officers, I gathered that the relations between the German officers and the Indians was not satisfactory. At this time, promotions to Lieutenants of Indians had taken place and GANGULEY suggested that preference had been shown to the Sikhs and the Muslims at the expense of the Hindus. At the suggestion of KEPPLER and with the approval of KRAPPE, I, KEPPLER and LEIPOLDT decided to visit the Legion again. We left for Paris on the 6th May, where we were joined by HIGUTI, and were met at Bordeaux by KRAPPE who drove us to Lacanau.

cf. para. 182.

101. J.K.BANNERJI, who, was in Paris as the representative of the F.I.C. called on me and told me that he had been to see the Legion and found the men very despondent. He had spoken to the men and tried to explain the connection between digging trenches on the coast and the Indian 'Freedom' Movement.

102. GANGULEY was already at Lacanau and on the morning after our arrival we saw the men on duty and in their living quarters. We also interviewed some groups of Indian officers who put forward a series of complaints which were not new to me. The complaints however were this time presented more vehemently, GURBACHAN SINGH acting as principal spokesman. The main complaints were that no Indian was in charge of a company; that instead of the number of Germans decreasing in the Legion, it had actually increased; that the Indian officers and N.C.O.s had not the same authority as Germans of corresponding rank; and that a scheme put forward by GURBACHAN SINGH, whereby one company would be Indianised, had come to nothing. In a private conversation afterwards, GURBACHAN SINGH asked if he could not go to the Far East. I came to the conclusion that enthusiasm had waned in the Legion and that this was chiefly due to the change in the military situation, though this was not mentioned by the Legionaries. I also saw that the relations between Germans and Indians were not good, but this was chiefly due to the Germans insisting on strict military training and discipline. There were three categories of Legionaries:-

I. Those who had originally joined and were inspired with enthusiasm for BOSE and who had still the good of the Legion at heart.

2. Those who had joined the Legion from selfish motives, had no special interest in it and discharged their duties perfunctorily.

3. Those who had been suborned by the first category and followed the leaders like sheep.

KRAPPE, who was really anxious as an officer for the efficiency of the unit entrusted to his charge, was extremely handicapped by the conditions. He knew that most of the Indians promoted to officer and N.C.O. rank would not have been so promoted in either the British or German armies, but he had to make concessions to BOSE who was continually pressing for promotions to be given to Indians. Indian officers themselves admitted to me that some 25% of the men were not interested in a soldier's life and some gave me even higher figures. These would have proved shirkers in any army not to speak of the Indian Legion where the men were often pampered. Some of the Indian officers thought that the Legion would have been more efficient if the 25% of shirkers had been eliminated. The General in command of the region had complained of the inefficiency of the Legion and had proposed to appoint an officer of the rank of Colonel to supersede KRAPPE. The latter had complained to KEPPLER and it was for that reason that KEPPLER had visited the Legion. During this visit two functions took place:-

I. A tea-party attended by two Generals at which I spoke thanking officers for the interest they had taken in the Legion.

2. A dinner party attended also by two Generals and some officers including one Indian officer (ABUZAR).

I spoke to KRAPPE regarding BOSE's desire that at least a part of the Legion should see some active service. KRAPPE was opposed to the Legion going on service as he considered it unfit for active service and thought that service in a rear area behind the front would be bad for the men's morale. However, he agreed to arrange for one company to be sent to Italy.

THE NINTH COMPANY SENT INTO ACTION.

103. KRAPPE selected the ninth company to go to Italy. According to enquiries made by me and in the opinion of Lt. ABDULLA, KRAPPE purposely selected Lt. BINDRA, a poor officer, to be in charge and appeared to wish to show the futility of hastily sending a group of Legionaries to the front. He himself had no wish to see active service. I heard later that the company

had been committed to action against the Poles, and had refused to fight, some of them deserting. According to Col. VON DER HEYDE it was planned to recall it to the Legion.

JAMIL'S PROPAGANDA GROUP.

104. When I heard of JAMIL's Propaganda Group in Italy, I wrote to VON DER HEYDE for details. He replied that JAMIL had been put on special duty by higher authority. Subsequently, he told me that he did not himself know who had arranged the matter. Some time in July, JAMIL arrived in Berlin and saw me. He told me that he had carried on his work with great difficulty and at considerable risk (Note: NAMBIAR confirms the names of JAMIL's Group which are already known to us). JAMIL told me that the members of the Group acted individually and were not in communication with each other. Two of these who were men considered quite trustworthy by the Germans had deserted to the British. JAMIL, whom I knew to be a patriotic National worker, expressed apprehension about what would happen if the Indian Legion was ever committed to action. JAMIL was very anxious to obtain a motor cycle and a typewriter, and showed me some leaflets which he had been distributing amongst Indian troops. Professor ALSDORF appeared to be the liaison between JAMIL and the German High Command. I talked the matter over with VON DER HEYDE but to no effect as the latter had lost interest in the Legion since he had heard of the contemplated transfer of the Legion to the Waffen SS. JAMIL AHMED also discussed his work in Italy with HABIBUR REHMAN. I heard no more of JAMIL and I do not know whether he was in touch with SHEDAI or the GRAND MUFTI in Italy. However, a few months later REHMAN showed me some posters and a news bulletin which JAMIL was issuing. They were in Hindustani but REHMAN told me that they were very interesting.

THE BHAI BAND RADIO.

105. I did not hear of the BHAI BAND RADIO which was installed in Lacanau until it had been running some time. GANFULEY then gave me the names of the persons responsible for it and I told him that I thought it was wrong that it should be run by Germans. He replied that there were no competent Indians and that the Germans were very efficient. The radio was meant purely

to supply information to the Legionaries and had no propaganda value. The BHAI BAND RADIO run by JAMIL in Italy however, was a propaganda organisation.

THE LEGION TRANSFERRED TO THE WAFFEN SS.

106. Early in May '44, I heard from VON TROTT that it was proposed to transfer the Legion to the Waffen SS. Accordingly, we got in touch with VON DER HEYDE who was furious and criticised JODL and KEITEL saying that they had probably made this decision sitting in front of the fire in armchairs. KEPPLER was approached who told us that the decision was taken by HITLER himself, in conformity with his policy to place all Foreign Legions under the SS. Nothing could be done in the matter. The only result was that on the advice of KEPPLER the opportunity was taken to get rid of those German officers in the Legion who were considered responsible for the ill-feeling between Germans and Indians. At my request, GANPULEY supplied a list of such men. After the invasion I received no further news of the Legion, but it had been settled that they should be committed to action.

BOSE'S MESSAGE TO THE LEGION.

107. Immediately after the invasion BOSE sent a message of encouragement to the Legionaries bidding them to fight well and to stand firmly under the leadership of KRAPPE. This message was duly conveyed to the Legion.

NEW COMMANDER OF THE LEGION APPOINTED.

108. About the third week in July, I was informed by Professor ALSDORF that a Colonel BERTLING had been appointed Commander of the Legion, and that KEPPLER had arranged a luncheon at the Hotel Esplanade to meet him. Accordingly, in the last week of July, KEPPLER, BERTLING, ALSDORF, LEIHOLDT, MAMA and I met at the Hotel. VON TROTT had also been invited but did not turn up. LEIHOLDT, who came late, took KEPPLER aside and later I heard that he had told him that VON TROTT had been arrested in connection with the attempt on HITLER's life on 20.7.44. At this lunch party and subsequently, I discussed the Legion with the new Commander who appeared to be a very intelligent SS officer and expressed his intention to solve all the difficulties of the Legion. I emphasised the necessity for making the men

cf. para. 115

more contented. I also introduced GANGULEY who afterwards met BERTLING frequently.

109. The first I heard of the Legion after it had gone into action was when the German press announced that the Indian Legion had returned to Germany; that it had fought its way back well and that SULTAN KHAN, MOHD RASHID and SUKHDEV CHAUDHRI had been decorated for gallantry. This message was transmitted over the Azad Hind Radio.

110. Meanwhile, however, the SS had not properly taken over charge of the Legion nor had Col. VON DER HEYDE relinquished his charge. Col. BERTLING continued to stay in Berlin and was busy in obtaining equipment and making contact with higher officers of the Waffen SS. In this connection he introduced me to General KNOBLOLCH. The latter told me that BERTLING had been to HIMMLER's adjutant. Towards the end of September 1944, KRAPPE arrived in Berlin and told me that he had met BERTLING near Stuttgart. KRAPPE had brought back the Legion to Germany with few losses, and estimated the casualties at about one hundred of whom about thirty were wounded; in addition, over a hundred had deserted. There had been some looting in France, though he gave me no details. The Legion had brought back all its material despite opposition from the F.F.I. and at two or three places from the Americans. On these occasions the Legion had fought very well, and in one action Lt. ALI KHAN had been killed. KRAPPE was so overpowered by the change of command that he spoke little and soon took his leave. RAHMAN had suggested that KRAPPE should be given a Legion Medal and despite the difficulties that medals were given by the High Command and the grant only counter-signed by the Provisional Government of India, KRAPPE was duly presented with the medal in the F.I.C. office and also with a letter thanking him for his services. These medals were deposited by GANGULEY in Koenigsbrueck, probably in the house of the Burgermeister, and also some at Borg where SULTAN lived.

cf. para. 94.

111. It had occurred to me that good propaganda could be made out of the fighting and return of the Indian Legion from France. Accordingly it

was decided to arrange for a broadcast by KRAPPE and one or two Legionaries, and also for interviews with German and Japanese press correspondents. For the broadcast, which took place on 15th October '44, Lt. ABDULLAH, Lt. GURBACHAN SINGH, SULTAN KHAN and MOHD RASHID were brought from the Legion, then at Hagenau: all spoke except ABDULLAH, and KRAPPE read a short note in English. The press interviews both took place on the same day at 36, Brandenburgische Strasse, the Japanese coming in the morning, and the Germans in the evening. Of the Japanese, who had been briefed for the interview by Col. HIGUTI, I remember OSHIMA of the 'Nishi-nishi Shimbun' and HIJERI of the Domei agency: KRAPPE spoke to them first, followed by ABDULLAH and SULTAN KHAN, after which the correspondents asked various questions about the Legion. The same procedure was adopted for the interview with the German correspondents, at which RAHMAN, MANA, BANERJI and Dr. RAM were also present. Photographs were taken and the correspondents' articles were later published in the local papers and in 'Azad Hind'.

II2. ABDULLAH and GURBACHAN SINGH having expressed to me their apprehension at the transfer of the Legion to the SS, I reassured them that there would be no change in the status of the Legion and arranged for them to meet BERTLING. The latter invited them to a luncheon and they told me afterwards that they had been greatly impressed by his personality.

II3. Meanwhile RUPARTI had shown me a letter signed by an SS officer which stated that the behaviour of the Legionaries during the retreat had been very bad. I had already heard of this and I talked to KRAPPE, ABDULLAH and GURBACHAN SINGH separately. They confirmed what I had heard, but GURBACHAN SINGH and ABDULLAH did not tell me the names of those who were actually concerned in the atrocities. They blamed the Germans and told me that the reason for the desertion of ABUZAR and others was that the Germans had left them without instructions. I wrote an account of what I learnt to S.C.BOSE. During the following days, GANGULEY, KRAPPE, BERTLING and I had many discussions as to what should happen to the Legion which was then stationed at Hagenau. KRAPPE persuaded BERTLING to remain in Berlin to arrange with the senior SS officers the posting and re-equipment of the Legion. It was proposed at that

time to station the Legion somewhere in the North of Italy and regroup them for further training under the SS. Meanwhile, there had been trouble with the Legion including Hindu-Muslim trouble, and ABDULLAH whom I consulted, apprehended that a new C.O. would have difficulty in tackling the situation. GANPULEY pursued his proposal for the Indianisation of the Legion and BERTLING seemed to support it, but when KRAPPE was confirmed as Commander, the plan was dropped. GANPULEY and I were very keen on recalling JAMIL from Italy to the Legion, but this was opposed by KRAPPE. The latter however, proposed the Indianisation of one company and I heard later that he had actually carried it out.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

II4. This was celebrated on 23.10.44, both KRAPPE and BERTLING together with the four Legionaries mentioned above, participating in the function.

HIMMLER'S CONNECTIONS WITH THE LEGION.

II5. HIMMLER had visited the Legion at Hagenau in November '44, and had a long talk with KRAPPE which gave him a favourable impression of the Legion. As a result, he had promptly confirmed KRAPPE in command, and KRAPPE was shortly afterwards promoted full Colonel. Meanwhile, the distinction between the Wehrmacht and the Waffen SS had practically disappeared, but since GANPULEY was worried as to how he should keep in touch with the Legion, I established contact through KALTENBRUNNER with General JUTTNER. The latter arranged for GANPULEY to be in the same relation with Lieut. Col. GRASSLER as he had been with Col. VON DER HEYDE.

VISIT OF GANPULEY AND D.S.M.RAO TO THE LEGION.

II6. GANPULEY and RAO visited the Legion in December 1944, and stayed some time with it, but I received no reports from them nor did HABIBUR REHMAN hear from them. I think however, there had been no great difficulties after the transfer to SS had been effected.

II7. About the middle of December, or before, a message was received from BOSE expressing satisfaction with the behaviour of the Legion in its

retreat and again expressing his wish that the Legion be used on active service. I communicated this to Col. GRASSLER but towards the end of December received a letter from HIMMLER saying that the Legion should remain in Germany.

II8. After KRAPFE had been promoted to Colonel, he brought me a list of Legionaries to whom medals should be distributed. This list was duly approved by the Wehrmacht and counter-signed by me as Staatsminister on behalf of the Provisional Government of India. There were two such lists, one for five hundred medals and the other for six hundred. (Cf. para. 94)

THE LAST CONTACTS WITH THE LEGION.

II9. Due to lack of communications, GANPULEY could not visit the Legion after December and no news of it was received. I approached GRASSLER for news and he asked me whether I had any fresh instructions from BOSE. I told him I had none, but he arranged for me to meet General JUTTNER at a lunch party at the latter's office. REHMAN, GRASSLER and two German officers were present. On this occasion GRASSLER told me that weapons had been taken away from the Legion in order to supply German troops on the front line who were short. I again reminded him that BOSE wished the Legion to be put into actioh. On 2.4.45, I informed GRASSLER that I was leaving for Bad Gastein that day and that GANPULEY would be at Helmstedt. I also informed GANPULEY of my movements and reassured him that Germany would not lose the war. Soon after getting to Bad Gastein communications with Berlin were interrupted. In the third week of April 1945, HIGUTI arrived at Bad Gastein and informed me that he had received a message from BOSE expressing his desire to see the Legion moved to an area likely to be occupied by the Russians, if it were not going into action. I then remembered having advised BOSE to get into touch with Tokyo in this connection, but never heard whether BOSE had acted on this advice. I informed LEIPOLDT of BOSE's wish and he said he would inform the Military Authorities, but he was sure that nothing could be done. As regards the Legion, I had always honestly endeavoured to carry out BOSE's instructions.

INDIAN CIVILIANS IN THE LEGION.

I20. The Indian civilians serving in the Legion had been setn to act as

interpreters, and in the hope that some of them would prove fit for officer rank. BOSE's idea that all members of the F.I.C. should undergo military training never materialised. He always encouraged members of the F.I.C. to visit the Legion and hoped that they would prove good propagandists. KRAPPE was opposed to these visits however and did not consider that F.I.C. members had any influence with the men. BOSE's idea of the employment of F.I.C. members was that they should supply news of the Indian situation to the Legionaries, but this was difficult as members did not support him. The only practical step in this direction was the issuing of the 'Urdu Bulletin' at a later stage by SULTAN. Before this, the Wehrmacht had issued a Bulletin in Hindustani on material supplied chiefly by SULTAN and this was sent regularly to the Legionaries and to P.W. camps. Films which were meant for the entertainment of Legionaries and P.W. were given Hindustani titles by ABDUL RAUF MALIK. Nearly all members of the F.I.C. visited the Legion ar various times but this stopped after the move to Hilversum. After September 1944, RAO paid one or two visits and KRAPPE told me that RAO was popular. RAHMAN, GANGULEY and SULTAN of course were in direct touch with the Legion. GANGULEY was not popular. SARMA was the most enthusiastic visitor, his main idea being to obtain Red Cross parcels. AMIN CHAND CHAUDHRI was permanently posted to the P.W. camp at Annaburg. KARTA RAM frequently visited the Legion and was quite popular. GURU DYAL LAL went two or three times, once to lecture, once in connection with the making of the film of the Legion and once or twice directing Legionaries as broadcasters. Up till the end of 1942, Dr. FARUQI in his capacity as doctor used to attend the Legion and visited those in hospital in or about Koenigsbrueck and Berlin. On the recommendation of GANGULEY, Dr. MADAN was posted as M.O. in the Legion, and was paid by the German army. His wife, a German living in Vienna, was paid 200 RM by the F.I.C.

Frau VON HARBOU AND INDIANS.

121. I first heard of Frau Thea VON HARBOU in 1928 as a writer of film scenarios. At that time she was the wife of a film producer FRITZLANG, whom she later divorced and married TENDULKAR. When I returned to Berlin in 1942, HARBOU had separated from TENDULKAR but was still living in Berlin and

entertained Indians at restaurants and at her house. She helped many of them with food, money and clothes on the outbreak of war. Later it was confirmed by reports I received that she was employed by the Propaganda Ministry and some department of the Foreign Office for this purpose. The Indians however quarrelled amongst themselves and became divided into two parties, one for and the other against her. Against her were T.C.ROY, GANPULEY, G.D.LAL, VYAS, REHMAN and BHATTA and they wished her to hand over the funds she spent on Indians to the Committee of the Indian Students' Association. I heard from BOSE that he had an understanding with HARBOU about the formation of the Indian Legion and she entertained the first P.W. who joined. By offering opportunities of wine and women to the P.W. and so relieving the monotony of their lives, she came to have a considerable influence over young Indians. BOSE said that she was very keen on keeping close relations with him and as she obviously had considerable influence he was at first in favour in keeping in with her. But when he found that she was opposed by the very group who had joined the F.I.C. and that Frl. SCHENKL was also opposed to her, he started criticising Indians who visited her.

I22. I first saw HARBOU when she came to see the first batch of Legionaries going to Frankenberg. A few weeks later, she was reported to have visited Frankenberg, seen some Legionaries and taken photographs. This she did without the knowledge of the F.I.C. and according to VON TROTT without that of the Foreign Office. Later however, it was discovered that the Foreign Office knew all about it and BOSE protested to VON TROTT against her activities. This was only one of the things which TROTT and KEPPLER kept secret from BOSE. VON TROTT also exercised a check on BOSE through various people, one of whom was HARBOU, and despite BOSE's protests, Indians in Berlin continued to visit HARBOU and she maintained close relations with the leading Legionaries. A special favourite living in her house was SAMANT, who was treated with great affection and received many favours. HARBOU was also instrumental in supplying a group of Indians headed by SAMANT to the official short wave Radio station. This group operated a station called 'Namaste Hind'. SAMANT joined the F.I.C. in May I942, despite the opposition of some members

and stayed until September 1943, proving a good worker. In September 1943, he became unnerved by air raids and through the influence of HARBOU obtained facilities to leave for Lisbon by plane. He came to me before his departure asking me to obtain for him foreign currency but I did not feel disposed to help him. (Cf. Appx. 'A' to Statement of VYAS). As both KENI and REHMAN looked upon SAMANT's departure with suspicion I got HALLER to make enquiries but before anything could be done, he left. The true reason for his departure will be known to HARBOU. S.TENDULKAR, who had very close relations with HARBOU, volunteered to go to the Legion and although he did not appear very strong and I could not understand why he was so keen, KRAFFE had no complaints against him. It was TENDULKAR who recommended SUTAR for employment as an announcer. I have no doubt that HARBOU obtained her intimate knowledge of the Azad Hind Movement in order to keep the Germans informed.

INDIANS LECTURING IN GERMANY.

123. TARACHAND ROY, HABIBUR REHMAN, A.R.MALIK, BHATTA, Dr. FARUQI and GANGULEY frequently lectured all over Germany, under the auspices of different organisations such as the Labour Front, the Propaganda Department of the Wehrmacht, Universities and other Educational Institutions and Youth Organisations. BOSE endeavoured to co-ordinate these lectures but as some of the lecturers made a very good income by their lectures - for instance T.C.ROY who was a professional lecturer - BOSE's idea was not followed. T.C. ROY was paid 600 Marks a month by the F.I.C. H.REHMAN spoke at gatherings of the Labour Front; MALIK at meetings organised by various institutes; BHATTA chiefly before gatherings arranged by the Wehrmacht; GANGULEY rarely and normally before commercial organisations; and FARUQI before medical audiences.

NEWSPAPER COMMITTEE.

124. In early 1942, BOSE wished to establish a Newspaper Committee on the same lines as the projected Lecture Committee to co-ordinate the work of those writing articles for the German press. Chief amongst these were T.C.ROY and H.REHMAN; ABDUL RAUF MALIK and Prof. BHATTA also contributed articles to German periodicals. Only one meeting of this Committee was held and was attended by the following:-

1. BOSE
2. T.C.ROY
3. H.REHMAN
4. G.K.MUKHERJI
5. KENI
6. VYAS
7. ABDUL RAUF MALIK
8. NAMBIAR

REHMAN was deputed to maintain contact with the foreign correspondents, but BOSE's desire to co-ordinate the work of the members was not realised.

LIBRARY.

I25. Professor BHATTA was made responsible for the provision of a library. He managed to collect about 600 books, mostly dealing with India, but the whole lot was destroyed in an Allied bombing attack on 22.I0.43.

PLANNING COMMITTEE.

I26. In April '42, BOSE decided to form a Planning Committee and selected the following as members:-

1. K.L.MAZUMDAR
2. K.K.BOSE
3. Dr. RAM
4. VYAS
5. Otto FALTES

HARAKALI MITRA wrote from Stuttgart volunteering to join the Committee but asking to be allowed to continue work in the factory; and Dr. DAS GUPTA wrote from Hamburg intimating his readiness to join. BOSE also wished to secure the participation of Dr. HAFIZ on this Committee. HAFIZ was about 60 years of age, a Punjabi Mohammedan resident in Ankara; he was a Chemist specialising in the manufacture of explosives; an ambitious man, who was connected with the Indian National Committee during the last war. On BOSE's instructions VON TROTT contacted HAFIZ in Ankara and in July I942, HAFIZ arrived in Berlin. He had long conversations with BOSE, VON TROTT and myself and several interviews alone with BOSE. BOSE promised to arrange for HAFIZ to come to Berlin in August I942, but after HAFIZ returned to Ankara he began to realise the difficulties of this plan. About this time SALEH had left the F.I.C. owing to his adamant pro-Muslim standpoint and BOSE feared that HAFIZ, if he came, would only strengthen SALEH's hand and establish a Muslim Separatist Movement. In October I942, HAFIZ wrote from Ankara to say that he had given up the post there and was ready to come to Berlin. BOSE however, replied

cf. para. 137

through VON TROTT that the circumstances were not favourable and eventually nothing further was heard of HAFIZ coming.

I27. HAFIZ was married to an Austrian woman who was living in Vienna with their son and daughter. His son, HARID or HARIF, was anxious to join the Legion but HAFIZ would not permit it, insisting that he should continue his training as a chemical engineer.

I28. I was now appointed Chairman of the Planning Committee under BOSE's guidance and two or three meetings were held. FARUQI was detailed to work out a scheme for the improvement of Health Services in India. MAZUMDAR was to plan the arms production; Dr. RAM the development of mineral resources, and VYAS, under the direction of Otto FALTES, was to examine the financial question. DAS GUPTA was to draw up plans for the chemical industries; MITRA for aeroplane construction; K.K.BOSE for the development of broadcasting; and SEN GUPTA for the redistribution of land. This Committee was doomed to failure from the outset because the members either lacked practical experience in their subjects, or if they had that experience, lacked the broader outlook necessary for large-scale planning. At one meeting MAZUMDAR read a report on his plans for the equipment of the future defence forces of India, and FARUQI produced a paper on the improvement of health services. Both these papers showed evidence of much book-learning but lacked real knowledge of the subject and imagination in its development. In September '42, G.BOSE from Brunswick and GHOSE from either Darmstadt or Dusseldorf, both having expressed their willingness to join the Planning Committee, came to see me in the office. I told them that we were now concentrating on obtaining practical experience for our members and that for the present they would do best to remain where they were. Later RAM left the office to obtain practical training and in I944 took his degree at Berlin University. DAS GUPTA disappeared in early I943 without informing anyone. He was only seen again on one occasion in August I943, when he came to ask for our assistance in obtaining compensation for air raid damage. MAZUMDAR joined the SKODA works for practical training, and K.K.BOSE went into radio work. He was later employed at the SIEMENS works and the PHILIPPS works at

Hilversum, although he managed to keep contact with the office throughout.

I29. S.C.BOSE himself contributed to the work of the Planning Committee by making personal contact with leading German industrialists and commercial figures. He was introduced by KEPPLER to a director of the Reichsbank with whom GANGULEY was afterwards supposed to maintain contact on behalf of the Planning Committee. KEPPLER also introduced him to VOSS, President of the SKODA works, whom he also contacted in company with K. MAZUMDAR whilst on a visit to Czechoslovakia. (Comment: For further details of the Planning Committee as confirmed by NAMBIAR see Appx. 'B' to the Statement of VYAS).

cf. para. 163.

THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND THE SONDERREFERAT INDIEN.

I30. Although S.C.BOSE went first to Rome after his arrival in Germany he always intended to establish his Headquarters in Berlin, in spite of the initial coldness with which he was received by German Foreign Office Officials. His early negotiations to establish a Free Indian Movement in Germany were conducted with WOERMANN, head of the political department. He was especially anxious to obtain a declaration from Germany on the independence of India but owing to complications with the Japanese, this was never forthcoming. BOSE eventually secured from RIBBENTROP the establishment of a special department of the Foreign Office to deal with Indian affairs and known as SONDERREFERAT INDIEN. KEPPLER was appointed head of this Department and became BOSE's chief contact with the Foreign Office. In the Foreign Office proper MELCHERS was responsible for Oriental affairs, but his general policy was very cautious in spite of BOSE's enthusiasm. MELCHERS was also kept informed about reports received from Kabul and information concerning the activities of the Free India Movement generally. In addition RIBBENTROP had two members of his personal staff to deal with reports relating to India; they were MEGERLE and SCHMIDEN.

cf. para. 157.

I31. In the Press Department STAUBNITZ and BASSLER dealt with Indian affairs. BOSE often complained that they did not show sufficient interest in the Indian question and that they did not wholeheartedly support his views about the Muslim League. BASSLER however, preferred to be guided in

these matters by Prof. ALSDORF.

I32. Even before the arrival of BOSE, some of the Indians in Berlin were in contact with the Foreign Office, and the Ministry of Propaganda. DHAWAN and TARACHAND ROY were supplying reports on India direct to MELCHERS, whilst SALEH and FARUQI were connected with the Foreign Office in their capacity as broadcasters. Similarly the radio activities of HABIBUR REHMAN, ABDUL RAUF MALIK and SULTAN brought them into contact with the Propaganda Ministry, whilst BHATTA was also in touch with the Press Dept. of 'Promi'. HABIBUR REHMAN worked directly under KNOTHE and also with Irmtraud KAISER.

REICHSRUNDFUNKGESELLSCHAFT and THE PROPAGANDA MINISTRY.

I33. The official at the Propaganda Ministry in charge of short wave transmissions to India and the East was KLEINOW, under whom worked BOFINGER of the R.R.G. (Comment: See Interrogation Report on BOFINGER forwarded with my DGD/293 d. II.7.45). The speakers in Hindustani in the early days of the war were HABIBUR REHMAN, ABDUL RAUF MALIK and SULTAN; they were joined in April '43 by Jem. ALIMULLAH. HABIBUR REHMAN was the self-appointed leader of this Indian section but his leadership was popular neither with Indians nor Germans. He often quarrelled with KLEINOW over material to be broadcast - this was usually supplied by one GROSSMANN - and over office discipline. He also quarrelled with ABDUL RAUF MALIK who adopted a pro-Muslim attitude in his broadcasts whereas HABIBUR REHMAN tried to bring all broadcasts into line with BOSE's propaganda. KLEINOW was anxious to secure the dismissal of REHMAN and found a suitable opportunity after the departure of BOSE for the Far East. After his dismissal REHMAN asked me to take up the matter with KEPPLER and a conference was called attended by the following:-

1. KEPPLER
2. KLEINOW
3. BOFINGER
4. Staatsminister RUHLEY
5. SCHULTZ
6. MUNZLER
7. NAMBIAR

It was obvious however, that KLEINOW was supported in his objection to HABIBUR REHMAN by the majority of his associates. It was decided therefore, not to pursue the matter, and ABDUL RAUF MALIK was appointed as REHMAN's successor. SULTAN had already been dismissed without protest.

I34. Bengali transmissions were introduced into the R.R.G. broadcasts in June I942. K.R.PAL was the Bengali announcer until he was dismissed for ill-discipline in early '44 when I arranged for B.L.MUKHERJI to be sent from the Legion to replace him. Broadcasts in Tamil were also introduced at about the same time, the announcer being a German missionary, Dr. BEYTHAN.

I35. The Foreign Office officials concerned with Indian broadcasts on the R.R.G. were Staatsminister RUHLEY and more directly, Hans QUELLING. The latter aroused the opposition of S.C.BOSE by his pro-Pakistan sympathies and his contact with SALEH. As a result of BOSE's protest QUELLING was replaced early in I942 by SCHULTZ who had also been a missionary in India. SCHULTZ left the Department towards the end of I944 and was succeeded, although only unofficially, by MUNZLER of the Arabic Department.

I36. FARUQI discontinued his weekly broadcasts in September '43, when he left Berlin for the Sudeten Gau. PAL on being dismissed was given an appointment in the Abhorendienst of the R.R.G., located in the Seehaus, where Hav. MIRZA MAHBUB HUSSAIN also worked. In I944, MUNZLER pressed me to let him have one or two Legionaries to broadcast for the R.R.G., as their transmissionsto India had been severely criticised in messages from S.C.BOSE. I told him that it was impossible to obtain a Legionary for this purpose and suggested that he contact TARACHAND ROY and DHAWAN. Eventually T.C.ROY consented to broadcast for R.R.G. and DHAWAN to supply broadcasting material. (Comment: For further details of R.R.G. transmission see Appx. 'G' to the Statement of VYAS).

cf. para. 190.

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND DISCIPLINE IN THE F.I.C.

I37. When I first joined the F.I.C. I found all members imbued with a spirit of enthusiasm and cooperation which continued up to about Sept. '42. After this internal dissensions began to grow and culminated in SAIEH leaving the organisation. SAIEH had joined the Movement in the very beginning with high enthusiasm and great ambitions, but when he found that BOSE was not prepared to give him a leading role his enthusiasm waned. In July I942, he left the F.I.C. at first on personal grounds, but later giving his dissension a political aspect. He made contact independently with the

GRAND MUFTI and official German circles with a view to starting a pro-Muslim Movement. His desertion came as a great surprise to BOSE who had trusted him completely, and who was keen to retain a few Mohammedans in his organisation.

138. Up to the departure of BOSE, I was personally quite popular with the other members of the F.I.C. After his departure, a sense of resentment grew up against me since I inherited BOSE's possessions and enjoyed a standard of living superior to that of the others. This resentment increased when the move to Hilversum was planned on account of the Allied bombing of Berlin. Hilversum had been chosen by the Foreign Office for its proximity to a good transmitting station and for its prospects of good accommodation. Many of the members however, were very loath to leave and put forward various excuses to postpone the date of their departure. Eventually, I had to take disciplinary action against GURU DYAL LAL and this resulted in the others carrying out the move without causing trouble openly. Having arrived at Hilversum, there was discontent over the domestic arrangements and the complaints made were inevitably directed against me. The members were further incensed by the loss of their luggage during an air attack on the way to Hilversum. Although the work of the Radio Department was still carried on efficiently, the individuals concerned refused to accept any discipline and began to pay frequent visits to Berlin on the pretext of work connected with the office. In November 1943, when the office in Liechtensteinallee was destroyed, almost the entire staff was moved to Hilversum, thereby causing new problems and new groupings. The resentment against me now grew into a definite movement headed by HABIBUR REHMAN and supported by SULTAN, VYAS and BANNERJI. VYAS had previously tried to turn GANPULEY against me but when he failed in this began to oppose GANPULEY too. This internal dissension had no political background and the dissenters actually proclaimed themselves to be the real spokesmen of S.C.BOSE. As I knew that they resented my continued stay in Berlin when they had all been banished to Hilversum, I had HABIBUR REHMAN brought back to help me in the Head Office in Berlin, thereby breaking up the troublesome clique at Hilversum. There was still

friction however, between REHMAN and MAMA who had been brought to Berlin as accountant; between REHMAN and BANNERJI over the details of administration; and between BANNERJI and myself.

I39. In November 1943, the enthusiasm of the members was revived by the formation of a Provisional Government as they hoped that their individual status would be improved. A further incentive was the Japanese drive towards Manipur in April '44, but when these hopes, were dashed, the general feeling of disillusion was greater than before. After the invasion discipline in the Hilversum office deteriorated still further. Members refused to realise that conditions in Germany generally and in Berlin in particular made it difficult to comply with their demands promptly. Several of them wrote anonymous letters to the Foreign Office complaining about my direction of the organisation; and the Foreign Office criticised me for worrying them with trivial demands on behalf of the members. GANPULEY advocated measures to enforce discipline and although I realised his difficulties as being in charge at Hilversum, I felt that nothing much could be done to improve the situation. My relations with Frau NIEDERMEYER also provided an opportunity for criticism and complaint.

cf. paras. 197-200

I40. In spite of the continual bickering within the Radio group and the atmosphere of tension and distrust, the work went on satisfactorily. Only the Congress Radio had deteriorated, and I suggested to BOSE that it should be discontinued. BOSE, however, would not hear of it. The remainder continued to work with energy and were still inspired by BOSE's personality, although he was no longer present. VYAS and SEN GUPTA gave GANPULEY much trouble from the point of view of discipline but their work, as that of SARMA, KENI and BAHADURI, was not impaired, and I consider that VYAS was chiefly responsible for keeping the transmissions on the high level they attained.

cf. para. 190.

OFFICIAL GERMAN ATTITUDE TOWARDS THE F.I.C.

I4I. In the early stages the F.I.C. had no special or well-defined status, and only BOSE was granted official facilities, the Foreign Office providing him with a villa, a car and additional ration cards to enable him to entertain official guests. The other members of the office however were

subjected to numerous petty hardships in the form of poor living conditions and restrictions on their movements. I took up their case with VON TROTT and managed to arrange that:-

(a). Those Indians working in the F.I.C. should be exemptedfrom reporting to the Police, and should obtain travel permits from the Foreign Office on the recommendation of the F.I.C.

(b). The Foreign Office should assist in finding suitable accomodation for F.I.C.members including three flats for married couples.

(c). The Foreign Office should assist us in obtaining more foreign newspapers and photostats of any special articles we required.

(d). F.I.C. members should receive the same scale ration cards as allowed to the staffs of foreign Legations.

(e). The F.I.C. office should be expanded and refurnished.

(f). The Foreign Office should issue Fremdenpasse to Indians in the F.I.C. to replace British Passports.

(g). A Special Foreign Office official should be appointed to arrange technical facilities for us. ZITZEWITZ was first appointed and was succeeded by ASSMANN and TRUMPH.

I42. The result of these concessions was that such facilities could only be obtained by those Indians who were working in the F.I.C. and that the F.I.C. was thereby able to exercise a greater measure of control over the Indians outside the organisation. The granting of special facilities toF.I.C. members still failed to induce all Indians to join the organisation since it was possible for some of them to obtain the same facilities from the industrial works or educational institutes where they were employed.

I43. German interest in the F.I.C. was greatest during the months of February - August I942, but gradually all the important officials of the SONDERREFERAT INDIEN were removed or transferred. KAPP, FURTWAENGLER and LEVINSKI left in I942; WERTH and ASSMANN in July I943; VON TROTT was executed in July I944; and HALLER was transferred in August of that year. Those remaining were KEPPLER, LEIPOLDT, TRUMPH and Prof. ALSDORF, but in December I944, KEPPLER and ALSDORF also left for Thuringia.

I44. German interest in the F.I.C. declined steadily from I943 onwards as a result of the course of the war. India moreover, was considered tobe the concern of the Japanese. Bt October I944, contacts between the Foreign

Office and the F.I.C. had been reduced to such a pitch that I had to secure the help of the Police and the SS in administrative and technical problems, Major SCHUBACH being deputed by the Police as Liaison Officer with the F.I.C., with the knowledge of the Foreign Office.

THE LAST DAYS.

I45. On 22.I.45, I was involved in a serious car-accident, incurring injuries to my head and eyes, and necessitating a three-weeks' stay in hospital. The doctor prescribed complete rest, but I found this impossible. In hospital I was visited by the members of the F.I.C. still remaining in Berlin. GANPULEY and SULTAN also arrived from Helmstedt; they reported that the members there were very restive and anxious to know what to do in view of the threatening war situation. I could not give them any advice or information, and could not obtain any from ALSDORF and LEITOLDT who came to visit me, nor from the Japanese, HIGUTI and KAWAHARA. On the instance of HABIBUR REHMAN, I especially asked KAWAHARA to see me with a view to preparing plans for flight to a neutral country. I could obtain no definite reply from him and was obliged to advise the F.I.C. members, through GANPULEY, that they should remain in Helmstedt until further orders.

I46. I came out of hospital on IO.2.45, to find Berlin in a state of siege. GANPULEY wrote to say that it was becoming increasingly difficult to keep the men together; BHATTA had already asked to be allowed to go to Tubingen and SARMA to Vienna. The situation at Helmstedt was made even more difficult since, with the arrival there of other Radio Departments from Berlin, the accommodation question became very acute and our broadcasting time was limited to half an hour daily. At GANPULEY's request I visited Helmstedt in March I945, and decided to discontinue the transmissions of the Congress and Azad Muslim stations. I found all the members very restive and could do nothing to raise their morale. I advised them all to keep together at Helmstedt, and on my return to Berlin suggested that those still in Berlin should also prepare to go to Helmstedt. KENI arrived in Berlin from Helmstedt and approached the Swedish Consulate with a view to obtaining a visa to Stockholm, but this proved impossible. Those still remaining in Berlin were BANNERJI,

MAMA, DR. RAM and HABIBUR REHMAN.

147. I now decided to go to Bad Gästein and mentioned my plan to LEIPOLDT. The Foreign Office was also preparing to leave Berlin and it was arranged that most of the Foreign diplomats should go to Cassel. A few days later, LEIPOLDT told me that he had obtained an official recommendation for accommodation in Bad Gastein. He asked me to obtain for him from GESANDTER SIX permission to accompany me, since he was about to be discharged from the Foreign Office and drafted into the Army - a prospect which did not appeal to him. This permission was granted. I advised BANNERJI, MAMA and KENI to return to Helmstedt immediately, but only MAMA took my advice. BANNERJI remained in Berlin and KENI went to Helmstedt only for a few days before returning. I asked HABIBUR REHMAN and Dr. RAM to accompany me to Bad Gastein as they both knew the place fairly well. REHMAN was still anxious to try and secure a guarantee for our personal safety from the Japanese, but I told him that I had already received a negative reply to this request and that that I did not wish our men to approach the Japanese or the Russians on this subject for risk of further complications. REHMAN had already evacuated his family to Rietzlern in Austria, and he and Dr. RAM went ahead to arrange accommodation at Bad Gastein. I left on 3.4.45 with LEIPOLDT and Frau WIEDEMEYER, informing HIGUTI of my departure, and leaving the Legionary LABH CHAND of the Police Group in charge of my house at 16, Ravensbergerweg, Wilhelmshorst, giving him 1200 RM to meet expenses.

cf. para. 188

148. As a result of the rapid advance in the West the plans for the transfer of the Diplomatic Corps were suddenly changed and on 20.4.45 a large number of foreign diplomats arrived in Bad Gastein. J.K.BANNERJI and NAIDU also arrived, NAIDU having travelled from Helmstedt by Berlin and Prague. He had obtained my address in Bad Gastein from LABH CHAND and had come to me for advice. I could give him none, and he decided to go to Salzburg. BANNERJI had arrived in Bad Gastein in company with a certain NAGAKAWA of the Manchukuo Legation, who had been working with the Japanese Military Attache in Berlin. BANNERJI still vaguely intended to go to Russian-occupied

territory and denied all knowledge of Japanese plans to escape via neutral territory. NAIDU had told me that the office had been dissolved on 8.4.45 and that the Radio transmissions had been discontinued.

149. In Bad Gastein I also met OSHIMA who suggested that I should move to the Salzburg area, which was likely to be occupied by the Russians. I did not consider this suggestion seriously as I knew that he had no official contacts with the Russians. On about 3.5.45 the entry of American troops into Bad Gastein seemed imminent, and LEIPOLDT suggested that I should leave for a more remote spot. He was very concerned about my safety and finally I agreed to move to a place which Dr. RAM had discovered in Anlauftal. REHMAN had already left to join his family in Rietzlern and on 5.5.45 Dr. RAM and I left for Anlauftal. Before leaving I destroyed all the documents connected with the F.I.C. except a few which Frau NIEDERMEYER kept as souvenirs. On arrival we were refused accommodation as we had no special permit and we were also unable to find anywhere to stay when we returned to Bad Gastein. RAM then managed to find rooms for us at a place called Rauritz, where I was arrested on 7.6.45.

FINANCES OF THE F.I.C.

150. When I first joined the F.I.C. I was told by BOSE that his activities were being financed by a loan from the German Government. This was paid as a monthly grant amounting in all to 35,000 RM per month. Two separate accounts were kept, both in the name of ORLANDO MAZOTTA: 25,000 RM per month were paid into the F.I.C. account proper, and 10,000 into BOSE's private account. At that time Frl. SCHENKL was in charge of the account, but MAMA took over from her in July '43. Apart from the monthly salaries of members other expenditure from the F.I.C. account included monthly allowances to various people and all the overhead expenses of the office.

151. When part of the office moved to Hilversum in September 1943, the account had to be split up. Those members who moved to Hilversum lost practically all their belongings in an air raid, and as compensation the Foreign Office allowed us an additional sum of 20,000 RM. This sum however, did not suffice to meet all the bills subsequently presented. As the cost of living in Hilversum was considerably higher than in Berlin monthly allotments

to members were increased to a total of 5,000 RM. Further expenditure in Hilversum included rent for the accommodation provided there and payment for services of the German news agency, about I,000 RM a month. Additional compensation had to be paid as a result of the loss of members' luggage which had been stored at Koenigsbrueck. On my appointment as Staatsminister my salary had been raised to I,500 RM, but when the office was moved to Helmstedt the monthly grant from the Foreign Office was reduced to 30,000 RM and my personal grant to I0,000. As I did not wish to approach KEPPLER I had to write to BOSE for money, and in December '44, BOSE wrote that he was sending money and wished me to meet all future expenses from the amount he had sent. In January '45, I was informed by the YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK which had been moved from Unter den Linden, Berlin, to the Adolf Hitler Strasse, Goerlitz, that BOSE had forwarded a sum of one million yens, roughly 60,000 RM. Out of this amount I had 50,000 RM transferred to my private account and left the rest with the YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK. I had no further dealings with this bank, was never issued with a bankbook by them and never attempted to transfer money to a neutral country.

cf. para. 186.

I52. Towards the end of I944, we received two hundred thousand RM from DREXLER for the printing rights of the projected F.I.C. stamps. These stamps were printed in January I945, but probably never issued. When I visited Helmstedt in March I945, GANPULEY told me that he had a credit balance of I0,000 RM in his account belonging to the F.I.C. He asked me to let him have enough for three months in view of the transport difficulties; I sent him 20,000 RM through KENI in the third week of March I945; 25,000 through Hav. CHATTAR SINGH of the Police Group a week later; and a further 25,000 through KENI for MAMA. In Bad Gastein I learnt that in April I945, GANPULEY had paid two months salary to all members. GANPULEY later stated that he had never received the 20,000 sent by KENI. When the F.I.C. was closed down there was a credit balance of about 220,000 RM in the public account and 50,000 RM in my private account. Both these accounts were kept in the DRESDNER BANK in Kurfurstendamm, Berlin. (Comment: for further details see Appx. 'B' to the Statement of MAMA and recoveries from the DRESDNER BANK).

cf. para. 98.

BOSE'S JOURNIES IN EUROPE AND CONTACTS WITH EUROPEAN LEADERS (Jan.42 - Feb.43).

I53. In April I942, TROTT and I had arranged a visit to Prague, both for personal reasons, and at the last moment BOSE decided to accompany us. WERTH also came but left before the rest of us as he received news of the death of his father. TROTT arranged a meeting between BOSE and HEYDRICH which I also attended. BOSE tried to interest HEYDRICH in the Indian Freedom Movement but he was more interested in Japanese plans. HEYDRICH was assassinated a few days after this meeting.

I54. In May I942, BOSE received a telegram from IQBAL SHEDAI inviting him and myself to attend the inaugural ceremony in Rome of the Societa dei Amici dell'India. BOSE gladly accepted because he wished to extend the activities of his Movement to Rome and to obtain ascendancy over SHEDAI. Consequently, I preceded BOSE and WERTH to Rome, and they arrived on the following day. BOSE did not attend the inauguration ceremony but had meetings with MUSSOLINI, CIANO, the Secretary of State PRUNAS, Prof. TUCCI and SHEDAI, also with AMANULLAH, RASHID EL GILANI and the GRAND MUFTI. BOSE's object in meeting the Italian authorities was to obtain sanction for the establishment of a Free India Centre in Rome, independent of SHEDAI's activities; for the establishment of a secret Radio transmitter not controlled by SHEDAI; and for the despatch of Indian P.W. to Germany. PRUNAS promised all possible assistance and BOSE also secured the verbal support of TUCCI, APONTE, Director of Radio Transmissions, and SCARFA, a former Italian Consul in Calcutta.

I55. During this visit BOSE was still talking of cooperation with SHEDAI but it was obvious that SHEDAI was becoming increasingly antagonistic towards BOSE. In his contacts with the Italians as with the Japanese in Rome, SHEDAI constantly tried to detract from BOSE's prestige. He even tried to enlist my help against BOSE.

I56. The inaugural ceremony of the Societa dei Amici dell'India was attended by about three hundred persons including Italian officials and representatives from the various Embassies. I attended with WERTH and AMANULLAH; the GRAND MUFTI and RASHID ALI were also present. Speeches were made by the President Prof. GENTILE, Prof. TUCCI, AJIT SINGH the Vice-President, SHEDAI General

Secretary, and myself. TUCCI objected to Indians being office-bearers of a 'Society of the Friends of India'.

157. On 25.5.42, BOSE at last secured his long sought-after meeting with HITLER. He was accompanied by KEPPLER to the Fuhrer's Headquarters on the Eastern front and had an interview there. BOSE told me later that HITLER had rejected the idea of making a proclamation assuring independence for India until his armies were nearer the Indian frontier. BOSE had suggested that the statement made in 'Mein Kampf' regarding India should be publicly retracted, but HITLER made no reply. HITLER had agreed to BOSE's decision to leave Germany for the Far East.

158. After this interview a photograph was published in the German press showing BOSE with HITLER and RIBBENTROP. This put an end to BOSE's incognito and accordingly he decided to hold his first press conference in Germany. This was arranged for him by KEPPLER and was held at the Auslands Presse Club.

159. In the second week of June 1942, BOSE and VON TROTT left Berlin on a visit to Holland and Belgium. Their object was to contact the local German Commanders and to interview Indians living in those countries. BOSE gave a press interview at Brussels and also had a meeting with General FALKENHAUSEN, the German Military Commander. The first Indian he contacted was DA COSTA whose co-operation he hoped to obtain in establishing a branch of the F.I.C. in Brussels. In Holland, BOSE met SEYS-INQUART and MUSSERT and interviewed SAM LAL, MIRZA WALI AHMED BEG and PRANANANDA GHOSH, all of whom eventually became connected with the F.I.C. (for GHOSH, see Appx. 'B': II: 4)

160. Ever since the entry of Japan into the war and especially since the fall of Singapore and RASHBEHARI BOSE's arrival there, BOSE had been continually thinking of going to the Far East. He remained in close contact with all officials of the Japanese Embassy, doing everything he could to win their confidence in order to obtain their support for his journey. In June 1942 when he learnt that the Italians had succeeded in making a non-stop flight to the Far East and were proposing to send another plane, BOSE increased his negotiations with the Japanese and eventually secured the support of OSHIMA. In July 1942, BOSE, WERTH and myself left for Rome, the objects of

the visit being to meet MUSSOLINI in regard with the journey to the Far East; to resume negotiations with PRUNAS for the establishment of an F.I.C. branch in Rome; and to counteract the activities of SHEDAI, whom BOSE now believed to be sabotaging his plans. In attempts to realise these projects BOSE had an interview with MUSSOLINI; attended a dinner party given by PRUNAS; a luncheon given by the GRAND MUFTI; a dinner given by ex-King AMANULLAH and a tea party given by SHEDAI. It was obvious that SHEDAI had good connections in Italian official circles and was firmly entrenched. BOSE, however, continued his negotiations with a view to opening a branch of the F.I.C. in Rome and to oust SHEDAI from his present popularity. He particularly attacked SHEDAI in conversations with PRUNAS' deputy FARRINARI and with members of AMANULLAH's entourage including Prince ALI WALI, ABDUL AZIZ and HIDAYAT ALI.

I6I. On his return to Berlin, BOSE made a list of people to be sent to Rome for the establishment of a branch of the F.I.C. there. J.K.BANNERJI was to be in charge of the Rome office and went so far as to send his passport for an Italian visa. The others who were to accompany him were KENI, VYAS, SULTAN and A.MAJUMDAR.

I62. In connection with his projected departure to the Far East, BOSE was able to have a telephone conversation with R.B.BOSE in Singapore arranged by the Japanese, but nothing of importance was discussed.

I63. In August I942, BOSE, KEPPLER, VON TROTT, GANPULEY, K.L.MAJUMDAR and myself left for Pilsen via Prague in order to meet VOSS, director of the SKODA works and to inspect the Arms Factories. The visit lasted only one day.

I64. In early September I942, BOSE, VON TROTT and I left for Vienna chiefly at the instance of Otto FALTES. In Vienna FALTES arranged interviews between BOSE and BALDUR VON SCHIRACH. Later, on 7.9.42 VON SCHIRACH gave a dinner party to BOSE at which BOSE gave an account of his escape from India. His story was briefly as follows:-

> After his arrest he started a 'Hunger Strike' which resulted in his being released for health reasons, although watch was still kept over his house. He then made arrangements to leave India, only two or three of his intimate friends being taken into his confidence. He grew a beard and when the plans were mature, escaped from the house and travelled by train to N.W.F.P., dressed as a Pathan. Although he

had some anxious moments when a group of three Indian Officers entered his compartment and travelled part of the way with him, he reached Kabul without any great difficulty. In Kabul things were very difficult for him; he often had to change his place of residence and on one occasion was jailed by the Afghan Police and only released on bail being produced by a friend. He contacted the Italian and German Legations with a view to obtaining a passport but for a long time they refused to help. Eventually the Italian Consul CORUNI issued him a passport under the name of Orlando MAZOTTA and arranged his departure through Russian territory via Warsaw to Germany.

I65. I saw BOSE's Italian Passport on one occasion showing him with a beard and wearing European clothes. He took the passport with him to the Far East as a souvenir. More recently I saw a copy of a letter addressed to MOLOTOV from BOSE thanking the Russian Government for facilities afforded during his passage through Soviet Territory. This letter was destroyed when my house in Berlin was burnt down in November I943.

I66. Whilst in Vienna on 9.9.42, BOSE heard that the date for the inaugural meeting of the Deutsch-Indische Gesellschaft at Hamburg had been fixed for the IIth . This Society had been created chiefly by FARUQI and although BOSE had initially given his consent to its formation, he disapproved of the way FARUQI had pushed ahead with the idea without consulting him. We left Vienna, and after staying one day in Berlin, BOSE travelled to Hamburg for the ceremony accompanied by several members of the German Foreign Office and most of the members of the F.I.C. BOSE had already failed in an attempt to cancel the official opening of the Society and when he now tried in the train to amend certain articles of the constitution of the Society, he was equally unsuccessful. In the evening the inaugural ceremony took place followed by a dinner party given by the President of the Society KROGMANN.

I67. Before his departure for the Far East, in mid-September I942, BOSE was granted an interview with Dr. GOEBBELS at which VON TROTT acted as interpreter.

I68. Early in October I942, whilst on a visit to Koenigsbrueck BSOE was informed by Dr. WERTH that arrangements for his flight to the Far East had been completed and that he was to leave within a week. He was therefore to return immediately to Berlin, since the Foreign Minister wished to see him

before he left. Two days later, KEPPLER, VON TROTT, BOSE and myself flew to RIBBENTROP's field H.Q. then in a forest in the Ukraine. RIBBENTROP received BOSE in the presence of VON TROTT, KEPPLER and MEGERLE. The interview lasted about nineteen minutes, and in the later stages I was also called in and introduced to RIBBENTROP as BOSE's deputy. We returned to Berlin the next day.

I69. Immediately upon arrival in Berlin, BOSE drove to the Italian Embassy to learn the details of his flight. The date given was IOth - IIth October. KEPPLER held a small farewell party at the Hotel Kaiserhof attended by VON TROTT, Dr. WERTH, WEIZSAECKER, Consul-General WUSTER, Staatsminister ERMANNSDORF, ASSMANN, GANPULEY and myself. KEPPLER made a short farewell speech and in reply BOSE stressed the artificiality of the Pakistan Movement. Two days later, BOSE received a letter from the Italian Ambassador, ALFIERI, through the ordinary post congratulating him on his forthcoming journey. This lack of security annoyed not only BOSE but the Germans and Japanese too, and when BOSE actually did leave in February I943, the Italian Embassy was not informed. At this time BOSE had not given any definite instructions to GANPULEY and myself as to how we should carry on after his departure, but merely asked us to pursue his plans in Rome and Paris; to pay attention to press statements on Indian affairs; and to see that the Muslims did not get any undue publicity. In the weeks following, still no definite news was received from Italy and BOSE's pepresentations to TROTT, Count DEL TORSO of the Italian Embassy, and Col. YAMAMOTO had no effect. BOSE became increasingly restive and as an antidote KEPPLER suggested a visit to Slovakia.

I70. An interview was arranged with TUKA, the Slovakian Prime Minister, and BOSE accompanied by KEPPLER, VON TROTT and myself went to Bratislava in the third week of October I942. BOSE was received by the President of the Republic, and by the Ministers of Defence, of the Interior and of Finance. On the conclusion of the visit, KEPPLER returned alone to Berlin and we travelled via Vienna in order that BOSE could see SCHMIDT.

I7I. In the first week of November I942, BOSE decided to go again to

ome as no further information had been received concerning his flight to the Far East. Col. YAMAMOTO, WERTH and I accompanied him. SHEDAI was not present in Rome, as he had specifically been asked to be absent during BOSE's visit. This was a result of pressure exercised by BOSE in Berlin through the Japanese Embassy and the German Foreign Office upon the German Embassy and the Italian Foreign Office in Rome. We discovered through Col. YAMAMOTO that the delay in arranging the flight was due to technical difficulties, as the Italians and the Japanese could not agree on the extent of technical assistance required from the Japanese to enable the Italians to make the flight safely. Moreover, the route used by the Italians on their first flight had been over Soviet Territory but owing to a protest by the Russians the Japanese refused to agree to the use of this route a second time, and wanted the Italians to use a more Southerly route taking them over India, and necessitating a further eight to ten flying hours. In spite of the Japanese Air Attache in Rome expressing an opinion to the contrary, the Italians decided that under these conditions the flight was impossible. This was a bitter blow for BOSE but he still remained a few days longer in Rome to take up his scheme for the establishment of a branch of the F.I.C. there. PRUNAS however, with whom he negotiated had already been nominated Italian Ambassador to Lisbon and had lost interest in BOSE's activities. BOSE also failed to secure an interview with MUSSOLINI or CIANO and had to leave Rome with only the vaguest of promises.

cf. para. 180

I72. After we returned to Berlin, BOSE opened negotiations with OSHIMA and RIBBENTROP to enable him to reach the Far East by other means. It had been decided that Col. YAMAMOTO should also go to the Far East to work with BOSE and he was able to leave the same week via Russia and Turkey, a privilege allowed to Japanese Diplomats but denied to BOSE.

I73. In December 1942, BOSE went to Vienna to spend Christmas with Frl. SCHENKL and his daughter. The child had been born in September after a period of acute indecision for BOSE. He had rejected any other course and had decided to keep the matter a very close secret, although he had considered marrying Frl. SCHENKL and accepting what he considered to be the inevitable consequence of retirement from his political career, when the story should

become known to his followers in Europe and in India. FALTES had advised against marriage and Frl. SCHENKL had accepted BOSE's decision but hoping that with the success of his mission he would be able to regularise their relationship. I believe that with the failure of all his plans BOSE will now give up political activity in order to be able to rejoin Frl. SCHENKL and his child. (for SCHENKL, see Appx. 'B':III:1)

I74. Early in January I943, BOSE decided to visit Paris, his main object being to establish a branch office of the F.I.C. there. Already in August I942, he had summoned D.S.M.RAO to Berlin to discuss the matter, and had instructed him to be on the look-out for suitable Indians resident in France. He intended eventually to supplant RAO by BANNERJI but had not done anything in the matter as yet. LEVINSKI was already in France in this connection; I went to Paris alone; and BOSE accompanied by VON TROTT and LEHOLDT arrived a few days later. BOSE stayed at the Hotel Ritz and met several Indians including ASHAR, BRAGANZA DA CUNHA, GUJAR, WILLIAMSON and RAHMAT ALI. (Comment: A note on ASHAR's activities is included under Appx. 'B':II:5) All promised to co-operate and BRAGANZA did in fact maintain contact with the F.I.C. In Paris BOSE also met the Comte de BRINON and LAVAL but found the latter not interested in Indian affairs. He also met two Arabs, ABDUL QADIR and Dr. IBRAHIM HAFIZ, connected with the Arab Movement in Tunisia. I left BOSE in Paris on I0.I.43 and proceeded on leave to Foix. BOSE returned to Berlin three or four days later and towards the end of the month I received a message from VON TROTT advising me to return to Berlin as BOSE's departure was again impending.

cf. paras. 181 - 182

I75. I arrived in Berlin on BOSE's birthday, 23rd January 43, and attended a party in his house at which Frl. SCHENKL and GANPULEY were also present.

I76. On 26.I.43 Independence Day was celebrated in the Haus der Flieger. There were about 800 guests including KEPPLER, WOERMANN, KRAPPE and his brother, the GRAND MUFTI, RASHID ALI and several members of the Japanese Embassy. I made an introductory speech which was followed by a long harangue from BOSE (Comment: for details see paras. I43 - I44 of the Statement of VYAS which NAMBIAR confirms).

BOSE LEAVES FOR THE FAR EAST.

177. On 28.I.43 a group of German Naval Officers called on BOSE to give him an idea of conditions on a long journey by submarine and advised him to have himself medically examined. They estimated that the departure would not be delayed for more than ten days, but it was dependent upon a reply from the Japanese. BOSE had originally intended to take FARUQI with him to the Far East, partly as a medical advisor, but after August 1942, his confidence in FARUQI decreased and he then planned to take one Mohammedan, one Sikh and one Hindu. I know that he had thought of taking SWAMI, G.L.MUKHERJI and HASSAN. The Naval authorities, however, insisted that he could only take one companion and HASSAN was selected. By the Ist February, no message had been received concerning the Japanese submarine which was to meet the German U boat near Madagascar, and it looked as though the plan would fall through, since the German U boat could not wait any longer. He began to think of travelling by blockade-runner but on 5th February, when he was invited to luncheon by OSHIMA - KAWAHARA, HIGUTI and myself being also present - he was unofficially informed that the arrangements from the Japanese side had now been completed. That evening, GANPULEY and HASSAN were also informed and Col. MEYER dined with BOSE to bid him farewell.

178. On the evening of 6th February, GANPULEY and I went to BOSE's villa; Frl. SCHENKL was also there and most of the time was spent in preparation for the departure. Next morning, KEPPLER, WERTH and myself accompanied BOSE and HASSAN by train to Kiel. On arrival there, we were informed that the submarine would leave at 9 o'clock the following morning. The Captain called to fetch BOSE the following morning, 8.2.43, and the submarine left as soon as BOSE was on board.

179. In order to create an impression that he was still in Germany , BOSE had recorded two talks which were to be broadcast while he was at sea. They were kept by ASSMANN and eventually only one was broadcast: unfortunately this coincided with GANDHI's fast and as no reference was made in the speech to the fast, the effect was somewhat odd.

BRANCHES OF THE F.I.C.

180. In July 1943, I went to Rome with Dr. WERTH to carry on the negotiations started by BOSE for the establishment of a branch office there. I showed the Italians plans drawn up by BOSE which included the provision of an office for starting Radio transmissions and facilities for an Italian edition of Azad Hind. The Italians again made vague promises and made it clear that they preferred to support SHEDAI, who had since resumed his broadcasts. The invasion of Sicily and subsequent events caused me to drop the plans entirely.

181. Towards the end of September 1943, I went to Paris accompanied by LEIFOLDT and Frau NIEDERMEYER. ROERING had been deputed by the German Embassy to look after Indian activities in France and RAO had managed to find office accommodation. He had also persuaded HARBANS LAL to join the organisation. ROERING was concentrating more on the establishment of an Indo-German Society in Paris than of a branch of the F.I.C. The office was eventually established in 12, Place Vendome; RAO was put in charge with LAL and MARIAPPA as his assistants. I appointed my friend Mme. de SAUSSURE to be in charge of the accounts and engaged another French girl to help her. After permission had been obtained from the French Police I personally performed the opening ceremony. I asked RAO to arrange for the publication of a French edition of BOSE's book 'The Indian Struggle', and promised to send J.K.BANNERJI to help him as soon as possible. I allotted a sum of 5,000 RM for expenses at the Paris branch.

182. In December 1943, I visited Paris again and found the office in full swing. I addressed a Press Conference which RAO arranged in the office. In January 1944, I sent J.K.BANNERJI to Paris, where Mlle. ROSSI joined him later. The cost of publishing a monthly edition of Azad Hind in French was estimated at 40,000 Fr. and in May '44, the monthly allotment to the Paris Branch was increased by 2,500 RM. Three numbers of the Azad Hind were published and BOSE's book was translated but not published. The Paris office celebrated Independence Day, Jallianwala Bagh Day and Mutiny Day; maintained contact with Indian civilians in France and kept in touch with

the Indian Legion whilst it was stationed in the Bordeaux area. It was closed down in August 1944 on the approach of Allied forces.

MESSAGES RECEIVED FROM BOSE FROM THE FAR EAST.

184. The messages that I received from BOSE after he left Germany can be classified in four categories:-

(a) Letters
(b) Messages sent through the Japanese Military Attache.
(c) Messages sent via the German Embassy in Tokyo to the German F.O.
(d) Two or three telephone conversations between BOSE and myself.

Letters. The first letter arrived in July 1943. Apart from a long letter to me, there were about six pages of closely typed corrections to his book; a number of photographs taken on board the submarine; and letters to RAHMAN, KENI, BANNERJI, VYAS and Frl. SCHENKL. The letter to me apart from domestic questions contained the following instructions:-

(1) To maintain the high standard of the broadcasts.
(2) To arrange for the training of a second sabotage group for the Far East.
(3) To see that SHEDAI had no contacts with the F.I.C.
(4) To pursue the plans for the establishment of branch offices in Paris and Rome
(5) To secure promotion for some of the Legionaries.
(6) To arrange for the training of a number of Legionaries in the German Air Force.
(7) To help SALEM with funds if he needed it.
(8) To inform VYAS about BOSE's departure.
(9) To report to him on the work of the Planning Committee.
(10) To set MAMA on to making codes.

185. The second packet of letters from BOSE arrived in May 1944, via the German Foreign Office. BOSE's letter to me dealt chiefly with the recent establishment of the Provisional Government of India. The packet also contained photographs; bulletins containing speeches by S.C. and R.B.BOSE; magazines containing articles on the I.N.A.; and about 30 copies of a daily news-sheet in latin script issued at Singapore. In reply I sent three letters to BOSE. The first which I sent about July '43 via the Japanese Embassy, was in reply to BOSE's first letter. I wrote a second letter in July '44, which consisted chiefly of a report on the work of the F.I.C.; I also sent with this letter some copies of the Azad Hind, a film of the Legion, and one or two German military training films which BOSE had asked me for. These also I handed over for despatch to Col. HIGUTI of the Japanese Embassy. My third letter was written in January '45. Apart from a report on the activities and

and morale of members of the F.I.C., I wrote in optimistic terms of the military situation. I enclosed some books on Indian Economics, samples of the Azad Hind passport, and several letters from Frl. SCHENKL. (Comment: these are believed to be the ones recovered recently from a German submarine).

TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS.

186. I had two telephone conversations with BOSE. The first was in June 1943, on the occasion of his first visit to Tokyo. We conversed for about four minutes in English, and afterwards HASSAN also spoke sending greetings to his friends. Our second conversation was while BOSE was in Tokyo in December '44. He expressed his pleasure at the news of the Legion's return from France, and said that he was making arrangements to send me money.

cf. para. 151.

MESSAGES THROUGH THE JAPANESE.

187. The first message I received from BOSE through the Japanese was handed me by Col. HIGUTI towards the end of June 1943. In it, BOSE said that he had had news of the arrival of SWAMI's Sabotage Group and that a second Group should be despatched as soon as possible.

188. In July '44, with the deterioration in the German Military situation, HABIBUR REHMAN, BANNERJI and a few others began to press me to sound the Russians as to their willingness to accept Indian political refugees from Europe. I wished first of all to discuss the matter with BOSE, and with the agreement of TROTT and KEPPLER I sent a message through HIGUTI asking BOSE for his views on my approaching the Russians. I had also mentioned this matter in the letter I sent to him in July '44, but had received no reply. In December '44, KAWAHARA handed me a message asking me to repeat my communication about the Russians. This I did and three days later received a reply from BOSE agreeing to my proposal, but stipulating that I should first consult the German Foreign Office and the Japanese Embassy. I mentioned this to HIGUTI and after a few days he informed me that OSHIMA was not in favour. In February '45, I discussed the matter with HENKE an Under-Secretary of the Foreign Office, and suggested that I might send KENI who had a Portuguese Passport to contact the Russians in Stockholm. HENKE said that he would refer the matter to the Foreign Minister.

I was later informed by HENKE that RIBBENTROP had no objection provided that the move was confined to finding out the Russian policy towards India and whether they intended to extend any special treatment to Indians. HENKE also asked to see KENI before he left. KENI then tried to obtain a visa from the Swedish Consul-General, but when he failed the whole plan was dropped.

I88. The last message I received from BOSE through the Japanese was handed to me by Col. HIGUTI in April '45. It was to the effect that the Legion should either be committed to action or moved to the zone likely to be occupied by the Russians.

MESSAGES RECEIVED THROUGH THE GERMAN FOREIGN OFFICE.

I89. Messages which BOSE sent through the German Foreign Office in Berlin always originated at the German Embassies in Bangkok or Tokyo. I received the first one in July '43; in it BOSE expressed appreciation of the Azad Hind broadcasts and urged me to start a transmission in Singalese. The second message received in October '43, asked for the names of Indians promoted to officers and of those undergoing Police training; for information on progress made in the publication of BOSE's book and on the reception of I.N.A. broadcasts from the Far East. It also stated that HASSAN was receiving staff training and that SWAMI was with BOSE.

I90. The third message, received in April '44 ran roughly as follows:-

cf. para. 136. | The Indian broadcasts on the official German Radio have deteriorated: this should be remedied since these broadcasts used to be popular in India and their reception in Rangoon was good. The Azad Hind Congress Radio broadcasts are also of poor quality especially those in Bengali. The speaker on the Azad Hind Muslim Radio is very good, and LAL also deserves congratulation. I do not agree with your suggestion of discontinuing any of the transmissions. I want you to take up the question of Germany establishing diplomatic relations with the Provisional Government of India and pressing for recognition by other states. Send the second Sabotage Group and the Police Group as soon as possible after they finish their training. Press the claims of the younger ABDULLAH and B.L. MUKHERJI for promotion to officer status. I want you to take up with LAVAL, preferably through the Japanese, the question of facilities for Indian propaganda in Indo-China. Over here, we have embarked on an active military campaign, but it is not intended to continue our advance beyond the Brahmaputra. Do not, therefore, allow your broadcasters to call for any widespread uprising or to exaggerate the possibilities of the advance. There is great enthusiasm here; the morale of the

cf. para. 140.

men is good, and we have the support of the masses and of all the important merchants. However, I still need additional leaders and would be glad if you could spare three or four of your men.

I91. The fourth message received in June '44, referred to the set-back suffered in the Burma campaign but contained nothing of importance. The fifth message was received in December '44, and in it BOSE acknowledged receipt of a report which KENI had sent from Lisbon in July. KENI had gone there to see his brother and to contact Indian students arriving from India, in order to get to know the sentiments and feelings of the people inside India. In reply to this report BOSE gave a short analysis of the situation in India and made the following points for use in propaganda broadcasts:-

(a) That the Japanese war would continue even if Germany was defeated.
(b) That German defeat would not ease the problem for Britain in Europe.

This was the last message I received through German channels and it had been sent from Tokyo.

I92. I replied to these messages through the same channel and copies of both incoming and outgoing messages were kept in the F.I.C. office.

SECRET TRANSMITTING STATIONS.

I93. Whilst BOSE was still in Europe I suspected that there was a secret transmitting station being used by him and located somewhere in tribal territory on the frontier. BOSE, however, never informed me of its existence and the first definite knowledge I had of it was in June '43, when VON TROTT told me that the existence of the secret station and the key to the code used, had been discovered by the Russians. The Russians had apparently given an assurance that this knowledge would not be passed on to the British, but the Foreign Office was undecided whether to risk using the station any longer. TROTT was in favour, but KEPPLER wished to have BOSE's opinion. A few days later TROTT told me that it was now necessary to inform the Japanese of all the details connected with the transmitting station in Kabul. The information was passed by TROTT to KAWAHARA, the technical details being supplied by WAGNER of the Abwehr to Col. HIGUTI. It was then decided to use the station for sending messages of a non-secret nature merely in order to

maintain contact and a message was received from BOSE advising us to give up using it entirely.

194. In order to establish a new station and to send a new code, the Abwehr planned to send a certain Captain WITZLEBEN by plane to Afghanistan. KEPPLER was opposed to the idea, but TROTT suggested that I should see WITZLEBEN and if I approved, recommend the scheme to KALTENBRUNNER. A few days later, WITZLEBEN came to see me at 36, Brandenburgischestrasse. He was very keen to carry out the mission and claimed to know Pushtu and Persian, as he had been at some time in Afghanistan. He asked if I knew REHMAT KHAN and was apparently in close touch with WAGNER. Shortly afterwards I went to see KALTENBRUNNER on a matter of administration and took the opportunity of raising the question of WITZLEBEN's mission. He sent for his deputy SCHELLENBERG, who said that arrangements were already in hand. KEPPLER, however, remained opposed to the idea. A few days later, WITZLEBEN came to see me again, accompanied this time by P.W. GHULAM GHAUS of the 2nd Sabotage Group and a German N.C.O. from the Legion, who had studied Hindustani and who had been made up to look like a Pathan. WITZLEBEN intended to take these two with him, as well as other German mechanics to operate the transmitter. About this time a code message apparently in connection with WITZLEBEN's mission, was sent by the Foreign Office to be sent over the Azad Hind Radio at Hilversum and a copy sent to me from Hilversum. (Comment: for details of code messages sent over the Azad Hind Radio see Appx. 'A', Section 8, to the Statement of VYAS). A few days later, I was informed that WITZLEBEN's flight had been cancelled and this news was confirmed by Prof. ALSDORF who told me that it had been announced from Station 'Mary' that the flight was not considered safe. WITZLEBEN later left for the Russian front.

195. The messages from this secret station were sent by REHMAT KHAN, who is actually a Hindu from the Punjab or N.W.F.P. The messages were always in code but I was shown only the decoded version which was always headed, 'R.K. teilt mit:'. REHMAT KHAN was a member of the Central Committee set up by BOSE before his escape from India and whose task it was to collect information inside India on the lines indicated over the Azad Hind Radio by BOSE, and then to

transmit the information to BOSE in Berlin. REHMAT KHAN was probably the contact man travelling between India and Kabul. He did not operate the set himself but had operators to do it for him. He knew Afghan, had good contacts in the frontier regions, and was known personally to the German Minister in Kabul PILGER and the Italian Minister CORUNI.

196. The transmitting station in tribal territory was known as 'Mary' and the Abwehr receiving station in Germany as 'Elephant'. After BOSE's departure the Abwehr had a suspicion that either BOSE or the Japanese were in touch with 'Mary' through channels unknown to them, possibly using a secret receiving station in Singapore. Messages received from REHMAT KHAN after BOSE's departure from Germany were transmitted to BOSE via Bangkok and Tokyo by station 'Elephant', which also passed on messages from BOSE to REHMAT KHAN.

197. In July '43, TROTT showed me a reply received from REHMAT KHAN to questions put by BOSE concerning the situation in India. I remember the following points in REHMAT KHAN's message:-

(I) That JAI PARKASH NARAIN was prepared to join the Central Committee.
(2) That Dr. LOHIA had left for Calcutta.
(3) That Mrs. ARUNA ASAF ALI was very helpful.
(4) That SWAMI SAHJANANDA had agreed.
(5) That BAKHSHI of Calcutta (probably the representative of some newspaper) was helpful.
(6) That INDU LAL JAJNIK was also mentioned.

In June '44, TROTT asked me whether I had any enquiries regarding the situation in India. I forwarded to him several queries proposed by BANNERJI concerning the situation in Bengal and Dr. CHAUDRY's influence; and questions of my own dealing with the reception of the Azad Hind broadcasts, the influence of the Communists, the attitude towards Russia, and the strength of the Muslim League. I received answers to these questions from REHMAT KHAN in October '44. In December '44, ALSDORF informed me that REHMAT KHAN was again in Kabul, and this was the last news I received.

FORMATION OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF AZAD HIND.

(Note: NAMBIAR confirms the details given in VYAS' Statement, paras I86-I9I, and gives the following additional information:-)

I97. News of the formation of a Provisional Government on 2I.IO.43 was received in Berlin whilst I was in Paris. I returned to Berlin on 26.IO.43

on hearing the news fron VON TROTT. The news had come as a surprise to the Germans, as the Japanese were chary of giving information about BOSE's activities. The Germans had also been refused permission to send a representative to BOSE's H.Q. prior to the formation of his Provisional Government and even now the German Ambassador in Tokyo who sent the news, had added that there was no question of any exchange of diplomatic representatives between the German Government and the Provisional Government of India. In spite of KETTLER's instances to the contrary RIBBENTROP refused to press the Japanese on this subject.

198. The first Governments to recognise the Provisional Government of India after Japan were:- Manchukuo, Japanese-occupied China, Thailand, Burma, Germany, Republican Italy, Croatia and Slovakia. BOSE was anxious to increase the number of states recognising his Government and especially wished to secure recognition from Vichy France. Consequently, BANNERJI acting on my instructions took up the matter in Paris but without success. BOSE's overtures with De VALERA likewise did not result in the Eire Government recognising the Provisional Government of India.

199. The formation of the Provisional Government was celebrated in Berlin under the auspices of the F.I.C. on 15.II.43, at the Hotel Kaiserhof. There were about 300 guests including representatives of the Foreign Office, the Wehrmacht and the Japanese and Italian Embassies. KRAPTE was also present with the twelve Indian officers from the Legion. After the playing of the Indian National Anthem, HABIBUR REHMAN, who was in charge of the technical arrangements, made a speech of welcome to the guests. Afterwards, speeches were made by myself, OSHIMA and KETTLER, and messages of greetings from the Italian Ambassador, RIBBENTROP and GOEBBELS were read out by SARMA. All the speeches except that by REHMAN were afterwards printed in the magazine Azad Hind.

200. The Foreign Office now tried to secure my appointment as Indian Ambassador to Berlin, so that they could in turn send a German representative to the Provisional Government in Singapore. BOSE supported these efforts but without success. In January 1944, BOSE obtained the agreement of the German Government to my appointment as Minister without Portfolio, and the appointment was made in January 1944. Some time later a report was received from the German Ambassador in Tokyo stating that the Japanese had agreed to exchange

diplomatic representatives with BOSE's Government, but as regards Germany suggested that the German Ambassador in Tokyo should also be accredited to the BOSE Government. BOSE was understood to be in agreement with the suggestion. I discussed the matter with OSHIMA and KEPPLER and expressed my disapproval, but to no avail. In April 1944, at the time of the Manipur campaign, I was informed by HIGUTI that the Japanese Government was contemplating giving a greater measure of recognition to the Provisional Government of India. OSHIMA gave a luncheon party in my honour in expectation of official confirmation from Tokyo; HABIBUR REHMAN and MAMA also attended (Cf., Statement of MAMA para. 92). The news he hoped for however, never arrived, possibly as a result of the failure of the Manipur campaign.

AZAD HIND PASSPORTS.

201. In accordance with instructions from BOSE after the formation of the Provisional Government, I proceeded to make arrangements for the issuing of Azad Hind Passports to Indians in Europe. In April 1944, I approached KEPPLER on the subject and he referred me to Staatsminister ALBRECHT. ALBRECHT agreed that we might start on the printing of the passports but pointed out that there would be certain legal difficulties in issuing them as the Provisional Government of India had not accredited representatives in Europe. Police permission for issuing the passports was then sought and the matter dealt with by VON TROTT and HABIBUR REHMAN. The passports were prepared in German, French and Hindustani with the title 'Azad Hind Pass'. The passports were printed by ELSNERDRUCK, 31, Orienenstrasse, Berlin 36, and bound by MARIA LOEHR, 225, Kurfurstendamm. In all 225 passports were prepared.

BOSE's RESIDENCE AND PRIVATE STAFF.

202. The arrangements made by the Foreign Office for the provision of a private residence with staff for BOSE seems to me to indicate that the Germans wished to keep a watch on his activities. Towards the end, BOSE was also of this opinion. The following comprised BOSE's private staff:-

(1) BLOCK, a waiter who lived near Wittenberger Platz.
(2) Frau BLOCK, the cook.
(3) SPIERKE, chauffeur.
(4) DECKER, supervisor of the house.
(5) Frl. ELIZABETH, maid-servant.

Nos. 1 - 4 were all employed by VON TROTT to supply information regarding BOSE's movements, his visitors and the activities in his house.

CONCLUSION.

At the very outset I would like to point out that NAMBIAR should not be judged from his outward appearance and he is not an easy man to deal with. During the first seven days of his interrogation NAMBIAR adopted a very cunning, cryptic, and hostile attitude towards his interrogator and had been all the time immensely immersed in his serious thoughts to read the mind of his interrogator and endeavoured hard to overshadow the intelligence of the latter. But this kind of tussle of so-called wits was short-lived and NAMBIAR was cowed down like anything.

I have intentionally taken this lengthy account of his activities as he has not been interrogated since 1921, irrespective of any redundancies. I have also deliberately taken down even minor details to examine the ramifications of this pernicious movement ever launched by a man like S.C.BOSE on such destructive lines. I have also been mindful about the evidential point of view .

It is very difficult to say that NAMBIAR has been drained dry but I am personally of the opinion that he has come out clean without any reservation. In case any part of his statement appears to be incomplete or the suspect has intentionally tried to get away with any salient factor, I am led to believe that he did not know it. I hammered much on such points of vital importance and I have appended my comments in the body of the statement. I must point out that this statement should not be considered thoroughly complete as a lot of documents since recovered in the course of investigation in this case have not yet been examined and scrutinized and should any new avenue occur, I am sure NAMBIAR would be prepared to answer all such querries to the entire satisfaction of his interrogator. I would also point out that several things contained in the documents connected with the F.I.C. should be treated with reserve as they appear to be not strictly correct. I believe that NAMBIAR will remain in a talking mood. NAMBIAR is an extremely irritable man, but very cool headed and if he is tactfully handled, very calculating, reads everything through, intelligent, cunning, probably mean, emotional, characterless, out and out anti-British and the personification of all kinds of subversive

activities. I strongly recommend that he be prosecuted to set an example, as he was obviously concerned in such a high degree of treason.

Captain.

17th September, 1945.

APPENDIX 'A'.

AN OUTLINE OF SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES OF INDIANS IN EUROPE PRIOR TO THE OUTBREAK OF WAR.

I. This resume deals chiefly with the activities of the communists, CHATTOPADHAYAYA and M.N.ROY and the people who collected around them in the pre-war years. NAMBIAR's contacts with these groups have been traced in the body of the report (paras. 8 - 25) and consequently are not dealt with fully here.

CHATTOPADHAYAYA's ACTIVITIES 1914 - 1918 AND THE 'NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF PROPAGANDA'.

2. CHATTOPADHAYAYA first left India forty years ago and on arrival in London associated himself with the group of disaffected Indians there which consisted of:-

1. SARVAKAR (President H.M.S. India)
2. IYER (now dead)
3. NARANJAN PAL
4. D.S.M.RAO
5. DINGRA
6. TRIMULA ACHARYA
7. CHATTOPADHAYAYA

3. CHATTOPADHAYAYA's chief activity in this group consisted of editing the subversive paper 'Talwar'. The group was financed by Irish subversive elements and was connected with them in the assassination of Sir CURZON WYLIE. The majority of the group was arrested, but CHATTOPADHAYAYA managed to make his way to France, where he remained until 1914, proceeding then to Berlin.

4. During the 1914-18 war, CHATTOPADHAYAYA actively assisted the Germans by suborning Indian P.W., by carrying out acts of sabotage in India and by propaganda missions in Rumania and Turkey. He collaborated with HARDYAL in the foundation of the National Committee of Propaganda which had its H.Q. in Berlin and consisted of the following:-

1. HARDYAL
2. CHATTOPADHAYAYA
3. CHAMPAIL RAMAN PILLAI
4. BHUPINDRA NATH DHU
5. BARKATULLAH
6. TRIMULA ACHARYA
7. VARMA
8. HAFIZ
9. KHAN KHUAJI
10. ABDUL WAHID
11. MIRZA (N.K.)
12. DAS GUPTA
13. RAJA MOHINDRO PARTAP
14. TARACHAND ROY
15. KARTA RAM

Amongst the more notable acts of this Committee were a mission to Afghanistan, sabotage in Italy, propaganda in the Balkan countries especially Rumania and propaganda amongst German troops and Indian P.W.

5. On the establishment of the Soviet regime in Russia, M.N.ROY left Germany for Russia and became at first a pupil and later a trusted confidant of LENIN and the other revolutionary leaders. CHATTOPADHAYAYA, DAS GUPTA and KHAN KHWAJI, seeing ROY's success, also went to Moscow but were not favourably received. By I924, CHATTOPADHAYAYA's group had largely broken up, but he himself still maintained contact with anti-Soviet anarchists on the Continent.

CHATTOPADHAYAYA AND ROY IN THE INTER-WAR YEARS.

6. Until I927, CHATTOPADHAYAYA continued his anarchist activities, but these were now very restricted in scope, although they lacked nothing in fervour. By I927 however, he had become a supporter of the Communist movement.

7. ROY had become a member of the Executive Committee of the Comintern, and frequently visited Berlin, where he contacted NAMBIAR and CHATTOPADHAYAYA, whom he eventually won over to full co-operation with him, although they did not apparently achieve anything definite.

8. In Feb. '28, a meeting of the 'international congress for the emancipation of colonies' was held in Brussels at which CHATTOPADHAYAYA and NAMBIAR were both present but which ROY did not attend as it was Moscow's policy not to stress the Communist tendencies of this Congress. It was at this conference that the 'League Against Imperialism' was formed with offices in Berlin.

9. As a member of the 'League Against Imperialism' CHATTOPADHAYAYA tried to obtain control of the Bureau established in Berlin by NAMBIAR on behalf of the Indian National Congress (See paras. I4-I5 of main report). NAMBIAR refused to cooperate, but regularly took his advice in placing students in factories for practical training.

IO. M.N.ROY was eventually expelled from Russia in I928 after an unsuccessful mission to China and also because he was accused of supporting the 'Right' party in Moscow in opposition to STALIN. During I928/29 ROY made strenuous but unsuccessful efforts to organise the Indian students in Germany for Communist activities but the students although revolutionary in outlook, preferred to remain independent.

II. In July '31, the second conference of the League Against Imperialism was held in Frankfurt and this time had a far more obviously Communist appearance. CHATTOPADHAYAYA and NAMBIAR attended and amongst the other Indian representatives were RATTAN SINGH and IQBAL SHEDAI.

I2. In 1932 the N.S.D.A.P. in Berlin created an organisation under D.N. BANNERJI to win over Indian students in Germany to National-Socialism. Although CHATTOPADHAYAYA and NAMBIAR both refused to co-operate with the movement a certain measure of success was neyertheless obtained as the N.S.D.A.P. had a predominant influence in factories and technical departments of Universities, where the Indian students were studying. With the rise of the Nazis, ROY left Berlin and CHATTOPADHAYAYA was summoned to Moscow, but NAMBIAR decided to remain in Germany rather than accompany his friend to Russia.

<u>VISITS OF NEHRU, BOSE AND OTHER INDIAN LEADERS TO EUROPE 1920 - 1939.</u>

I3. With the disappearance of CHATTOPADHAYAYA and ROY from the main centres of political activity in Europe, and the establishment of the Nazi regime in Germany, an organised subversive Indian movement as such, ceased to exist. Indian political activity was henceforth confined to the visits of leading Congress politicians, especially of NEHRU and S.C.BOSE.

I4. NEHRU had already visited Berlin on one occasion in 1928 when he came to Europe as head of the Indian delegation to the Brussels conference of the League Against Imperialism. (See para. 8 above). He arrived in Berlin in Oct. '28 with his father MOTILAL NEHRU, his sister KRISHNA and his wife. From Berlin the party also paid a three day visit to Moscow to attend the celebrations of the tenth (?) anniversary of the Revolution. It was at this time that NEHRU first conceived the idea of opening a Congress Bureau in Germany to assist Indians engaged in technical and industrial studies (See para. I4 of main report).

I5. In July 1929, SRI NIWAZ IYENGER visited Berlin and went to Moscow, accompanied by NAMBIAR, where they met several leading Soviet statesmen including STALIN.

I6. S.C.BOSE visited Europe in 1933 and in July of that year arrived in

Prague where he was met by NAMBIAR. BOSE visited the Minister of Trade, the SKODA works and a University lecturer whilst in Prague, and after one week, left for Vienna. Here he interested himself in the progress of the Indian Students' Associations, visited several leading Austrians and foreign Consular officials. BOSE returned to Prague after a ten days' stay in Vienna, and had an interview there with BENES, then Foreign Minister and with professors of Prague University with whom he discussed the formation of an Indo-Czech Society. From Prague, BOSE went via Warsaw to Berlin, where NAMBIAR met him again in November 1933. During his stay in Berlin, BOSE contacted ROSENBERG, DYKHOFF, head of the Foreign Office, OSHIMA who was at that time Japanese Military Attache, the Irish Minister in Berlin and GHULAM SADIQI of Kabul. At these meetings, BOSE made a habit of exaggerating the tension in India and the active role of Congress in India's struggle for independence. From Berlin, BOSE travelled to Munich and Vienna and in June 1934, arrived in Prague for the inauguration of the Indo-Czech Society (See para. 22 or main report). In Nov. '34, BOSE was again in Vienna developing the Central European Society, a society which had the financial backing of Otto FALTES, and which was created to strengthen trade relations between India and Central Europe. It was about this time that the friendship between BOSE and Frl. SCHENKL developed and in 1935 they visited Prague together. BOSE had a second but unsuccessful interview with BENES before leaving for Karlsbad. In Nov. '35 he went to meet NEHRU at Badenweiler, where NEHRU's wife was ill.

17. In 1936, BOSE visited Paris and Geneva. Later in the same year he visited Rome where he had two interviews with MUSSOLINI at which the question of India's independence was discussed. It is believed that BOSE paid other visits to Rome about this time, and it is known that he played a leading part in the organisation of the Federation of Indian Students which had its H.Q. in Rome.

18. Between 1934 - 36, BOSE also visited Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and European Turkey, presumably to establish political contacts, although NAMBIAR's information on the dates of these visits and the people BOSE met, is rather vague.

19. In 1937, BOSE left Europe on account of his father's ill-health and returned two months later after his father's death. That same Christmas, BOSE received the news of his election as President of Congress. Before leaving for India in Jan. '38, BOSE managed to visit London and to arrange final interviews with BENES in Prague and MUSSOLINI in Rome.

20. After his stay in Badenweiler where he was looking after his wife in 1935, NEHRU next came to Europe in 1938, and visited Prague in July of that year. Here NEHRU met several Czech and Sudeten German political leaders and journalists and paid a visit to the SKODA works. He then travelled to Bratislava and Budapest and in Nov. '38, visited Paris and later London.

APPENDIX 'B'.

PERSONALIA CONNECTED WITH THE F.I.C.

I. GERMANS.

(I). Wilhelm KEPPLER: Formerly economic adviser to HITLER. Played a prominent part in the German four year plan of economic development particularly in regard to the manufacture of synthetic products; was put in charge of Sonderreferat Indien in October 1941. A devoted follower of HITLER and an old member of the Nazi party, he had no faith in Japanese economic power and disliked the Russians. His approach to the Indian question was a very cautious one. BOSE did not like him. Latterly he supported the policy of BOSE. He was particularly anxious to prevent India from passing into Japanese control in the event of BOSE's success and gave much thought to German considerations towards India's economic and political uplift. KEPPLER remained a firm and blind believer in Germany's success until the very end. He held the rank of General in the SS. KEPPLER is informed about practically all the developments relating to the activities of the F.I.C. from the beginning. He was last heard of in Blankenhain - in Thuringia.

(2). Prof. ALSDORF: A well known professor of Indian languages and culture. He had made a good study of Indian affairs. Joined Sonderreferat Indien at the outset. BOSE disliked him. He issued a fortnightly bulletin in India meant for private circulation. After July 1944 he became KEPPLER's principal deputy and as such was the man best informed about the F.I.C. and about communications with BOSE in the Far East. His wife had a house in Munster.

(3). Alexander WERTH, (Dr): A lawyer by profession - joined Sonderreferat Indien from the very beginning. Participated in all the negotiations which BOSE started soon after his arrival in Berlin. In the beginning he busied himself with the affairs of the Legion. His influence and activities decreased June 1943 (see reports on his wife, Frau Irma WERTH and his mother, Frau Alice WERTH).

(4). Hans Theo LEIPOLDT: By profession, a business man; had been in a commercial firm in America; joined the Sonderreferat Indien in the very early days. He attended to the technical requirements of the F.I.C. and worked in close contact with VON TROTT (See Interrogation Report of LEIPOLDT).

(5). ASSMANN: Was formerly a business man in India, who had his own firm in Calcutta; could speak Hindustani. His wife was with him in India. He joined the Sonderreferat Indien when it was first established. He used to issue a bulletin on India 'Indien Nachrichten'. In February 1942, he was deputed to be Liaison Officer between the Fofeign Office and the F.I.C.; started meddling with the radio and the magazine departments. Was also in touch with Legion affairs through BOSE on one side and the Wehrmacht on the other. He also visited Italy with GANHILEY in August 1942 on a mission connected with the Legion. BOSE tried to play ASSMANN against TROTT. In June 1943, he was drafted to the army. His wife attended to the translation of BOSE's book.

(6). VON LEWINSKY: Joined the F.I.C. in the very beginning, visited P.W. camps to suborn P.W. and visited France to recruit Indians for the F.I.C. Had good social connections; his father was the adjutant of KAISER WILHELM and was practically the adopted son of Marshall MANSTEIN. He was dismissed from service in the Sonderreferat Indien in July 1942, for careless handling of secret papers. His social contacts helped him to escape serious punishment. Afterwards he joined the Navy and was in Tunisia; subsequently became a Liaison Officer between the German Navy and a detachment of the Italian Navy fighting for MUSSOLINI, with his H.Q. in Venice.

(7). FURTWAENGLER: Was engaged for press work by the Sonderreferat Indien and brought out a series of books on India, contributing articles himself under the name of INDICUS; wrote a book on Russia and kept up good contact with Professor ALSDORF. He left the Sonderreferat Indien in December 1944, and was last heard of working at a place called Dame near Berlin.

(8). HALLER: Commenced working as a part-time assistant to VON TROTT in about June 1943, but was really an assistant to a man called WESEMEYER, a Foreign Office Official who dealt with Balkan affairs. Was called to Budapest in June 1944, by WESEMEYER when the latter became German Minister in Hungary.

(9). Fritz TRUMPH: Was formerly the Manager of the Auto Union firm in India; joined the Sonderreferat Indien in July 1942, and was responsible for the administrative affairs of the F.I.C. Stayed in Hilversum and Helmstedt with

with the radio department of the F.I.C. up to the end. He lives in a small village near Chemnitz.

(I0). KAPP: Was connected with the F.I.C. in the beginning. He participated in the negotiations which led to the opening of the F.I.C., being the only professional diplomat in the Sonderreferat Indien. For about ten years was at the German Consulate in Bombay, but was not known to BOSE in India. He left the F.I.C. in June I942, but maintained connection with the Sonderreferat Indien to help KEPPLER on the Indian question.

(II). ROERING: Member of the German Embassy in Paris in charge of Indian affairs; maintained contact with the F.I.C. branch in Paris.

(I2). Minister BENE: Foreign Office representative in Holland with his office at The Hague; helped TRUMPH in attaining material for the F.I.C. in Hilversum.

(I3). Erich SCHMIDT: Worked as a messenger in the F.I.C. from December I943 to October I944. Was paid 20 Marks a month by the F.I.C. as supplementary salary.

(I4). Dr. RICHTER: Was employed in the cultural-political department of the Foreign Office. Before the war he was a business man. He participated in the furnishing of BOSE's house in 6, Sophienstrasse. He worked with Dr. WERTH up to the end ans was last seen in Berlin in April I945, when he contemplated joining his wife in the British Zone near Hannover.

(I5). Professor SIX: Head of the cultural department in the Foreign Office and also director of the institute for foreign politics. Entered the Foreign Office in April I943, and continued up to the end; last seen in Berlin in April I945 with WERTH. He was hoping to leave for some town near the Swiss border.

(I6). Minister VON HENTIG: A Foreign Office official who dealt chiefly with the affairs of the GRAND MUFTI. In the last war he accompanied MOHINDRO PARTAP and BARKAT ULLAH in the expedition to Afghanistan.

(I7). GROBA: Before the last war was attached to the German Legation at Kabul, and after the last war was in charge of Indian affairs in the Foreign Office

In I93I, he became Minister at Baghdad and was subsequently accredited also to the King of YEMEN and King INB SAUD. Returned to Berlin after the fall of RASHID ALI and busied himself with the affairs of RASHID ALI until I943, when he left for Paris to take charge of the archives for Eastern Affairs. After the fall of Paris he left for Breslau and his present whereabouts are unknown.

2. MISCELLANEOUS INDIANS.

(I). DATTA @ Eric Edward DUTT @ Eric Asoki CHAND.

DATTA called on me in Berlin in August '44, stating that he had been engaged on the production of aluminium and high-grade synthetic oil, and asked me to put him in touch with German scientific circles. He claimed contact with Franco's Government and stated that the Germans had obtained his release after his imprisonment by the French Authorities in I940. He claimed to be related to Sir ALBION BANNERJI, former Diwan of Mysore, and to be connected with scientific circles in America, Sweden and Portugal. He was very boastful and talkative and I referred him to KEPPLER. He met KEPPLER and ALSDORF a few days later and KEPPLER was favourably impressed. I met him again in December '44, when he called on me at my private address, KENI and NAIDU being also present. He was living in the Hotel Esplanade in Berlin and was working in a German laboratory in Brunswick engaged on research in the production of synthetic oil. He was in touch with OGILVIE, a Scotsman in the SS, and was previously known to J.K.BANNERJI and G.K.MUKHERJI.

(2). KUSUM RANJAN PAL.

PAL was never employed by the F.I.C. and was never allowed to broadcast over the 'Azad Hind' Radio. He was never sent on any special mission by the F.I.C. and I personally had no political connections with him. He was a sincere Nationalist, but in my opinion half mad.

(3). DA COSTA.

DA COSTA's name was forwarded to the Sonderreferat Indien in April '42, by the Press Attache of the German Embassy in Brussels, together with several

articles expressing pronounced Congress sympathies written by DA COSTA for the Belgian Press. BOSE hoped to use him to open a branch of the F.I.C. in Brussels and DA COSTA was favourably disposed. In April '43, I saw him in Berlin where he had come at the invitation of the Labour Front. For a time he was working in Danzig and I saw him again in Brussels in November '43. He was then teaching at the University and writing articles on India for the local Press. He asked me to arrange a small office for his activities and I persuaded KEPPLER to pay him 750 RM per month. In August '44, he wrote to me on notepaper headed 'Free India Centre', asking my advice in view of the military situation. I suggested that he should meet me in Hilversum, but he did not come. His articles to the Belgian Press were written under the nom de plume of 'SURENDRA NATH BANNERJI' because his christian name did not carry much weight in Europe.

(4). FRANANANDA GHOSH.

BOSE met GHOSH in Holland in June '42, but although GHOSH was willing to co-operate, BOSE was not very impressed by him. In October '43, GHOSH called on me in Berlin expressing his willingness to work for the F.I.C. and claiming that he had come on the special invitation of Dr. GOEBBELS. In point of fact, he was negotiating with the R.R.G. for employment as an announcer. In June '43, he again asked to join the F.I.C. I did not want to employ him but offered him the post of announcer in Bengali, but he demurred. In October '43, he provided lavish entertainment for members of the Radio department in Hilversum and lent money to several of them. He was in close touch with Otto FALTES in Vienna, and had claimed to be a blood relation of SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE, to which I had to issue an official denial. On one occasion I visited his house at Bussum and found it full of art treasures which according to him had been looted by his wife and mother-in-law. In February '45, his wife came to my office in Berlin asking my help in securing his release from the Concentration Camp where he had been sent by the Gestapo. I referred the matter to KEPPLER but he could not interfere. GHOSH was chiefly interested in living a luxurious life, and being far from amenable to discipline, did not inspire confidence in either BOSE or myself. (Cf. Interrogation Report).

(5). ASHAR.

ASHAR was brought by RAO from Toulouse to Paris in January '43. He had a long conversation with BOSE and stated that he was willing to join the F.I.C. after he had completed his studies. He was paid 2,000 Fr. by RAO and afforded certain travelling facilities. (Cf. ASHAR's statement).

(6). THE AGA KHAN.

In About August '43, I had a note from the German Foreign Office which stated that a German army officer, known to LEIPOLDT, was in touch with the AGA KHAN in Switzerland, and my opinion was asked as to whether this contact would be of any value to Germany. I declined to express an opinion. A letter was also produced from the AGA KHAN expressing a desire to be allowed to visit Southern France towards the end of I943.

3. WOMEN SECRETARIES IN THE F.I.C.

(I). EMILIE SCHENKEL.

The daughter of a retired postal official, aged about 33 years. She first came into contact with BOSE in I933 in Vienna where she worked as BOSE's typist. BOSE fell in love with her and kept her as a mistress. She accompanied BOSE on most of his tours. After BOSE's departure to India in I937, she remained in touch with him through correspondence. When BOSE arrived in Vienna in I94I, she was employed as a postal official; the Foreign Office managed to have her released from the Postal Department and BOSE again took her as his private secretary. She accompanied BOSE to Rome in I94I before the F.I.C. in Berlin was set up. She stayed throughout with BOSE in his house as his wife. She was in charge of the finances. She left Berlin in July I942, as she became pregnant and a daughter was born to BOSE in September or October I942. She kept up contact with the F.I.C. members. In December I942, SCHENKEL returned to Berlin in BOSE's house until the time of his departure (8.2.43). She knew all the secret correspondence which BOSE had with various people to start his movement. After BOSE's departure NAMBIAR attended to her comforts in Vienna. NAMBIAR last heard from her in March I945, stating that she was well. She lives at 24, Ferrogasse, Vienna I8.

(2). Dr. KRETSCHMAR.

Joined the F.I.C. at the beginning. She had a special position in view of her academic qualifications. Through SCHENKEL she claimed friendship with BOSE, and like SCHENKEL was impudent and unpopular with the members of the F.I.C. She fell in love with G.K.MUKHERJI. She left the F.I.C. in July 1942, and took up journalism. She was last heard of with her parents at Baden Baden where G.K.MUKHERJI joined her.

(3). WENZEL.

Joined the F.I.C. when it was first started. Was in America before the war. She worked as a secretary in the Radio department up to the end and was last heard of in Helmstedt.

(4). Frau DIEDRICH.

Entered the F.I.C. office when it first started and was sent away in June 1942.

(5). Frl. MATHISSON.

Entered the F.I.C. office in April 1942. Spoke various languages quite well, especially English and French. Her main work was the translation of the English text of the Azad journal into German; was last heard of in Helmstedt.

(6). Frau Ursula MUKHERJI.

Married to an Indian and had lived in India. Had a child in Calcutta aged six. She entered the office in March 1942, and used to type out daily programmes for the Azad Hind Radio. In July 1944, NAMBIAR took her as his private secretary and she attended to his correspondence. She became pregnant and left for the Harz Mountains in February 1945.

(7). Frl. PROFANTER.

Entered the office in April 1943, and worked on the magazine and sometimes on the radio programmes. She left in January 1944, and was last heard of with her parents in Tyrol.

(8). Frl. VON BASSEWITZ.

Entered the office in May I942, and left in November I943, at her own request as she wanted to join an agricultural university.

(9). Frl. IMHOFT.

Frau VON HARBOU arranged her employment in the F.I.C. and transfer from the Propaganda Ministry. N.G.SWAMI was responsible for bringing her, on the insistence of HARBOU. She joined the F.I.C. in May I943, and attended to the correspondence of NAMBIAR. She was on very close terms with NAMBIAR but eventually fell out with him. She married J.K.BANNERJI and had a son. She was dismissed from the F.I.C. in July I944, and again employed by HARBOU as her private secretary (See. Frl. IMHOFF's Statement).

(I0). Frl. Lotte FLUESS.

Joined the office in April I943. She was related to KEPPLER. She knew French and English very well and worked on the magazine with SEN GUPTA, she fell in love with him and eventually married him.

(II). Frau HERL.

Joined the F.I.C. in June I942, and left in April I943.

(I2). Frau HEINS.

Joined in June I942, and about July I943,returned to the Foreign Office where she worked with LEIPOLDT.

(I3). Frau BOHNSTEDT.

Joined in May I942, and worked in the Radio Department up to the end. Her present address is not known.

(I4). Frau DEGERT.

Joined the F.I.C. in July I944. She worked in the Berlin office and attended to general correspondence until the end. Present address is not known.

(I5). Frau NIEBUHR.

Joined in October I944, and worked with BANNERJI and MAMA in the Berlin office. She left in the middle of March I945. Lives in Hamburg; exact address is not known.

(I6). Frau RENCH.

Joined in April I944, and attended to the despatch of material to Hilversum. Returned to the Foreign Office in October I944, and worked with Professor AISDORF. Went to Thuringia with Professor AISDORF.

(I7). Frl. Margarete BORN.

Employed as a messenger inside the F.I.C. office in June I942, and sent away in August I942. Was a flighty type of girl; later involved in a criminal case. (See Interrogation Report).

(I8). Frau BAUER.

Joined the F.I.C. in May I942, and worked up to the end in the Magazine Section.

(I9). Helga IRMGARD.

Was appointed as cleaner in the house and used also as a messenger from January I944 to April I945. Present address not known.

(20). MARTHE (christian name).

Was appointed as messenger in October I944, and worked up to the end. Address not known.

(2I). Frau NIEDERMEIER.

She was sent to NAMBIAR by VON TROTT who thought she might be employed as secretary to the F.I.C. Subsequently she frankly told NAMBIAR that TROTT wanted her to spy on him for the Foreign Office. NAMBIAR decided to employ her as supervisor in his house and fell an easy prey to her charm. She was employed in April I943, and towards the end of I944 joined the Luftwaffe, but maintained close relations with NAMBIAR and the latter even proposed marriage to her.

4. WOMEN SECRETARIES IN THE SONDERREFERAT INDIEN.

(I). Frl. KUNZE.

Personal secretary to KEPPLER; remained with him till the very end. Attended to all the correspondence of KEPPLER and always forwarded the money

to NAMBIAR. She also worked for ALSDORF and TROTT on Indian affairs. She left for Thuringia with KEPPLER.

(2). Frau GERVINUS.

Worked for KEPPLER, TROTT, and ALSDORF. After the death of Frau WALTER early in I944, she attended to the work of TROTT: after Oct. '44, joined the Army as a riding mistress; Present address not known.

(3). Frau QUANDT.

Worked for TROTT and LEIPOLDT in Kurfurstenstrasse, I36: Believed to be still in Berlin in Siemenstadt.

5. GERMANS FROM THE ABWEHR CONNECTED WITH THE F.I.C. OR THE LEGION.

(I). Oberst LAHUSEN.

Worked under Admiral CANARIS and was in direct touch with NAMBIAR and BOSE in connection with the Meseritz Group; closely associated with Col. YAMAMOTO. After the departure of BOSE he rose to the rank of Major General, and led a Division on the Leningrad front. Put in charge of the Foreign Legions and was succeeded by Lt. Col. PUTZ (?) who was killed in a car accident in June I944.

(2) RUPARTI.

Was during this war a reserve officer with the rank of Captain. In civil life he was a business man and one of the foreign directors of the 'Allianz' Insurance Coy. This Coy. had important business connections in India, with its head office in Delhi. RUPARTI took a keen interest in representing German capital in India; a shrewd and cunning Nazi, who probably had ulterior motives in establishing contacts in India; was concerned about Japanese plans for India and anxious about the resultant threat to Germany's economic interests; obviously keen on developing the information service to India and was anxious to go to the Far East with BOSE. This idea he took up again after the formation of the Provisional Government of India. The Japanese did not favour the idea and gave him little hope. He played an important role in training the special sabotage groups. (Comment: See paras 76 and 82). N.G.SWAMI had

known him a long time. Before SWAMI left he instructed him to keep in direct contact with him and exchanged codes with him. His mother is a Belgian and he married a French woman. Present location unknown.

(3). Dr. SUMER.

Worked in India for ten years as General Manager of the 'Allianz' before thewar. He maintained contacts in India, but their names are not known to NAMBIAR. He was married to an Anglo-Indian lady doctor in India, and returned to Germany with his wife just before the war broke out. RUPARTI drew him into the Abwehr and both had plans to go to the Far East and thence to India for sabotage work. He worked under RUPARTI and held the rank of Leut.

(4). Gen. SCHELLENBERG.

Deputy of the Chief of Police Dr. KALTENBRUNNER and head of the news services of the Abwehr in association with the Police. NAMBIAR remained in direct contact with him. He took a keen interest in sending Capt. WITZLEBEN and PW GHULAM GHAUS with new codes and new powerful transmitting sets to the secret radio station 'Mary' on the North-West frontier, but the scheme failed. NAMBIAR last saw him in March 1945, to obtain facilities for Frau NIEDERMEIER. He knew all about the activities of VON TROTT and once remarked that he should have worked with him.

(5). Hauptmann WAGNER.

NAMBIAR met him in connection with the training of the special sabotage groups. He was in charge of the 'Elephant' secret station in Germany. He was succeeded by another Captain in August 1944, whom NAMBIAR met once in the Foreign Office, but whose name he has forgotten.

(6). Hauptmann KOSCHIN.

Was also an Insurance man in Germany. He trained SWAMI's group and went to Bordeaux in March 1943, to see them off; he started the training of the second sabotage group but had to drop out following a disturbance with PW AKHTAR MAHMUD. Present whereabouts not known.

6. GERMAN OFFICERS CONNECTED WITH THE LEGION.

(I). Oberst MEYER.

Assistant of Gen. FROMM, the head of the German Reserve Forces (executed after the attempt on HITLER's life). In this capacity MEYER was in charge of all the Foreign Legions except special sabotage groups like the Mesertiz Group. The F.I.C. dealt with him in connection with the affairs of the Indian Legion, through the Foreign Office. He was transferred in July '43, as Commander of Annecy in France and was succeeded by Oberst VON DER HEYDE.

(2). Oberst VON DER HEYDE.

Remained in charge of the Legion up to August '44, until the transfer to the SS.

(3). Gen. JUTTNER.

Put in charge of all Reserve Forces of the Army and SS in Sept. '44, the Indian Legion also coming under his charge.

7. SS OFFICERS CONNECTED WITH THE LEGION.

(I). KALTENBRUNNER.

Head of all the Police forces in Germany and the occupied countries, and chief of the Sicherheits Dienst. Had met BOSE several times when he was head of the Police forces in Vienna; made arrangements for police training for certain members of the Legion. Had direct contact with the F.I.C. and provided office accommodation when the original premises were destroyed in November 1943. NAMBIAR met him four or five times, in connection with F.I.C. affairs, and also on behalf of Mrs. VON TROTT after the arrest of VON TROTT in July 1944.

(2). Maj. Gen. SCHULZ.

The deputy of KALTENBRUNNER in local affairs in Berlin in 1943; was put in charge of the training of the Indian police group in Berlin and he entrusted the training to Dr. HOETZEL, the head of the Police School in Spandaustrasse, Charlottenburg; was transferred to Salzburg as the head of the Police there towards the end of 1943.

(3). Dr. HOETZEL.

Head of the Police Training School in Berlin; responsible for the Indian police group and very popular with the men; was in direct contact with the F.I.C.

(4). OGILVIE.

Was appointed by No. (3) as the principal instructor of the police group; an engineer by profession. His mother was Scottish and his father German; spoke English well. He gave theoretical instruction in police duties. Gave up his charge of the police group in December I943.

(5). Leut. WINTERSTEIN.

Assumed charge of the police group in December I943, and gave real SS training to them; remained in charge until June I944.

(6). Leut. EBERHARDT.

Took charge of the police group in June I944, and attended to practical training of it in Posen and Emden; eventually took the group to Hällein, near Salzburg, where they finally dispersed in the middle of April I945.

7. JAPANESE.

(I). OSHIMA.

Japanese Ambassador in Berlin. Met BOSE for the first time in I934. Early in I942 BOSE renewed contact with him; he was very interested in BOSE's journey to the Far East and the possibilities of extending military operations in the direction of India from Burma. Eventually his efforts played an important part in Japan taking up the idea of BOSE going to the Far East and in Germany affording the necessary technical facilities. After BOSE left, he maintained direct contact with the F.I.C. and NAMBIAR. In April I945, he met NAMBIAR at Bad Gastein. He was a broken man.

(2). Lt. Gen. BANZAI.

Was the Japanese Military Attache at the time BOSE commenced his negotiations to go to the Far East. He had given BOSE a firm assurance that

he would support his plans. He himself left for the Far East before the departure of BOSE.

(3). Maj. Gen. KAMATZU.

Succeeded Lt. Gen. BANZAI in Berlin and kept close contacts with the F.I.C. and with BOSE in the Far East.

(4). Col. YAMAMOTO.

Member of the Japanese Military Intelligence Service (Hikari Ki Kan). He was the most enthusiastic of the Japanese about BOSE's departure to the Far East. It was decided that he should work with BOSE in the Far East and he left for Japan in November 1942 by land via Russia and Northern China and he joined BOSE in Singapore.

(5). Lt. Col. HIGUTI.

Succeeded Col. YAMAMOTO; a Christian by religion. Took a keen interest in the running of the F.I.C. Always thought that India was the exclusive concern of Japan.

(6). KAWAHARA.

Principal political collaborator of OSHIMA, shrewd diplomat - always very critical of German policy. He did not accompany the other diplomats to Bad Gastein in April 1945, but remained behind in Berlin.

(7). Dr. UCHIDA.

First Secretary in the Japanese Embassy in Berlin. NAMBIAR concluded all negotiations with the Japanese Embassy through him. Left for Bad Gastein on 20th April 1945, with OSHIMA.

(8). TOGUNAKA.

Secretary of the Japanese in Berlin. Connected with Arab and Indian Muslim affairs. J.K.BANNERJI was detailed by NAMBIAR to keep him informed on Indian affairs; was transferred from Berlin in March 1944.

(9). MINSEKI.

Worked under KAWAHARA; BANNERJI remained in touch with him.

(IO). Maj. Gen. SCHMIZU.

Japanese Military Attache in Rome. Was very interested in BOSE's plans in the Far East. He kept contact with the GRAND MUFTI and SHEDAI.

(II). Gen. NOMUTA.

Was the Military Attache in Vichy. Intended to visit the Indian Legion in May I944, and was known to NAMBIAR.

(I2). KASE.

A personal friend of SULTAN. Was counsellor at the Japanese Embassy when BOSE arrived in Berlin.

9. AFGHANS.

(I). AMANULLAH.

His connection with the Indian Movement led by BOSE was limited to his close personal contacts with BOSE. AMANULLAH was prepared to go to the Afghan border to work up revolution in case of the Germans succeeding in invading Afghanistan. He was on cordial terms with the GRAND MUFTI and SHEDAI. He was last heard of in Italy.

(2). GHULAM SADIQI.

An ex-Foreign Minister in AMANULLAH's cabinet. He accompanied AMANULLAH on the occasion of his visit to Europe in I929, and came to Berlin after the abdication of AMANULLAH. He had good contacts in the German Foreign Office and in German Industrial circles. BOSE had come to know GHULAM SADIQI on his visit to Berlin in I933. During the early days of BOSE's movement in Berlin (I94I-I942) he functioned as BOSE's adviser and in that capacity convinced BOSE that it would be to the advantage of India and Afghanistan if the Germans could be persuaded to break off diplomatic relations with NAZIR SHAH, King of Afghanistan. BOSE openly supported him but the German Government treated him with the greatest reserve. GHULAM SADIQI was closely connected with the GRAND MUFTI and RASHID ALI. He spoke Hindustani well but had no friends in India. He tried to create contact with the Japanese in I942, but without success. He was last heard of living in Libroc near Konigswusterhausen.

(3). ABDUL HAKIM.

The nephew of GHULAM SADIQI. Was a speaker on the Azad Hind Radio from June '42 onwards.

(4). ABDUL AZIZ.

Brother of GHULAM SADIQI, ex-Governor of Kabul. Stayed with AMANULLAH in Rome. Functioned as Persian announcer on the Rome official short wave station. A good friend of SHEDAI. Last heard of living in a small village near Dresden.

(5). Prince ALI WALI.

Son-in-law of AMANULLAH - stayed with the latter's entourage in Rome.

IO. ARABS.

(I). The GRAND MUFTI.

The GRAND MUFTI arrived in Berlin in I940 and was well received. Acquired residential quarters both in Rome and Berlin and stayed more in Rome than in Berlin until the American landings on the Italian Mainland. He did not confine his subversive activities to the Arab question in Palestine alone but extended it to Muslims all over the world. He had his own secret radio stations in Rome. Apart from that, he sent information and talks regularly to the Italian official station at Bari and Paris and to the German official station at Berlin. In the beginning of I94I, he was concerned with the formation of the Arab Legion and latterly became very active in making propaganda personally with the Muslims and Muslim troops in Croatia. Attended the opening ceremony of the Mosque at Zagreb in Croatia. In Berlin he maintained contact with Muslims of various countries. To strengthen his activities in this connection he obtained permission from the German Government for the use of the Mosque in Berlin, which really belonged to the Qadian. MANZUR-UD-DIN AHMAD, the representative of Qadian in Berlin, did not object but BOSE

protested against it, since he wished to put an Indian Muslim in charge of the Mosque. At one of his meetings in the Mosque the MUFTI read out his printed speech thanking the Muslims of India and particularly the 'Muslim League' for its anti-Imperialist activities. BOSE lodged a protest through the Foreign Office against the special reference to the Muslim League, and the MUFTI explained by stating that his speech in Arabic was wrongly translated. He persisted in strengthening his position in Europe by giving out in Berlin and Rome that he enjoyed great popularity amongst the Muslims in India. The Indian Muslims - ABDUL RAUF MALIK, SALEH, Jem. ALIMULLAH SADIQI and Hav. MIRZA MAHBUB HUSSAIN (PW) were in close touch with him.

After the departure of BOSE the MUFTI made an attempt to draw the Indian Muslim PW into the Muslim League as different from the Indian Legion. The Muslim League as separate from the Arab Legion had probably not been started as KEPPLER and VON TROTT stood against his move very firmly. Towards the end of I943, the position of the MUFTI began to weaken for various reasons. His quarrel with RASHID ALI had lowered the prestige and influence of both. Eventually he started a school for Muslims near Dresden, and established an 'Islamic Institute' in Berlin towards the beginning of I944 which had the official support of the German Government but did nothing practical. When the German position in I944 began to deteriorate, the MUFTI tried to develop contact with the Japanese. But the Japanese did not respond to his overtures. NAMBIAR last met him in the third week of April '45, at Bad Gastein; he was then anxious to go to Switzerland. He had the idea of staying in the American Zone as he had spoken much against the Jews. He also raised the question of going into the Russian Zone.

(2). <u>RASHID ALI EL GILLANI.</u>

Ex-chief Minister of Iraq, fled to Germany after his defeat in Iraq and was given a cordial reception in Berlin. He stayed in Germany and occupied himself mainly with the question of Iraq. He was bitterly annoyed when the GRAND MUFTI tried to give himself out as leader of the Free Arab Movement. He maintained close connection with the F.I.C. by attending all the functions. He had his secret transmitter under the Propaganda Ministry and is believed

to have been arrested in the American Zone.

(3). HUSSEINI MUSA.

Nephew of the GRAND MUFTI. NAMBIAR first met him in Paris in 1939 as a student from London. He met him again in Berlin four or five times during this war. He functioned as PA to the MUFTI and translated from Arabic into English. About September 1944, entered the University of Jena to study economics and history.

2153

DGD/398
25.8.45.

Colonel Vickery

Fraulein IMHOFF

Forwarded herewith for information is a statement by Frl. IMHOFF handed to Lt. Colonel Watson by her on 14.8.45.

(sd) H.O. de GALE.

Colonel V.

An interesting statement which throws light on NAMBIAR's failure to lead the F.I.C. effectively.

V.W.S. 28.8.45.

COPY

STATEMENT BY FRAULEIN IMHOFT - COMPLETED 14-8-45.

Before I came to the Zentrale Freies Indien on May 5th, 1943, I had been working in the Film Department of the Reichsministerium fur Volksaufklarung und Propaganda. As there I had hardly any work with which I could have improved my English I decided on looking for another job. Just at that time I heard from a friend of mine that the Foreign Office intended to engage a private secretary who knew sufficient English to do translations and English shorthand. When I applied for this job at the Foreign Office I was introduced to Mr. NAMBIAR who at once asked the Foreign Office to take the necessary steps for my engagement. By that time SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE had already left Europe. My monthly salary (RM 400.-) was paid to me by the Foreign Office, for extra work etc. money was given to me by Mr. NAMBIAR himself.

My work in the ZFI was chiefly routine work: all private correspondence of Mr. NAMBIAR, sending away invitations (to high officials of the Foreign Office, the Wehrmacht, SS, Japanese Amabssy, Italian Ambassy etc.), answering letters, telegrammes addressed to S.C. BOSE, in which he was informed about the work of the ZFI in general and about members of the ZFI who had fallen ill etc. It seemed to me that Mr. NAMBIAR either wrote important and very confidential telegrammes himself or had them written by others - possibly Frau NIEDERMEYER. Telegrammes to S.C. BOSE were sent to him either via the Foreign Office or the Japanese Ambassy. Officials of these offices hardly ever came to the office of the ZFI. I remember having invited them chiefly to Mr. NAMBIARS house where he often used to lunch with them. About discussions going on there I know nothing. Of all the regular visitors of Mr. NAMBIAR I mainly remember from the Foreign Office, Mr. KEPPLER, Dr. VON TROTT, Dr. SIX, Mr. LEIPOLDT, Dr. WERTH; from the Wehrmacht: Oberstleutnant VON DER HEYDE, Oberst KRAPPE; from the SS, SD or Gestapo: Mr. KALTENBRUNNER, Mr. SCHELLENBERG, Mr. LORENZ, Mr. WINTERSTEIN; from the Japanese on special occasions: Ambassador OSHIMA, Legationsrat KAWAHARA, Oberstleutnant HIGUTI; from the Italian Embassy: GRAF DL TORSO, who usually came to the office. Mr. NAMBIAR also had some slight connection to the Grand Mufti

Until the greater part of the ZFI had been transferred to Hilversum I worked for Mr. NAMBIAR only, with Mr. NAMBIAR very keenly watching that I did not come in touch with any of the ZFI members, not even the German secretaries. He very often tried to impress upon me that all the ZFI members were not worth anything, calling them a lot of vagabonds etc. which naturally made me suspicious, but I could not for quite a long time find out the reason why he was always abusing his colleagues. As mentioned above, up to the transfer to Hilversum I was only working for Mr. NAMBIAR who at that occasion already tried to find some one else in my place. For that reason he also sent me to Holland, but as the number of secretaries in Berlin was very small I had to return to Berlin after a fortnights stay in Hilversum and from that time onwards I took over some work with Dr. BANNERJI. With the latter I translated some of S.C. BOSE's biography which was published in England some years ago. + With this cause was given for my final demission from the ZFI in October 1944 (+ She means that NAMBIAR did not wish anyone else to work on this book and get cre it for the translating).

Before I began to work with Dr. BANERJI, I never knew how great the gap or rather hostility was which existed Mr. NAMBIAR and some of his very intimate followers (GANPULEY, RAHMAN, SULTAN, SARMA and KENI (at first but later apparently not)) on the one side, and Dr. MAJUMDAR (with whom Mr. NAMBIAR right in the beginning forbade me to speak), Dr. BANERJI, Mr. SENGUPTA and some others on the other side. As I have said before, I was not quite clear about the reason for this hostility, but it appeared that apart from private and personal reasons the main reason was an ideological one, for Mr. NAMBIAR often very abusively called the latter group a lot of useless communists. Mr. NAMBIAR on the other hand was always accused of being unwilling and unable to maintain full independence of the organisation, an independence which, as one said, was of greatest importance for the Zentrale Freies Indien. The steadily growing hostility between the two groups within the organisation was used by Mr. NAMBIAR and his friends - all were in close co-operation with the German authorities - to do harm to Mr. NAMBIARS enemies. When, for instance, Dr. MAJUMDAR wanted to leave the ZFI to take up another work, I happened to read a letter addressed to Secretary of State, Mr. KEPPLER which was written by Mr. GANPULEY. In this letter Mr. KEPPLER was asked to take measures to the effect that no Indian who wanted to leave the ZFI could find

/page 2.

an[illegible] e mi[illegible]at hav[illegible]
Mr. M[illegible] reatened m from ZFI
this me[illegible] would obey his orders. [illegible]
invasion started and NAMBIAR accused him [illegible]eyed orders
his authority).

All matters which concerned the whole organisation were discussed by Mr. NAMBIAR and two or three members of the ZFI only, whereas all the others had to act only according to Mr. NAMBIARS orders. When Mr. NAMBIAR that many of the ZFI members came to me complaining about him and his behaviour with them he went about abusing me in the most ridiculous way and at the same time he took out of my hands the rest of the confidential work which I had being doing for him. On the other hand he asked me to deal with the German authorities, especially with the SD, in my own name. But after I found out that what I was asked to do served only his private and personal purposes I refused to do this, which gave him a chnace of complaining to the Foreign Office about my disobedience.

As I worked exclusively for Mr. NAMBIAR and only for a short time with Dr. BANERJI, I am not in a position to say much about the general work of the ZFI. I only remember that in the beginning I used to invite quite regularly all the members of the ZFI to general meetings which took place either in the office or at Mr. NAMBIARS house. At such the meetings all members used to discuss the political situation and the general work of the organisation. These meetings had been introduced by S.C. BOSE, but Mr. NAMBIAR dropped them very soon after he had come to the conclusion that for his leadership it would serve his plans better if he met and discussed with a few of his intimate friends only. On the whole he acted only according to his own interests without taking any care for the interests of the organisation, on the contrary, he always threatened all the others to hand them over to the Gestapo in case they did not obey his orders. With + Dr. MAJUMDAR he in fact stated on example.(+ His passport was taken away from him and he was forced to go to Dresden to work in a war factory). Even to me he once pointed out jokingly and [illegible] earnestly enough that he could easily have me arrested. He did not do this, but when I went on holidays in September 1944, two days after I had left Berlin I received a letter from the Foreign Office with my demission, telling me that Mr. NAMBIAR had put me at the disposal of the Labour Office for work in the war industry. Although I had myself long ago made up my mind to leave the ZFI I was not in a position to do so as there existed a law which did not allow any employee to leave his work during the war. The reasons why I was dismissed from the ZFI in October 1944 were my friendship with Dr. BANERJI and many difference of opinion between Mr. NAMBIAR and myself and myself ⁄ about affairs concerning the ZFI, the Legion etc.

One fact that Mr. NAMBIARS relations to the SS were very close is that he was given huge amounts of benzine to run his car with, a chauffer who served as his body-guard and the several houses for him to stay in, on the other hand Dr. MAJUMDARs case proves it better than anything else.

⁄ Fraulein IMHOFF did not approve of transfer of Legion to S.S. nor to their fighting against the Maquis.

2183. 4613

SECRET

27th July, 1945.

Mr. SILVER

Attached is a copy of an extremely interesting letter from NAMBIAR to S.C. BOSE, the original of which was found in U-boat 234 when it surrendered to the Allies. I am having enquiries made about the identity of the various people mentioned in the letter, but some of the names are very familiar to us already. The asthmatic patient is, I believe, G.K. MUKHERJI, No.56 in the July 1944 handbook. DUTT is Eric Chand DUTT, No.24 in the July 1944 handbook, of whose recent whereabouts we know nothing.

2. The passport and manuscript mentioned towards the end of the letter were not recovered with the letter itself, but we are endeavouring to obtain them. The references to passports and stamps are explained by recent statements which have been made, notably by VYAS and MAMA, indicating that when the crash came arrangements were well in hand for the production of Azad Hind passports and Azad Hind stamps.

I.P.I./JIF

Enclosure: I

Original in file 4920.

2153.

D.O./6388/27/45

War Office, M.I.2.a

20th July, 1945.

Dear Colonel Vickery,

I enclose copies of 3 letters addressed to S.C. BOSE, which were obtained from U-boat 234, and sent to us by Brigadier O'Brien, British Joint Staff Mission, Washington.

Perhaps you might like to pass these letters on to Lt.-Col. Simmons of C.S.D.I.C.(I).

Yours sincerely,

(sd) J.J. EADIE

Copy of letter from Brigadier O'Brien to Col. Molony No. BB.1/9/92 dated 14.7.45.

Attached are copies of three letters addressed to Subhas Chandra BOSE which were removed from U-boat 234 and have been received from the Navy Department. I enquired about the passport and manuscript mentioned in para 2 on page 4 of the letter from A.C.N. NAMBIAR and have been informed that these were not enclosed with this letter and had not so far been recovered. They may, however, come to light later.

Copies of above letter were sent to Major General Cawthorn, D.M.I., India, Major General Penney, D. of I., S.E.A.C.

COPY

12th January, 1945.

My dear Netaji,

May I at the beginning send you my warmest greetings for the New Year and my very best wishes for your birthday. The present year in many ways is going to be a very decisive one for us. I hope it will find you in the best of health. You may be sure that I will carry on the duty entrusted to me by you to the best of my ability and with utmost devotion.

The general political and military situation here, from the German point of view, now records a distinct improvement. In August and September the situation looked not only extremely difficult, but even depressing. But the supreme leadership did not lose nerves or get panicky. The hold on the country was well maintained. Events connected with the attempt on the life of Hitler did not cause any serious convulsion. The position created by this development was ably employed to erradicate certain forces of disruption and easen the centralised character of the State leadership. The people have for the while well got over the shock of rapid enemy advance which following the invasion, an almost simultaneous approach of the Russians near to the Reich frontier, and the dropping out of different European allies. The population has got used to the constant air raids and attacks, though they cause much damage and good deal of distress. Greater mobilisation of man power - women included - and material resources have followed rapidly. It is estimated that Germany has now more troops at the Western front than at the time of landing - and troops very well equipped - without having recalled troops from the Eastern or Italian frontiers, and this despite an obviously not negligible loss at the Western front. Indeed a very remarkable fact of recent period has been the successful development of German industrial production, today also much less vulnerable to enemy raids and attacks than some time back. All in all, it can be said that at present the position for Germany, though hard, has greatly improved compared to that of three months ago and now gives German scope for retention of good hope and opens for her new possibilities, alike in political and military spheres. The German nation really deserves great admiration for the splendid spirit it has displayed and the remarkable stand it has maintained.

New political factors introduced in the wake of the Anglo-American occupation of various parts of or regions in Europe and a Russian advance towards the West and South-Eastern Europe, undoubtedly give Germany diplomacy and propaganda new possibilities. It remains to be seen what and how much advantage can be or will be won out of this situation. Meanwhile there is every reason to anticipate that in the period immediately ahead German resistance and attack will record further intensity.

Inside the camp of the so-called United Nations the position marks a deterioration both as regards an optimism held about the ending of the War and an understanding between the partners themselves. Britain's prestige has suffered enormously in both the opposing camps. Though it would be a mistake to expect an open cleavage easily in the allied camp, yet there is no denying that if Germany is able to resist well and strike hard for sometime more, it will give greater strength and force to the cross-currents inside the allied camp, thereby increasing the scope for their following different paths.

The German resistance in Northern Italy and the economic situation, combined with a political confusion in the parts of Italy occupied by the Anglo-Americans have both now contributed to a certain strengthening of the Mussolini regime.

Events in East Asia are followed here with the closest of attention. About these you are of course much better informed. The fate of the fight in and over Philippines is viewed with the greatest care and concern.

The interest in India and the movement led by you has not subsided, despite other pre-occupations and the temprary check in directions in Burma. We have on the whole a very good press, though at times I have to make presentations against certain reports or references. I must say that my presentations do not fail to receive satisfactory consideration. We have to go on patiently and carefully at the task of mobilising sympathy, support and understanding for us and for our movement. In general I can say that we are receiving good support for our activities, especially when one takes into consideration the hard phase of the fight now and the various difficulties linked with it. I realise that much also depends upon the development of direct contacts with individuals and in this a legacy bestowed by you has stood me in good stead and I am also following the instructions given by you in the matter carefully. As a reflection of the good contacts maintained and developed, I had for the New Year messages of good wishes for the success of our movement from nearly hundred persons, many of them in very high and responsible positions.

I am naturally giving the best attention to retaining close and most cordial relations with our Japanese friends. I am happy to inform you that the representatives of Nippon here, both diplomatic and military, extend to us a full measure of support and sympathy.

As far as our organisation is concerned it is carrying on its work much the same way. There is no overlooking a certain tiredness in various members. This is understandable. Of course all possible care has been taken to make life for our members as convenient and easy as possible. They cannot complain of having experienced much of the hardships of war, excepting for having lost their luggage on two occasions, both times while on transit. Those working for the radio and review are now in a small town, which can be considered safe though subjected to frequent air alarms. Negotiations are going on to secure a new place, free both from air raids and air alarms. It is not always easy to push through various arrangements these days and most of our members have no idea of the difficulties involved in getting different technical affairs settled. Our men get impatient at times too quickly and are often annoyingly sensitive. A tiredness to which I have referred strengthens these traits. I have to devote steadily a good deal of time in seeing the team staying together. This prevents me often from attending to more important jobs. Unfortunately some of the persons who I had thought would relieve me greatly in directions tend to cause the greatest amount of trouble. This refers to the young man who used to sit in the room in front of yours in the office, the asthmatic patient, his doctrinarian friend, the person who came with me from France with a liberal outlook and another young man who also came from France and talks Hindi well. The most troublesome ones have been the young man and the asthmatic patient. The latter is free from illness now. The others have been giving no trouble by themselves. The trouble with the young man is a craving for power. He thought of starting a committee, thinking he could boss it. But when Ganguley and Sultan and latterly also Rahman who were to have been members of it, took a stand against it, turned against them, especially against Sultan. Since then he turned to strengthen understanding with the asthmatic patient, the doctrinarian and the liberal, just for smaller ends. Very regrettable indeed, for the young man is quite intelligent and very hard working. And to his credit it must also be said that he does his particular work very well. Ganguley has proved a good and loyal colleague. Unfortunately he is easily irritable and has no sense for details. Altogether he is quite

helpful. Rahman I must say has been most helpful as a colleague and has been cooperating well. He has certain failures known to you. But so far as I have observed he is very devoted to you and this makes cooperation with him easy. Besides, though rough at times to different people, he is really not conceited and is always willing to listen. Sultan is also a source of good support. He is also very devoted to you. Politically clearest in my opinion are Vyas and Keni. Keni has a keen sense for international politics. Vyas is also very hard working. Sarma is quite intelligent, follows our line carefully and correctly and is willing to learn.

On the whole the work of the Azad Hind radio, Azad Muslim radio and the review has been going on satisfactorily. I am not at all satisfied with the Congress radio. It does not keep up a steadiness in quality.

I have taken up the points relating to the offical transmission raised by you with the sources concerned. It has been possible to effect a certain improvement as a result.

The Legion is now being re-grouped and re-equipped. Afterwards it will receive a new course of training. I have recently received a communication from the Reichsfuhrer to the effect that the Legion will in future remain under his personal supervision.

Recently has arrived here from France a scientist of the name Dutt who is supposed to be specially talented in regard to oil production and explosives. Though not connected with our organisation I am in contact with him directly and through Keppler who is interesting himself in this man. I shall report to you about this man again. Keppler personally has formed a good impression of him.

I have to carry on the work here now under rather difficult conditions. But I am doing my best in seeing that our activities and interests do not suffer. I have good support from the man who gave you a box with long cigarettes in Vienna and who is here as the follower of the man whom you met in Prague and who reminded you of Clive. Through him I have been able to secure new office premises, which though modest in comparison with our first one when we had full possession of the same, still meets well our present needs. Twelve person are at present working in theoffice in Berlin. By keeping up an office in Berlin without break we certainly have created a good impression.

I am forwarding a sample of our passport and the manuscript relating to India written by an economist here. I am keeping the passports ready and shall as desired by you issue them at an opportune moment after communicating with you. The stamps will go for print this month. I hope to send you samples by the next mail, if I cannot forward them to you by this mail. I trust I will succeed in being able to send samples of one or two by this mail.

A large number of persons here have asked me to convey their best wishes to you. The list is a very long one. But I should like to mention on this occasion, del Torso, Harbich who lost his eldest son last month on the battle field, the person whom I mentioned as being very helpful to me and who is in closest contact as his next associate with the person who showed you an amphibious machine, Ruperti and Summer, Aust, Frau Meyer wife of Meyer who was in charge of the Legion, now a prisoner and likely to be exchanged as a wounded, Frl Schenkl, Faltis and Dr. Richter from Vienna. I am also enclosing two letters from Sch to whom I have suggested to move out from the present place of residence. I have attended to all arrangements for stay at a quiet place considered as quite safe.

The money forwarded by you arrived early last month. It is deposited in the Yokahama Specie Bank's branch. I shall be using it for the expenses of our activities here.

In one of your letters you have referred to some presents. I have not received any.

I shall be writing again soon.

With best regards,

Yours as always,

(sd) A.C.N. NAMBIAR.

S. Excellenz
Herrn Prasidenten Subhas Chandra Bose.

Original in file 2556

DGD/238
23.6.45.

Extract from statement of M.R.L. VYAS.

2153

160. After the departure of BOSE to the Far East NAMBIAR stopped holding social gatherings at his place like the former and began to behave like an aristocrat chief of a big organisation. BOSE's political intrigues were remarkable in every way. But NAMBIAR could not keep the members of the FIC a happy team. Many members began to feel that NAMBIAR was growing unfriendly.

Mrs. Niedermeier

162. It was on this occasion that I first saw Mrs. NIEDERMEIER, the mistress of NAMBIAR. As there was no formal introduction, I did not then know who she was but on enquiry the following day BHATTA, who had been specially asked by NAMBIAR to talk to her, informed me that she was a friend of NAMBIAR adn was staying at 6 Sophienstrasse as house-mistress. Later, I learnt from SULTAN that Mrs. NIEDERMEIER had been introduced to NAMBIAR by Dr. v. TROTT, who had also suggested while introducing her that NAMBIAR must have a house-mistress who could look after his residence in accordance with his dignity. It is clear that this was a well thought out political move on the part of the German Foreign Office, which must have then visualised what good use they could make of NAMBIAR in the event of a rise in the power and prestige of S.C. BOSE in the Far East. Their aim, therefore, was to bring NAMBIAR somehow completely into their clutches. As events later showed t heir move in introducing Mrs. NIEDERMEIER did not fail to achieve the desired result.

163. NAMBIAR fell completely a victim to the charm of this lady. Probably the Germans intentionally selected this beautiful girl for this purpose. As a result, he lost friendly contact with the major body of the FIC members on the one hand and became a slave of the Germans, on whose support his easy and aristocratic life henceforth entirely depended. I had many times opportunity to observe that the thoughts of Mrs. NIEDERMEIER dominated the mind of NAMBIAR even when he was in the office. In Sepember 1943 he went to France on a special pleasure trip for more than six weeks accompanied by Mrs. NIEDERMEIER. Information provided by RAO and SULTAN shows that NAMBIAR spent all he could in order to satisfy the desires of his mistress.

164. Though the Germans thus realised the first objective of their well thought out plan, their ultimate hopes cannot be said to have been fully realised. This was chiefly because events in East Asia did not take place just as the Germans perhaps visualised in March 1943, when introducing Mrs. NIEDERMEIER to NAMBIAR. The Germans knew the previous history of NAMBIAR to be that of a staunch Communist and ~~his~~ a dubious character. With the establishment of the Provisional Government of AZAD HIND in October 1943 and the appointment of NAMBIAR as the Minister of State to that Government no doubt NAMBIAR's importance as a tool for gaining information about BOSE's activities and expanding German influence in the Far East somewhat increased. But, with the failure of the Japanese in 1943 to smash into India, neither the FIC nor NAMBIAR ever achieved that importance for which the Germans hoped and which could have been of some use to them for their political intrigue.

Nambiar's Trip to France

184. While at Hilversum a general atmosphere of dissatisfaction prevailed (though the radio work had not slackened) NAMBIAR left Berlin for France with Mrs. NIEDERMEIER. None of us at Hilversum, except perhaps GANPULEY, knew about this visit of NAMBIAR To France. Before leaving Berlin for France NAMBIAR had already come to know that our luggage was bombed out and that many had lost the greater part of their possessions, but he did not care to get in touch with MAMA, who thus had to handle this difficult affair without the support of proper authority, namely NAMBIAR himself. As we came to know, the two representatives of the Foreign Office in Hilversum had been duly informed about NAMBIAR's tour in France, but the news was held secret from the Indian side of the FIC in Hilversum. This fact, no doubt, led to further antagonism against NAMBIAR by the members at Hilversum. Later on NAMBIAR tried to explain his prolonged absence during September and October by saying that he had gone there on official duty. But it became generally known afterwards that during the greater part of his six weeks' absence NAMBIAR was on a pleasure trip in the South of France together with his mistress Mrs. NIEDERMEIER and the only official work he did was to attend the inaugural ceremony of the FIC branch at Paris.

203. While NAMBIAR was driving home together with Mrs. NIEDERMEIER after this celebration, his car met with an accident and both he and Mrs. NEIDERMEIER were severely injured. For about three weeks NAMBIAR, who had received injury in the shoulder and a factured collarbone, was confined to bed in hospital.

Nambiar as Minister

205. Towards the end of February 1944, LEIPOLDT telephoned to Hilversum to say that NAMBIAR was arriving in Hilversum the next day and added that just then the news had been received that Subhas BOSE had appointed NAMBIAR as Minister of State without Portfolio in the Provisional Government of Azad Hind. This news was confirmed next day by the Japanese Ddmei News Agency, which also added that NAMBIAR besides holding the rank of a minister was officially appointed the leader of the Indian organisations in Europe.

206. When NAMBIAR arrived in Hilversum he explained that he had not desired to become a Minister and that BOSE had offered him this post previously, but that he had rejected the offer. However, said NAMBIAR, finally he had to yield.

207. Information which reached me through different persons (KENI, SULTAN, RAHMAN and MAMA), who on their part based their knowledge on occasional remarks by NAMBIAR, on the one hand confirms NAMBIAR's statement but on the other hand revealed that both NAMBIAR and the German Foreign Office had been striving hard to get NAMBIAR appointed as an Ambassador. The German calculation was that in case BOSE appointed NAMBIAR as the Ambassador of his Provisional Government in Germany the Germans would have a right to set up a Legation at the headquarters of S.C. BOSE. The information available is that the Japanese were keeping the Germans completely cut off from developments in Burma, Malaya and the Dutch East Indies, which was probably not in accordance with the secret treaty signed by Japan and Germany. The Germans were also kept ignorant about the movements and activities of S.C. BOSE. NAMBIAR in his conversations several times admitted that the Germans could make direct contact with BOSE only when the latter was either in Bangkok or in Tokio. The Germans, still thinking in terms of the final victory of the Axis Powers, were naturally unwilling to let the Japanese become the sole masters of India and therefore desired to have their Legation at BOSE's headquarters, which would serve the Germans as a channel for getting information about the trend of affairs in the Japanese-occupied territories and at the same time would be a source for maintaining Germany's influence on BOSE and the Provisional Government of India.

208. The Japanese, however, recognised German intentions and were therefore opposed to the appointment of NAMBIAR or anyone else as an Ambassador in Germany. As a way out and in order to satisfy NAMBIAR, who was always complaining that BOSE was not giving him enough power and authority, BOSE decided to give NAMBIAR the post of a Minister without Portfolio.

Was relieved of accounts

219. Early during July 1944, NAMBIAR again visited Hilversum. When he arrived the feeling against him was again strong, particularly as he had till then not been able to make any arrangements for the re-transfer of the FIC men from Hilversum to Germany. NAMBIAR was accompanied by RAHMAN and Dr. Von TROTT. During their stay, I had a long talk with RAHMAN who came to me and scornfully said that he had heard that I had on several occasions openly criticised the private life of NAMBIAR and that I had been talking against him (NAMBIAR). I told RAHMAN that I had made no secret of my views about NAMBIAR's growing negligence towards the other FIC members on account of his perpetual preoccupation with his friend Mrs. NEIDERMEIER. RAHMAN thereupon asked me not to make such remarks in the future, as it weakened NAMBIAR's position as well as that of the whole organisation. He added that NAMBIAR was doing a lot of work and that it was wrong to say that he was neglecting the interests of the other members of the FIC. I reminded RAHMAN how he himself conspired with SULTAN, AMAM and me with a view to snatching the power from NAMBIAR's hands and that he himself had been criticising NAMBIAR more strongly on the same grounds previously than I ever did.

Nambiar's Second Accident

238. On 23.1.45 we learnt at Helmstedt that NAMBIAR had had another car accident (together with Mrs. NIEDERMEIER). He received injury to the skull and near the eyes and had to be removed to hospital. Both at Helmstedt as well as at Berlin arrangements had been made for the celebration of the Independence Day on 26.1.45. However, firstly on account of the accident of NAMBIAR and secondly due to the gloomy conditions then prevailing in Germany, both functions were cancelled. GANPULEY left Helmstedt for Berlin to see NAMBIAR.