PF47,151/LAV2

ASHLEY, MRS GISELA

PF47,151/LAV2

SEE ALSO LIST INSIDE COVER

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S. 960 Edn2

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(3243) Wt 10554/5806 400M 5/40 BPL 51/6860 J4750

[P.T. Over

18/10/43

106a

REPORT.

I met Mr. VAN BOJEN, the Dutch Minister of the Interior, for tea yesterday. He seems to get a malicious pleasure out of any misunderstandings between Great Britain and America (vide the statements by the 5 Senators), although he seems decidedly worried about what is going to happen at election time in the States.

He is a strong advocate of the "Second Front".

Post War. He is all for free trade as he feels with free trade Holland could be wealthy again within 10 years. As regards free trade for other nations, he hopes that it will be beneficial for them too. He says that his Government is busy working out plans for governing Holland as soon as the war is over and, provided the military authorities will let them in immediately, he does not expect any trouble in Holland, particularly as the Germans will have shot most of the Dutch Communists anyway. He says that he has a list of 30.000 Dutchmen so far who will have to be punished in one way or another after the war.

As regards Germany, he is in favour of economic punishment for her, but thinks that there must be some "good" Germans and that it would be advisable for the Allies to look for them and appeal to them to keep Germany in order rather than dominate her themselves.

A.5.

Mark to W Div's Policy Section for what it is worth.

Dwd.

29/10

OPS Vo ree.

A.D.B.
Seen Hamb
E
K.
8/8

8/8

August 6th, 1942

105a

HOLLAND

Mr. VAN BOIEN, the Dutch Minister of the Interior, seems to be under the impression that the Second Front will start about September. He says there are a lot of meetings between the Dutch and the British at present and expresses the wish that we were 6 weeks further.

I also gather that his family in Holland have asked him not to write to them any longer as it is dangerous for them nor will they write to him.

S. Bewlor

EIAH

104a

June 22nd, 1942

HOLLAND.

I gathered from Mr. van Boeien that he has asked Queen Wilhelmina to release him from the position of Minister for War and only let him keep his Home Secretary position as the work is too much for him. It is not yet known whether Queen Wilhelmina will agree to this.

It also seems that the Dutch are considering taking up relations with Russia again, which were broken off in 1918. Mr. van Boeien seems to be doubtful about this for religious reasons.

TC 9915 C2B 22/6/42 60a

FREDDY ZIPFEL.

Freddy's Zipfel's history, as far as I have been able to find out, is as follows:

His father was Swiss, his mother Scotch. Father was interned in this country during the last war for pro-German sympathies. In 1919 Father Zipfel went to Germany with his family, consisting of Olive born 1908, Daisy born 1912 and Freddy born 1914, all born in this country. It seems that the Swiss did not approve of Father Zipfel's behaviour during the war and he therefore stayed on in Germany and became a German citizen.

All three children were brought up in Germany. Freddy went to a high-school for boys (Gymnasium) in Potsdam. In 1933 Freddy began to study law in Berlin but had to give this up after about three months for lack of money. He then did his two years of military service in the German army and in 1935, when he was 21, he decided to take out an English passport and went to England. I do not know what jobs he held in England, except that just prior to the war he was employed with the Anglo Metal Co. as secretary and correspondent and that at some time or other he seems to have been temporarily employed by the Berlitz School.

In 1937 he married the daughter of his landlady. The marriage was not a success and I believe he is now getting his divorce.

During the Finnish-Russian war he joined up as a volunteer and went to Finland. I do not know whether he arrived in time for the fighting, anyhow, he was interned in Sweden with many others for about a year and seems to have been working in the forests there. He returned to this country at the end of April 1942, and is at present living with his sister Olive, who is the secretary of Mr. van Boeien, the Dutch Home Secretary and Minister for War. I believe he has again worked for a short period for the Anglo Metal Co. but as there was not enough to do for him he gave it up and is now working on A.R.P. while waiting for his call up. He wants to join the R.A.C.

His sister Daisy is married to a German engineer, called Hermannspann in Berlin, and has two children.

As far as I can gather none of the Zipfels were ever Nazis.

I met Freddy Zipfel yesterday. Except for the fact that he criticises a lot and compares things with Germany, which may be due to the usual lack of tact of the Zipfels, he seems quite a pleasant and rather ordinary yuung man.

As I believe the fact that Zipfel served in the German army only known to his sister and my informant in this country, I would

be grateful if this information would be treated in such a way that no suspicion as to its source could be aroused.

F.2B
F.2C

15/5/42

1020

Mrs. Lilly WAR-LANGDON.

I am afraid that I do not quite know what further information you would like to have about Mrs. War-Langdon.

All I know about her is that at one time she was employed at the ARCOS, the Russian Trade Association, under her maiden name LILLY FREEMAN, and that she is at present editor or sub-editor of a woman's paper. I believe I reported all this previously.

I would be glad if you would let me know if there is anything specific you would like to know about her and I shall then try and find it out.

A.5

Cockfosters Camp,
Barnet, Herts.
May 1st, 1942.

101a

Dear Gilbert:

I think these two names might be of interest. Gisela knows Zipfel's story, and knows his sister who is now working for the Dutch Government here. Zipfel only returned a few days ago from internment.

With kind regards,

L. Brown.

Cup

An actor (film actor?) WALTER RILLER, who is connected with the B.B.C. used to be a close friend of LENI RIEFENSTAHL and her set. I do not know if this might be of interest.

PA.

ZIPFEL, who was employed by Anglo Metal and joined the expedition to FINLAND and was interned in SWEDEN, has now returned to England and must enlist. He is very intelligent and a perfect linguist, but as he is said to have been in the S.A. while in Germany, and went to FINLAND to avoid fighting the Germans, it might be worth while watching for him as he is sure to try to get into M.I.

B4B

5/3/42

100a

REPORT

My informant, who is a great friend of Gerda BUERGER, German Jewish refugee and secretary to GEORG SCHICHT of UNILEVER, told me the following about various people at Unilever's.

GEORG SCHICHT naturalised about 1938. Not very serious, pleasure loving, artistic. Inclined to mix with titled people, recently became a member of the Atheneum Club. Takes singing lessons from an Italian teacher. Is not treated with great respect by the other members of the Board of Directors and feels rather hurt about it.

During the week ending February 21st, a very secret document of his had to be copied of the following content:
On 29/8/39 he made a "Vermoegensangabe" (declaration of instruction for the disposal of property) before a notary in Fleet Street, covering RM.260.000 deposited by him with the Deutsche Bank, Aussig, including 2 houses with furniture and many valuable pictures etc. He reserved for himself one house, some furniture, some works of art and about RM.20.000. The remainder he disposed of as follows:

KLEPSCH Frau ELLA KLEPSCH, AUSSIG RM. 100.000
(for the support of needy relations but mainly for herself)
Mr. and Mrs. IGNAZ HELLER, THUN RM. 10.000 or 12.000
For "needy relations in the Sudetengau 15.000
(it was suggested that this sum might be intended as "hush money" or for political purposes).

Dr. GLUECK originally of German nationality, naturalised American. Ardent Nazi. Employed in Treasury Dept. Lived at Mount Royal. Shortly before America entered the war he went to USA. Greatly distrusted by many members of the staff.

TRUDE GUTH Great friend of Dr. Glueck. Czech subject, prior to war violent Nazi.

FRANZ SCHICHT (Cousin of Georg Schicht) was requested by the firm to return to Germany when war was imminent. Violent Nazi, intimate friend of Darre and other Nazi leaders.

I am handing you on everything that I was being told in order to enable you to judge the reliability of this information.

A.5.

Ad. 2.159(1455) 18.1.42. 99a

Tony BIRCH.

I met this man in the Pheasantry Club in Chelsea the other day where he seems to be trying to drown his sorrows in beer. I gathered that his history is that he was brought up in Germany, speaks perfect German, had been to Berchtesgaden once to visit Hitler, that he has been an officer in the R.A.F., has been dismissed and is now living in the flat of somebody called "Hennessy". The reasons for his dismissal from the R.A.F. seem to be obscure but in a drunken bout he seems to have mentioned "suspicion of espionage" and is under the impression that he is being followed.

I am merely mentioning this man to you in case there is anything known against him. He is a member of the Embassy Club.

F.3

Dorothy SPEARMAN.

I reported this woman to you previously. She has now been sacked from the A.B.C., Notting Hill Gate, and I gather has volunteered to go overseas as a cook in one of the Services. My informant has come to the conclusion that this woman is probably not so much pro-Nazi as anti British Government. She is still talking about this book which she has written, which she has now hidden in the lining of a hat-box in case her place is ever searched and which she proposes to take overseas with her in order to get it published somewhere. She also seems to have mentioned that a lot of her information about the rotten conditions in this country, particularly as regards evacuation, come from a "Commander Lamb" of the Salvation Army.

A.5

E1A

December 27th,1941 98a

VAN BOEIJEN, DUTCH MINISTER OF INTERIOR & FOR WAR

(Address:Flat 77, Thames Eyot,Twickenham,Tel:Popesgrove 6030)

On Xmas Eve I was invited to dinner at Mr. van Boeijen's flat. The other people present were: Mr. WONDERGEM (a Dutch official who works under v.Boeijen and who used to be a detective in the Dutch police force. He joined the Dutch army and came to England from Brest ~~afterxthexx~~ just before the occupation of France. He still has a wife in Holland.), Mr. and Mrs. ABDERHALDEN (Mr. Abderhalden is head buyer at Gillette's) and OLIVE ZIPFEL.

I gather that van Boeijen is a pretty sick man. He has apparently been seeing 3 Dutch doctors, Dr.Vergeest, Dr. van Sluis and Dr. Pael (?) and he is going to be operated on by Sir Thomas Dunhill about January 14th and going into the London Clinic. He may take a holiday a week or two before the operation. During his absence Admiral F.....(?), the Naval Minister will act as deputy for the Minister for War and BOLKENSTEYN (Education) as deputy for the Minister of Interior.

As seems to be the habit of the Dutch, van Boeijen criticised the British, their slackness, inefficiency and their lack of realisation of the seriousness of the situation (he is very pessimistic). He mentioned that the Dutch and British had an agreement by which the Dutch were going to send out troops to the Far East but that he had not been able to raise the arms for them. The Queen had told him to ask for the quipment nicely but he had decided that the only way to get anything from the British was by giving orders.

He also told us that the Germans had invaded Spain the day before (24/12) and talked about 50 - 60 divisions. When it was pointed out to him that there had been nothing on the wireless he still maintained that it was so and that van Kleffens had told him about it. When further pressed he said that van Kleffens had probably got the information from the Dutch Press Section and that the story came from an American journalist.

I gather that the British "C.I.D." do not approve of the employment of RUTH FABIAN, aGerman refugee.

F3

13/12/41

97a

I heard ratherva peculiar story today and, although it is quite possible that the woman concerned is a lunatic, it seems to me that there are certain elements of danger in it as well. My informant was a teacher at the Berlitz School.

Apparently a little while ago a Miss DOROTHY SPEARMAN (age about 33, medium height, dark hair with reddish tints,pretty) of 5, Kensington Park Gardens, W.2. who is a waitress at the A.B.C. Notting Hill Gate, where she says she earns 18/- a week plus tips, came to the Berlitz School and booked 100 private lessons (whether she paid for all these lessons in advance my informant does not know) for French and German. She was not satisfied with her teacher for German and asked my informant to give her private lessons for which she offered to pay 10/- per lesson, my informant is only charging her 5/- though.

She then told my informant that she had been married and had one or two children (the story seems to vary a little) who are evacuated to the place of a Mrs. Waller, White Lodge, Southend(?).

One day when she was asleep some years ago she had a vision. In this vision she saw Christ standing at the top of a hill with his cross and at the bottom of the hill was another man with a cross who had great difficulties climbing. Christ told her to help this man who turned out to be Hitler, but two other men got in the way who were Stalin and Churchill and she was told by Christ to push them aside. Since this time she has come to the conclusion that Hitler is right all along the line and that the English are definitely wrong and she is doing everything to help Hitler. She apparently keeps on mentiong "they" as the people who instruct her but has not said who "they" are. She also said that she had been to Germany and talked about a man called "Schneider" who arranged the brothels for the German soldiers in the Rhineland.

She seems to have been in the Middlesex Lunatic Asylum at one time but according to herself escaped from it and was at large sufficiently long not to have to go back. In this Asylum she says, she met a woman who was Churchill's secretary for 3 weeks and various other people who were all certified merely because the authorities considered them a nuisance and wanted them out of the way. She also was at some hospital in Southall last autumn. She has written a book too on Hitler which she knows will not be published in this country.

My informant was a little worried by this story. She thinks the

woman might be a lunatic but she is exceedingly intelligent and talks exactly like the German propaganda books. She has all the Nazi arguments, history, etc. at her fingertips, has read any number of books on the subject and knows all the wrong the British have done according to Nazi tales. This, my informant considers very peculiar, as the woman is obviously uneducated.

Spearman also told my informant a story about a dummy aerodrome in Hertfordshire and explained to her that the German Intelligence Service was much too good and knew that it was a dummy one, and instead they went and bombed the right aerodrome in the neighbourhood killing any number of people.

Spearman said that many Air Force men come to the A.B.C. and that she has no difficulty in listening to what they are talking about, particularly as she is popular with them. As an example she mentioned that the Air Force were expecting very heavy raids at Xmas.

She seems to have told her landlady averything about herself and her ideas.

96a

December 7th,1941

VAN BOJIEN, Dutch Minister for the Interior and for Defence.

Mr. van Bojien saw a doctor last week (name of Dutch doctor is Vergeest (?)) who told him that his blood pressure was very high and also that the lump he had on his neck was a clot of blood which might move to the windpipe and suffocate him and that he would have to have an operation immediately. His heart is also bad.

Mr. van Bojien is planning to go to the Isle of Man for Xmas to visit the internees, taking his secretary OLIVE ZIPFEL with him.

He is still looking for staff for his Department, chiefly for minor jobs like filing and finds it very difficult to get any girls.

A German Jewish refugee, RUTH FABIAN, has applied for a job and he is considering taking her on if the British approve. Ruth Fabian is a niece of a Mrs. von Kotze and is living with Mr. and Mrs. von Kotze at Grove Hall Court, N.W.8. The von Kotze's are also German refugees and left Germany because Mrs. von Kotze is a Jewess.

E1A (Hooper)

95a

November 10th, 1941

F2B
F2C.

Mr. WHITE.

Some time ago I mentioned to you a woman whom I knew slightly who used to be with the Russian Trade Delegation in London before the war.

Her name is Mrs. Lilly War-Langdon (wife of Hardolf War-Langdon, an engineer), both are British. Mrs. W.L. speaks Russian. Just before the war she was also ~~connectedx~~ connected with the Russian Intourist newspaper inviting people to come and see Russia.

As far as I can make out she left the Russians just before the War after a disagreement. I do not think that she was ever a Communist.

She is now editor or assistant editor of a Woman's Institue journal.

Should you want any further information about her please let me know.

PAd - PF. 42499.

94a

Mr. White. 14/10/41

REPORT.

Mrs. Bertha PRITCHARD - FREE ITALIAN MOVEMENT.

I took Mrs. Pritchard out to lunch today as I had not seen her for some time to find out what she is doing these days. As she had been away herself she had nothing particularly interesting to say.

She did, however, mention that she was interested in the FREE ITALIAN MOVEMENT and intended to help them. She said that it was largely due to her that the former leader of this Movement - I believe I reported him to you before - had been sacked and that Count PRIOLI? was the leader now. She considered him "a nice boy". She also said that Prioli? and other members kept ringing her up asking her advice on what to do and that they showed her the letters they received from the Foreign Office, etc. She mentioned two of the members of this Movement by name, one was Paulo TREVERS?, an Italian B.B.C. announcer, and the other a man calling himself "Candidus" in his occasional B.B.C. broadcasts to Italy. His real profession is a draftsman.

Talking about Dr. Schwarz, formerly of Bloomsbury House, she said that he was still interned and Bloomsbury House were not willing to do anything for him. According to her, he was probably a Fascist at heart like most of the Italian Jews - she then mentioned a name which sounded like "Lemberti" - who, if they had not been debarred from doing so, would have been quite willing to support the Fascist Regime in Italy.

She also mentioned Arthur SCHUETZ again who is writing for the "Zeitung" under the name of * and that Schuetz still sees a lot of the "Major" who was so kind to him when he was interned. She also hinted to me that she was not too well off these days and that she had asked Schuetz to find out from his "Major" whether he could not use her in view of all her languages but that she had been told "they" could only employ British born people.

It occurred to me whether it might be worth while approaching Mrs. Pritchard to work for us as her knowledge of all these foreigners and their doings should be very worth while. I am merely putting

* I will let you have this name as soon as I have got it.

this up as an idea. If you would consider it at all I would make it my business gradually to find out what her possible reaction to such a proposition might be, without giving anything away.

A. S.

Mr. White. 14/10/41

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93a

October 11th, 1941

Re - Typist for Dutch Ministry of Interior.

I took OLIVE ZIPFEL out to lunch yesterday and gathered that she sees nothing peculiar in a girl writing to the Ministry asking for a job, that they are always on the look-out for girls who know Dutch, preferrably of Dutch nationality but find them hard to get and that if they like the letter sent them, the girl is given an interview. In case therefore you cannot place anybody at the Ministry now there is no reason why it should not be done at a later time.

I also gathered from Olive, who seems to think of herself as being almost Dutch, that there is another English girl working with her, but I have so far not been able to find out her name. I think that Olive herself is quite unapproachable.

A.S.

October 11th,1941

Re - Typist for Dutch Ministry of Interior.

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INTERNAL MEMORANDUM.

From B.2 (London) To A.D.B.1. - Mr. D.G.White

Your memo of 11.10.41 is noted. The A.5. report, of which we have a copy, is returned in case you have not yet extracted the information in the last two paragraphs.

Date 15.10.41

Signature J.G.Dickson

J.G.Dickson

S. Form 161

October 8th,1941

Re - typist for Dutch Ministry.

The Dutch Minister of the Interior, van Boeijen, has moved his offices to Room 702, Arlington House, Arlington Street, S.W.1. (Tel. Regent 0829).

I have just spoken to Olive ZIPFEL on the telephone regarding a typist. She said they are always interested in suitable typists. I suggested that a friend of a friend of mine was looking for a job and Olive said the girl should apply in writing (in Dutch) giving full particulars about herself, her age and nationality and address this letter to the Minister of the Interior at the above address. Olive would then automatically get this letter and either she or the Minister would decide whether the girl would be suitable and be worth while interviewing.

I made it clear to Olive that I knew nothing about this girl, not even her name or nationality so that no reference to me need be made.

I am hoping to meet Olive for lunch on Friday but as she is exceedingly discrete there is probably little useful information to be gained from her.

I was invited to lunch together with van Boeijen and Olive at some friends of mine about a week ago (Major Lennox was also asked.) The old man (he is only 52 but seems much older) is very Dutch, Although he seems quite friendly towards the English I had the impression that he did not feel quite sure how far the English could be trusted as regards the precious Dutch East Indies. He talked about having been to Western Command, how overworked he was, that he had not really wanted to take on the job of Minister for Defense but had been made to do it as there was nobody else, about the 70 or 80 Dutchmen arriving in this country every week either from Lisbon or direct from Holland, how well Bernhard was doing but that he always wanted to fly, how nobody really appreciated what the Dutch war effort ~~had been and~~ was and still is and although he was exceedingly loyal to the Queen I got the impression that she is a bit of a dragon who does not necessarily take her counsillors' advice.

Van Boeijen had never been to England before. He used to travel in Switzerland and Germany but really preferred Germany and the Germans.

F1A.

A. 5.

P. 2 (Mr. Dickson)

92a

October 8th,1941

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Van Boeijen had never been to England before. He used to travel in Switzerland and Germany but really preferred Germany and the Germans.

INTERNAL MEMORANDUM.

91a

From B.2 (London)

To A.D.B.1. - Mrs. Spring

Ref. V.1.

With reference to your A.5. report saying that there is a vacancy for a typist knowing both Dutch and English shorthand. So far we have been unsuccessful in finding anybody.

Date 22.9.41

Signature W. Gladstone

W. Gladstone.

Form 161

966

September 16th, 1941 90a

VAN BEOIJEN - DUTCH MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR.

Referring to my yesterdya's report I gathered today that van Beoijen was going to fly to the Isle of Man this week to inspect some Dutch internees but that due to some "difficulties"with Gerbrandy he is not going.

Van Boeijen has taken an ~~xxx~~ unfurnished 3-room flat on the top floor in a block of flats in Twickenham called "Thames Eyot" and is planning to move in about the end of October.

A.5.

PA in A.5

No action

PAd i B.1 folder No. 20.

89a

September 15th,1941

ALEXANDER FROMMANN,

Enclosed a snapshot. The man marked with a cross is Alexander Frommann. The photo was taken, I think in Genoa, or anyhow in Italy in August 1939 just before he sailed for South America from Genoa. He went first to Buenos Aires as the representative of the firm of Wolff Buckau,Magdeburg, locomotive manufacturers and has been staying in the Argentine until a few months ago, since when he has moved on to Brazil.

He has once been in England on a fortnight's holiday in the summer of 1935 or 1936, when I saw him.

You can destroy the photo after use as it has been removed without anybody's knowledge.

A.5.

880

September 15th,1941

REPORT.

I saw a great deal of OLIVE ZIPFEL, secretary to Mr. VAN BOEIJEN, Dutch Minister of the Interior, over the weekend. I also saw the Minister again for a few minutes but have been promised that I will be invited with him to lunch in the near future and am working on that.

Although Olive Zipfel talks a lot she is exceedingly discreet and never once said anything of interest about her work. She mentioned that the typists in her department were bad and asked if I knew of any typists who could do Dutch and English shorthand. I told her I would think about it. I gathered that the typists get about £ 4. Should you want to put anybody there it might be useful if the introduction was done through me to Miss Zipfel as she seems to be running the administrative side as well as being van Boeijen's secretary.

Olive is going away with van Boeijen about the middle of this week for one week but would not say where to. All she said was that they were flying.

Van Boeijen is giving up his house in Ashsted at the end of October and is trying to find a 2 - 3 room flat in Twickenham. He does not like living in the middle of London after having been bombed out of his flat in Piccadilly last year.

A.5.

P.S. I gather van Boeien is only 52 although he looks 60.

REQUEST FOR LOOK-UP.

REGISTRY.

Please look-up undermentioned

*Attach further papers and pass to me.

Section ADB1. Signature A. Lobb

Date 5.9.41.

* Delete if inapplicable.

Name: Olivé ZIPFEL - British. Father Swiss, mother English.

Address: 156 Wood Lane, Great West Road, Isleworth.

Further Particulars: Left Germany 1930 went to Paris for 18 months and then came to England. Was employed at a firm in Woolwich. Now secretary to Van BOEIJEN, Dutch Minister of Defence.

TRACES.

?? confo -
ZIPFEL, Fred. Foster
T.C. 9915.

FOR REGISTRY USE.

6-7,

✓

DB 6/9.

R 2

Major Lennox

September 2nd,1941

87a

REPORT.

I met the Dutch Minister of Defence, VAN BOEIJEN, at some friends for a few minutes last Sunday. He had invited these friends of mine to lunch at his house in Ashsted and asked me too, but unfortunately I could not go. I hope to meet him again in the near future though.

I think he is about 60, has white hair, is of medium height, looks very Dutch, seems rarely to be without a cigar, and is slightly deaf.

I also met his secretary, OLIVE ZIPFEL, whom I met once before about 14 years ago in Berlin.

OLIVE ZIPFEL is British as she was born in this country. She has a brother who joined the British volunteers for Finland during the Russian-Finnish war, arrived in Finland too late, got stranded in Sweden where he has apparently been interned. Olive's father is Swiss and her mother English. During the last war father Zipfel was interned in this country for displaying his pro-German sympathies too strongly. Rumour has it that after that war he intended to return to Swizterland but the Swiss would not let him in because of his behaviour during the war. He therefore stayed in Germany where his children were brought up. The father is now in Geneva and the mother in this country.

I am told Olive left Germany about 1930 as she did not get on with her parents, went to Paris for about 18 months and then came to England. Before becoming van Boeijen's secretary I believe she was employed at a firm in Woolwich. I do not know her reasons for leaving that employment, possibly monetary considerations, but I do know that she was hoping to get a job with the Dutch Red Cross, as she has a slight knowledge of Dutch, but finally became van Boeijen's secretary.

Olive is about 30, 5 ft.6" in height, thick-set, blond hair and has a very loud voice and bossy manner. I gather from friends of hers that she is probably a very good secretary, reliable and discreet, that she has never had any Nazi sympathies, but that she is tactless and has only limited intelligence.

Van Boeijen certainly seems to work her very hard as she frequently has to spend the night at his house in Ashsted and is always at his beck and call. (There is no suggestion that she

PA. No action

might have an affair with him).

Olive is a member of the International Friendship League and seems to be trying to get van Boeijen to go there with her; so far without success.

She is living with friends, who are also friends of mine and through whom I met the Dutch Minister and her, at 156, Wood Lane, Great West Road, Isleworth. Their name is Abderhalden (he is British, his wife German) and Mr. Abderhalden is head buyer at Gillette's.

A.S.

A.5 report

September 1st,1941 86a

E.2B

I saw an extract in the "Daily Telegraph" the other day of an article written by DOUGLAS MILLER, former American Commercial Attache in Berlin, for an American paper, in which he talked about bad conditions in Germany and how the German soldiers and civilians would suffer in their paper clothes this winter.

I knew Douglas Miller in Berlin about 1930 as I was secretary to the American Commercial Attache. Miller was then Assistant Commercial Attache. His business reputation in those days was unsavioury, or, to put it bluntly, he was considered to be bribable. Some of the Americans also thought that he had gone native, partly due to his German wife. He spoke German excellently.

In later years when I went to Germany on holiday I used to ask about Miller and I was always given to understand by anti-Nazi Germans that Miller had Nazi sympathies. How far this was correct, I cannot say of course.

Anyhow, he seems to be back in the States now.

SECRET

Telephone Nos.
SHEPHERD'S BUSH 5391-2.
ACORN 3286-7.

BOX No. 500,
PARLIAMENT STREET B.O.,
LONDON, S.W.1.

PA.
85a.

B.2a

Colonel Allan,
G.P.O.

A5

Would you please have the attached letter date stamped 20th March 1941 from any West Central postal district and dispatched by the first available mail to Sweden. The letter should appear to have been opened by the censors and have a censorship label attached.

I presume that there is no air mail to Sweden.

J.H. Marriott

M.I.5
26.3.41

J.H. Marriott.

JHM/MV

Mr. Marriott.
Done & letter gone forward.
There is no air mail to Sweden.
F.E. Kelly
27.3.41.

842

B.2a

1

Colonel Allan,
G.P.O.

Would you please have the attached letter date stamped 20th March 1941 from any West Central postal district and dispatched by the first available mail to Sweden. The letter should appear to have been opened by the censors and have a censorship label attached.

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J.H. Marriott.

M.I.5
26.3.41

J.H. Marriott.

JHM/MV

SECRET

Room 055,

83a

G.L.681/41

WAR OFFICE,

WHITEHALL,

S.W.1.

22nd March 1941.

Major T.A.Robertson,
M.I.5.

Dear TAR,

I enclose for your edification, careful examination and criticism, Mrs. Barton's letter to her friends in Sweden for communication by them to her mother in Germany. This is the letter which was written by her and me and considered by Dick some weeks ago. It was then found suitable but was not sent until we saw how her job with you was going to work out, as we did not want in any way to interfere with it. As you remember you and I have now discussed this and are both of the opinion that the letter ought to go.

The facts briefly are as follows:

Mrs. Barton was personally in touch with the Germans in Holland and Belgium and one of her direct links was through a friend of hers, Lilli Wortman, the secretary to Captain Besthorn at the Hague. After the invasion of Holland and the Belgian collapse Mrs. Barton could not, of course, return there and we waited to see if they would get in touch with her. Meanwhile, we had some reason to believe that Besthorn and presumably Lilli had gone to Lisbon. Communication was not re-established, and after a time it was decided that Mrs. Barton should write to her mother through the Red Cross. This was a very harmless letter and was merely used to get into touch again. After several months her mother replied

through the German Red Cross. To our surprise this letter from her mother contained a suggestion to communicate through Sweden and a statement that Lilli was now in Brussels. What surprised us most was the fact that this letter through the German Red Cross with this information and request should have been allowed to pass at all, and the possibility naturally arose that it had been allowed to pass deliberately. As far as we know Mrs. Barton's mother has not the faintest idea what Mrs. Barton is doing, but for various reasons Mrs. Barton may have become a suspect of the Germans, and in that case it is just possible that her mother was forced to write as she did. Mrs. Barton herself feels that if her mother had heard she was a suspect she would probably not communicate with her at all unless forced to do so. Mrs. Barton's mother is a Nazi, but is none the less fond of her daughter. On the whole it rather looks as if Mrs. Barton's mother had no suspicions, but both possibilities have to be born in mind. Remember, it may also be an attempt by the Germans to get in touch with Mrs. Barton again, in an apparently harmless way, and that she is not suspected by them.

A few days ago I received a letter from Mrs. Barton's mother via Sweden, and as you will remember this letter was completely uncensored either by the Germans, the Swedes or ourselves. It was obviously meant for me to hand on to Mrs. Barton and was addressed to my home address. This letter is now with Dick who was testing it in various ways just to make quite sure that there is no attempt to communicate by secret ink or other methods.

The letter to me was in English in the handwriting of Mrs. Barton's mother, but the envelope was addressed by someone else, and there was one

peculiar fact about it. The writer had put at the top left-hand corner "AN." Corin who deals with Scandinavia tells me that a Swede would not put "AN" but might put "TIL." You might like to check this up with Corin again and, if he confirms it, it certainly looks as if the envelope, although posted in Sweden had been addressed by a German and not a Swede. This may be interesting though perhaps not important.

As regards Mrs. Barton's mother suggesting to communicate through Sweden. Mrs. Barton has some friends in Sweden at Stockholm, whom she stayed with a good many years ago. One of two of this family have visited her in London before the war, but the connection is not a close one, and these friends are, as far as Mrs. Barton knows, loyal Swedes and not particularly attached to either the Germans or the British. As, however, Mrs. Barton's mother has suggested that she should communicate through Sweden she presumes that some arrangement may have been made and that the letter should be sent through these friends. It may be noted that the letter which I received was posted in a South Swedish port and not at Stockholm, and so far as we can tell did not come through these particular friends.

Now as to the present letter from Mrs. Barton. It has been written deliberately to pass the British Censors. The people mentioned are presumably all in Sweden or England, although in fact they are all in Germany, and Mrs. Barton's friends in Sweden cannot fail to realise that she is being asked to communicate with Mrs. Barton's mother. To take the letter in detail.

Mrs. Barton has had no letter from Lilla, but she has received news that her own family in Germany is well.

Netta is Mrs. Barton's own sister who has had a son, and this fact is probably quite unknown to Lillan although she knows well who Netta is.

The paragraph about working hard is merely put in to fill up and also to suggest that Mrs. Barton is still doing temporary jobs which was what she told the Germans before.

Mrs. Barton has in fact left her flat in Shaftesbury Avenue, which is the address the Germans had and the new address is the address of a friend of hers who can be trusted. This friend is in fact a lady who used to work in our own Registry. All she knows is that she has to hand on at once any letters that may come addressed to Mrs. Barton.

The paragraph beginning "Mother is quite well" naturally suggests that mother is living in England at her old address, while, of course, mother is really living in Germany at her old address, and this paragraph is a deliberate request to Lillan to write the information contained in the letter to Mrs. Barton's mother in Germany.

The next paragraph beginning, "I always feel that letters in war time," is again purely fill up.

The last paragraph of all is probably the most important. Here we have the request that Mrs. Barton's mother should get into touch with Lilli and give her the news of Mrs. Barton and ask Lilli (i.e. the German Secret Service) to write or communicate with Mrs. Barton as soon as possible. Note this is Lilli Wortman, and not Lillan to whom the letter is being sent.

If you approve of the letter I think you should also show it to Dick, and then I think it can be sent off to Sweden. Just to make quite sure that it goes through I think we ought to pass it through the Censors but put on the "Opened by Censor" label. Perhaps you will 'phone or talk to me about this before the final decision is made.

Yours,

Gilbert

GL/PS

P.S. It is unfortunate for clarity that the letter is being sent to Lillan, a Swedish girl, & talks about Lilli Bussmann's secretary. Not that this will muddle Lillan, but it may muddle you in this letter. I think however it is clear enough. The two girls are Lillan Karlson the Swede, & Lilli Wartman the German. G

I have kept a copy of the letter.

On His Majesty's Service

An

EPSOM
4 30PM
16 MCH
1941
SURREY

HANSTAD
16 MAR 1941

15 15
SVERIGE SVERIGE

Major G. Lemnoze

Room 055 ~~Balinoleon~~

War Office ~~Fadmorth~~

Whitehall ~~Surrey~~

London.

Neylon

d. 16. XII. 40

Dear Gilbert,

I am very anxious about You and Your family and Gisela.

We all are well. Netta has a dear little son and recently a dwelling.

Love from Mutti.

To: Miss I. K. Karlson
Hornsgatan 160,
Stockholm,
Sweden

from A.S.

Copy

38, Godfrey Street,
London S.W.3.

March 20th, 1941

My dear Lillan,

I was terribly glad to get a letter at last and to hear all the news and that everyone is well. How exciting about Netta having a son! I expect he is almost able to talk and walk by now, but it is very sad to think how long it may be before I will see him.

I am still working hard as usual and quite enjoying it. Most of my jobs are only temporary ones but it gives variety and I can't complain.

I have just given up my old flat in Shaftesbury Avenue and am staying with friends. I hope to have a place of my own again soon but meanwhile my address is as above and anyhow letters will always be forwarded

on to me from there.

Mother is quite well and still living at her old address, and I know she would love to get a letter from you.

I always feel that letters in war time are so dull for there is so little one can really tell you about although goodness knows life is exciting enough these days. Still I will have lots to tell you after the war and you simply must come to England and stay with me again, and this time it must be for some weeks and not just a flying visit.

I was so glad to get news of Lili and please don't forget to give her my love. Do write soon, please.

Yours ever,

Gisela.

7/3/41 8/2

Report

B.17.c

I took Mrs. Pritchard out to lunch today & made some careful inquiries about Dr. Schwartz, Bloomsbury House. Either she does not know much about him or her opinion of him is not very high but the information was very meagre. According to her, Dr. Schwartz looked after Italian Jewish refugees, giving them money, trying to find work for them etc. He was paid by Bloomsbury House, did not do much work though & used to come to her, Mrs. Pritchard, to ask her advice continuously. That was all she could tell me about him, except for one or two details of information which I gave you before about Dr. Schwartz.

B.17.

Mrs. Pritchard then kept talking about a man whom she called "a scoundrel", an Italian with one arm who, according to her, has founded "Free Italy". However,

"Free Italy" seems to be merely a one-man show which this "scoundrel" is running for his own benefit & in order to raise enough money for himself to live. In spite of various attempts I was unable to get this Italian's name out of her. She merely told me that he wrote a letter to the "Times" on the subject of "Free Italy" & gave himself out as a friend of Don Sturzo's which he is apparently not. But Mrs. Pritchard has apparently told her friend at the War Office "Fino!" about this Italian.

I further gathered that this Italian "scoundrel" came to this country about 2 years ago, that he still hardly speaks any English, that he was interned for a time but that he got out as he had denounced various Italians in the camps & thus established his good faith with the War Office!.

Don Stuart apparently helped this Italian "scoundrel" when he came over here first. After Don Stuart had left for America the "scoundrel" went amongst other people to Wickham Steed saying that he was a friend of Don Stuart's. Mrs. Pritchard, however, seems to have put Wickham Steed right about him & has also written to Don Stuart.

I gather that the Anti-Fascisti look will prove suspicious on the "scoundrel", particularly as he seems to have expressed ideas worthy of Mussolini II.

F. S.

REQUEST FOR LOOK-UP.

80a

REGISTRY.

Please look-up undermentioned

*Attach further papers and pass to me.

Section ~~D1~~ ? No-story. B2

Signature E.M.B. Hall

Date 11.3.41

* Delete if inapplicable.

Name Alexander FROMMANN

Address Living in Buenos Aires, where he is employed by a German firm.

Further Particulars

TRACES.

NOT IN FILE INDEX
12 MAR 1941
mw

N.P.T.

FOR REGISTRY USE.

80a

7/3/41

Report

L.U. released 11/3

ALEXANDER FROMMANN,
Buenos Aires.

I am merely mentioning this name to you in case you have come across it in Buenos Aires.

He is a former German Naval Officer who fought in the last war, age now about 42. He left Germany in August 1939 for the Argentine for his firm Wolff-Buckau, Magdeburg (locomobiles). He has been employed by this firm for a good many years & at one time travelled for them on the Balkans.

I met Frommann some years ago when he was in London for a week. He was anti-Nazi but pro-German then & I gathered that he still is.

Perhaps I should mention that when he left Germany in August 1939,

as he was naval reserve he had to obtain leave from the German Navy & got it despite the precarious situation at the time.

In his last letter to his sister in this country he mentioned amongst other things that the South Americans were very pro-British, that conditions in Germany were very good & added — this being of personal interest, — that the R.A.F. had dropped a bomb on Innsbrucker Platz, Berlin-Schöneberg.

A.S.

4/2/4, 79a

My dear Dick,

Enclosed 2 expence accounts, one in detail for your personal information & the other merely giving the totals & balance. I am also enclosing the hotel bill. I had no time to check it in Luton as I had to catch a train but just noticed to my astonishment that they charged 4/- for laundry. I certainly had no laundry done. Do you think it worth while for "Miss Green" to take the matter up with the George Hotel?

As regards certain items in the detailed statement, on arrival at the hospital I found a slightly frosty atmosphere. For smooth working I had to get rid of this. I discovered that to the ordinary person chocolates were unobtainable in Luton. With police help & connivance I obtained a few & the frosty atmosphere was instantly dispersed.

I got soaked several times & began to develop a cold. Hospital nurses are not allowed to have colds if they are to do their jobs. Instant & secret action was necessary. Hence the Vasotone, Aspirin, dry shoes & stockings, my wardrobe & medical stores were only sufficient for a short visit & took no account of long waits for buses & long walks in the rain. The only alternative would have been taxis at a prohibitive cost.

Yours,
Viola

3/2/41

Details of Expenses at Luton

30/1	taxi	—.5.6.
	tip to porter	—.1.—
31/1	taxi	—.5.6.
	bus fares	—.—.6.
	chocolate for hospital (to promote friendly feeling)	—.6.—
	Vasotone & Aspirin (to prevent coming cold)	—.2.—
	shoes & 1 pair stocking (as I got soaked several times)	1.15.6.
1/2	Salmon & cake for suspect	—.2.5.
	lunch	—.2.6.
	tip	—.1.—
	bus fares	—.1.—
2/2	" "	—.—.9.
	telephones	—.—.4.
	hotel Bill	2.18.4.
	tips	—.4.—
3rd class fare to London		.4.6.
	taxi	—.2.6.
	odds & ends for Nurse's attire	—.5.4
		6.18.8.

Money advanced:

from Mr. Bingham	£5.—.—
" Insp. Finch	£2.—.—
Total	£7.—.—
	6.18.8
Balance	—.1.4 enclosed.

7/2/41

Expenses Luton

Money advanced:

From Mr. Bingham	£ 5. -. -
" Capt. Finch	2. -. -
Total	£ 7. -. -
Expenses	6. 18. 8
Balance	£ -. 1. 4 enclosed.

A. S.

Telephone: 654 LUTON. A.A. R.A.C.

THE GEORGE HOTEL

LUTON, Beds.

FAMILY AND COMMERCIAL.

GARAGE—100 CARS. HOT AND COLD RUNNING WATER.

Miss Green Room No. 40/51

1941	30 £	30 s.	30 d.	31 £	31 s.	31 d.	Feb 1 £	Feb 1 s.	Feb 1 d.	2 £	2 s.	2 d.
Brought forward					2	6	1	13	10	2	7	4
Apartments ...		2	6		9	6		6	6			
Fires												
Baths												
Breakfasts					3	.		3	-		3	-
Luncheons											3	
Dinners				30	3	6				1/-	4	.
Teas					4	-						
Coffee						6						
Suppers Sandwiches					1	4						
Wines					2	-				1/-	1	.
Spirits												
Ale and Stout ...												
Minerals												
Cigars												
Garage												
Laundry								4	.			
Paid Out												
Carried forward £		2	6	1	13	10	2	7	4	2	18	4

9278 2. 2. 1941

RECEIVED FROM ROOM NO. 51

Mrs Green

THE SUM OF

£ 2 : 18 : 4

FOR GEORGE HOTEL LUTON

WITH THANKS CASHIER

Accounts due when presented. Cheques not accepted.

78a

Received the sum of £23 7s. 3d.

17.1.41

G. Ashley

78K.

W.L. 15 s

INTERNAL ENQUIRY.

R.D.G. 289 174

Name.....File No.....

Nationality.....Date and Place of Birth.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Further particulars.....

.....

Enquiry	Reply
W.5a	
Can you please let us know in what way censorship of correspondence sent to and from Germany via the Red Cross is carried out.	B.2. (G.B. Hall)
a) Is correspondence from England censored here after it leaves the Red Cross offices?	Yes - by a special section in London Censorship
b) Is correspondence from Germany censored by German authorities or only by Red Cross officials?	Yes - there is evidence in the shape of German excisions.
c) Does Red Cross correspondence arriving in this country from Germany pass through the British Censorship?	Yes. through the same London Section.
Signature G.B. Hall	Signature R. D. Gillo
Date 2.1.41 Section B.2	Date 9.1.41 Section W.5.a

(Continue overleaf if necessary)

B.17 [illegible] 15.1.41.

7/1/41. 77#

Dr. Schwarz, Wolburn House.

According to Mrs. Pritchard, he has been interned for quite some time. He is half German, half Italian, comes from Triest where he was in the insurance business, as far as she knows.

He used to run the welfare organisation for Italian Jews at Wolburn House, was paid to do this work. Officially, he only assisted Italian Jews whereas Mrs. Pritchard as honorary secretary tried to help other Italian refugees with funds she had raised. A man (Italian) called Trevis who is now supposed to be at the B.B.C., helped Schwarz in his work sometimes in the afternoons.

According to Mrs. Pritchard, Schwarz is stupid & she does not seem to like him very much. Are there any specific questions you would like me to ask her?

A.S.

7/4/41 77a

Harold Rubin, Arts Theatre Club

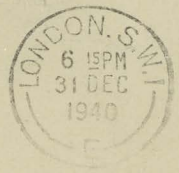
I gather that Rubin is going to rejoin Coldstream Guards in about a week's time.

A.S.

76x

On His Majesty's Service

LETTER RECEIVED BY A.5 FROM HER MOTHER IN GERMANY
THROUGH ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ THE RED CROSS.



Mrs Ashley
4 Egmont House
116 Shaftesbury Avenue
W.1

From :

WAR ORGANISATION OF THE BRITISH RED CROSS AND ORDER OF ST. JOHN

D K K - Präsidium
22 NOV. 1940
Beantw. Zd

To :
Comité International de la Croix Rouge Genève

Prisoners of War, Wounded and Missing Department

ENQUIRER
Fragesteller

Name ASHLEY

Christian name GISELA
Vorname

Address RED CROSS MESSAGE BUREAU
35
ST. MARTIN IN THE FIELDS,
TRAFALGAR SQUARE,
LONDON, W.C.2.

Relationship of Enquirer to Addressee DAUGHTER
Wie ist Fragesteller mit Empfänger verwandt?

The Enquirer desires news of the Addressee and asks that the following message should be transmitted to him.
Der Fragesteller verlangt Auskunft über den Empfänger. Bitte um Weiterbeförderung dieser Meldung.

DEAR MAMACHEN I AM ALL RIGHT AND WELL: HOW ARE YOU ALL AND UNCLE HEO AND LILI? WRITE SOON
GISELA

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE - GENÈVE -

Date August 1940

ADDRESSEE
Empfänger

29 OCT. 1940

Name BERGHOLTZ

Christian name ELISABETH Mrs
Vorname

Address TWACHTMANNSTR: 6
NEUSTRELITZ / MECKE
GERMANY

The Addressee's reply to be written overleaf.
Empfänger schreibe Antwort auf Rückseite.

Liebes Giselchen,

Dank für Brief vom August. Uns allen geht es gut, auch Nettas Söhnchen. Lili in Brüssel. Schreibe über Schweden.

Küss Mutti.

21. November.

Ashley, Gisela Mrs.
4, Egmont House
116, Shaftesbury Avenue
London W. 1.

7ba

14th December, 1940.

Received the sum of £25 - 5 - 7½D

M. Ashley

14/12/40

EXPENSE ACCOUNT.

T50

Fares to Wembley	-.19. -.
Expenses Strand Palace fares, refreshments,	1. 5. 8.
Expenses 54, Victoria Street fares plus 2 taxis	-. 5. 4.
telephones & postage	-. 2. -½
	2.12.0½
less money still in hand	0. 6. 5.
£	2. 5. 7½

Paid with December allowance

A.S.

74X

15th November, 1940

Received the sum of £23

G. Ashley

74a

October 22nd,1940

73a

Kapitän Kurt BESTHORN, is a man of about 39, approximately 5 ft.7" in height, stockily built, greyish muddily looking complexion, clean-shaven, small blue-grey eyes, hair beginning to grow thin. He dresses with great care; in fact his dream ~~was~~ to be dressed by an English tailor (whenever possible), and he is rather vain of his appearance. He is partial to women, but not to the extent of losing his head over them nowadays. He is a complete egotist, ambitious and ruthless and I should think cruel. He is generous with money.

He speaks German with a slight Hamburg accent, speaks Dutch fairly well and also a little English. I do not know whether he speaks French. I noticed one peculiar habit he has. When talking to people he liked, women in particular, he used to address them as "Ihr" instead of either "Du" or "Sie". To give you an example, he would say:"Wollt Ihr heute mit mir ausgehen?" instead of "Wollen Sie" or "Willst Du".

A. S.

72a

HOME OFFICE RECORDS.

REFERENCE NO :

SECTION : B. 2

NAME (in full) Ida BRAUN

NATIONALITY German

AGE About 45

OTHER PARTICULARS Secretary; formerly employed by the Anglo-Metal Co.
Address: 256 Makepeace Mansions
Makepeace Avenue, N.6.
First applied for naturalisation in 1938

S.3a.

Is there any trace of the above in

(1) ~~H.O. Traffic Index.~~

(2) H.O. Aliens Branch.

(3) ~~Central Aliens Registry.~~

If so, I should like

req 9.10.

(a) ~~Copy of last card in Traffic Index.~~

B 2185

(b) ~~Copies of all cards since.~~

(c) To see H.O. Papers, including naturalisation papers

(d) ~~Copy of card in Central Aliens Registry.~~

(Signature) S. M. B H.
7.10.40

NOTE.

Please strike out any items not required.

Unless absolutely necessary Officers should not requisition copies of BACK CARDS in Traffic Index as this involves extra work for H.O. Registry Staff.

A. Div Cleland House

Extract from Home Office file No.B.2185 - Ida BRAUN.

Name: Marie Ida BRAUN
Nationality: German
Occupation: Secretary
Born: 28.8.94 at Berlin.
Passport: No.205.R/755/32 - Berlin - Tempelhof - 2.12.32.
Address: 256, Makepeace Mansions, Makepeace Avenue, N.6.
Father: Adolf BRAUN, died 1929.
Mother: Bertha PRITCHARD, formerly BRAUN.

Ida BRAUN lived in England from 1911 till December 1919, during which time she was known as Ida PRITCHARD and lived with her British step-father Guy Murray PRITCHARD. She was educated in England and was duly registered as an alien with Identity Book No.254952. In December 1919 she returned to Germany and stayed as nurse to her father until he died, so she had to take German nationality. She had several secretarial jobs and was employed by the Anglo-Metal Company in Berlin, and has acted as interpreter to Ramsay MacDonald, Arthur Henderson, etc., during their visits to Germany. Her father held views opposed to the party in office in Germany and she takes no active part in politics.
She re-entered the U.K. in September 1933 on condition that she did not obtain employment, and did not stay longer than November 1934. In February 1934 she was permitted to take up employment with the Anglo-Metal Company in London, and there is now no time limit on the length of her stay in the U.K. In September 1938 she applied for naturalisation.

Minutes.

On 7.10.40 we requested H.O. Papers which we returned on 18.10.40 with the comment:

This woman has been recommended by us for certain secret work of national importance for which she is urgently required. Before she can begin this work, however, it is essential that she should have British nationality, and we should be very grateful if her case could be treated as an exceptional one and her naturalisation expedited.

17/10/40

71a

Received with thanks
£ 23. –.–.

G. Ashley.

70a

Expense Statement.
15th September — 15th October 1940

Money in hand	—. 9. 5.
Fares & telephone calls	—. 3. —
Balance in hand.	—. 6. 5.

M. Ashley

694

Write legibly
All names in Block Letters

Date 26.9.40.

Rank & Decorations Lieut - War Medals.

NOT IN FILE INDEX
31 OCT 1940

Name - Surname and Christian Names ASHLEY. Neville Dukes NF

National Registration No. CNME 11 - 2

Nationality at Birth B
If British, put B.
If naturalized, give date.

FULL NAME AND NATIONALITY at Brith with Naturalization dates if any of:
Father (give Christian names)
Sydney DUKES - B. NF

Date and Place of Birth

Brixton. 22.11.1894.

Mother (give Christian and maiden names)
Norah Shadforth MORTON - B. NF.
Wife (give Christian and maiden names)
Gisele BERGHOLTZ - German by birth
Divorced 1932.

Address - Home National Liberal Club, Whitehall Place. Tel: Whi: 9871

Business Board of Trade, Fanum House, Whitcomb Street. Tel: Whi: 7888

Unit Tel:

Occupation for past 10 years (including present occupation) (Chartered) Accountant. Now serving as a temporary accountant at Board of Trade.

Where Educated

Languages, with estimate of proficiency in speaking, reading, writing, using the terms fluent, good, fair, no.

Language:	speaking	reading	writing	Language:	speaking	reading	writing

Military Experience

from

Military Intelligence Experience L168 (63) (659a)

Knowledge of foreign countries

R

Remarks - leave blank

Action taken - leave blank

Earmarked - leave blank

9599

69x

16th September, 1940.

Received the sum of £24 0 0.

G. Ashley

64a

14/9/40

Expenses 12/8 — 9/9
fares, telephones, coffees etc.
re — Quisters case — 10.7.

A.S.

Paid with September
allowance on 16/9/40

Asfile.

18a

Ida Braun has a cousin in this country, Wolfgang Braun, naturalised British, whom she, however, hardly ever sees as she does not like his wife. I believe Wolfgang Braun has three sons of whom two are in the R.A.F. and one in the Army. As far as she knows, no relations of Ida's have arrived in this country as refugees lately.

I gather from Mrs. Pritchard that everybody was most apologetic to Arthur Schuetz that he had been interned by mistake and very much taken with his charm. In fact, she said that the high official who saw Schuetz just before his release fell in love with him. As she was not present it can only be presumed that Schuetz told her this.

Hertha Weissbach, formerly of 16, Howitt Road, Hampstead. She left this address about a week ago and has been going about telling verybody that she was going to get £ 100 from Germany (she still has parents in Berlin). How, she did not say but as she seems to have had some trouble a little while ago with the "Dealings with the Enemy Department" about asking an Hungarian to send food parcels to Germany it may be presumed that she hopes to get the money through Hungary. She also promised an Hungarian girl, Margaret Vargo, to send Pengö 200 to this girl's mother in Hungary (this was promised Margaret Vargo as she had assisted in an illegal operation). Hertha Weissbach's lover is a Norwegian, working at the Norwegian Consulate, who apparently has a diplomatic passport. Name not known, but he has a black car lined with red and also seems to have police permission to stay out late at night.

67a

Germans I know well:

Capt. Besthorn and wife	Holland
Lili Wortmann	Holland
Kroeger,	Holland
Japs,	Holland
Miss v.Graberg,	Holland
Hilde Lüntzner	Holland
Miss Fritsch	Holland
Miss v. Neufville	Holland
Captain Winter of the North German Lloyd	Holland
..... Frank of the Lufthansa	Holland
Miss v. Boetticher	Belgium
The Doctor ?	Belgium
Gertrud Beckmann	Belgium
Mr. and Mrs. v. Dewall	London
Charlotte Puttkamer	London
Anneliese Ruthenberg	London
Hilde Schlattau	London

Germans I know slightly:

Admiral Hintzmann, Holland

Lisa Krueger	London
Capt. Siemens and wife	London
Mrs. Hesse	London
Mrs. Wassner	London
Erich v.Salzmann	London
Frl. v. Ahlefeld,	London
Bielefeld and wife	London
The last Military Attaché and wife	London

The Military Attaché Brussels

2 girls from the German Legation, The Hague whose names I have forgotten but they are mentioned in my reports.

D.4

The lady mentioned here is working for us and her duty in Southampton on this occasion was on our behalf. I presume there is no necessity to inform your S.C.O. Southampton of this fact and that we can simply kill the inquiry at this end.

B.2.
19.8.40 D. G. White.

PA in A file.

B2. I agree. In any event it appears at least half dead of old age.

C H B

D4. 20.8.40

S. Form 14.

INCOMING DOCUMENT.

received from S.C.O Southampton

on 3 JUL 1940 at 2.30 a.m. p.m.

Senders Reference (or File No.)

Schedule No. 656 M

Enclosures.

66x

Delivered to ~~DGL~~ B3d B10S at 6 a.m. p.m.

on 3 JUL 1940

Passed for action to B10.S

on 4/7/40 at a.m. p.m.

6.7.40 SLB

R for former papers or traces

Herewith or Out to

Ashley, Mrs. G ? PF 47151 (Heldelg B2)

Sned 8.7.40

Address N.I. B2A

Executive Instructions

pl. L.U.
Mrs Ashley, Mrs Turnbull & add.
SLB 6/7.

P.A. Section Date

D4b B3d

Reference.
J.C.F.FW.
580.

Field Security Police,
9 Havelock Chambers,
Queens Tce,
Southampton.

July 2nd.1940.

Dear Colonel Adam,

I have been requested by Captain Miller, Interpreter at the Prisoners or War Camp, Taunton School Southampton to check up on a Mrs. Elsa Turnbull.

Captain Miller believes this lady to be German born but British by marriage and speaks English with a very pronounced accent.

She was in Southampton apparently visiting some friends on Thursday last the 27th. June.

Her telephone number is 5365 Gerrard. No address was given.

Yours sincerely,

Lt. Col. J.H. Adam, CIE. OBE.,
Room 055 War Office,
Whitehall. S.W.1.

Major,
SECURITY CONTROL OFFICER.

Source A5.

August 18th, 1940

66a

M Lotte Jessner. I gather that Lotte Jessner was a great friend of Graf Montgelas.

B17 Miss Vanzetti, former secretary to the Italian Ambassador in London is now secretary to the Minister in Eire and apparently lives in the Legation building in Dublin.

Ips ? Elisabeth Lotte Belder, 47 Blenheim Crescent, W.11. Married Mr. Belder about 5 years ago. Apparently completely Nazi in her outlook and an upholder of Hitler. She seems incapable of keeping her mouth shut and talks to all and sundry about her views. She seems to have been reported to the police as 2 police officers have been to see her, searched the place and took some letters away. She has an aunt in America. An official from the Ministry of Food's office in Kensington also came to see her about her ration cards, apparently had a long talk to her and seems to have pumped her on the subject of one of Mosley's man whom she met once and who is now inside. Unfortunately I could not get his name. Mr. Belder is doing civil defense work.

Ips ? Mr. Armitage, 47, Blenheim Crescent, W.11. An active member of the Fascists and The Link. Now civil defense worker. He himself is quite surprised apparently that the police have not been to see him.

All 4 items extracted.

15th August, 1940. 65a

Received the sum of £24 15s. 7d.

M. Ashley

64a

12 August,1940

Mrs.E. Bergholtz, Twachtmannstr. 6, Neustrelitz,Meckl.
Germany.

Dear Mother,

I am all right and well. How are you all and Uncle Theo and Lili? Write. Love. Gisela.

As discussed with you, I intend to try and send this letter through the Citizen's Advice Bureau. 20 words of text are allowed I am told. Please let me have your approval so that I can go and see them.

REQUEST FOR LOOK-UP.

64x

REGISTRY.

Please look-up undermentioned

*Attach further papers and pass to me.

Section B2 *Signature* EMBH

Date 12/8.

* Delete if inapplicable.

Name Mr. Von KOTZE

Address Westbourne Park Road

Further Particulars Used to be connected with a razor blade firm in Berlin. Has a Jewish wife.

TRACES.

* ? S.F. 84/Ger/7 V.7. C.S (R.3. safe)

? L 298(1) V.3.

? L 199(58) 72a ✓

* ~~Prob~~ ? S.F. 52/4/4 Ser 1 V.1 8/5a

* V.2 1a p 51
p 8.

FOR REGISTRY USE.

D3. 23. vii. 40

? serial

No blue card

P A

A.5 file

PMW

Signature [illegible]

Date 15/8/40

2/3 ?

D.G.Wh.

Do you know anything about a Mr. v.Kotze, Westbourne Park Road? I believe he is considered as being all right but his name came up in conversation with some friends who knew him. He used to be a director of Rotbüchner, a razor blade firm in Berlin connected with Gillettes, but left Germany as his wife is Jewish. He himself is pure Aryan and used to be an officer in the Guards last war. He ~~is~~ has not yet been interned but is expecting it daily.

I am not bringing up this name for any evil purposes but merely in case you have anything against him and are interested.

~~I told Mr. K. that I had sent you a copy of my report to him.~~

I sent Mr. K. a spare copy of my report on the Schloring Co., 188 High Holborn & asked him to let you have a copy if he thought you might be interested.

64a

Expenses in connection
with work for Mr. K.

week ending 13/7

	fares	-.1.10.	brought forward	1.14.6
13/7	Fleming lunch	-.1.9.	9/8 lunch & fares	-.1.1.
17/7	fares	-.-.10.		
	coffee	-.-.5.	Total	1.15.7
18/7	Oriental Rest. lunch	-.2.10.		
19/7	" " "	-.2.6.	A.S.	
20/7	fares	-.-.4.		
22/7	"	-.-.4.	Added on to	
	slater lunch	-.1.6.		
	Oriental Rest. dinner	-.15.	monthly allowance	
23/7	lunch	-.-.9.		
24/7	Bedford lunch	-.1.2.	for August.	
[illegible]7	lunch	-.-.10.		
26/7	fares	-.-.8.		
29/7	lunch	-.-.5.		
31/7	fares & coffee	-.-.7.		
1/8	lunch	-.-.7.		
2/8	lunch & fares	-.1.7.		
7/8	lunch	-.-.7.		
	carried forward.	1.14.6		

S. Form 61

63a

HOME OFFICE RECORDS.

REFERENCE NO :

SECTION : B.2.

KISL
KISSL-

NAME (in full) Hans KISSELMANN NT (57a)

NATIONALITY German

AGE

OTHER PARTICULARS Has been running a business in this country for some years.

S.3a.

Is there any trace of the above in

(1) H.O. Traffic Index.

(2) H.O. Aliens Branch.

(3) Central Aliens Registry.

If so, I should like

(a) Copy of last card in Traffic Index. N.T.

(b) ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

(c) To see H.O. papers. N.T.

(d) Copy of card in Central Aliens Registry. N.T.

(Signature) EMBH
16.7.40.

NOTE.

Please strike out any items not required.

Unless absolutely necessary Officers should not requisition copies of BACK CARDS in Traffic Index as this involves extra work for H.O. Registry Staff.

no trace.

17/7

B2

Source: A.5

9/7/40

~~8~~a
62a

Report

This is merely a resumé of a few things which I heard lately and mentioned to you:

Please give Höfel papers.

Aufwiedersehen Club. This seems to have more or less died, in any case there are no regular social meetings at the National Restaurant any longer as everybody is a bit worried whether it might not be the wrong thing to do to go on meeting.

I gather from my informant, Miss Margret Symes, that they all expected Hofel, the President of the Club, to have been locked up a long time ago.

Stocke. I was told that Stocke, a former teacher at the Berlitz School, who ~~xxxxxxxx~~ was interned for a short while, was seen again about 4 weeks ago in Oxford Street. I presume that in the meantime he has again been interned, but just for good order's sake I would like to mention all I have heard about him, as no man had less reason to stay in this country at the outbreak of war than Stocke.

Stocke used to be a teacher at the Berlitz School but gave up this job about 6 - 8 months before outbreak of war and started an agency for "Apfelsaft" (Apple juice) which, as far as I can make out was imported from Germany. That business must have finished with the outbreak of war. Stocke, when still at the Berlitz School, was known to be a Nazi and his father, a wealthy man in the Rhineland, was known as a very big Nazi. Stocke lived with the manager of the Berlitz School, ~~xx~~ Goebel, in Maida Vale and was very friendly with him.

Berlitz School. In connection with the Berlitz Schbol I want to mention one small item of information. The Berlitz School never employed, in fact refused to employ German refugee Jews as teachers for German, although they found it at times quite difficult to get good teachers.

61a

A./B.2

The Chief Constable,
Special Branch,
Scotland House.

I return herewith, with many thanks, the anonymous letter regarding Mrs. Gisela ASHLEY, which you forwarded with your 320/EPA/4395, dated 18th June, 1940.

M.I.5.
3.7.40.

S. Form 14.

INCOMING DOCUMENT.

received from S.B. N.S.Y.

on 21 JUN 1940 at 9.30 a.m. p.m.

Senders Reference (or File No.)

Schedule No. 83.

Enclosures.

Letter.

60a

Delivered to B.2.

on 21 JUN 1940 at 4.30 a.m. p.m.

Passed for action to

on at a.m. p.m.

R for former papers or traces

Herewith or Out to

Executive Instructions

Original shown to A.5

P.A. Section Date

Filed in A.5 as Enclosure No. 60a by Shuttt

Carded Names Subjects Places

5/6

Special Branch,

New Scotland Yard,

LONDON, S.W.1.

Ref: 320/EPA/4395.

18th June, 1940.

M.I.5.

With reference to your A./B.2 of the 2nd instant, regarding Mrs ASHLEY, Flat 4, 114, Shaftesbury Avenue, I am sending you herewith, for eventual return, the original anonymous letter referred to, as requested.

CHIEF CONSTABLE.

COPY

A case it might be advisable to watch and investigate is Gisela Ashley, 115, Shaftesbury Avenue, W.1. German by birth but a naturalised British subject and widow of an Englishman. Her widowed mother, grandmother, sister and brother are known to be strong believers and supporters of Hitler and they visited her from time to time in London before the war. When Von Ribbentrop was Ambassador in Britain, she went to his parties. She had an important post in a business carried on by a foreigner until war was declared, when the business terminated. On the outbreak of war, she left this country for Holland and since then has paid one or two visits to Belgium, returning in each case to London. At present she is associating with someone working in the War Office.

Addressed to: Commissioner & Receiver, Alien's Supervision Department, New Scotland Yard, S.W.1.

Postmarked: London, W.C.1 7.15 p.m. 6 May 1940.

10

June 18th,1940 59a

REPORT

Mrs. Waller, of 26, Howitt Road, a friend of mine, told me today that there are quite a number of Hungarian servant girls in the Hampstead area who all seem to be very keen on soldiers. This is perhaps nothing very remarkable, except that according to her - and she has discussed this also with various other people who know some of the girls - most of these girls are either Nazi or have strong Nazi tendencies.

In 26, Howitt Road are three of these Hungarian girls. One married a soldier some time back, called Tory stationed at Southall. She often visits her husband in his barracks. It is thought that she is probably harmless, but of another of these three, Elisabeth Kovacs, who also has a hankering after soldiers, it is definitely said that she is Nazi. They all seem to belong to an Hungarian Club.

A Jewish refugee from Austria, also of 26, Howitt Road, Miss Weissbach has a Norwegian boy friend who is working at the Norwegian Consulate and on several occasions Miss Weissbach has come home long after curfew hours.

Sedlaczek, a Czech, who used to be employed at Bata, Tilbury, has been sacked by them. Like most employees of Bata Sedlaczek has a pilot's licence. Nobody knows what he is living on now.

I gather that the general feeling amongst the teachers at the Berlitz Scholl is that Mr. Goebel, the manager, is unreliable. They have nothing definite against him but base their suspicions of him on his pre-war pro-Nazi views and his reaction to German victories at present.

I gather from Mrs.Waller, who also discussed this with one of the French woman teachers at the Berlitz School that they are of the opinion that a good many of the richer people who take German lessons at the school and who have been abroad a lot are very pro-German still in their views. She could or would not give me any names though. I gather that the people who take lessons, or at least a good many of them, have very little hesitation in talking about themselves, their work and their views to the teachers. One example of a man talking too freely

about himself is a Mr. Bailey, of Bailey, Kindersley & Co., a very rich stockbroker who is brushing up his German for a few weeks. It is apparently essential for him to speak German perfectly as he has an Intelligence job to do with German prisoners. Perhaps the remark in itself is harmless enough, but I gather that he is only too willing to talk about it and has to be discouraged. It should after all be remembered that Mrs. Waller is of Austrian origine and speaks with a strong accent, and although she is perfectly all right, the people to whom she gives lessons are hardly in a position to know this.

58a

15th June, 1940.

Received the sum of £24 5s 7d

G. Ashley

June 2nd, 1940

5/a

REPORT

I saw Miss M. Symes of 17, Lithos Road, Finchley Road, one of Dr. A. Kauffmann's secretaries' today, and she told me the following things, without knowing she did so, of course:

Dr. Alfred Kauffmann. To her knowledge Dr. K. renounced his German nationality sometime ago as he thought it would make things easier for him and according to her is now "staatenlos". Although she is British, Miss Symes has got a strong German accent as she has been brought up in Germany and Dr. K. does no longer want her to answer the telephone or talk to clients as he prefers people to think that he has a British outfit. There is also very little to do in his business as he no longer chases after new business.

J.A.Hofels. Miss Symes told me about him that as I knew he was the president of the "Aufwiedersehen Club", but that this Club was no longer meeting in full force as most members were a little scared of the new regulations, although some still met as before every fortnight in the "National Restaurant". Some of the members had, however, been discussing privately amongst themselves Hofels' position. According to her he was always pro-Nazi, he had been an officer in the German army during the last war and he had been drawing a pension from Germany, even when Germany had those very strict foreign currency regulations. She could not quite make out why that should have been possible. She said that Hofels was living apart from his wife, had a very charming daughter, also married to a German, but could not give me his name.

Hans Kisselmann. For no particular reason this name cropped up in the discussion about the "Aufwiedersehen Club". He is or was a member of it, she also thought that he is a supporter, if not a member of the Peace Pledge Union. Pure German, in this country for a numberof years running a business. His mother left before the outbreak of war, he stayed on, she does not know why.

Seymour (originally Simon, interned during the last war, organist at Aldgate Church - I don't know if I spelled the name correctly - daughter Bertha). Seymour apparently told Miss Symes that various jobs he started to do went wrong, the last one being an agency for a Belgian firm and then the invasion happened. She told him about the job with the firm of button makers in Maryport and he thought he had better apply for it in case the

police started asking him questions what he was doing. He apparently forgot that he had a job as an organist nor did she think of it until I mentioned it. The daughter works with some firm in the city, is anti-Nazi and very glad that nobody in her firm knows that she is of German origin.

I met a woman called Erna or Anna Hirsch at Miss Symes'. She is of German origin and her parents seem to have had quite a hard time during the last war in this country. Judging by her talk, you'd think she was pure Aryan which obviously she is not although she is a Protestant. I think Miss Symes met her in the Choir at Aldgate Church. She also at one time seems to have known the nurses at the German Hospital quite well, whether through illness or because she worked there I don't know. Anyhow, she seems to have fallen out with them in recent years. She has a brother called Otto Hirsch who at some time or other seems to have spoken out of turn (althought he did not remenber it) by saying that if it hadcome to a vote 75% of the English people would have voted for peace. This remarks had been brought home to him forvibly a little while ago as a C.I.D. man came to see him about it.

extended

June 2nd, 1940

REPORT

I saw Miss M. Symes of 17, Lithos Road, Finchley Road, one of Dr. A. Kauffmann's secretaries' today, and she told me the following things, without knowing she did so, of course:

Dr. Alfred Kauffmann. To her knowledge Dr. K. renounced his German nationality sometime ago as he thought it would make things easier for him and according to her is now "staatenlos". Although she is British, Miss Symes has got a strong German accent as she has been brought up in Germany and Dr. K. does no longer want her to answer the telephone or talk to clients as he prefers people to think that he has a British outfit. There is also very little to do in his business as he no longer chases after new business.

J.A.Hofels. Miss Symes told me about him that as I knew he was the president of the "Aufwiedersehen Club", but that this Club was no longer meeting in full force as most members were a little scared of the new regulations, although some still met as before every fortnight in the "National Restaurant". Some of the members had, however, been discussing privately amongst themselves Hofels' position. According to her he was always pro-Nazi, he had been an officer in the German army during the last war and he had been drawing a pension from Germany, even when Germany had those very strict foreign currency regulations. She could not quite make out why that should have been possible. She said that Hofels was living apart from his wife, had a very charming daughter, also married to a German, but could not give me his name.

Hans Kisselmann. For no particular reason this name cropped up in the discussion about the "Aufwiedersehen Club". He is or was a member of it, she also thought that he is a supporter, if not a member of the Peace Pledge Union. Pure German, in this country for a numberof years running a business. His mother left before the outbreak of war, he stayed on, she does not know why.

Seymour (originally Simon, interned during the last war, organist at Aldgate Church - I don't know if I spelled the name correctly - daughter Bertha). Seymour apparently told Miss Symes that various jobs he started to do went wrong, the last one being an agency for a Belgian firm and then the invasion happened. She told him about the job with the firm of button makers in Maryport and he thought he had better apply for it in case the

police started asking him questions what he was doing. He apparently forgot that he had a job as an organist nor did she think of it until I mentioned it. The daughter works with some firm in the city, is anti-Nazi and very glad that nobody in her firm knows that she is of German origin.

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56a

A./B.2

2nd June, 1940.

The Chief Constable,
Special Branch,
New Scotland Yard.

Thank you for your brief report of the visit to Mrs. ASHLEY, Flat 4, 114 Shaftesbury Avenue. As this visit was due to an anonymous letter, I wonder if you could send the original letter along in order that we can see what is to be made of it.

DGW

M.I.5.

DGW/DS

June 1st,1940 56k

Expense Report

in connection with Mrs. de Graaf.

27.5.	Tea	-. 1. 8.
28.5.	Tea and cinema	-. 4. -.
29.5.	Lunch & Madame Tussaud	-.14, -.
30. 5.	Dinner	-. 3. -.
31. 5.	~~Tea~~ Lunch	-. 2.11.
		£ 1.. 5. 7.

Mrs. de. Graaf payed a certain anount of the expenses. The above are merely what I spent.

G. Ashley

Paid with June allowance.

55a

May 28th,1940

Report

Reform Food Shop

With reference to my yesterday's report, the back of the Reform Food Shop does not lead to Artesian Road, as I originally thought, but to Hereford Mews. Artesian Road which, according to the map, runs parallel with Westbourne Grove must be the next street.

As regards the telephone I saw in the restaurant this might possibly be an extension of Mr. Hofels telephone as it did not have a dialling disk.

I went to fetch my umbrella from the shop today about 12.30. I intended to have something to eat there but the smell in the restaurant is very peculiar and so terrific that I simply could not face it again. So I merely asked for my umbrella which was handed me by the fair woman I had seen yesterday. She was again having lunch with her friend but nobody else was there. I must, however, correct the first impression I had of her after seeing her in daylight. She is about 30 and very pretty.

I am trying to get another line to Mr. Hofels but the earliest opportunity for this will be Saturday.

Original phoned in Hofels P.F.

May 27th,1940

54a

REPORT

Reform Food Shop.

As instructed I went to the shop this morning. Before giving you a description I would like to mention one or two things that struck me as being odd.

The Reform Food Shop's address in the telephone directory is given as 23, Newton Road,W.2. When I got there I found this was a private house, the name of "J.A.Hofels" being on the door. I took a chance and rang the bell. A maid (probably Scotch by her accent) opened. I explained that I was looking for the Reform Food Shop as I wanted to buy nut butter. She disappeared and fetched Madam, a dark-haired woman af about 36 who, I am pretty certain, is English. I again explained about the Reform Food Shop, how I had got the address from the telephone directory and my desire to purchase nut butter. The woman was anything but friendly and said:"The Reform Food Shop is 94, Westbourne Grove. This is a private house." I did not see the point of arguing further and departed.

The next odd thing is that I saw a telephone in the so-called restaurant, the number on it is "Bayswater 0913". When I looked this up in the telephone directory I found that it is the number of:

Hofels, John A., 2, Artesian road, W.2."

but I have been unable to find any number for the Reform Food Shop itself. At a guess I should say that as Artesian Road runs parallel to Westbourne Grovethere is another entrance at the back of the shop leading to Artesian Road, but I have not yet checked that.

The shop itself is the ordinary health food shop, one assistant, a dark haired young man, behind the counter. They advertise 1/6d vegetarian lunches in the window. I had lunch in a tiny stuffy room behind the shop. This room has one table for 4 people in the middle and a counter for another 4 people at the side. The telephone was standing at the end of the counter beside a kind of writing desk. A staircase in this room leads to the basement where the kitchen seems to be and another staircase leads to the first floor where the office is.At least I heard somebody saying so.

A young girl called Ivy appeared from the basement once. She seemed to be the kitchen-maid. The assistant behind the counter also acts as waiter.

When I got there for lunch, there were two women. One of these, a fair woman of about 40, was in some way connected with the shop, the other seemed to be a friend and they were chiefly discussing the ailments of another friend.

I stayed for about 40 minutes, but apart from the aforesaid two women only two ancient women came in for lunch. I doubt whether there is much profit in the restaurant nor in the shop for that matter, as nobody came in during the time I was there.

An elderly man, coming in from outside, passed through the room once and went upstairs to the office, presumably the proprietor.

The food was reasonably well cooked, as far as nut cutlets and such things can be, so I presume there is a cook but I did not see him or her.

I forgot my umbrella but decided that I would not go back for it immediately but leave it till tomorrow. If there is anything else you would like to know please let me know before that, if possible, and I will try and find out.

May 16th,1940

532

REPORT

I met an old friend of mine today, a Mrs. Else Waller (Austrian born but British by marriage) of 26, Howitt Road, N.W. 3., She has often before told me all sorts of stories about the people living in her boarding-house and the following are some which I thought might possibly interest.

Egon Schoenherz. She tells me that this man whom I gather she met at the A.R.P. station goes about telling everybody that he is a refugee from Czechoslovakia and came from there about a year ago. On the other hand, the landlady at 26, Howitt Road, ~~xxxx~~ told Mrs.Waller that she had known Schoenherz for 4 years and that he had been living in this country since then.

Olga Stephenson, neé Thomas, daughter of former German Consul at Glasgow?. Olga Thomas, as she was then, used to live at the same boarding-house some years ago. According to Mrs. Waller the police have been making inquiries about Olga at the boarding-house and also asked Mrs.Waller questions about her. Among other things they wanted to know whether Olga used to go over to Germany to the Nuremberg Partei Tag at the party's expense. I believe Mrs.Waller told the police that she did not know, but she told me privately that as far as she remembered Olga was not very keen to go to one of these Parteitags and got several wires asking her to come. She finally went by air to Berlin, was met by a private car and was later taken to Nuremberg. Apparently she came back telling Mrs.Waller of the wonderful time she had had and how everything had been arranged for her.

Olga also ~~xxxxxx~~ phoned Mrs.Waller a little time ago asking her to go house-hunting with her as she wanted to leave Sydenham and move to Hampstead. Mrs.Waller,however, refused to go as in the meantime the police had made these inquiries and she felt it might be undesirable for her to get mixed up with Olga.

Cedlaczek.(I do not know whether the name is spelled correctly.) This man also lived at that boarding-house some months ago. He is a refugee from Czechoslovakia, that is to say he came over originally for Bata, was a Social Democrat and very anti-Nazi. His wife and child, I believe are still over in Czechoslovakia. I gather that he is very anti-Jewish and that one of Benes' speeches, in which Benes apparently said that when Czechoslovakia was free again they would take the Jews back and everybody would have to help paying compensation etc., upset him considerably. Although Mrs.Waller used to be of the opinion that Cedlaczek was all right he seems to have made a queer remark at a New Year's Eve Party when he was not quite sober. This leads up to it.

Some time in December he is supposed to have started work at Bata's,Tilbury before his labour permit was through. At the

party in question he told Mrs.Waller that he might be able to make ~~be able to make~~ a lot of money but refused to tell her how he was going to do it, except that she thinks it is in connection with Tilbury. This is, of course, merely heresay but as the police seem to have asking about him too I thought I'd better mention it. Mrs.Ross, the landlady, who seems to have had an affair with Cedlaczel has asked Mrs.Waller not to say anything about him if the police ask her.

Mr. Goebel, the manager of the Berlitz School, is going about telling everybody who wants to hear it that he and his family are on the German black list. Nobody quite understands the reason for this as Mr. Goebel before the war was always very pro-Nazi. At one time after outbreak of war Stocke or Stocky, a fommer teacher at the Berlitz School, stayed with him. Stocke was known as being pro-Nazi, his father is or was a big noise in the Nazi Party and nobody knew why Stocke who was out of work in this country did not go back to Germany.

All above items of information extracted for look up & possible action.

52a

15th May, 1940.

Received the sum of £23.0.0

G. Ashley

51a

May 8th, 1940

Dear Dick,

I heard last night that Susan Fass who used to run the Anglo-German Kameradschaft, is employed at the Air Ministry. (At the moment she is ill.)

I expect you knew this already but I thought I'd better mention it to you.

Yours,

G.

B7. Is this true?

TAW
12/5

copy sent to B.7.

B2.

May 6th,1940

50a

REPORT

Re - "Seagift" Iodine Brushless Shaving Cream
and
Turtle Oil Preparations Ltd.,1, Vinery Villas,N.W.8.

As requested, I made inquiries about the above product and firm in the trade by asking one of my friends at the Stablond Laboratories Ltd. to ring up various people. My explanation for the interest I was showing was that a friend of mine in America had asked me to find out about them.

First we rang up "Chemist & Druggist", a trade paper. They had vaguely heard of the product, said that it had changed hands continually, thought it had come on the market about 1935, that the Turtle Oil Preparations Ltd. had handled it about 1938, doubted whether it was still on the market but suggested that we ring the firm of W.N. Hutchinson, 34 Paternoster Row, E.C.4,Tel:City 3200 (in the telephone directory this firm is given as:Hutchinson Paper Co.Ltd.) who manufactured it last. This we did.

Hutchinson too, although they agreed that they were the manufacturers, were vague where "Seagift" could be obtained. They merely suggested Boots and when told that Boots did not stock it, said that Boots in Regent Street had it. I tried Boots in Regent Street, after having unsuccessfully tried three other Boots shops, but none of them had ever even heard of it nor of the firm Turtle Oil Preparations Ltd.

When at Stablonds, I also had a look through the Statistical Review (a monthly trade magazine showing which firm handles which product, what they spend on advertising etc.)but neither the name of "Seagift" nor the Turtle Oild Preparations or Hutchinson appeared.

Stablond then rang up their distributors, J.C.Gambles & Co., and asked them about the Turtle Oil Preparations Ltd., but they had never heard of it. The only firm bringing out turtle oil products which they knew of is called Decca.

I then had a look through Selfridge's Bargain Basement as one often finds products of unknown firms there, but that too proved a failure.

I finally rang up J.W.Simpson, a well-known manufacturer of soap, shaving sticks etc.,containing Iodine. I thought that as "Seagift" was a direct competitions to their product they were bound to know of it. They were very helpful, assured me if was not their product, in fact they had never heard of it, but they looked up their lists for me to find out who manufactures it and ~~it~~ found it was not on them.

There is, of course, always the possibility that it is a very

inferior firm not generally known in the trade. On the other hand, it is a little peculiar that nobody seems to know about the Turtle Oil Preparations Ltd. Do you know whether they are supposed to manufacture whatever goods they are making on the premises?

There is one other thing. Both the name "Seagift" and Turtle Oil Preparations Ltd. are descriptive and can therefore not be registered, that is to say anybody could copy them.

Boots at Piccadilly offered ~~to try and~~ to get a packet of "Seagift" shaving cream for me or at least try and get it and I therefore ordered it. I shall know about Wednesday whether they succeeded.

I have neither rung the Turtle Oil Preparations Ltd. nor been round to have a look at their place as I did not know whether this was considered advisable.

May 4th,1940 49a

Dear Dick,

Enclosed the letter from Kauffmann which I talked to you about this morning. As I thought, it has nothing to do with me personally and I am afraid it is obviously not an approach. Let me tell you the whole story.

Miss Winter, Dr. K.'s other secretary, rang me up yesterday on Dr. K.'s instructions and told me a long story about some firm in Maryport looking for somebody with German and English, some bookkeeping, who must be naturalised. It could possibly be a woman. Did I know of anybody like that among my acquaintances? I said I thought it possible and asked for details of the firm, which she promised to send me and did. The application is to go through Dr. K.

At first I was wondering whether there was more in it than meets the eye, but as I did not want to raise anybody's hopes in case it was nothing, I thought I'd better keep it to myself until today when I would have the details. I don't know what, if anything, you have against the firm or the man in question and their reasons for being in that particular place. Otherwise it looks rather innocent and above board to me.

I wonder who the "Kaufmann-Herzberg Gruppe" are. It certainly isn't little Alfred from the way it's spelled. Could it be Oskar? On the other hand, it's a fairly common name. Let me have the letter back fairly soon please, with instructions what to do about it. You wouldn't like to go and see little Alfred as an applicant yourself and form your ideas of him!

Yours,

G.

P.S. I went to see Boots about "Seagift", the iodine brushless shaving cream and they'd never heard of it nor of the firm. I hope to get more on Monday.

Dr. Franz Herzberg,
c/o Hornflowa Ltd.,
Maryport. Cumberland.

Abschrift.

April 29th, 1940.

Herrn Dr. Kauffmann,
16, Coleman Street,
London, E.C. 2.

Sehr geehrter Herr Doktor!

Ich möchte mich in folgender Angelegenheit an Sie wenden:-

Ich brauche in meinem Büreau einen erstklassigen Menschen, der Engländer ist, d.h. zumindest British born, und ebenso sicher und verlässlich deutsch in Wort und Schrift beherrscht (auch Stenografie und Schreibmaschine) wie englisch. Ausserdem wäre es sehr gut, wenn er Kenntnisse in Buchhaltung und Bureauorganisation hätte. Er müsste ein Mann sein, wie Sie ihn in Mr. .....in Ihrem Büro haben. Er wäre speziell der Vertrauensmann der Kaufmann-Herzberg Gruppe. Er müsste naturgemäss in Maryport wohnen, und wir können ihm ein Anfangsgehalt von £5.-.- wöchentlich zahlen.

Einen Nicht-Engländer werden wir von der hiesigen Arbeitsbehörde kaum bewilligt bekommen, nachdem gerade in dem Beruf der Bureau-Beamten ein starkes Angebot vorliegt.

...

...

...

Ihr ganz ergebener
(gez.)DrF. Herzberg.

INCOMING DOCUMENT.

S. Form 14.

received from on at a.m. p.m.

Senders Reference (or File No.)
Schedule No.

Enclosures.

48a

Delivered to
on B2. at a.m. p.m.

Passed for action to
on at a.m. p.m.

R for former papers or traces

		Herewith or Out to
HERZBERG 7	? L 158 (1086) 21a	
	? PF 48748. 14a, 15a, 20a. ✓	
HORNFLOWER Ltd	WT	
	6.5.40	

Executive Instructions

P.A. Section Date

Filed in A.S folder as Enclosure No. 48a by [illegible] 10/5.

No minute to be written on this paper.

Source: A.5 4.5.40

A.5 telephoned to say that Alfred KAUFMANN had suggested that she might like to take up employment with a certain Dr. Frank HERZBERG, c/o Hornflower Ltd., Maryport, Cumberland, who requires a British secretary with knowledge of German

B.2

any fps, please?
B. 2

47/x

Dear Dick

Enclosed are the only other existing copies of A's's last two letters, for the file.

Yours

Gilbert

10-5-40

A 5 p'ce.

Tues

12/5

Draft. April 30th,1940

47x

Darling Lili,

Thanks ever so much for your letter. Yes, I quite agree, it does seem simply ages since our marvellous cruise together and it's hard to believe it was only about a year ago. It's still harder to believe that those lovely places we saw in Norway are where all this terrible fighting is going on. I too had often wondered what had happened to all that crowd we met. Do you remember that boy Tommy who Gertie was so keen on? Well - isn't it funny - I heard about him only today. Poor fellow - he has been having rather a thin time in his new job and says he has been holding the baby for other people as usual - and now I hear he is being evacuated some time this week. I can't tell you the name of the place but he is going to somewhere in the West, by the sea I think. How he will hate it poor lamb!

I am sure Gertie would be interested to hear about him, but unfortunately I have lost her address, so do be a dear and send this letter on to her and give her my love.

Well - I am still alive and kicking, although I confess a good deal of the kick has gone out of me these days and I really feel a bit tired and worn. Perhaps it's just the usual spring feeling!

I haven't really very much to tell you about myself and the temporary job I have is a pretty lousy one, but all the same, I manage to get about a bit. I do wish though the young of the opposite sex weren't so keen on musical shows and leg displays. I think I have seen nearly every show of that sort in town and I sometimes wish my friends had a little more highbrow taste! I had a great evening at the Savoy the other night. A journalist friend I have got in tow with took me there and we nearly drank the place dry - to drown our sorrows as he put it. He is really rather a joke and what a talker when he has a drink inside him. Interesting though! But don't worry, he is married. My poor old kidneys weren't very pleased with me next morning and I spent the day in bed!

Well, my darling, this is a pretty dull letter but there's nothing else to tell you. Do let me hear from you soon.

Yours ever,

Draft.

April 30th,1940

47x

Darling Gertie,

I have just been writing a letter to Lilly and thought I would drop you a line too, but please forgive a short note only as I am desperately rushed for time. I gave all my news to Lilly and asked her to send the letter on to you and I do hope she does, but there is just one thing I must tell you.

Lilly said in her last letter that you had been asking for news about that boy Tommy English who you were so interested in. Well - isn't it funny - I heard about him only today. Poor fellow - he has been having rather a thin time in that new job of his and says he has been holding the baby for other people as usual. And now I hear that he is being evacuated some time this week. I can't tell you the name of the place but he is going to somewhere in the West, by the sea I think. How he will hate it, poor lamb!

I must stop for I have got to dash and change to go out to dinner with my latest. A young guardsman, doesn't that make you jealous?! You'll get all the other news from Lilly.

Yours,

Orig sent to B7.

April 21st,1940

47a

REPORT

Aufwiedersehen Club.

As far as I can make out the history of the Aufwiedersehen Club is, that originally it had something to do with the Anglo-German Academic Club but for some reason or other the Aufwiedersehen Club fell out with the Anglo-German Academic Club and continued on its own arranging social evenings and rambles. The members always met at the Aufwiedersehen Restaurant, 116 or 118, Southampton Row, which, however, some time before the war changed its name to "National" Restaurant.

The president of the Aufwiedersehen Club is a Mr. Hofels, a man of about 60, at present in the German Hospital with a minor operation, who, I gather, does business with the Reform (health) shops. I am not definitely certain, but I think he is German.

The members of the Aufwiedersehen Club nowadays seem to consist of people of either pure British nationality who have lived in Germany or travelled a lot to Germany, and of people of German parentage who are themselves British though. Most of the wives of the British members are of German origin. Some refugees also seem to be members.

Meetings of the Club are approximately every second Saturday. I went on Saturday, the 20th inst. So far as I could see the whole thing was merely a social gathering, games and competitions being played and songs sung. About 30 people were present, but as they have the unfortunate habit of calling everybody by their Christian name I was unable to find out surnames, except for the name of one man who like me was a stranger. This man, however, was not a particularly pleasant subject.

His name is Fred Jackman, his father originally German was interned during the last war but is now a British subject. Fred Jackman is a member of the International Friendship League, a Methodist, a conscientious objector, a pacifist and a member of the Peace Pledge Union. I do not know anything about the International Friendship League, but if he is typical of its other members it strikes me that it is not a particularly desirable organisation in present times. Jackman made one or two rather unfortunate detrimental remarks about England and was heavily sat upon by some other people. He also said that the South Africans were the only people with the right attitude of mind and he would like to go there. He told me that he had some relations in Oslo, regretted that they did not live in Copenhagen as it was much safer for them there and to my question whether, if he had lived in Norway, he would not have tried to defend his country, he said: "Certainly not."

for attached file HOFELS

I gather that before the war Jackman was in the habit of conducting parties for the International Friendship League to Germany. He does not, however, speak German very well but seems to speak Flemish. He told me he had picked that up in Belgium and also in Luxembourg ? where he has frequently been.

The International Friendship League seems to have meetings almost every day of the week in various parts of London.

April 13th,1940

46a

REPORT.

Lieutenant John Harvey.

As John Harvey had rung me several times during the last three weeks expressing his desire to come and see me at my flat (never once was there a suggestion that I should dine with him), and as I had put him off with a friend who was having German measles in my flat, I felt it advisable to ring him and suggest a meeting at Oddenino's Bar at lunchtime yesterday. Considering I had stood him lunch once and he had kept on calling me up since then, he confirmed my opinion of him when he said "thank you, I'd love to" to a mere suggestion on my part that we should meet for a drink. He had to pay for one drink for himself, but otherwise I found him very reluctant to pay for anything we had, which was not much. He mentioned ~~xxxxxxx~~ at some time or other that he was hard up.

In my opinion, - and it's only a woman's opinion, he is an exceedingly objectionable human being who for some reason or other is convinced of his charms which are nil. I do not think that at the present moment he has any other intentions about me except those "worse than death" and possibly a cheap meal and drinks.

He does not strike me as being particularly intelligent but seems to have a very good memory for certain things. He is very difficult to talk to as he makes no effort to entertain anybody, but with profound admiration for his cleverness I at last got him talking about army medals and ranks, all of which he explained to me in detail, and probably more or less correct. His opinion about the Norwegian invasion was in conformity with public opinion in this country.

As I seemed surprised how much he knew about the army considering he had been abroad so much, he told me that he was in the Army Reserve and had done training in 1922 and 1928 and also inbetween times whenever he came to this country. He also said that he had once been attached to a Highland regiment and agreed that he had worn a kilt.

I think he is just a crook and a liar, and a bad one at that not remembering previous stories. I regret to say that I can see no redeeming features in him.

Orig. filed in Harvey file

Original in Kauffmann file.

April 13th,1940

45a

REPORT

Dr. A. Kauffmann, 16, Coleman Street, E.C.2.

I had Miss Symes, Dr. K.'s secretary, to dinner last night and tried to draw her as far as possible about Dr. K. and his general views and activities. I am afraid the result is not very satisfactory as she seems to have told me all she knew before.

As far as last Monday is concerned when Dr. K. is supposed to have said that he was too busy to keep a dinner appointment, she did not seem to consider it an unusual day and according to her Dr. K. is not in any way concerned with Norway so far (as an international lawyer). For the present, with regard to ships, he is only acting for the Prudential and the Aisatic Petroleum Co. She said that when the news of the German invasion of Denmark and Norway came out, Dr. K., before the papers expressed this opinion, had said that he thought it a foolish move on Germany's part but did not discuss it further.

Miss Symes talked about various German people she had known ~~xxxxxxx~~ here before the war, chiefly through her choir, and I brought up some names of German Embassy people I had known, amongst them the name of Bielefeld, which seems to convey nothing to her. She herself mentioned that a Dr. Weber of the German Chamber of Commerce had been to see Dr. K. several times. When I expressed surprise at that as Dr. K. is a Jew, she said that it was in connection with a case and that Dr. Weber consulted Dr. Kauffmann about German law. I think it probably is the Geighi case which I mentioned before.

Unless she is in league with Dr. K. (if you can call it that), which I think is unlikely, it seems to me that Dr. K. can only have had very few dealings with the German Embassy through his office staff as obviously she knew nothing about it. Admittedly, this does not explain why he had the German Embassy's telephone number in the most frequently used telephone book in the office.

Miss Symes' opinion of Pastor Rieger is that he is objectionable. She apparently heard that at one time he was a red hot Nazi decorating even his chruch with Nazi flags, but that he changes with the tide.(This is merely heresay on her part). She has, however, seen him several times in Dr. K.'s office and heard him preach.

If approved, I shall inform Dr.K. that my "journalist boss" is taking a few days holiday from Wednesday next until the end of the week and that therefore I would be able to work for him if he wanted me to.

Miss Symes also asked me to go to a tea with her on Saturday,

the 20th inst. which the remains of the what used to be called the "Aufwiedersehen Club" are giving. Although I expressed delight at this invitation I left it open whether I could go and should be glad to know whether it is considered worth while.

44a

Expenses in connection with Gertrud Hagemann's stay in March

£ 1. 5. 6.

G. Ashley

11/4/40

The above sum added to usual monthly £23.0.0 and sent to A.5 on 16.4.40.

44x

16th April, 1940.

Received the sum of £24. 5s. 6d.

G. Ashley

42a
43a.

4.4.40 4/a

Dear Dick,

Ida Braun told me th following story yesterday which she had heard from a close friend of the people concerned:

A Mrs. Litten, mother of the lawyer who was mixed up in the Reichtstags trial and committed suicide, broadcasted about 3 weeks ago in the "Voice of the Nazi" programme on jurisdiction in Germany and is also proposing to publish a book, I presume on her son's case, shortly. She lives in London. After the broadcast she was rung up one night at 3 o'clock and a voice said in English: "Is that Mrs.Litten? Just a moment" and with that rang off again. A few moments later the telephone rang again and this time it was a man speaking German, a cultured voice. He warned her if she did any more of this broadcasting and also if she published the book her life wouldn't be worth anything.

According to the story Mrs.Litten found out that the call was made from a call box. She also immediately rang up Scotland Yard and the told her notto worry, they'd catch the man. That's all. But I thought I'd better mention it to you for what it is worth.

She also told me about a girl employed a Lever Bros, Czech nationality, Trude Gut or Hut who used to be very Nazi before the War but turned anti-Nazi when war broke out. The reason she mentioned this girl is that some friend of Ida's at Levers seems to think her not quite safe.

Yours

G.

I have kept no copies of the Rhine letter as I am a bit frightened of it. So if it has to be re-written please send me one through Gilbert as the quickest way I suppose.

exhaustive

exhaustive

April 3rd,1940

D.L.,

I think surely it must be my turn to write to you again, but I am a lazy thing I suppose. Yesterday, however, my conscience pricked me for I was talking about you with G. who had just come up for one of his flying visits. From all accounts, he is being hectically busy on his job just now. It may interest you to know that he referred several times both yesterday and on his last visit to that marvellous trip we all had on the Rhine together. There may be nothing in it at all and I don't want ~~xxxxxx~~ to make your maidenly heart beat faster but I have a feeling that perhaps he is rather peronally interested in you after all. Or was it only "the moonlight on the swiftly moving currents of the Rhine" he was thinking of? Anyhow, I thought I would let you know for what it is worth. He certainly did talk about the trip and seems not to have forgotten a moment of it. Funny isn't it - so there you are. I don't know and perhaps I am wrong. I wonder if you ought to tell Gertie "your hated rival" ha ha!

Thanks awfullyfor the news about the play. If it hadn't been for you I might never have known it was already on in Holland. I only signed the contract ~~last week~~ a fortnight ago and it said nothing about date of production. Not much money in it so far, I'm afraid.

I was awfully sorry to hear about your rheumatism. I wonder whether you have been on your holiday yet. Don't forget to write and tell me all about it and how you are feeling. I am all right so far though I do feel abit frustrated sometimes, but then you know what I am like. It's a hard life for a lonely girl!

Yours,

40a

B.11x.

I want to confirm with you that letters have been sent to Holland and Belgium, bearing in a highly disguised form the information that the British have a new secret weapon which is a mine. This action which was based on your information, and the procedure having been approved by you, may have the effect of arousing the interest of the German Intelligence Service in Holland and Belgium. I think myself that it is unlikely that they will grasp the full meaning from the highly disguised form in which it is being sent, but this does not really matter, according to our plan, since it will all become clear after certain events have taken place this week. A second letter has been prepared which will be sent before Thursday, but will arrive after Thursday in Holland, indicating that the British are interesting themselves in the Rhine waterway. A third letter will be sent after certain events are published in the press. This will reconcile the information in the two previous letters and express our agent's annoyance that she was not able to put it in a really clear light owing to lack of proper means of communication. It is hoped in this way to gain prestige for our agent A.5 in the minds of the German Intelligence Service.

The time plan we are at present working to is as follows:

1. A letter to Lili WORTMANN at The Hague to catch the 4.30 p.m. air-mail from Shoreham, April 1st. This letter, owing to the unfortunate coincidence of April Fool's Day, has been dated and stamped March 31st. It will bear a British censor label.

2. A letter to Fräulein BECKMANN in Brussels leaves by air-mail mid-day to-morrow. This will also be dated and postmarked March 31st, but it will have missed to-day's mid-day Brussels mail owing to Censorship regulations.

3. A letter to Lili WORTMANN only, bearing information as to British interests in the Rhine, to leave by 4.30 p.m. air-mail from Shoreham on Wednesday, April 3rd. Lili WORTMANN will be told to forward it to the "Doctor" in Belgium, but it will of course arrive too late to instruct the German Intelligence Service as to the intended British action. This letter will be dated and postmarked April 2nd.

4. There is plenty of time to decide the date of departure for the third letter, and it will obviously depend upon how soon the information on the British action is released to the press.

A copy of the first letter, which goes in identical form to BECKMANN and WORTMANN has already been shown to you and approved. A copy of the second letter will be shown to you before it is dispatched, as likewise of course the third. Unless I hear from you to the contrary, I shall take it that these plans are now approved.

B.2.
1.4.40.

(This note may be retained.)

March 31st,1940 39x

Report.

Dr. Alfred Kauffmann, 16, Coleman Street, E.C.2.

I again worked at Dr. K.'s office for a few days at his request as one of his secretaries was on holiday. At the same time he had also asked a Miss Gerson (refugee from Berlin, in this country for over 4 years with a permit for free-lance work from the Home Office) to help out. He had employed her before. None of us were particularly busy, except at intervals. Except for being asked to witness a will of a client, when Dr. K. said to me:"I am sure you'd make a good witness," I hardly saw him.

Here are a few more names of his clients:

Oscar Kaufmann (a Roumanian,formerly German-Austrian) Banker,
Armathwaite Hall Hotel,
Keswick, Cumberland
or
Connaught Hotel, London W.1.

Correspondence chiefly regarding permission for this man to stay on in this country which Dr. K. seems to have obtained for him

Nessler,
c/o Mrs.Ashbee,
Godden Green,
Sevenoaks

Correspondence about naturalisation.

Richard Merton (wife née Princess Löwenstein)
The British Metal Corporation Ltd.
Princes House, 93,Greshham Street,
London E.C.2. (evacuated to Rugby)

There is a good deal of correspondence with Mr. Merton regarding his the question whether he is a British subject or not and how to prove it. But Mr. Merton also seems to be interested in the British Metal Corporation and this correpondence chiefly concerns some transfer or sale of shares to the Société Suisse pour Valeur de Metaux, Basle, who seem to disagree with the British Metal Corporation about prices and conditions. Copies of this correspondence are also being sent to a Mr. Talbot of the British Metal Corp. Dr. K. is suggesting to employ a lawyer for them in Switzerland, a Maitre Borel, but meantime an envoy from the Swiss company is coming to this country about the middle of April to discuss matters. It seems that the Société Suisse pour Valeur de Metaux has some connection with the Metallgesellschaft, Frankfurt a.m.

Dr. K. seems to be on friendly terms with Dr. Brown, Treasury Solicitor, Storey's Gate, to whom he sends translations of German Orders in the Reichsgesetzblatt. He also has some correspondence with Professor H.A. Smith, Ministry of Economic Warfare, Berkeley Squ re House.

Photostats as well as copies of the Reichsgesetzblatt are obtained through

Richard Janssen,
Heerengracht 572,
Amsterdam C.

I gathered from Miss Symes, his secretary, that Dr. K. does not want it known outside the office that he has any connection with the Dean of Chichester.

Pastor Rieger apparently comes occasionally to Dr. K. to consult him.

Dr. K.'s son, who is British and is up at Oxford, seems to have changed his name to Kenyan.

On Wednesday, the 27th, Dr. K. asked his secretary where exactly Hanway Street was which he had been told was opposite the Horse Shoe Hotel at the junction of Oxford Street and Tottenham Court Road, and how to get there. He then departed for an hour with an attaché case. She remarked to me that he was being very secretive about where he was going and what for. The next day he handed her the address herhad been to:

C. Bechler,
hairdresser,
2, Hanway Street,
W.1.

to put in her address book. Considering how busy Dr. K. usually thinks he is (he does not even go out to lunch but has sandwiches in the office) it seemed a strange place to go fo for a hair-cut. Of course, Bechler may be a client (but lawyers usually do not go to their clients) or Dr. K. may have been to see somebody else in that neighbourhood as well. Miss Symes certainly has never heard of Bechler before nor has she been told anything further.

I went to have a look at the place in the evening. It seemed just an ordinary cheap hairdressing establishment, with "British" written up in large letters, but Bechler's name nowhere to be seen. As Gilbert Lennox was going to have a hair cut I asked him if he would please visit that shop for me. I enclose his report on it. It certainly seems that to outward appearances there is nothing suspicious about it, but why did Dr.K. go there? It seems peculiar to choose this shop, if he went there for a hair cut. I thought it worth while mentioning anyhow.

extracted for PF 49374 BECHTEL

31/3/40

Report by Gilbert Lennox

Hairdresser at 2, Hanway Street, W.1.

2, Hanway Street is a small hairdresser's shop. On the window is "British Hairdressers Saloon". Above on the name board is" ---------- Hairdresser", the name having been comparatively recently painted out. The shop has only two basins and hairdressing chairs, although it advertises as "Ladies' and Gents' Hairdressing Saloon". There may be another room behind, but this appeared to be unlikely.

The clientel is chiefly upper working class, and soldiers and air force seem to constitute a majority of clients, although this may only have been so on Saturday afternoon when the shop was visited. The prices are not cheap for the neighbourhood, 1/- for a hair cut.

The proprietor has one assistant. The proprietor is a man of about 55 - 60, 5 ft.6" in height, stockily built, grey hair, eye brows and moustache, bald on forehead, protruding lower lip. Talkes perfect English with slight Cockney accent. Very occasionally gives away that he is probably of foreign. May have been in America. The assistant might pass as an Italian, but from his speech is a Cockney. He has long black wavy hair and slight side whiskers. Is about 6 ft. in height. Age about 30.

There was nothing else worthy of note about the shop or its contents.

Please pass by hand.

39a

~~B.11x~~ Rx.
~~B.5.~~

19a

I should be grateful for your comments on this report. The lady is a little disappointed that no more progress has been made than she can record here, but it has to be remembered that her connection with the German S.S. is only 6 weeks' old. I think it is worth going on with, but I should like other opinions on this.

B.2.
9.2.40.

D.G.W.

Bx.

This is most interesting. I certainly should not dream of giving this up, as it is only in its infancy, & may get going at any moment. I feel that this & Jacob should be coordinated most carefully especially in small details. Can you get descriptions of the people your informant met.

T.A.Robertson.

31.3.40

38a

4, Egmont House,
116, Shaftesbury Avenue,
London W.1.

March 31st,1940.

Darling Gertie,
Darling Lili,

Thank you ever so much for your letter. I am so glad to hear that you are flourighing. It was good to get news about everyone.

You are quite right, I am trying to write another play - when I get the time. By the way did you know that I have a play running at Amsterdam just now? The Dutch have given it the title 'De geheim van de cottage" which I personally don't think much of. However, this kind of title see s to be popular just now and I suppose one had better be in the fashion. I think I have got the right title for my new play. An idea I partly got from listening to Admiral Summerville broadcasting the other night. Did you hear him? I thought he was awfully good.

I am still doing my best to hand on to the job with the company I am working for. So far all is well but one can never be sure in war times and I always hate uncertainty.

Regarding your inquiry about the mining shares, as you know I am not an expert but it is true that the company has a lot to do with mines and perhaps the following tip may be useful to you. I had it on good authority - the managing director's secretary. She overheard a conversation between her boss and another director. The company are floating a new mining concern some time soon, and great things are e pected of it. It's all very secret and I would certainly get the sack if it was known that I knew about it. The result may be that shares will fluctuate rather wildly. Of course, you know what tricky things gold mines are, but I thought I would pass the information on to you for what it is worth. At least you can let your uncle know, for he is certainly a good business man and can judge for himself.

Did I tell you that Bill is back, and need I say that both Robert and Joe are being very attentive? I confess it's a pretty hectic life working during the day to try and make enough to buy glad rags for myself at night. As a matter of fact, on my present salary I find it difficult enough to look cheerful, let alone buy new clothes! As a negress dancer in one of the night clubs said the other night:"My personal charm must make up for my lack of wardrobe!"

Well, I don' think I have any other thrilling news at the moment. Do let me hear from you soon.

Yours,

b. Beckler v Beckler

L.D., L A L,

Thank you ever so much for your letter. I am so glad to hear that you are flourishing. It was good ~~to hear from you and~~ to get news about everyone.

You are quite right, I am trying to write another play - when I get the time. By the way, did you know that I have a play running at Amsterdam just now? The Dutch have given it ~~It's called~~ the title "De geheim van de coattage" which I personally don't think much of. However, this kind of title seems to be popular just now and I suppose one had better be in the fashion. I think I have got the right title for my new play. An idea I partly got from listening to Admiral Summerville broadcasting the other night. Did you hear him? I thought he was awfully good.

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** certainly get the scoop if it were known that I knew about it

gold mines are, but I thought I would pass the information on to you for what it is worth. At least you can let your uncle know, for he is certainly a good business man and can judge for himself.

Did I tell you that Bill is back, and need I say that both Robertand Joe are being very attentive? I confess it's a pretty hectic life work ng during the day to try and make enough to buy glad rags for myself at night. As a matter of fact, on my present salary I find it difficult enough to look cheerful, let alone buy new clothes! As a engress dancer in one of the night clubs said the other night:"My personal charm must make up for my lack of wardrobe!"

Well, I don't think I have any other thrilling news at ~~pxxxxxx~~ the moment. Do let me hear from you soon.

Yours,

37a

B.2.

Seaborne mails to Holland and Belgium are very irregular, the only certain means being Air Mail. The following are the timetables:-

All Air Mail for Holland goes to Amsterdam, leaving:-

	G.P.O.	Shoreham
	5.30 a.m.	9 a.m.
	7.45 a.m.	10.30 a.m.
	9.50 a.m.	1 p.m.
Monday to Friday	1 p.m.	4.30 p.m.

All Air Mail for Belgium goes to Brussels, leaving:-

G.P.O.	Shoreham
9.50 a.m.	1 p.m.

A letter for Holland which leaves M.I.5. by the first delivery on Monday morning will catch the 1 p.m. mail from G.P.O. and should be delivered in the Hague sometime on Tuesday. The times are the same each day. In order to catch the Belgian mail, theletter must reach the G.P.O. on the previous evening. To catch the Monday mail, a special delivery to G.P.O. on Sunday afternoon would be necessary, arriving at the G.P.O. before 4 p.m.

B.12.
30.3.40.

Dear Dick,

Enclosed a letter to Lil. If you approve of it will you please send it off. I mentioned Bill back from Chamonix in case nobody got what I was driving at in my last letter. I don't know whether the censor might stop it for that reason but just in case he does would it perhaps go uncensored? It might be wise. I am in a hurry to write Lil as she is going on her holiday to Spa — ?Belgium? .

Yours
G.

Despatched via B.12. 29/3/40

4, Egmont House,
116, Shaftesbury Avenue,
London W.1.

29/3/40

Lili darling,

Thank you so much for your letter. I was awfully glad to hear from you as I had been wondering whether you were ill or had not received my letters. I talked to your aunt about it and she, I believe, has written to you in the meantime. She and one of her sons came to see me on Saturday and we had a very nice time. I agreed with them about everything, what else can I do? They are unahppy enough at present and it's no good arguing. As far as I can make out she is going to America with her other son sometime in the summer.

I am sorry, Lili, that you haven't been well. I do wish you wouldn't take things so much to heart. It's not worth it. Your trouble is that you let people impose upon you. But it's always the same - giving advice is so easy. Do take good care of yourself, have a pleasant holiday and don't let them worry you.

Thank you for telling me about our play. What a title! We didn't know about it. That is to say, we signed the contract with the Dutch people last week and Gilbert said he would like to go over for a few days during rehearsals if he could get leave, thinking of course that production would not be for at least 4 to 6 weeks. I was delighted with the idea because the authors would naturally go together. He told our play agent to wire Holland and find out the date of production. The fuss was that such a production effects the price of the film rights very much. Anyhow, it's too late now and when I rang the agent yesterday and told him that it was already running in Amsterdam he nearly fell through the floor and merely said: "So that's why I got their cheque so promptly and no reply to my wire." Very nice to ge the money, but perhaps it would have been better to see one or two rehearsals before the play was being let loose on the public. I do hope you went to see it and tell me about it, to give us an idea what it was like. And if you have seen a review, do let me know what it said, unless you can send a cutting. I wish I had known before to let you have some free tickets.

It was fun having Gertrude here. She reminded me of my sister. She was very sweet and as far as I am concerned very useful. Did you see her? Joe is a nice boy (hardly an appropriate expression as he is nearly my age) but he is very young and unsophisticated. Entertaining though, to say the

least. Did you tell Gertie about him? Bill has returned from Chamonix. I have only seen him once so far.

I am leading a gay life, in spite of my troubles, and find it hard at times to get up early. I have been very lucky as far as temporary work is concerned and am just wondering how long that luck is going to last. Apart from that, I do wish Gertie would write me some time. After all, one would like to know how one's friends are and keep in touch with them.

Do I know about your boy friend from Paris? I am glad he is in Holland and hope he treats you nicely and does not take advantage of your good nature. Take a leaf out of your sister's book. On the other hand, you wouldn't be who you are if you did. I wish you could come and stay with me for your holidays. We could have such fun together. It seems so silly that it's not possible. Love to everybody.

Yours ever,

A. 5. 25th March, 1940.

A. 5 has not yet been contacted and L. has not replied to either of the letters sent to her, and there has been no sign from Brussels. There may be several reasons for this. The following notes, however, may be helpful.

1.) Von P. is apparently in charge of "Embassy Intelligence Work" in the Low Countries; but this is possibly quite separate from the main German S.S. system, run from elsewhere. According to U.35's information, the Embassy people do not like to hand over their own agents to the Gestapo or to the S.S.

2.) a.) On her first visit to Holland, A.5 tentatively suggested to B. and L. that she might work for Germany.

b.) On her first visit to Belguim she made a definite offer to Von P. and met "The Doctor."

c.) On her second visit to Belguim she gave "valuable" information.

d.) She has since sent information by letters and has also intimated that she cannot return to the Low Countries.

3.) On her visit to the Low Countries there has never been the slightest suggestion that she is suspect. On the other hand, there has never been any proof that she is entirely trusted. L. herself suggested it might take six months before full trust was established. Unless Von P. had already anything definite against A.5, which seems unlikely he probably adopted the policy "Wait and See."

4.) As A.5 has only been directly in touch, so far as we know, with "Embassy Intelligence", it is quite possible that, until she actually took information on her second visit to Belguim, no enquiries were made about her at all. The information she took on this second visit was, of sufficient importance to be sent on and therefore, presumably, the German S.S. have got to hear of her. In any case, the S.S. will probably get to hear of her now, through Miss H.

5.) Possible reasons why A.5 has not been contacted yet.

a.) The German S.S. may have something against her, and may have issued a warning. As far as we can tell, the only possibility of this is that her name and address were found in S.'s pocket. On the other hand, had they been found, enquiries would have followed and B. would have been warned long ago. L. might have not been told, but B. would most certainly have warned Von P. when he heard about the offer she was making in Brussells. We have had absolutely nothing to suggest that either B. or Von P. were warned against her before her last visit. The possibility of the S.S. being definitely suspicious of her would therefore appear to be unlikely.

b.) Von P.'s organisation may have no direct contacts in England and therefore any ~~direxxx~~ contact would have to be made by the S.S. This might easily cause delay. For obvious reasons, it may take a good deal of time to arrange a direct contact in England, whoever is doing it.

c.) L. and Von B. may not have received A.5's letters. It is quite possible that both L.'s and Von B.'s letters are being censored by the Dutch and the Belgians.

A.5 has had a message sent by letter to L. through her Jewish friend, saying how distressed she is at not getting a reply from her. For safety's sake, A.5's name was not mentioned in the letter.

6.) Suggested action.

A.5 ought to write soon and tell L. and Von B. that "Bill" has returned from Chamonix. She might also now bring off her coup of the important information by the two letter system, one of the letters being delayed. This can do no harm. If she is suspect, nothing will happen. If she is not suspect, it may hurry things up.

It may be wise to mention that U.35 has gone abroad without A.5 and trying to get across some suitable explanation.

G.

35k

The Hague

Stadhouderslaan 98

23.3.40

Très chère Gisèle,

Thanks very much for your letters and the compliments which I forwarded accordingly, much to the astonishment of little G., to receive a letter from me.- Alright, it won't happen again. -

I am really awfully sorry that you have a rather bad time;- your play - under the title " De geheim van de cottage" seems to be a nice success - I hope to be able to go to Amsterdam next week to see it - even if I can't understand one word. I picked up an old acquaintance of mine from Paris, years and years ago - he is taking me out sometimes. Otherwise life is as usual. In one way hectic and exciting , in the other boring and simply getting me down. I had a lovely little breakdown a fortnight ago after a week of "not on speaking-terms" with the boss. I think one day we will have such a row that it is finished once and for all.....

I am supposed to get my holidays in April - Berlin says three weeks, B. says two ! I can only wait and see. I probably shall go to Spa und do something for my rhumatism and all my other troubels. I am afraid the medicine which my Doctor gave me is ruining my kidneys - I have such a pain that I can scarcely walk - dat is niet de bedooling, as they say in Holland.-

Goodbye my dear ! I hope this letter cheered you up a little. My sister is in Messina, I do hope she is going to marry her blackbearded Romeo ! I am so fed up with everything that I could even go back to Peter.....

Lots of love. I won't forget you !

Yours ever

Rifi