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SEVENTH ARMY INTERROGATION CENTER
APO 758 US ARMY

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: S E C R E T :
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ROBERT LEY, THROUGH THE EYES OF HIS SECRETARY AND HIS MISTRESS

1. SOURCES

a) MUELLER, Paula, private secretary of Dr Robert LEY since 1940. She is cooperative and seems to give all information to the best of her knowledge. However, her knowledge of official matters is very limited, since LEY had another secretary who took care of these matters.

Rating: B-2 Date of Information: See Text Interrogator: M.W.M.

b) WANDERER, Madeleine; LEY's mistress from March 1943. She is 19 years old and a native of Estonia. She came to Germany in 1941 and met LEY while she was a member of the REICHSBALLET in BERLIN. (Source for Par 8 only).

Rating: B-2 Date of Information: See Text Interrogator: G.W.G.

2. LEY'S POSITION IN THE PARTY

One of LEY's main jobs was to push the Anti-Jewish program. He also was a Russian hater and has been heard by source to say, "Get rid of those Russian prisoners." He was extremely brutal to the Russians and felt that they should be exterminated. He thoroughly approved of GAULEITER KOCH's program.

Besides being a Nazi Party official, LEY was an honorary general of the SS, a general of the SA, and held equivalent ranks in the NSFK and the NSKK. He had uniforms for all these titles.

According to source LEY was not liked by the members of the Nazi hierarchy. They continually tried to take as much power from him as possible. His main opponents were BORMANN, SPEER, FUNK, and GOEBBELS. Many times when the arguments became too involved LEY went directly to HITLER and so managed to retain some of his power. On one occasion LEY is supposed to have told HITLER that either he or BORMANN would have to go. LEY violently opposed the practice of picking GAULEITERS only from men who had served some time in the PARTEIKANZLEI, maintaining that this was BORMANN's trick to get the GAULEITERS under his own influence rather than under LEY's.

3. LEY'S RELATIONS WITH HITLER

Until 1942 LEY was as close to HITLER as anybody in Germany. One of the main factors in this relationship was LEY's wife, Ingar LEY. It was no secret to anyone around LEY that HITLER admired the pretty Mrs LEY and that the admiration was mutual. HITLER was a regular weekly visitor at LEY's home. Source was present at HITLER's last visit to LEY's home on 8 Nov 42. A tea was arranged for the occasion. HITLER arrived at about 1630 hours that day accompanied by Martin BORMANN. The FUEHRER brought a bouquet of flowers for Mrs LEY which to everybody's surprise, he handed to her personally. Usually the flowers were taken by someone else, and source was selected to receive them, should HITLER bring any. HITLER remained for about three hours sitting next to Mrs LEY near the fire place the whole time. The party consisted of HITLER, BORMANN, Dr and Mrs LEY, a lady-servant of Mrs LEY, and source. Conversation that day did not touch upon politics. On other occasions like this, however, HITLER and LEY discussed important official business. Soon after HITLER left LEY would make notes of what HITLER had said and many times important decisions had their origin here.

S E C R E T

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S E C R E T

Ref No SAIC/35
1 Jun 45

4. THE DEATH OF MRS INGAR LEY

LEY's second wife, Ingar, had three children in four years which left her in poor physical condition. The children are now, 4, 5, and 6 years old respectively. She took to dope, underwent a cure at a sanitarium, but on coming home began to drink heavily and take dope again. Source doubts that LEY knew of his wife's heavy drinking.

Rumors that LEY killed his wife are absolutely untrue, source states. Around 6 o'clock one night in Dec 42 Mrs LEY told source to take a car and drive a guest to WADBROEHL. She was told to make the trip fast since LEY was planning to use the car to take him to the RR station for his planned trip to the FUEHRER Hq in East Prussia that same day. Upon her return to the house source was met by a servant who told her nervously to go upstairs where something had happened. Source found LEY trying to get into the locked bedroom. He finally managed to get into the room through an adjoining room and the window. Here Mrs LEY was found on her bed with a bullet wound through her forehead. She was dressed in her fur coat. Mrs LEY wrote a letter before she killed herself, but source has never read it.

After this affair LEY cancelled his trip to the FUEHRER Hq and sent MARRENBACH instead. HITLER personally called that night expressing his sympathy and telling LEY not to give up since he was needed by the Third Reich. After the death of Mrs LEY, HITLER never again visited LEY's home. LEY himself started to drink so heavily, that it was rumored that HITLER ordered LEY to stop drinking, as it was giving him a bad name. LEY did not marry his mistress (whom he met in Mar 43) because he was afraid of ridicule as she was 18 years old and he was 54 at the time. This, however, did not prevent her from bearing him a child, which was delivered in Sep 44.

5. FREIKORPS ADOLF HITLER

During the last days of Mar 45 source had to make a copy of a draft which was to get HITLER's signature. This draft read approximately as follows: In order to strengthen the will of the German people to defend themselves, I order the activation of a FREIKORPS (Free Corps) which will bear my name. I name Dr LEY responsible for the activation and leadership of this KORPS.

This draft was taken to HITLER and signed by him. Shortly after this, conferences were held in this connection. The following persons were usually present at these meetings: Otto MARRENBACH (General Director of the DAF), Fritz MARRENBACH (Main Personnel Office, MUNICH) a brother of the General Director, STEGEMANN (Main Organizing Office, MUNICH), BRUHN (Main Training Office), KLAUKE (Chief of Adolf HITLER Schools in SONTHOFEN).

It was planned that each GAU was to furnish a certain number of men, about 200 each, according to the size of the GAU. When source left BERLIN (11 Apr) these men were on their way to selected training grounds. The following TRUPPENEUBUNGSPLAETZE (Troop Training Places) were to be used for purposes of training the FREIKORPS: DOEBERITZ/BERLIN, MUENSTERLAGER, SENNELAGER, HOHENFIES, HUEBERG, DOELLERSHEIM/AUSTRIA, and MITTENWALD near GARMISCH.

This mission of the FREIKORPS was to fight ahead and behind the front. It was to be organized in SCHWAERME (Swarms) of 9 men and one woman. Each member was to have a bicycle and be armed with a panzerfaust and a pistol. Trucks with arms and equipment were on their way to the training locations but, according to reports, did not reach their destination in most cases, because of Allied bombing.

Source believes that STEGEMANN went to Northern Germany for the express purpose of leading the FREIKORPS after the collapse of the WEHRMACHT, while LEY and MARRENBACH were to take over the leadership of the KORPS in the south. The present location of MARRENBACH is not known to source. She saw him last in IMST at the end of Apr.

S E C R E T

S E C R E T

Ref No SAIC/35
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6. LEY'S FINANCIAL STATUS

The following was LEY's monthly income:

DAF	RM 4,000
NSDAP	4,000
Prussian	
Staatsrat	500
REICHSTAG	540

In addition LEY received RM 100,000 a year from the EHER VERLAG (EHER Publishing Co) for his articles. A small pamphlet on labor which all factories had to buy provided him with an income of RM 30,000. In 1938 or 1939 LEY received one million RM as a present from the FUEHRER "for service to the Reich and Party".

LEY owned many valuable pictures from foreign countries. His architect Herbert NADOLLE was his purchasing agent. Source does not know exactly where they came from but thinks most of them came from Paris. Last fall most of the pictures were moved from the LEY estate to SONTHOFEN/Allgäu where they were stored in the ORDENSBURG. LEY's children were also sent there. It is known that the children, together with LEY's other secretary, moved further into the mountains.

He also had a fine jewel collection, bought in various countries at his own price. His mistress had jewels valued at 6,000 dollars in peace time, two fur coats, one worth 5,000 dollars and the other worth 10,000 dollars, and 5,000 dollars in cash. The 10,000 dollar fur coat was bought in Norway by LEY for 100 Marks. Personal graft and loot are not included in these figures. Family jewels were valued at somewhere between 100,000 dollars and 250,000 dollars.

Although LEY's monthly living expenses averaged between RM 2 to 3,000, all he paid was a monthly sum of RM 600 to the DAF. All the differences was paid from the DAF.

LEY had a debt of about RM 200,000 at the end. Source explains this by the fact that all his money went into building and rebuilding his estate. He loved to build and his estate was constantly in a stage of renovation. This, added to all the jewels and other valuables he bought, left him in debt. LEY did not own any real estate other than his estate near WALDBROEHL.

B-2 44 DIV. HAS COAT
7. SECRET WEAPON

On about 8 Apr 45 source received a telephone call from a certain LINDAU. As Dr LEY could not be reached she was given a message to tell LEY that the experiment they were working on was ready for a trial and that LINDAU was going to send a messenger to BERLIN to show LEY certain data on the item under discussion.

When source gave LEY this message she found out that LINDAU was LEY's liaison man working with a professor (identity not known to source) on some secret weapon.

About 10 Apr this messenger arrived with a briefcase full of documents. LEY had long discussions with the representative and finally took the documents to SPEER and perhaps even HITLER. When the envoy left BERLIN the files were left behind. It was the usual procedure that source would get all files, but this one was not given to her because of its secrecy.

On 12 Apr LEY told source that he was going on a trip to WILDENBURG/Silesia to see LINDAU and the research-man in connection with the new secret weapon. At this opportunity he told source that it was something "terrific" and that he was going to try to get the professor to Southern Germany so that he could continue his experiments.

Source was never able to find out any details about the weapon other than that it had something to do with remote control. Trying to find out some more about this mysterious weapon, source asked one of LEY's adjutants later how successful the experiments had been in WALDENBURG. The adjutant stated that it was a complete failure and that the device "would not even hurt a rabbit".

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8. LEY'S MISTRESS

Madeleine WANDERER met LEY in March 1943 and from then on lived with him in BERLIN. She also accompanied him on his trips. According to source LEY often felt very unhappy that he was unable to contribute more actively and directly to the war effort, until one day he submitted to HITLER a plan calling for the creation of a "Free Corps". Source states that at the beginning his idea was opposed by Dr GOEBBELS and BORMANN, but only for reasons of jealousy. His idea was finally accepted in Mar 45. From here on LEY was very busy and source saw him on very few occasions. As the Russians moved closer to BERLIN, he took her with him to MUNICH. On the night of 5 Apr they left by car for MUNICH. LEY went only as far as HOF, where he went to inspect a troop-training-ground of the Free Corps. The last time source saw him was the night of 8 Apr in MUNICH. For a month she waited for him but he never returned. On 26 Apr source was ordered by LEY to go to MITTENWALD, which was supposed to be his last stop. His closest co-worker, Otto MARRENBACH and Karl MALETZ took her there on 26 Apr. MITTENWALD was to become the HQ of the Free Corps. On the 27th in the evening his best driver arrived to give her a message, saying that he would soon return, but that he first had to go to DRESDEN. That night the Americans stood before MITTENWALD and she left with Otto MARRENBACH for LINZERHOF. In the morning of the 28th she arrived in IMST. From that time she was completely cut off from LEY.

Source has little information on the Free Corps. The main training stations were at DOEBERITZ, near BERLIN, at BAYREUTH, HOF, HOHENFELS, and MITTENWALD. Only the most reliable Nazis were admitted into the Free Corps. The Free Corps was organized in groups of eight men and one woman each. The duty of the woman was to cook for the troops and care for the wounded and if necessary also to fight. The equipment was to be light, a bicycle, pistol, machine guns and panzerfausts. Everybody was to have poison in his possession. The orders were to infiltrate into the enemy lines, to spy on and ambush enemy units. If capture was imminent the poison was to be taken.

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SEVENTH ARMY INTERROGATION CENTER

Paul Kubala
PAUL KUBALA,
Maj, MI,
Commanding.

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