REF ID: A65374

FIRST DETAILLED INTERROGATION OF
Richter Hans Michael

Rank: L/Cpl (O/Gsfr)
Unit: 12 Coy 40 GAP SIGS REGT
Id No: 24706 (In.Ers./Lg.Nachr.Regt.7
Function: W/O operator and cipher clerk
Deserted: 23 Oct 44, to join 1 Div ELAS near LARISSA
Secret Number: 14/1835
Interrogated: OSIC (Main), OF, 7 - 12 Nov 44

Subject of Report: W/T and Ciphers in 3 Bn 40 GAP Sigs Regt:
Identifications of sgs units in the BALKANS:
German Longrange Cnns in GRECCE:
Tsg of GAP W/T and Cipher Operators:
Personalities:
Specimen Call-sign and Cipher Key "ZETTER":
Orders for destruction of sgs material likely to fall
into enemy hands.

1. PREAMBLE

FW is the son of a Social Democrat from LEIPZIG, who was the Editor
of the Socialist paper LEIPZIGER VOLKSBEITRAG. He claims to be related to a
Prof. James Henderson, of ABERDEEN, and to have always been anti-Nazi, like his
father. After leaving school, and before being conscripted, he worked in LEIPZIG
as junior producer at a theatre. He saw his chance of deserting from the GAF when
the British landed in GRECCE and went over to ELAS in the neighbourhood of LARISSA,
bringing along with him a training copy of the "FRAßESCHLUESSEL 44". He claims
also to have been in touch with British officer(s) working in GRECCE before the
landing. He wishes to work for the Allies.

FW has an excellent memory and talks willingly. However, he is apt
to overestimate the importance of his information and to give information based not
so much on his own experiences as on his impressions.

Reliability: Fair

2. HISTORY AND MOVEMENTS

26 Apr 43 Called up to 6 GAP Sigs Dupot Coy, 7 Luftgau Sigs Regt,
at AUGSBURG-PFISSELE.
9 May 43 Posted for training to 2 Coy, 305 GAP Sigs Tag Regt at
BEVIGNY sur ORNAI, BRAUC.
24 Aug 43 Posted to SOUTH-EAST (? ) Command. Spent a fortnight at a
transit camp in VIENNA Arsenal, waiting to proceed to GRECCE.
22 Oct 43 Posted to 12 Coy (Aircraft Plotting and Reporting -
HUG HELIUSSESS), 40 GAP Sigs Regt, at HELSIS.
20 Mar 44 Transferred to 15 Coy (Aircraft Plotting and Reporting)
of same Regt at SALONIK. FW's bil was later attached
to 12 Coy, then at LARISSA.
23 Oct 44 Deserted to 1 Div ELAS near LARISSA.

3. UNIT (3 Bn 40 GAP Sigs Regt)

(A) Organisation and Function

FW knew the Regt consisted of three bns, numbered 1 - 3, but knew no
details of 1 and 2 Bns.
3 Bn consisted of six coy, numbered 10-15. Functions were as follows:
(10 Coy : Evaluation (AUSBESUNGT)
(11 Coy : 
(12 Coy : Aircraft Plotting and Reporting: (HUG HELIUSSESS)
(13 Coy : 
(14 Coy : 
(15 Coy : Aircraft Plotting and Reporting, and in addition: Evaluation, though its designation-HUG HELIUSSESS-
gave no indication of this.

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 04-28-2014, pursuant to E.O. 13526
The number of dets in coys varied. Some had as many as nine. 13 and 14 Coys included Plotting, Telephone and WT dets (MESS, PERSPEECH and Funk TRUPPS). 15 Coy came under the orders of FLUKO SALONITKA.

Note: No further information is given in this report on working methods in evaluation, plotting and reporting, which have been dealt with by CSDIC Air GNF.

(b) WT Equipment

Coys in 3 Bn were equipped with PAGE 3 and PAGE 10, and also with sets of French manufacture called SARAH-Bronzeavia. These were of two types, one referred to as the 3/10 - 100 Watt (French 160 W), and the other called the 0/12 - 20 Watt. A 60m aerial was used.

(c) WT Communications

a) Call-signs

These were issued to the unit monthly. The orderly room gave out the call-sign for the day to the WT operators. Sometimes the previous month's list of call-signs was used in reverse order.

If communications were found to be difficult between WT units (TRUPP STATION) the /s would be signalled in between the designation of the det being called. The designation of a det was arrived at by adding the number of the det to the number of the coy to which it belonged; thus 12 Coy with three dets would have the designations 121, 122 and 123.

b) Frequencies

Coys in 3 Bn used two frequencies, the Aircraft Reporting Frequency (FLUGENDEWELLE) and the Command Frequency (RESELSWELLE). The latter was used chiefly for sigs admin traffic.

Aircraft Reporting Frequency: 3 Bn was on FLUGENDEWELLE SUED GRIECHENLAND, which included the area from the Islands to SALONITKA. During Oct 44 this was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command Summer (war) Time</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0800-1630</td>
<td>3792 kcs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1630-0800</td>
<td>3118 kcs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: Aircraft Plotting and Reporting units North of SALONITKA were on the FLUGENDEWELLE SUED-OST or BALKAN.

Command Frequency: 3 Bn was on the BALKANS Command Frequency (BALENSWESLWELLE). The following signals were used to order units concerned to use this frequency:

- Bn to coys 1XI "change to frequency" MELCHIOR (codename)
- 11 Coy to dets EER = = = MELCHIOR 1
- 12 Coy to dets DXX = = = MELCHIOR 2
- 13 Coy to dets YQQ = = = MELCHIOR 3
- 14 Coy to dets ? = = = MELCHIOR 4
- 15 Coy to dets K Zero K = = = MELCHIOR 5

(till summer 44 JUN)

(c) Codenames

The following codenames were in use within 3 Bn at various times - dates are given below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formation or Unit</th>
<th>Codename</th>
<th>Till when used</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AOC GAF SOUTH-EAST (iders der Ld Sued-Ost)</td>
<td>ZENRAUR</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plotting Room HQ 3 Bn 40 GAF Sigs Btg</td>
<td>KEULE, SENATÖR</td>
<td>? ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formerly Plotting Room of above, later 10 Coy 40 GAF Sigs Btg</td>
<td>BIRKENKRIED</td>
<td>About Jun 44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plotting Room HQ 15 Coy (Zentrale 15 Kp)</td>
<td>KRÜLE</td>
<td>Till withdrawal in GREECE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>FALEH</td>
<td>After Aug 44 till withdrawal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4) Ciphers

1) "RAFTERSCHLUSSEL 44"

Orders announcing the introduction of this cipher and copies for tag purposes, were received by 3 Bn in mid Jun 44. Operators were given instructions in its use, but the orders stated that owing to difficulties in distributing the forms, etc., the LEBENSDOPPELRAFTERSCHLUSSEL was to be used after 1 Jul 44 (see iii below), until further notice. In Oct 44, Fw's Det received the forms at last, but by mistake, as another Coy HQ had thought that his Det belonged to it. Instead of to another Coy! This cipher was NOT used for comms, when the British landed in GREECE, by any unit in 3 Bn, but Fw thought it might have been used by other units, possibly in CRETE.

11) DOPPEL-RAFTERSCHLUSSEL

This type of cipher was used by Fw's unit till the end of Jun 44. It was known as NACHRICHTEN-SCHLUSSEL when used by cloys, and as TRUPPEN-SCHLUSSEL when used by coy sub-units. The difference lay in the use to which the same cipher was put. In the former case it was used to decipher each bigram on the same key, whereas in the latter case it was used for enciphering only. Thus the clear bigram AV would read:

in NACHRICHTEN-SCHLUSSEL: clear AV = XT; cipher = HM; decipher = XG
in TRUPPEN-SCHLUSSEL: clear AV = XT - signalled
Keys were changed every three hours. Period was 21 (twentyone).

111) LUFTWAFFENSCHILD DOPPEL-RAFTERSCHLUSSEL

This was introduced w.e.f. 1 Jul 44 by order of the SO-in-C (HONAMBE). Daily tables of six boxes marked A, B, C, D, E and F, were issued for Jul 44 with three-hourly keys. 3 Bn then received orders to use the same table for Aug 44, in reverse order, i.e. tables for 31 Jul to be used on 1 Aug, and so on.

The same tables were also used during Sep and Oct 44, with the following alterations:

In Sep the same daily tables were used for each corresponding day of Aug, and the keys were reversed, i.e. if on 1 Aug from 0300 to 0600 hrs the key read FC (Boxes F and C), on 1 Sep from 0300 to 0600 hrs the key read OF (Boxes O and F).
In Oct the following tables were used. On 1 Oct tables for 31 Jul were used, and on 2 Oct tables for 1 Jul and so on. 3 Oct using tables for 2 Jul, with the additional alteration of converting keys (box-indicators) A, C and E to read B, D and F respectively. For instance, if the key for 7 Jul - which was used on 8 Oct for reading 0600 to 0900 hrs FC, it was changed to LD, F being equal to E and C to D, boxes ED being used for that three-hourly period.

iv) Enigma Machine Cipher

3 Bn HQ used enigma machine cipher for its comms with the Plotting Rooms (sometimes at Coy HQ, sometimes at An or Regt HQ) and higher formations.

4) SIGNS IDENTIFICATIVE

Unit | Location
---|---
CAF Sig Bn Regt SOUTH-EAST (In Pct Sud-Ost) | ATHENS (?)
3 Bn "C" of above unit (Intercept) | Probably nr SALONIKA (moved to PANGIYO at end 43)
I Coy (Rtn-mt Coy) of above unit | PARNASSUS
Intercept Unit known by codename "SUBFUNK" |
Fitters and Maintenance Unit
(S and 1 Stelle), looked after GAP sigs eqpt and Radar eqpt

Fitters and Maintenance Units
as above

1/GAP Sigs Special Service Coy
13 GAP Sigs Special Service Coy
(both either w/c 40 GAP Sigs Regt
or GAP Sigs Regt SOUTH-EAST)

5. WP NOS

3 Bn 40 GAP Sigs Regt L 05440
12 Coy 40 GAP Sigs Regt L 55516
15 Coy 40 GAP Sigs Regt L 07149

6. GERMAN LONG RANGE COMMS IN GREECE

In Sep 43 the Germans set up a teleprinter 10 km outside SALONIKA
(between MIKRA and SERES) which was supposed to make tests for comms with the OKW
in EAST FRUSIJA. Codename was SAGEFISCH.

3 Bn "G" of GAP Sigs Regt SOUTH-EAST as at beg Oct 44, had an 800 Watt
transmitting station known by the codename KREKENAU. Probably near SALONIKA.

7. TRAINING OF GAP WT AND CIPHER OPERATORS

FW was trained between May and Aug 43 in 2 Coy 305 GAP Sigs Tng Regt,
at Revigny sur ORLÉANS, FRANCE. The course was supposed to last only two months, but
dragged on for nearly four months. Training, in addition to basic inf tng, included
WT work and machine cipher. Flying personnel as well as ground personnel were
trained during the course on machine ciphers though it was known as "Recruits' Course
for WT Station Operators (Ground) = LEHRANG FUER RECRUTEN-STEMMER (BÖDEN).

The programme was as follows:

First to third weeks:
Introduction to WT tng and scope of work. Recruits were told that
they would be expected to operate the most secret cipher machine, the Enigma.
Training with the busser till a speed of 20 to the minute was
reached.

Fourth and subsequent weeks:
Parallel tng in WT work and machine cipher.
Training on Pack set "B", Mark II.
Q Codes.
Tuning and Netting.
Training on 5-Watt sender after fifth week.

A speed of 50 to the minute was considered sufficient in the case of
ground staff, of 30 to the minute in the case of flying or potential flying personnel.
Work on the Enigma was taught to teams of three, but it was said that
two could work the machine if absolutely necessary.

8. PERSONALITIES

(a) 3 Bn 40 GAP Sigs Regt

Major SCHMIDT 00 Bn
Hpt WEIHERDELLER in Bn HQ
Hpt LANG 00 10 Coy
Lt WÜNSCHMANN 00 12 Coy
O/lt MOHRS 00 15 Coy
Hpt UBTZSCH 00 75 Coy
Hpt OEPFHEisters Formerly in Bn. Transferred to 2 Bn HQ

in Nov 43.
O/Lt JOST
O/Lt FRISCH
O/Lt NICKEL
Lt PEIGE
Lt GÖTZEN
Lt MICHLIK
Lt JENTSCH
Lt MÜLLER
Lt LÜNWITZ

O/Fw HOFMANN
Fw BACKHORNER
Fw COPITZ
Fw WEGI
Fw PEHER
HptFw SCHÜBERT
O/Fw SCHMID
Fw LICHTEN
Fw DÖRNER

Fw FELLNER
Gefr ZIEBER

O/Gefr HORNBOGNER
O/Gefr HIRLO
O/Gefr WEBER
O/Gefr KEITZ
O/Gefr POHL
O/Gefr ANDRESEN
? PROKOP
? SCHRÖDERMANN
? ZICAN
? ARNOLD
? DIXTER
? STRACK

Fw ZIERNE
Fw JURISCHK
Fw REINEK
Fw LÜNWITZ
Fw LOOS
Fw JÜRGENS
Fw GEISKE
Fw ROOPF
Fw KOHUT
Fw KEICHEMAI
Fw HOFMANN
Fw LEICHERS
Fw GIEGER

Uffs JAKOB
Uffs WAGNER
Uffs BOHEM
Uffs WIESE
Uffs HAREK
Uffs HÜM
Uffs VALDIER
Uffs WEISHEIT
Uffs SCHIEFMAIN
Uffs OSTERHOLZ
Uffs ECKELING
Uffs CLEISSCH
Uffs WITTENBERG
Uffs WERNER

in En

i/o WT stn in 12 Coy
Fitter or mechanic in 12 Coy
i/o Sigs maintenance in 12 Coy
In 12 Coy
In 12 Coy (?)
In 15 Coy
In 15 Coy
i/o WT stn at En Sigs School nr ATHENS
Formerly in 13 Coy. About mid Sep 44
said to have gone over to partisans on
PAROS or NAOS.
i/o WT stn of Plotting Room HQ En
Worked in Telephone Exchange of above
Plotting Room. Very anti-Nazi. Post and
former communist.
WT operator in 3 En

A/o reporter in En

In En

...
(b) 2 Coy 305 GAF Sign Tog Bfgt (Aug 43)

- Lt. HEISSWANGER
- FlACENS
- O/Fw SCHREILER
- O/Fw KALETÁ
- O/Fw RICHTER
- Fw SCHURINGAB
- Uffz GREITZIG

OC Coy
2nd 1/o Coy
Instructor in Coy
On course (flying personnel)

H. Throgold Major
H.T. SHERGOLD Major, I.O.,
Army Section,
CSDIC(Main), CMF.

C.S.D.I.C.(Main),
C.M.F.
21 Nov 44
### SPECIFICATION OF CALL-SIGN AND CIPHER KEY "ZEITTEL"

**ISSUED TO WT AND CIPHER OPERATORS**

(drawn by FW from memory)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call-sigs and Cipher keys for the</th>
<th>Datum (Date)</th>
<th>Uhrzeit (Time)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>.........</td>
<td>.........</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Name der Funkbezeichnung)

Type of Wireless link

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sammelzeichen</th>
<th>e.g. DEU</th>
<th>e.g. a s c (auf Ausweichwelle) (on alternative frequency)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All stations call-sign</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weitere Namen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other call-signs</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

(Weitere Funkbezeichungen)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other wireless links</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abstimmung am un Uhr</th>
<th>QUITTINGSEIT</th>
<th>Netting/Tuning on at hrs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Maschinenenschlüssel</th>
<th>Machine Key</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Steckverbindungen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plug connections</th>
<th>a e x j (10 Paare)</th>
<th>10 pairs</th>
<th>Ringstellung</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(&quot;ring&quot; setting)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Uhrzeit (Time)</td>
<td></td>
<td>16 02 0A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition group</td>
<td>0300 - 1100</td>
<td></td>
<td>III V</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1100 - 1900</td>
<td></td>
<td>V I III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1900 - 0300</td>
<td></td>
<td>I III V</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:

1. Other keys followed if applicable e.g. Doppelkastenschlüssel etc.

2. FW states that a similar ZEITTEL was issued daily by the Coy offices in 3 BN 40 GAP Sig's Regt, where schedules of call-signs and keys were kept for one month.

3. Frequencies were NOT on the ZEITTEL, but were given to sets and marked in the Sig's Office Log Book (EBRINGEBUCH).
ORDERS FOR DESTRUCTION OF SIGS EQUIPMENT LIABLE TO FALL INTO ENEMY HANDS
(reconstructed by FW from memory)

**WT Transmitter and Receiver**

- Remove valves and bury them.
- Use pick or hammer to smash condensers and coils.
- Pour petrol over apparatus.
- To complete destruction of the whole WT set place a 3kg charge and assault demolition charge near set and set off.
- Bury remains.

**Rectifier and all apparatus equipped with valves, condensers, etc.**

Same as above, but if no time is available, destroy after a/m apparatus.

**Field telephones PP33, cable drums, collapsible radio masts, testing instruments**

To be broken up and parts mixed up and scattered, cables cut up, scales and indicators to be rendered unidentifiable, then as above.

**Generators**

To be destroyed by explosive charge or set on fire. High voltage machine to be broken in pieces. Sparking plugs and brushes to be removed and destroyed separately. Fuel to be emptied and disposed of - if no time is available it should be set on fire with tracer.

**Secret Documents**

- A petrol lighter should be kept in the safe with the docs. In some units instructions order blasting cartridges and time fuses (15m = 15 secs) to be kept there also.
- After STALINGRAD WT tables were unravelled so that they could be destroyed with a hammer.

**Enigma Cipher machine**

- Remove drums, cut the wires of the plug connections.
- Try to smash up drums and bury remains, otherwise take back.
- Pour petrol over machine and destroy by use of explosive charge.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Distribution</th>
<th>Copy Nos</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AC of S, G-2, AFHQ</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G-2 (Sigs &quot;I&quot;), AFHQ</td>
<td>2 - 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G-2 (PW) AFHQ</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSI (s), AAI</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSI 8, MEF</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MI 8, UK</td>
<td>8 - 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>File</td>
<td>11 - 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>