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PL 86-36/50 USC 3605

~~TOP SECRET~~GSDIC/CAF/Y 42Copy No:

C3378

FIRST DETAILED INTERROGATION OF THREE GERMAN PW

Name	: WUNSCH Hans	[REDACTED]
Rank	: OSM	Cpl
Unit	: 963 Short Range Intercept Coy (HEIDE MARIE)	Cpl
Function	: Pl Sjt Major	Intercept WT Op
F.P. No.	: 47651	Translator
Captured	: nr LODI 26 Apr 45	47651
Secret No	: M 45/860	nr LODI 26 Apr 45
Interrogated	: GSDIC, C.M.F. 12 - 16 Dec 45	M 45/861
		M 45/857

This report deals with information on 963 Short Range Intercept Coy (HEIDE MARIE). It is thought to be the most complete record of the unit's history as both PW WUNSCH and [REDACTED] served in it since the day of its formation. Where information clashes with details obtained from other PW (on whom no report is issued) this is also reproduced. PW could provide no fresh information on cryptography.

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G.S.D.I.C.,  
C.M.F.  
24 Dec 45

*F. G. Adams, Capt 10*  
*Con* (W.S. VALENTINE),  
LT-Col.,  
Officer Commanding GSDIC, C.M.F.

JAN 17 1946

~~TOP SECRET~~CSDIC/CAT/Y 421. PREAMBLE

WUNSCH is a regular of 32 who originally intended joining the SS. From a technical point of view, his information is poor, but he provided useful details on history, WE and personalities.

Reliability : Fairly Good.

[ ] is a 26 year old small town lawyer's clerk who served all his time in the German Army as an operator (WT and Intercept, RT). He is not very brilliant but gave information without much fuss.

Reliability : Fairly Good.

[ ] fits perfectly the stage type of German who has learnt English in Germany. He is a 28 year old Commercial employee from COLOGNE, very keen on languages and anxious to show his knowledge. He gave information willingly, and helped to complete the missing links in the chain of facts provided by the other two PW.

Reliability : Fairly Good.  
(Interrogated by A.G.B.)

2. HISTORY AND MOVEMENTS

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WUNSCH

1 Nov 35 Joined 4 Bn 1, Inf Regt at SCHWABISCH-GMUENDT, and after two months trg, posted to Sigs Pl.  
 end Oct 36 Released from German Army, and back to civilian life.  
 26 Aug 39 Called up to Sigs Pl of 178 Recce Bn near PFORZHEIM.  
 end Dec 39 Posted to Depot Bn of Recce Tps at ILDOVY nr PISEN.  
 Jun/Jul 40 Posted to Sigs Squadron of Reserve Bn of 18 Cavalry Regt, at B.D GUNSTADT near STUTTGART.  
 1 Apr 42 Posted to WT Coy of HQ 305 Inf Div, whence after a few days posted to newly formed 603 Short Range Intercept Coy (NNLK 603) later renamed 963 Short Range Intercept Coy (NNLK 963).  
 26 Apr 45 Captured with sub-unit ("HARLE" Pl) near LODI.

[ ]  
 1 Dec 39 Called up to 13 Sigs Res Bn, at HANNOVER for trg as WT op.  
 7 Jan 40 Posted to 2 Coy, 171 Sigs Bn of 71 Inf Div.  
 beg Apr 42 Posted to newly formed 603, later 963, Short Range Intercept Coy  
 Oct 44 Posted in Coy to "INGE" Pl where he stayed till  
 10 May 45 when he was captured at BRESSANONE.

[ ]  
 1 Oct 38 Called up to 6 Tp 2 Bn 26 Arty Regt, at MACHEN.  
 10 Jul 42 Posted to 3 Coy (English) Sigs Interpreter Res & Trg Bn (NDELL) at HUISSEN.  
 20 Nov 42 Posted to newly formed 635 Short Range Intercept Coy (NNLK 635) at OSLO, later to be known as 3 Coy 635 Army Sigs Regt (3 Kp ALBRE NACHRICHTEN REGT 635), later - Nov/Dec 43 - renamed 962 Short Range Intercept Coy (NNLK 962) in NORWAY. This unit existing on paper more than in reality, PW served actually with FNAST 9 from 20 Nov 42 to 31 May 43, working as translator in the Text Evaluation Sub-sec (L.W).  
 From Jun to Dec 43 PW was ill and convalescing.  
 28 Jan 44 962 Coy being now disbanded, PW returned to HUISSEN, in 3 Coy (3 Kp NDELL), and moved with unit to St. AVOLD.  
 3 May 44 Posted to 963 Short Range Intercept Coy, serving most of the time with the "HARLE" Pl allotted to the Ligurian Army doing work of translator on text evaluation (L.W).  
 26 Apr 45 Captured nr LODI.

~~TOP SECRET~~CSDIC/OMF/Y 423. 963 SHORT RANGE INTERCEPT COY (NACHRICHTEN NAHLUFKLEBERUNGS KOMPANIE = NNK 963)(a) History and Movements

The unit, known originally as 603 Short Range Intercept Coy, was formed in Spring 42 at PORT MAULY, near PARIS. It was U/G 5 Intercept HQ. It consisted of three short range intercept pls, and one line intercept pl. (This last was never in action, and was subsequently dissolved). In Sep 42 the Coy moved to two localities near CALAIS, CARPAGNE and GUINES. In Oct 42 part of the unit 1 (Pl) was sent to NOYAL PONTIVY in Brittany, and part (3 Pl) to a locality (NU) in the vicinity of DIEPPE. Coy HQ was stationed at that time at SOMMERVIEUX near BAYUEX.

When the Germans occupied the South of FRANCE, the Coy moved to NILES (Nov 42). At beg 43 the Coy was sent to BIGNOLI near NAPLES. One detachment (TRUPP) was sent from there to TUNIS, where it got captured. In Apr 43 the Coy moved once more to FRANCE, at MONTPELLIER, where it only stayed a short time, and at end Apr/beg May 43 it transferred to POGGIO d'ORO near GENOVA, in the ALBANI Hills. On 8 Sep 43 Coy changed location to the woods near FRASCATI. In ITALY it was under 7 Intercept HQ, and the number was changed from 603 to 963.

While in the neighbourhood of FRASCATI the Coy formed the Intercept Pl "MARIE" and attached it to the HERMANN GOERING Div in the SIERNO sector.

About end Sep/beg Oct 43 the Coy moved to the FERRICIA DI ROMA.

In Jan 44 the Intercept Pl "HEIDE" was formed and given the ADLATIC Sector to watch. The Intercept Pl "DORIS" was formed when the Allies landed in the ANZIO-NETTUNO area (end Jan 44). (Note: Other PW have stated that these Pls were the original three of the Coy, but that only cover-names and tasks were allotted afresh in winter 43/44.)

In May or Jun 44 a fourth Pl was formed, called "INGE". Personnel came from sundry Div Intercept Dets (DIVISIONS NACHRICHTEN AUFKLEBERUNGS TRUPPS) and some from KNA 7.

At beg Jun 44 the Coy HQ moved to BIBBIENA in the FLORENCE area. A month later the location was changed once more to SANDRIGO near VICENZA. In Aug 44 the Coy HQ was split up and personnel divided among the Pls. Only B echelon remained as such in existence. In Sep 44, this B echelon moved to SOLIERA near CARRPI and shortly after that there took place a further splitting up of the B echelon. The heavy parts of the B echelon were sent to MANTUA. Thus two echelons were formed, Echelon I (STAFFEL I) and Echelon II (STAFFEL II) which were eventually reunited at MANTUA in Oct 44. At end Oct/beg Nov 44 Echelon I moved to GRADIZZA near COPERO, Echelon II moving to BASTIA (PADUA). Both stayed there until the beginning of the general retreat on 26 Apr 45, when comms broke down completely. Since then no news was received from either Echelon. (Note: according to information obtained from other PW, the Evaluation Office of the Coy HQ was the only part of the unit which was broken up, the rest of the HQ remaining as before.)

As at Apr 45 the four platoons were allotted to Corps, as follows:

INGE	to	XIV Arm Corp
DORIS	to	I Para "
HEIDE	"	LXXVI Arm "
MARIE	"	Ligurian Army

(b) Organisation

The WE provided for the following organisation of the unit.

OC's Party (GRUPPE FUHRER)

3 Short-Range Intercept Pls (PUNK NACHKLEBERUNGS ZUG)

1 Line Intercept Pl (DACHKLEBERUNGS ZUG)

B-echelon (TROSS)

OC's Party included the Coy HQ Staff (Orderly Room etc), the Coy Evaluation Office (KOMPANIE AUSWERTUNG STAFFEL), DRG sec, a large LT Det with exchange, and a medium AT Det.

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A Short-Range Intercept Pl included in addition to Pl Comdr and spare Officer or NCO (z.b.V.) and DRs (3), the Pl Evaluation Det (die ZUGSAUSWERTUNG), 3 WT Intercept Dets (FUNK NACHHILFENUNGS TRUPPS) of 1 Det Comdr, 3 interpreters and 4 WT operators each (H-FUNKER), 1 DF party (PEILSTAFFEL) of 3 DF Dets (PEIL TRUPPS) of 1 NCO and 2 men each, and 1 WT (comms) Det.

The Line Intercept Pl included in addition to the Pl Comdr and spare Officer or NCO (z.b.V.), 1 Line Intercept Officer, 3 DRs and 6 Line Intercept Dets (DR.HILFENUNGS TRUPPS).

B-echelon (TROSS) included the usual personnel and services, tradosron etc.

In addition to the normal complements of English-speaking R/T operators in the Intercept Platoons, certain also had other language-speakers. The following details are known.

<u>DORIS</u>	5 Polish-speaking operators
	2 Italian-speaking operators
<u>HEIDE</u>	2 or 3 Hindustani speakers
<u>INGE</u>	Some Portuguese speakers (for Brazilian units)
<u>MARIE</u>	Some French speaking operators (when French units were in the line)

apparently these dispositions of specialist interpreters were liable to alteration as the allied firms which they monitored were regrouped.

#### (c) Working Methods

Until summer 43 allied traffic was taken only for try and practice purposes. After that W/T and R/T traffic originated by allied formations in TUNISIA, SICILY and ITALY was taken in conjunction with ERIKA and MONIK. stas, frequencies being allotted and divided among all these units. When the pls were allotted to various Corps in areas, Coy HQ had an intercept sta of its own, so that often certain links would be taken down trace, by a pl and the coy sets. In such times H-Platoon (H-ZUG) i.e. Intercept Pl of KN. 7, would reinforce Coy HQ sta. When pls left the coy, they were placed u/c of corps, or sometimes divs. Traffic taken was mostly allied arms matter, and some ALOs links. A few fixed allied Navies WT stas were watched too. PW could supply no further details.

Results were transmitted in code to the Intermediate Collation Staff, either immediately (in the case of bombing target requests etc.) or daily in consolidated form, together with messages whose contents could not be deciphered. Each platoon had considerable intelligence material at its disposition, codes, call sign lists, etc. and kept complete card indexes of officers' names, enemy units, frequencies, call signs, special peculiarities of nets monitored. In addition the Corps Tactical Intelligence Reports were available, giving PW statements, sitreps and casualty lists, it was frequently possible to confirm accuracy of those reports. In most cases messages intercepted could be evaluated within the platoon. The platoons also acted as evaluation centre for messages which could not be decoded at Div Intercept Secs.

Until beg Mar 45 each Intercept Platoon had a small subsec of one or two men who allotted frequencies to Div Intercept Dets (NLT). In Mar 45 however the number of allied active nets was so great that steering from above became unnecessary.

#### (d) Speed in evaluation work

PW stated that in certain cases (RT) messages could be picked up, examined and "processed" (BELEBATTET) by the evaluation sec or office, and telephoned as an "emergency call" (NOTGESPERRZICH) in about 60 seconds. However, often there were difficulties in LT transmission which delayed comms, and even made the passing on of information impossible.

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~~TOP SECRET~~CSDIC/CMF/Y 42(o) Results

Results were summarised by PW as follows information useful for Order of Battle officers at German HQs, warning of forthcoming bombing and arty attacks, and when possible - through text evaluation - warning of own units of forthcoming infantry and/or armoured attacks.

(f) Equipment

The following equipment was used:-

To each <u>Intercept Det</u> available	2 x "u" sets (receiver only) 1 x "v" " 1 x pack set "b" OR "b" or "c" set
To each <u>Intercept Pl</u> available	1 x Field TP apparatus 1 x Field LT "
To each <u>DF Det</u> available	1 x Short range DF set 1 x pack receiver set "b" (LATER 1 x DF/Receiver set "u")

Each DF Party was equipped with LT apparatus.

Each WT Det was equipped with 1 x 15 Watt transmitter, 1 x 80 or 100 Watt transmitter, 2 x pack receiver sets "b", 1 x cipher machine and LT apparatus.

(g) Training

NCOs and men in the unit received trg in the units and locations stated below.

Intercept Operators (H-FUNKER)	in Intercept Depot and Trg Bn (NACHRICHTEN AUFKLÄRUNGS ERSATZ UND AUSBILDUNGS ABTEILUNG) in FRANKFURT a/M, later at SCHWABENBURG. Some had been trained at the Army Sigs School in HILDES/S. Others were trained as "zweite Hoerer" (second operator) at VOEBURG (HOLLAND) and ST. MALO, also trg in Coy.
IR Operators (P-FUNKER)	first at FILBEL near FRANKFURT a/m (exact name of unit unknown), and also had trg at DF sta in APRILL, and practice work in the Coy.
WT Operators (Text-FUNKER)	as above, or in Sigs Trg Bns. Trg was also continued in the Coy and also in the WT sta of KN. 7.
Traffic Collators (VERKLEINERUNG AUSWERTER)	at ST. MALO, VOEBURG and at KN. 7.
Text Interpreters (INHALTS AUSWERTER)	at Sigs Interpreters Depot and Trg Bn (NACHRICHTEN DOLMETSCHER ERSATZ UND AUSBILDUNGS ABTEILUNG) at MEISEN, later at ST. AVOLD (ALSACE). Also further practical work at KN. 7 and Coy HQ.

There were NO cryptographers at Coy HQ or below.

4. PERSONALITIES

Capt GREINER OC Coy from formation to Aug 43, then posted away. About 48-50 years old, approx 1.86m tall, stout figure, gray hair.

Lt SCHUELE OC Coy from Aug 43 to 3 Oct 44, when he was killed at SULLY.

Lt WOLTERS OC Coy from Oct 44 to collapse. About 28-30 years old, approx 1.76m tall, very slim figure, light brown hair.

Lt SCHAEFFER OC 1 Pl from formation to Jul 43 when posted away. About 30-31 years old, approx 1.70m tall, squat figure, light brown hair.

LIEUT TEMES OC 3 Pl from formation to May/June 43, when posted away. About 30-31 years old, approx 1.68m tall, squat figure, light brown hair, wears spectacles.

Lt BRUSCH OC 4 Pl from Sep 42 to Jan 44, OC "HEIDE" Pl from Jan 44 to landings at NETTUNO, after which OC "DORIS" Pl till Aug 44 when posted away. About 28-30 years old, approx 1.76m tall, slim figure, light brown hair, wears spectacles.

2/Lt SCHOELLING Coy Officer from May 43 to Jan 44; for eight days OC "DORIS" Pl in Jan 44, then posted. About 32-34 years old, approx 1.75m tall, powerfully built, fair hair.

2/Lt SCHEFFLER Coy Officer from Oct 43 to Aug 44, then OC "DORIS" Pl until collapse. About 25-27 years old, approx 1.68m tall, powerfully built, light brown hair, squints with one eye.

2/Lt BIERNATH Interpreter, i/c Coy Evaluation since Oct 43. From Feb 45 to collapse OC "MARIE" Pl. About 29-30 years old, approx 1.82m tall, slim figure, fair hair, wears spectacles.

2/Lt FOERDERER i/c Evaluation of "HEIDE" Pl from Apr 44 to Jun 44, from Jun 44 to collapse OC "INGE" Pl. About 24 years old, approx 1.77m tall, stout figure, dark hair.

2/Lt BEHRENDT i/c Evaluation of "HEIDE" Pl from its formation (Jan 44) till Apr 44, after that OC "HEIDE" Pl till Oct 44, when posted away. About 30-32 years old, approx 1.69m tall, slim, light brown hair.

2/Lt HOFMANN i/c Evaluation of "HEIDE" Pl from Apr 44 to Oct 44, after that OC "HEIDE" Pl until collapse. About 30-32 years old, approx 1.82m tall, slim figure, light brown hair, wears spectacles.

Lt EBERT OC "MARIE" Pl from formation Sep 43 to Nov 43, later posted away. About 30-32 years old, approx 1.81m tall, slim figure, light brown hair.

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Ltout SCHMIDT OC "MARIE" FI from Nov 43 to Aug 44, after that posted away.  
about 30-32 years old, approx 1.75m tall, slim, fair hair.

Ltout DEUSING OC "MARIE" FI from 22 Aug 44 to 27 Sep 44 when he was killed.

2/Lt SCHUBERT i/c Evaluation of "MARIE" FI from Oct 43 to 27 Sep 44, then OC "MARIE" FI till Feb 45, after which i/c Echelon II, at B.S.T.L., till collapse. About 36 years old, approx 1.74m tall, squat figure, light brown hair, wears spectacles.

2/Lt FISCHER i/c Evaluation of "DORIS" FI from end Jan 44 to Oct 44, after which posted away.  
about 24-26 years old, approx 1.75m tall, slim, light brown hair.

NGO and OR Personnel of "DORIS" FI

S/Sgt EISENSCHMIDT	In Evaluation Office
Sgt KRIEBLUM	" " " , said to be a strong anti-Nazi.
Opl HEIER	In Evaluation Office
Opl KAHLER	" " "
Opl HANSCHEL	English-R/T Interceptor
Opl SIXT	" " "
Sondf. ROCH	" " "
Opl FRIEDRICH	" " "
Stgofr FRIES	" " " (anti-Nazi)
L/Cpl NOLT	" " "
L/Cpl STOLPE	English-speaking R/T interceptor, said to be anti-Nazi.
L/Opl JAHN Julius	English-speaking R/T interceptor
L/Cpl EGENOLF	" " " "
L/Cpl HOENICKE	" " " " (anti-Nazi)
L/Cpl RATH Julius	" " " " " "
L/Opl FLEISCHER	" " " " " "
L/Opl P.ESCHL.	" " " " "
L/Opl WUDOLF	Polish-speaking R/T interceptor, and an ardent and enthusiastic Nazi
L/Opl WCHTELK	Polish-speaking R/T interceptor
L/Cpl SKL.T.DNIK	" " " "



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~~TOP SECRET~~CSDIC/CIFF/Y 42NOO and OR Personnel of "M.RIE" Pl

Sgt DITTMANN	English interpreter in Evaluation Office, and ardent Nazi.
Cpl WIENER (?)	English-speaking R/T interceptor, and enthusiastic Nazi
L/Cpl LENZ	English-speaking R/T interceptor
L/Opl von den HOF	" " " " (anti-Nazi)
L/Opl HAVER	" " " "

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