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Memo: PIRA-1133

4 August 1947

TO : Washington
FROM : ☐ Italy
SUBJECT : GENERAL: Translation of Letter from the Chief
of SIPO to Reichsmarshal GOERING
SPECIFIC: ☒ Japanese Espionage in the Reich
SOURCE : ☐
EVALUATION : Documentary
DATE OF INFO: July 1941

1. We submit the following for whatever historical interest it may have.

July 1941

The Chief of the SIPO
to the Reichsmarshal GOERING

Subject: Japanese Espionage in the Reich.

Personal

Most Honored Reichsmarshal,

2. As early as 1939 the C.E. informed us that SUGIHARA, former Japanese Consul at Kowno, later Vice-Consul in Prague, and who since March of this year has been in charge of the Japanese Consulate at Koenigsberg, was to be considered a friend of England and Poland. Ever since Kowno, he had been known for his particular interest in German military subjects.
3. In his new position at the Consulate in Koenigsberg, SUGIHARA was so assiduous in his activities for the I.S. that his stay in Koenigsberg threatened to become too much of burden for friendly relations between Germany and Japan. The Governor General decided to have SUGIHARA recalled through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
4. One of SUGIHARA's collaborators in the Intelligence Service is Jan-Stanislaw PERZ, a Pole, born in Puszkow on 13 November 1909, whom SUGIHARA had known in Kowno and whom he had had naturalized Japanese. SUGIHARA also knew in Kowno Jerzy KUNCEWICZ, Pole, born in Swieczany on 4 March 1905, whom he also helped to obtain Japanese citizenship.
5. Consul SUGIHARA is not, however, the only Japanese diplomat who has former Poles in his service. KUNCEWICZ works at the Japanese Embassy in Berlin. Salomea LAPINSKA, a Polish woman who is a naturalized Japanese, born 17 November 1914 in Loby, is employed at the Manchukuan Embassy in Berlin. She is supposed to be employed as a cook, but is given away by the fact that she has three intelligence agents under her charge who work against Germany.
6. Working for Colonel ONODERA, Japanese Military Attache in Stockholm, as a "consultant" is an ex-Polish officer named RYBICKI. Using the alias Peter IWANOW, he pretends to be of White Russian origin, born in Moscow on 11 November 1898.
7. At the beginning of March 1941, the Italian C.E. informed us that KAWAHARA, presently in Berlin, was the former Secretary General of the Japanese Embassy in Rome, where he had had frequent meetings with Vladimir LEDUCHOWSKI, a Jesuit engineer. This Jesuit General carried on an illegal correspondence with the Polish resistance movement in Wilno by means of the Japanese diplomatic courier from

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the Rome Embassy to the Berlin Embassy. According to the Italian C.E., LEDOCHOWSKI had received and transmitted several times important military information on Germany.

8. The Pole, Georg JERZY KUNCEWICZ, old intelligence officer of the Polish General Staff in Warsaw, was arrested in Berlin on 6 July (1941) with the so-called "cook" of the Manchukuan Embassy in Berlin, Salomea LAPINSKA, during a rendez-vous with a liaison man of the Resistance Movement in Warsaw. His interrogation led to the arrest of others in Berlin and Warsaw. The following is information gathered from KUNCEWICZ:

- a) The Japanese Military Attache, Brigadier General BANZAI is the head of the Japanese I.S. in Germany. His office is in Berlin, Nollendorf Platz No. 2. He employs about 40 Japanese officers. This number is much larger than that officially known. Every two or three months regularly there pass through his hands the intelligence reports of Japanese officers from the various European capitals. The Japanese I.S. is divided into Eastern and Western sections. The Eastern net works against Russia; the Western against Germany, England and France.

Colonel ONODERA, Japanese Military Attache in Stockholm, is the Chief of the Eastern Service. His predecessor was Col. NISCHIMURA. The Stockholm station has various sub-stations:

Helsingfors - Colonel ONUCHI
Koenigsberg - Consul SUGIHARA

The Koenigsberg station works with the Wilno station which is directed by the ex-Polish student WOJCIECHOWSKI; with the Kowno station under the Lithuanian KOZIOLO; and with the Grodno station under the Pole RYS. Finally, a flying station exists on the railway between Baronowice and Bia Lystok, set up by the Polish Captain KASPRZIK, and directed by Captain Tadeusz OLSZENSKI who makes the trip as a railroad workers.

According to KUNCEWICZ, Consul SUGIHARA also has agents in Berlin.

In a secret room in the Manchukuan Embassy in Berlin, a Col. HOSIJO, the Attache YAMADA, and a certain AZUNI, attend to the I.S. against Germany. According to KUNCEWICZ, there is also an annex to the Japanese I.S. at the Manchukuan Consulate in Hamburg. An Attache from this Consulate often comes to Berlin to confer with the three above-named agents. There is reason to believe that the Japanese from Hamburg is identical with one NAKAGAWA, Attache at the Manchukuan Consulate General in Hamburg. It is interesting to note that three days after the arrest of the agent and the "cook" Salomea LAPINSKA, this NAKAGAWA managed, after numerous telephone calls to the Ministry, to arrange a meeting with the Commissioner in charge of the affair and invited him, the same evening, to a copious dinner at the Bar Trasquitta, near the Berlin Zoo.

- b) The Polish Resistance Movement and Japanese Complicity. With reference to the report on the General of the Jesuits, LEDOCHOWSKI, I wish to inform you of a letter from Wilno for LEDOCHOWSKI, dated 13 September 1940. It was intercepted, and dealt with the Germans persecution of Catholic priests in Russia.

This letter, passing through WOJCIECHOWSKI, had been carried by a Japanese courier of the Polish Resistance Movement. A note from KUNCEWICZ was attached, in which he advised the General of the Jesuits of the way to send the next courier messages:

"The outside envelope addressed to Dr. FUJIMUCHI, Secretary of the Japanese Embassy in Berlin. Two inside envelopes, one addressed to KUNCEWICZ and the other to Wilno. Send these letters by the Japanese courier."

- 2 -
~~SECRET~~
(CONTROL)

KUNCIEWICZ had written an interesting report to LEDOCHOWSKI wherein he announces the departure of a large part of the illegal courier-mail for Stockholm, from where it will certainly be transmitted to SIKORSKI's emigre Government in London.

The Pole IVANOW - alias RYBICKI - works for the Military Attache ONODERA, Chief of the Eastern section of the Japanese I.S., in Stockholm. IVANOW, as well as KUNCIEWICZ, is in contact with an old Polish State employee named Henryk NATUSZEWSKI. He lives, under the name of WALDEMAR, in room 2 or 3 at the Hotel Silvia in Stockholm, and acts as a liaison agent between the Polish Government in London and the Resistance Movement in Poland, by the following channel: The Japanese Military Attache (IVANOW in Stockholm) - the Japanese I.S. station in Wilno (WOJCIECHOWSKI) - Resistance Movement in Warsaw.

According to other information furnished by KUNCIEWICZ, ONODERA was to have brought him some courier-mail to Berlin, which IVANOW received from WALDEMAR, doubtlessly destined for the Resistance Movement in Warsaw. The pouch contained money. KUNCIEWICZ stated that in his stead, as the envoy of the Resistance Movement in Warsaw, KASAY, Commercial Attache at the Manchukuan Embassy in Warsaw, would deliver the pouch to the Embassy.

9. The statements of the prisoner KUNCIEWICZ on the Japanese I.S. in the Reich will be studied again. He states that he worked in the Eastern section of the Japanese I.S. since, as a former officer in the Polish I.S., he had all the qualifications necessary for work against Russia. Up until now he has made no statements on the activities of the Western net, which he says works against the Reich.
10. However, from the information contained in the paragraph on the Japanese Consul SUGIHARA in Koenigsberg, it would appear that even the Eastern net carries on a certain amount of activity against the Reich. The fact that KUNCIEWICZ managed to have information on the preparations for war against Russia also supports this hypothesis.
11. KUNCIEWICZ tells us that the Consul SUGIHARA made his reports in duplicate. The first copy went to Colonel ONODERA, Chief of the Eastern net in Stockholm. KUNCIEWICZ took the second copy from Koenigsberg to Berlin to Brigadier General BANZAI of the Japanese Military Office in Berlin.
12. At the time of the arrest of KUNCIEWICZ and LAPINSKA with the Warsaw Resistance Movement liaison agent, we were able to obtain the material destined for London. Almost all of the documents were in code. Decoding them will show if they contain espionage material. In that case, the transmittal stations between Warsaw and London, which are Japanese I.S. stations, could exploit this material.
13. Through the arrest of other Poles of the Resistance and by the continual interrogation of the prisoners, it is to be hoped that the probable diplomatic relations between Japan, the Resistance Movement, the Polish Government in London and the Vatican will be uncovered.

HEIL HITLER

Your very devoted,

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14. We hold the following traces:

- (FNU)
a) X BANZAI, General - Japanese Military Attache at Berlin until 1943. Returned to Japan.
- b) X JAKUBIANIEC, Alfons → Identical with Georg Jerzy X KUNCEWICZ mentioned in para 8, above. Polish intelligence officer in Kaunas in 1939. Worked with Jap IS. In Berlin main work was getting info on Russia. Arrested by Gestapo in 1941 for working against Germany. Supposedly died or killed in concentration camp (X-4889).
Capt. @ X KUNCEWICZ
- (FNU)
c) X KASAI - Probably identical with the KASAY, Commercial attache at the Manchukuan Embassy in Warsaw. JZX-1860 reports Subject as code clerk in Manchurian Embassy in Berlin.
- (FNU)
d) X KAWAHARA - See JZX-1860, 1924.
- (FNU)
e) X LEDOCHOVSKY - General of the Order of Jesuits in Rome. Interested in exchange of intelligence info especially on Russia with representatives of HOETTL's (See London XX-9971)
- (FNU)
f) X NAKAGAWA - See JZX-1860
- g) X NISHIMURA, Col. T. - See X-4889
- h) ONODERA, General - See JZX-1860, 6192, 6248; Rome Cables 112, 28 Jan 46, 153, 7 Feb 46; Paris cable 133, 26 Jan 46; London cable 109, 28 Jan 46.
- (FNU)
i) X ONOUCHI, Col - See X-4889.
- j) X RYBIKOWSKI, Maj Michal - Probably identical with RYBICKI named in para 6, above. Washington X-4889, of 20 Jun 46 reports subject as Polish IS officer who did intelligence work in Japanese office in Riga against Russia. Later worked from Sweden. Now in Italy. Washington Cable 1211, 20 Jun 46 requested interrogation.
@ X PETROW
- k) X EUGIHARA, Kyune or Kiune- See Washington X-2207.
- l) X WOJCIK-SANKOWSKA, Sabina- Probably identical with ex-Polish student WOJCIECHOWSKI named in para 8 (a), above. London Report XX-12425, 21 Aug 46 reports subject as a member of the Polish Security Service who visits Sweden and the U. S.

15. We have the following information on the alias of serial (j), named above:

"Von PETRO, Waldemar or PETROW or PETROFF @ PANWITZ, @ PETERS, @ PETERSON, @ ORLAU, @ ORLAWSKI, @ T-100. Statement of Schellenberg states Subject is a White Russian in Switzerland with a Chilean passport. Said to worked for Japanese IS. Had direct relations with HEYDRICH, and POMME. (See London Report XX-10109). For personal data see Bern BX-957, 27 August 1946.

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- 4 -

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(CONTROL)