

4/27/77

Dear Mr. K.,

Thanks for your 1/25 which came today.

I had mentioned this to a publisher.

Interest in it is not impossible.

However, there will, I think, need to be more than this.

As I told you, I cannot do this myself.

I do have a writer in mind.

Please send me whatever else you have when you can and I'll speak to him

Hastily,

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Dear Mr Weisberg

4-25-77

As preface for the story I must mention the following. In 1930-1937 I was employed as design engineer by Etablissement Edgar Brandt in Paris the World Famous armament manufacturer (Mainly trench mortars). It was nationalized in 1936 by the left wing French gov<sup>t</sup> like other armament and aviation industries. The gov<sup>t</sup> coffers being empty no indemnities were payed. Like in communist countries except the heads of-owners were left on their shoulders. I put an add in an industrial magazine and the only answer was from a man in Stuttgart posing as representative of German industries. I met him and he introduced me to DWM (Mauser) and Rheinmetall Borsig. I moved to Germany in early 1938. I spent several weeks in a DWM camouflaged Factory in Luebeck. They gave me a (fake) contract. Later I moved to Dusseldorf with Rheinmetall. When they decided that they got

all out of me they put me in a press construction factory in Weingarten (Wuerttemberg) to wait for result of my proposition. In early 1939 the man who introduced me to the above firms summoned me to Stuttgart and "suggested" that I find a job in Switzerland - I realised he was a gestapo man. Couple days later returning from Switzerland - without result - I was arrested in Stuttgart and brought in the gestapo Headquarters. There they "suggested" I admit I came to Germany for spying. I heard water rushing in the next room - "Tankstelle" where the gestapo obtains confession in dunking the heads in water with chemicals making you sick. Then I found out later when I came to this country. In the last moment they found on me the copy of a letter which I mailed to going the same day a few hours earlier protesting the gestapo machinations. For a short time I was saved. I returned to Weingarten. In early

June 39 I was arrested again by the gestapo and spent 3 months in a cell of a police station. The gestapo beat my german girlfriend in who's home I rented the room. They wanted to get from her "confession" I was a French spy. She resisted, one week before the W. War II started (Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> 1939) they (the gestapo) brought me over the frontiers to Yugo Slavia. A whole book could be written about my 1 1/2 years in Germany.

Another few difficult months in Yugo-Slavia with a "Nansen" passport without visa.

Finally bribing the frontier police I got a transit visa into Greece where I stayed couple months.

Fortunately while in France I put my meager savings in Sweden and Switzerland - that saved my life. After the War I found out that during occupation of France Mr. E. Brandt - a brilliant man, got back NM enterprises back from

gemen and worked for them.  
 He got away to Switzerland just  
 before occupation of Paris by  
 De Gaulle and died in Geneva in  
 1953 from cancer without returning  
 ever to France. In early 1930ies  
 I prepared a memorandum for  
 E. Brandt counseling him to open  
 a factory in Sweden or Switzerland  
 in describing how the next war  
 will be fought - as per General  
 Douet (Italy). No response. He  
 just opened an office in Geneva.  
 In Germany in 1930 which  
 bought a licence for trench mortars  
 from Brandt thro a fictitious  
 firm in Holland - even before France  
 adapted them. The Rheinmetall  
 build streamlined projectiles I  
 outlined to them in 1938 - I found  
 models of them in Aberdeen Arms  
 Museum some 10 years ago. Last  
 year the stream lined projectiles  
 were adapted in this country - 35  
 years after I offered the design  
 to Pentagon in 1940, with no result.

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While traveling on a boat as a mechanic I met a European national member of a family of a transportation company. He was heading to U.S. I give him assumed name as Spiros Economides. He surfaced in U.S. about in the fall of 1941. At that time I was working as designer in a Newark N.J. factory. Some times we were going out and meeting in N.Y. It was not clear to me about the means of his existence. In early 1941 he blubbered out to me he was a gestapo spy and offered me to enter in his organization. He expected a Nazi victory and hoped to become a "quisling" in his country. He went on a trip to L.A. and Chicago to meet other members. He bragged that he has protection from important people. In early 1941 he told me he is going illegally to Cuba to pick up a german girl spy and return to their country by a small plane via S. America. Several weeks

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later he called me up at my place of work and wanted meet me in N.Y. in company of the girl. I declined. When he left for Cuba I met with an officer of the War Dept in N.Y. whom I met before ~~with some~~ in connection with my armament design. I told him about the case. I still wanted to come even with the gestapo for the swindle they did to me in Germany. In the late 1941 S.E. called me again but I declined to meet him. Soon afterward I moved to Phila.

In 1943 an officer of the FBI stopped in my place ~~on~~ for at least two hour "chat". From his questions I understood that S.E. was apprehended but he refused to give any details except expressing displeasure of me reporting the affair to the War Dept and not to the FBI. Couple years later when I wrote to Edgar Hoover about the affair he

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~~he~~ write me I should even  
not to dare to think about.  
And after 35 years the skeletons  
are still in the closet. My  
FIA records after 2 months of  
work on them are still classified.  
Some time ago I wrote to the  
embassy and consulate of the country  
from S. E. was - he gave reference  
of the Dipl. corps - they pretended  
~~to~~ not to remember him. In  
the german embassy which I asked  
to tell theire side of the story,  
they never answered me.  
The FBI will be very reluctant  
to open the files and if so  
there would be a tremendous job  
to get prints of all documents.  
Would it not be possible to get  
a summary of the affaire from  
the FBI without divulging all  
the names and run serial  
outside <sup>in a magazine</sup> and use the theme for  
a few episodes on channel 29 (FBI)  
with Stefan Zimbalist?