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SUBJECT: Report on the continued investigation of the IBERO-AMERIKANISCHES  
INSTITUT, Berlin.

On 4 October, I returned to Berlin to continue with the investigation of the Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut which had been visited by Lt. M. Robert Rogers and myself three weeks before. Prior to my return to Berlin and also in connection with the Institut, I visited Nurnberg and the Foreign Office Detention Center at Lichtenau, Germany, in order to interrogate ex-Foreign Minister Joachim von Ribbentrop and former employees of the German Foreign Office. Contact was also established with the two State Department investigators, Messrs. Blancke and Reynolds, who among other assignments were also entrusted with a study of the Institut.

The interrogation of Ribbentrop and other former Foreign Office employees was undertaken not only to furnish further basic information on the aims and activities of General Faupel, its president and director, but also to check on the statements of the staff remaining at the Institut at that time. These statements, obtained during our first visit to the Institut, had categorically denied Faupel's adherence to the Nazi government or the Nazi party, any implied political, propaganda or intelligence activities of the Institut and had insisted on the purely scholarly character of the organization and its affiliated societies.

Organization and key personnel of the Institut and its affiliated societies:  
The Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut received its funds from the Ministry of Education and was directly responsible to it. The four other societies connected with the Institut, (i.e. under the direct control of Faupel, housed in the same building with the Institut and in most cases having the same personnel of the Institut) were the Deutsch-Ibero-Amerikanische Gesellschaft, Deutsch-Spanische Gesellschaft, Deutscher Wirtschaftsverband fur Sud- und Mittelamerika and Gesellschaft fur Landeskunde. They received their funds from the Ministries of Propaganda and Foreign Affairs through the Vereinigung zwischenstaatlicher Verbaude und Einrichtungen, headed by S.S. Obergruppenfuhrer Werner Lorenz. The president and director of all these societies and the Institut was General Faupel who was directly responsible to Lorenz.

The official aims of the Institut and its societies were to further the cultural relations between Germany and the Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries, through the granting of scholarships in Germany to ~~foreign students~~ nationals of these countries, the financing of visits and lecture tours in Germany of prominent writers, educators, doctors, politicians, military, etc. and the organization of receptions and social gatherings for visiting personalities. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ The Institut also published the "Ibero-Amerikanisches Archiv", "Ejercito y Marina", "Ensayos y Estudios" and a paper for the Spanish colony in Berlin named "Enlace". Furthermore, it was the duty of the Institut to assist in anyway possible any Spaniard or Latin American friendly to Germany who turned to the Institut either for advice or financial help. It must be emphasized, however, that these were the aims as stated by the staff in the course of our preliminary questioning, and as was shown later revealed only partially the functions of the organization.

The information that follows on the history and the activities of the key personnel in the Institut and its allied societies was obtained by continued in-

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gerrogation of all the present and former staff members of the Institut that could be located in the Berlin area. Some of this information coincides with the data obtained from persons questioned outside of the Institut, which appears further on in the report.

2. Wilhelm Faupel. - Born 10 October 1873. Committed suicide 1 May 1945 near Babelsberg in the outskirts of Berlin. Military advisor to the Argentine Government from 1921-26. Inspector General of the Peruvian Army from 1926-1930. Organized and directed the "Frewilliger Arbeitsdienst" in Germany from 1931-33. Appointed director of the Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut and its affiliated societies on ~~November~~ April of 1934. Appointed charge d'affaires to the Franco Government in Salamanca, Spain, in November 1936 and a few months later elevated to the post of ambassador to Franco. Recalled from his post as ambassador towards the end of 1937 by Hitler, allegedly because he meddled in the military operations of the Franco army, at the request of Franco. Returned to his former job in the Institut in April of 1938 against the desire of most of the staff members of the Institut. During his absence in Spain, his post in the Institut was given to a General Reinecke (deceased) who was much better liked by the staff than Faupel, but was pushed out upon Faupel's return to Berlin by virtue of the pressure the latter brought to bear in high Nazi circles. Statements by the Institut's staff about Faupel, the man, and his aims in directing the work of the Institut were very confusing. They presented the picture of a very ambitious man, guided by the ambitions and brains of a more ambitious wife, a patriot and a soldier above all and a passive anti-Nazi, admitting on the other hand his close friendship with Rudolf Hess, his contacts in high Nazi and Wehrmacht circles and his great admiration for Franco and the Falangist ideology. Faupel joined the NSDAP in 1936 prior to his departure for Spain. In close partnership with his wife he directed the work of the Institut and its societies, paying very little attention to the scientific research being conducted by his staff and concentrating instead on political and propaganda activities. By virtue of his previous work in Latin America and Spain he knew personally most of the prominent political figures in those countries and he kept in constant touch with them, especially General Moscardo, a high ranking member of the Spanish General Staff, and Ernesto Gimenez Caballero, well known writer and one of the original founders of the Spanish Falange Party. All his conferences with his foreign guests were conducted behind closed doors, with only his wife and his general secretary present. Records of these meetings were kept by his wife, who is alleged to have been the only person fully informed of all Faupel's activities. Faupel's secret records were never kept in the Institut building and his highly confidential correspondence was handled by his wife. The instructions of his office staff were never to open any of the incoming mail without his approval. The secret records, which were kept at Faupel's home in Babelsberg, were destroyed by his sister following instructions given her by Faupel before his death. In 1943, Faupel made a four week trip to Spain, accompanied by his wife, his general secretary von Merkatz and one of his many secretaries Elisabeth Schuler, who presumably is still in Spain. The purpose of this trip is reported to have been a purely personal one, which seems, however, rather unlikely since it included von Merkatz.

Edith Faupel. - Maiden name: Fleischauer. Joined the NSDAP in 1936, at the same time Faupel did. Accompanied Faupel on all his missions and is considered by all sources to have been the brains and driving power behind all his ambitions and activities. Reported to have been grooming Faupel, in the last years, for his nomination to the post of ambassador to Argentina. She was disliked by the staff of the Institut because of her meddling in politics and the influence she exercised over Faupel to further her purely selfish aims. The staff attributed Faupel's removal from his Spanish post to her ambitious machinations. Her job at the Institut: Faupel's right hand man and guiding spirit; charged with the handling of the problems of Latin American and Spanish students in Germany, the authorization of funds for their support and studies, the educational, moral and political guidance of

the latter and in ~~the~~ general the handling of all problems presented to her by Latin Americans and Spaniards visiting or residing in Germany. Her main aim was, and for this she was directly responsible to the Ministry of Propaganda, to see to it that visiting students received a thorough National Socialist indoctrination to be used by the German government upon their return to their countries, and that only such persons were given scholarships to study in Germany, who had already shown a certain predisposition towards National Socialistic lines of action. She was also the Institut's liaison with the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (RSHA) in Berlin.

Hans Joachim von Merkatz. - Lawyer. Old member of the NSDAP. Since 1938, general secretary of the Institut and its societies and the only person, except Faupel's wife, to have complete knowledge of Faupel's and the Institut's activities. Merkatz left Berlin and the Institut on April 25, 1945, supposedly to return to his aunt's estate in Hohenlandin, province of Mecklenburg, in view of the imminent fall of the capital to Russian troops (information obtained from Peter Bock). Subsequently and according to G-2 reports, he visited Prof. Grossman, director of the Ibero-Amerikanisches Institut in Hamburg, in that city in June 1945, where he was arrested by British Counter Intelligence and is still reported to be in their custody. Merkatz's main official functions were to arrange for the reception of important visitors to the Institut and ~~to~~ <sup>to</sup> plan the programs for their activities during their stay in Germany. In many cases he accompanied such personalities on conducted tours of the country, and in several instances he was sent to Spain and Portugal on missions for Faupel. In addition to these duties, he handled the Institut's liaison with the Foreign Office, Ministry of Propaganda, Auslands Organisation der NSDAP and the Vereinigung zwischenstaatlicher Verbände und Einrichtung, having excellent contacts in all of these agencies. During his absence on trips, he delegated these duties to Peter Bock. He had, without any doubt, Faupel's full confidence and was his all-around leg man. In 1943, part of the Institut's library was evacuated to his aunt's estate (Russian zone of occupation) and there is a possibility that ~~also~~ some of the Institut's records may also have been taken there. A serious effort should be made to interrogate Merkatz and to confront with the Institut staff and certain facts established from the records available at the Institut.

Peter Bock. - Secondary school teacher. Spent several years in Central American countries teaching at the local German schools. Was hired by the Institut when Faupel became its director in 1934. Denies ever having been a member of the NSDAP. His official position in the Institut was of a consultant on Central American questions, but as mentioned above, he sometimes took over some of Merkatz's duties. At the beginning of our investigation, Bock vehemently insisted on minimizing Faupel's importance in National Socialist politics and most categorically denied any implications that Faupel or the Institut may have been engaged in propaganda or intelligence activities. However, when later on he was confronted with certain facts gathered from the records of the Institut and from other interrogations, he had to admit his knowledge of Faupel's secret activities. Nonetheless, he still insists on his ignorance of the nature of such activities and denies ever having deviated from the scholarly nature of his work at the Institut. He is, above all, intent on disclaiming that he ever was connected with or supported the Nazi regime or its policies and automatically tends to apply this same principle, when questioned about people connected with the Institut, by denying that they could even remotely have been engaged in propaganda or intelligence work. When forced to admit to certain incriminating facts, he immediately attempts to find some sort of very innocent explanation, which in most cases has a very improbable sound. In cases, where he is completely cornered, he has no scruples about directly accusing another person, which in most cases turns out to be Merkatz. It is my opinion, that Bock has a considerable amount of information about the operations of the Institut, and that this information could be extracted if an adequate therapy of pressure were applied in the form of a continued plan of interrogation.

Prof. Traugott Bohme. - Present provisional director of the Institut. Was never

\* Bohme was appointed under the Russians?

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\* a member of the NSDAP. Until 1938, employed ~~at~~ the Foreign Office where he was head of the section that controlled German schools abroad (in the Kulturpolitisches Amt of the Foreign Office). Was ~~discharged from this job~~ because of his political views, and since then, made his living by lecturing at various schools, and by contributing articles on Latin American culture to several publications, including the Ibero-Amerikanisches Archiv. Was a paying member of the Deutsch-Ibero-Amerikanische Gesellschaft, only because it was necessary for his work (Bohme's statement). Has numerous references from American scholars from the time he taught at Ohio State and Columbia universities. When the Americans took over their zone of occupation in the Berlin district, he was given the jobs of provisional director of the Institut and the Prussian State Archives (Geheimes Preussisches Staatsarchiv) upon requesting it from the Berlin magistrate of the American zone. His knowledge of the Institut's inner workings is very limited, but he knew of its propaganda activities and believes in the possibility that it may have engaged in intelligence functions. He can bring forth further information on the Institut, as he has already done in several instances, by exerting pressure on the staff under him, whose fate is entirely in his hands.

Hildegard Seumer. - ~~Maiden name unknown.~~ Husband believed to be in American captivity. Was Faupel's private secretary from 1941 until his death. Was a member of the Bund Deutscher Madchen, but never joined the NSDAP. Has a very strong feeling of loyalty to Faupel who 'treated her like a father'. At the same time, she strongly disliked Faupel's wife whom she blamed for Faupel's getting involved in Nazi politics. Strongly nationalistic minded, called Faupel a 'good German soldier' who only did his duty to the Fatherland'. Although uncooperative and adamant in the beginning, after continued interrogations furnished the information about the secret files in Faupel's home, made available a list (see under records) of the files she was instructed to burn on Faupel's orders, confirmed his connections with high Nazi and Reichsbank officials and was very helpful in the rebuilding of the files of the Institut and its societies. Her most valuable item of information was on the contents of burned files dealing with the Foreign Office and the Spanish Embassy in Berlin. XXX Apparently it was one of Faupel's jobs to supply the Foreign Office with information on Latin American and Spanish personalities and (make recommendations) as to their attitude towards the Reich, the National Socialist Party and in general indicate their usefulness in furthering 'Germany's interests' abroad. After 1938, Faupel paid special attention to the activities of the Spanish Embassy in Berlin, supplying similar information on its staff to the Foreign Office. If carefully handled, Frau Seumer should be one of the best available sources for additional information.

Karl Heinrich Panhorst. - Was Merkatz's predecessor from the foundation of the Institut until ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Faupel's return to the Institut in 1938. He then left the Institut, according to Peter Bock because of serious disagreements with Faupel over policy matters, and volunteered for the Luftwaffe, where he was assigned to the Foreign Abwehr division. His duties in this capacity carried him to Holland and Spain from where he recruited and ran agents to Latin America. He was particularly active in the latter country, where he was quite successful in recruiting members of the Falange Party and smuggling them into Latin America as stowaways on Spanish boats. Although he is reported to have left the Institut as a result of difficulties he had with Faupel, the theory may be advanced that his activities in the Institut led to his appointment to the position he held in the Luftwaffe and that his work there may have been accomplished in collaboration with Faupel and aided by information obtained from the Institut. He is available for interrogation on these questions at a POW camp in Great Britain, according to latest POW interrogation reports.

Obergruppenfuhrer S.S. Werner Lorenz. - Although Lorenz was not directly employed in the Institut, his inclusion in this report is essential because of the overall control he exercised over the Institut and its societies as head of the Vereinigung zwischenstaatlicher Verbände. Joined the NSDAP in 1924. It is evident from some of his other titles that he was high in the Nazi hierarchy and that his position gave him control over German activities in foreign countries and all the work rela-

ted to them. Several sources have connected Lorenz with the following jobs: head of the Dienststelle Ribbentrop, successor to Gen. Haushofer in the Verein des Deutschen im Ausland and later its president, president of the Deutsches Auslandswerk, head of the Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle which he founded in 1938, plenipotentiary representative for foreign political ~~XXXXXX~~ questions on the staff of the Fuhrer's deputy and deputy to Himmler. His functions relating to the Institut or to any of the other organizations he headed are not very well known to the people who worked under him and he seems to have created the impression of being a ~~VERY~~ politically very unimportant personality. He has been consistently classified as an opportunist, and mainly interested in preserving his favored position from where he had access to Nazi party graft and the advancement of his personal prestige. The only ~~XXXXXX~~ person who attributed any importance to Lorenz's position and political influence was Walter Giese, a German Abwehr agent in Latin America and Spain; his statements on Lorenz appear further on in the report. Lorenz should most definitely be questioned on the Institut and also generally on the part he played in the coordination of German work for cultural and political penetration of foreign countries. Latest reports placed Lorenz as being held in a 3rd Army interrogation center in Germany.

INTERROGATIONS OF Joachim von Ribbentrop and Walter Giese, regarding the Institut.

I. Joachim von Ribbentrop. - Ribbentrop's interrogation was designed to extract any information he may have had on Faupel or Lorenz and the workings and functions of the Institut and its relation to the other German party of governmental organizations dealing with foreign countries. Special emphasis was placed on querying Ribbentrop on his knowledge of Faupel's and Lorenz's position and influence in Nazi party circles, since the Institut personnel had, on the one hand, professed absolute ignorance about the latter's background while, on the other hand, they had represented Faupel as a passive anti-Nazi. As had been expected, Ribbentrop did not furnish any data of special interest, claimed having difficulties in remembering details and many of his statements were in glaring contradiction to information he had given in previous questionings. Unfortunately, in addition the interrogation was carried out at a time when the war crimes court was under pressure to prepare evidence for the forthcoming trials, and the questions to be asked had to be submitted to ~~XXXXXX~~ Justice Jackson's approval. The actual interrogation was carried out by an official court interrogator, which again did not permit the subsequent cross examination of the prisoner. As follows, are the highlights of Ribbentrop's answers:

a) Ribbentrop knew Faupel only slightly. He never had any official dealings with Faupel, because when Faupel was ambassador in Madrid, Ribbentrop was at his post in the London embassy. Faupel's appointment to the Madrid post had come by order of Ribbentrop's predecessor in the Foreign Ministry von Neurath.

b) Faupel was a well-known personality among leading Nazis and must have been in good standing. Otherwise, he would not have been nominated for the post in Madrid and later for the presidency of the Institut.

c) Ribbentrop did not know of Faupel's connections with the Auslands Organisation der NSDAP, but assumes that he must have friends there. Furthermore, he thought that Faupel was probably a good friend of Bohle, head of the A.O.

d) S.S. Obergruppenfuhrer Werner Lorenz was very well known to him. His description of Lorenz was that of a "harmless" and "very nice fellow". Ribbentrop recalled that Lorenz had worked for him in ~~XXXXXX~~ the Bureau Ribbentrop, but he did not remember in what capacity. He indicated Lorenz's other functions as being that ~~XXXXXX~~ president of the Vereinigung zwischenstaatlicher Verbaende und Einrichtungen.

e) He did not believe that Lorenz was engaged in any intelligence or propaganda work. His functions were purely social, i.e. making appearances at receptions, gatherings, official functions, etc.

f) When asked about the possible relations of the Institut with the Foreign Office, Ribbentrop admitted that there must have been connections between the two since the Institut worked in the field of foreign affairs, but that he had no personal knowledge of such connections. He assumed, that liaison with the Institut was maintained through one of the divisions in the Foreign Office, and that they had never bothered to tell him about it.

g) Ribbentrop was questioned about the functions of such organizations as Haushofer's Deutsche Akademie, the Deutsches Auslands Institut and Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle and their possible interrelationship with the Institut and Lorenz's Vereinigung zwischenstaatlicher Verbände. He insisted on the purely cultural and scholarly activities of these organizations, but assumed that there was a certain amount of cooperation between them due to their common interest in foreign countries. However, he believed that none of them had engaged in propaganda, intelligence or espionage with the possible exception of the Auslands Organisation der NSDAP.

h) He described the Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle as being the successor organization to the Verein des Deutschtums im Ausland and named Lorenz as its head.

II. Walther Giese. - 52 years of age, . Joined the NSDAP in 1934. Was a German Abwehr agent in Ecuador, Argentina, Spain and Germany from 1934 until the collapse of Germany, when he surrendered to U.S. Army counter-intelligence agents because he was being searched for by Russian military authorities in Berlin. Giese seems to be very well acquainted with the workings of the German Abwehr, having operated in close contact with such well known Abwehr personalities as Admiral Canaris and Captains Niehbur and von Bohlen. He was very cooperative in supplying information on his activities and on Abwehr operations in general. He felt no shame or remorse about his activities as a Nazi agent, but looked upon his former work as a good way of having served his country. On the other hand, he recognized the futility of withholding information from American authorities. As a matter of fact he considered it to be for Germany's interest to supply information to the Americans and volunteered his services as an agent for them in Germany. The following are his statements on the Institut, Faupel and Lorenz:

a) The Institut was very well known to the public in South America, but only with regard to its activities on a cultural level.

b) He had definite information that the Institut recruited South Americans for work in Germany as speakers on German propaganda broadcasts beamed to South America. However, at the time he could only remember two specific cases, those of two Ecuadorians, a Dr. Reinaldo Espinosa and a student named Queva, who did go to Germany in the aforementioned capacity.

c) The Institut also selected students according to their political backgrounds, in conjunction with the local Auslands Organisations der NSDAP, to go to Germany on scholarships paid for by the Institut.

d) Giese met Faupel in 1944, when he was assigned to watch the Spanish Embassy in Berlin where one of its employees was suspected of being a Nazi agent. He did not know, however, of Faupel ever having been connected with German intelligence.

e) He considered Lorenz an important personality in the intelligence field. He knew from his work as a German agent that all projects bearing Lorenz's name were given the highest priority and that Lorenz's decisions were final in all matters. He was also convinced that Lorenz had been one of Himmler's closest collaborators.

f) When confronted with the fact that Lorenz was the head of the Vereinigung zwischenstaatlicher Verbände und Einrichtungen, which controlled the Institut, and asked about the possibility that Lorenz may have used the Institut for his intelligence activities, he said without any hesitation that such an arrangement was highly possible.

Because the writer was recalled from Germany, it was not possible to exploit Giese's knowledge to the fullest extent. Giese would without any doubt be able and willing to furnish ample additional information on the German intelligence organization, which would be helpful in the investigation of the Institut.

#### The files and records of the Institut.

The records of the Institut were found in ~~XXXX~~ a state of utter confusion. They had been moved into the cellars of the building in anticipation of the battle for Berlin. By the time of our arrival at the Institut, the remaining staff had managed to move about 75% of the records back to the main floor of the building. After my

return to Berlin from Nurnberg, I instructed the staff to move the remaining records out of the cellar and to put all the files in order. The records were in very good condition and showed an almost perfect continuity from the time of the Institut's foundation until the end of the war, the only gaps being the correspondence files burnt by Frau Seumer on Faupel's orders. With the limited amount of time at my disposal, it was only possible to spot check ~~the~~ some of the files that appeared to ~~have~~ contain information of prime interest. However, this only constituted about ten per cent of the total number of files. It would take from two to three months for one person to carefully examine and evaluate the contents of all the records at the Institut.

My investigation ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ revealed the following documents, which seem to disprove the contention that the Institut was purely a scholarly and cultural organization:

- 1). a directive from Faupel instructin his staff to supply him with all the available military or naval information that could be of use to the German High Command.
- 2). A letter of recognition, addressed to Faupel, from the Auslandsdienst for information furnished them by the Institut. (note: the Auslandsdienst was a confidential government publication containing information obtained from foreign press clippings, the monitoring of foreign braodcasts and from private sources. It is interesting to note, that Peter Bock claimed never to have heard of this publi-cation.
- 3). An application blank for employment in the Institut, containing a clause whereby the future employee is required to swear not to reveal any information about the work done at the Institut and to treat all such information as top secret (note: the personnel of the Institut allegedly never knew of such a clause, nor did they at any time make even a verbal secrecy pledge).
- 4). A letter indicating the existence of an Institut Vertrauensmann (confi-dence man or agent) in Paris during the German occupation of that city.
- 5). Covering letters to reports sent by the Foreign Office and the Auslands Organisation der NSDAP to the Institut disussing the political situation in Latin American countries and Spain. The actual reports could not be located in the files, and the staff believes that they were destroyed.
- 6). Ample evidence to show that the Institut gave financial aid and support to the members of the Spanish Blue Division in Berlin and in many cases paid for their education.
- 7). Documents showing the Institut's participation in the recruiting of Spa-nish and Latin American laborers and doctors for work in German labor batallions and hospitals.
- 8). Reports on the activities of Spanish Republican exiles in Latin American countries, especially Mexico.
- 9). Considerable amount of correspondence regarding the missions of South American army officers to be sent to Germany to familiarized themselves with German military methods and to study at German military academies.
- 10). Correspondence between the Institut and organizations like the Deutsches Auslands Institut, Deutsche Akademie and Auslands Organisation der NSDAP revealing liaison on problems dealing with the banning of foreign publications considered harm-ful to the German government, checking of the political leanings of Latin American public servants and Germans living in South American countries, etc. These organiza-tions also exchanged reports on foreign personalities visiting Germany with a view of exploiting them for propaganda activities upon theirreturn to their home countries.
- 11). A letter ~~XXXX~~ proving that Frau Edith Faupel supplied the Reichssicher-heitshauptamt (RSHA) with information on Latin Americans and Spaniards residing or visiting in Germany.
- 12). Evidence that Faupel and the Institut were constantly being consulted the various German government agencies, including the Foreign Office, Propaganda Ministry and Auslands Organisation der NSDAP, on practically all problems relating to Latin America and Spain and to nationals of these countries.
- 13). Documents showing that Faupel personally recommended personnel for em-loyment by Hisma, the Spanish branch of the German Rowag firm. It is known from other sources that both Hisma and Rowag operated for the Abwher.

Frau Seumer destroyed the following files on orders given by Faupel, shortly before the fall of Berlin (all the files listed covered only the period from the last part of 1944 until the capitulation): correspondence between the Institut and the Foreign Office, Ministry of Propaganda, Ministry of Education, Auslands Organisation der NSDAP, Vereinigung zwischenstaatlicher Verbände und Einrichtungen; financial reports to the Vereinigung zwischenstaatlicher Verbände und Einrichtungen, activities reports of the Institut, Faupel's correspondence with General Moscardo and Ernesto Gimenez Caballero in Spain (considered to be of special importance by Frau Seumer), Faupel's diary of his trip to Spain in 1943, information on Spaniards in Germany and Germans in Spain. ~~AND DOCUMENTS ON THE~~ and other miscellaneous documents.

~~IT IS POSSIBLE THAT SOME OF THE INSTITUT'S RECORDS WERE ATTACHED TO MARKET'S~~  
~~LETTER TO HICKLESON.~~

An agent assigned by the SI branch of OSS to work in the Institut reported that one of the professional consultants at the Institut, Gerd Kutscher, believed to be, had told to him about the existence of certain documents that linked Gen. Haushofer with the Institut on collaboration to foster fifth column activities in Spain and Latin America. ~~INITIALLY, THE WRITER WAS UNWILLING TO QUESTION KUTSCHER~~  
~~WHICH IS WHY HE REQUESTED BY SI THAT HE BE~~  
~~SUSPICION THAT HE WAS BEING~~ Since SI requested the writer not to question Kutscher on this point because this would only arouse his suspicion and make him unwilling to advance further information, no further details are known about these documents. Kutscher was described by Bohme as a devout Catholic and strong anti-Nazi and as having had numerous connections among American diplomatic circles in Berlin. *Unless SI has obtained more details on the Haushofer documents, Kutscher should be pressed for information with regard to them.*

CONCLUSIONS.

In spite of the fact that the Institut and its allied societies appear on the surface to have concentrated on promoting Germany's cultural relations with Latin America ~~in~~ Spain, there are several points brought out in this report which place it in the shady category of Nazi organizations that should be thoroughly investigated. Such action is necessary not only to establish the actual role played by the Institut in the German plan for cultural and political penetration of Spain and the Latin American countries, but also in order to contribute to the extrication of the complicated structure established by the Nazi party for a highly decentralized and specialized intelligence system on foreign countries. It is therefore recommended that all the records at the Institut be examined and that a plan be worked out to continue the interrogation *whenever the information obtained from such an examination should be used in additional questioning of Institut employees and persons connected with former German organizations that operated in the field of foreign affairs.*