

Henry L. BRETTON

Office of Security records contain a file on a Henry L. Bretton who was born on May 18, 1916 in Berlin, Germany. As of 1963, this person was Professor of Political Science at the University of Michigan. He also has been known as Henry Hans Heinz Bismark and Henry Burk. The information in the following paragraphs pertains to this Henry L. Bretton who is probably identical to the writer of the letter dated 3 January 1975 to the Director.

In July 1945 Bretton, who was an Army enlisted man attached to MIS (Fwd) FID, was under consideration for transfer to OSS. An investigation at that time raised questions as to Bretton's political sympathies. Consequently, Bretton was security disapproved in August 1945 for transfer to OSS.

Bretton was informed in 1945 that he would not be hired by OSS because "Washington Security would not approve his employment." Bretton reportedly was "distressed" by this decision. In December 1945, when Bretton returned to the U.S., he personally called at the Security Office and stated he was aware he had been disapproved and requested the reason thereof. He was told there were no openings.

In addition, according to a memorandum in Bretton's file dated 19 November 1945 from the Strategic Services Unit, Mission to Germany, European Theater, earlier that fall that Unit had tentatively recruited MIS T/4 Henry L. Bretton and that the Security Branch in Washington failed to pass him. According to this memorandum, when Bretton was told the Unit could not employ him, Bretton was very much upset. The memorandum indicated that Bretton had earned the high regard of the officers immediately concerned for some tentative work Bretton had done for the Unit.

In April 1949 Bretton was still evidencing concern for being dismissed from SSU. Bretton was given a statement that the Adjutant General had no information that the circumstances of his honorable discharge from the service might in any way be considered derogatory.

In July 1956, Bretton was of interest to the Domestic Collection Division as a potential source of foreign intelligence information. In connection with this interest, National Agency Name Check was conducted on Bretton at Army Intelligence. The

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records of Army Intelligence contained a memorandum dated 16 November 1955 which indicated that 1st Lt. Henry L. Bretton had made complaints to the CIC, to the IG and to AGO, through his Congressman, with regard to a personnel security investigation conducted on him. Bretton alleged that the Government investigators had given information to his political opponents concerning his (Bretton's) Party politics and information concerning his marital status. Subsequent inquiry by the Army failed to indicate misconduct on the part of its investigators.

(Another name check on Bretton in August 1963 of the files of the Counter Intelligence Records Facility, Army Intelligence Center, disclosed that Bretton was investigated in August and September 1955 by the CIC upon receipt of derogatory security information about Bretton's ex-wife who was alleged to dominate him. The results of this investigation reportedly were favorable to Bretton. The CIC records also stated that Bretton at the time was being investigated in connection with his application for a Reserve Commission.)

Based on past (1945) unresolved questions regarding Bretton's political orientation, Bretton was security disapproved in September 1961 as a Personnel Placement Division Lead Source.

The Domestic Collection Division had an interest in Bretton in May 1963 in connection with a trip Bretton was taking to Nigeria and other parts of Africa. An AD HOC Secret or Confidential clearance was denied Bretton.

In April 1964 the Africa Division advised that Bretton was going to Ghana as an instructor and [the Station] had inquired regarding Bretton's use. A representative of the Africa Division stated that the Domestic Collection Division had informed him that Bretton had expressed a dislike of the Central Intelligence Agency to them and because of recent events in Ghana (i.e., expulsion of U.S. instructors) the Africa Division was going to alert [the Station] to stay completely away from Bretton.