

First Interrogation  
FINE K, Josef  
Inf.

SECRET

28 April, 1944  
IS S/Sgt. Moritz

DECLASSIFIED

Authority NND 9070411

Unit: 2. Co 1. Bn 1028 Rgt. Fieldpostnumber: 57353  
Captured: 29. Feb., 1944 near Cisterna/Italy

Veracity: Believed to be very reliable. Man is only too anxious to surrender all he knows. He talks faster than one can write it down. He is an elderly Austrian and that accounts for it.

Civilian Background: Born 1 March 1909 in HOHENAU/Austria. Went to Volksschule for 8 years and Tradeschool 2 years. His home is still in HOHENAU. He is a tailor by profession, possessing his own business. He was deferred from the army for 4 straight years because he made overcoats for the army. Politically he is absolutely anti-Nazi and would probably do everything in his power to harm them. He has had several collisions with the Nazis and ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ was fined a few times for one thing or another. Only after constant threats did he join the "Deutsche Arbeitsfront". He admits he was on the Nazi black list which he, incidentally, admits gladly. He has a brother in the Luftwaffe of whom he hasn't heard a thing lately.

Military History: Was not drafted to the RAD because he did military work. Entered army on the 27th of August 1943 and was trained as a Richtschuetze in a tank at ST. POELTEN near Wien where he was with the Pz. Ers. u. Ausb. Abt. 33 and stayed till September 27. September-November, sent to Landau Ausb. Btl. 104 where he voluntarily joined the infantry because he felt that his previous job as a Richtschuetze was more for younger men rather than for a man of his age. November-January, BITSCH/Lorraine, where he was attached to Rgt. 1028, which was just being made up, then. This regiment was motorized. In January he went to Pirmasens and shortly afterwards to Italy. Went directly to the bridgehead.

Specific Information: Commanding Officer of the Regiment 1028 was one OBERST COCI (spelled phonetically). P/W explained that the new regiments being made up now are all given such high numbers. They consist partly of casualties from Russia and whatever manpower the last draft yielded. P/W mentioned the Regiment 1026, with which a friend of his was, as having been made up in BAYREUTH during December 1943. Believes that it also had been sent to Italy where it probably is now.

When asked about the city of MANNHEIM he said that the latter didn't exist any more. Again he confirmed that the factory of LANZ was entirely destroyed, formerly making tractors and generators and, he believes, spare parts for heavy army trucks. According to him, cloths are getting more scarce every day and people are seen walking around with either worn out ones or badly mended ones. But he emphasized that the people are still holding on to whatever they have left, hoping that they will be repaid and rewarded for what they have ~~XXXX~~ lost, once the war has been brought to a victorious conclusion.

Saw himself how Russian prisoners of war, who were "voluntarily" forced into uniform, are trained in BITSCH with Russian ~~XXXXXX~~ weapons, to use them for the defense in the West, should an allied landing take place.

IX

This IS would advise bringing the man to 1142, not so much because ~~he~~ ~~XXXXXX~~ of any concrete information he might have, but because he has been around with his ears wide open. He has been told so many things by so many people that in the end, whatever little clues he might be able to surrender, they might add up to something. He is a pleasant little fellow and very bitter against the Nazis. He can probably answer a hundred questions if asked, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ which he himself would probably never tell if not pressed for. As indicated before, he doesn't know anything definite, but may be worth while shipping to 1142.

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