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69. Chief, MOB [Critchfield] to Chief, FBM, "Bi-Weekly Letter (excerpts), 4 December 1948"

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AIR

4 December 1948

Chief, FBM

Chief of Station, Karlsruhe

Bi-weekly Letter

1. The EUSTY investigation begun 18 November has progressed satisfactorily. The form of the investigation during the first two weeks was somewhat determined by the fact that [] appeared at the 7821 Composite Group as the assistant to Colonel Charles V. Bromley, DA Intelligence Division Staff Officer sent on a special mission to Germany to investigate the operation. Colonel Bromley returned to Frankfurt 2 December enroute to Washington. From my point of view this arrangement proved highly advantageous. Colonel Bromley appeared to be a practical and thorough investigator and considering the limited amount of time he was able to spend here, departed surprisingly conversant with the scope and character of the operation. Because of the fact that Colonel Bromley has, by his own statement, no background in intelligence work and because his time was so limited, his report will be somewhat inconclusive on operational details.

2. Prior to our arrival at the 7821 Composite Group both the American and German Staffs had been advised by General Walsh that an investigation by representatives of the DA Intelligence Division, and CIA could be expected in the near future. Within an hour after our arrival at the 7821 Composite Group Headquarters one of the top German staff officers asked, "And how is Sam Bossard? Of course you know him--coming from the same outfit". It is obvious that at least the top Germans have participated, during the last two or three years, in numerous conversations with high level Army intelligence personalities on many of the problems of our national intelligence framework. In spite of these items I do not feel that there exists at this point any great security problem.

3. Colonel "EUSTY" (nickname for 25 years) PHILPS, former CO of ECIC at Oberursel has taken command of the 7821 Composite Group. Our first impressions are that the Army has put the right

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man in the right job. His cooperation thus far leaves nothing to be desired. In general, the same can be said of the German staff.

4. From the start we have adopted the hard and fast rule of keeping our functions at the Base and those at the 7821 Composite Group completely separate. Obviously there is a great temptation to utilize our accessibility to RUSTY files to answer the questions stemming from our always present operational conflicts with RUSTY. Such tactics on our part would certainly be recognized and nothing could damage our relationship with the German and the US Staffs more decisively.

5. In compliance with a request to [] from the administrative staff of the Base has been increased by the assignment of [] during the past two weeks. This request was based on three considerations:

a. the staff of MOB prior to the arrival of [] and the initiation of the RUSTY investigation was barely able to keep abreast of administrative matters;

b. the desirability of laying the administrative groundwork for any possible increase in the size or activity of the Base with respect to USSR operations or the ultimate disposition of RUSTY; and,

c. the hope that each of the two administrative officers will, after discharging his administrative functions, have some time available for duties which will give him training in operational duties and give me the opportunity to assess his potentialities as a future case officer.

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