

APPENDIX II

a) Suspected Enemy Agents operating or in Training.

34a

5. GERNETT.

Age: about 35. Height: 1.70m. Eyes: brown. Age: about 35. Build: normal. Face: long. Clean-shaven. In what capacities employed: Pigeon fancier. Lives 45 Huis Ter Hoornkade, Rijswijk (Province South Holland). Worked under Van VLIET, 1941-42. Not seen by DAMEN since September, 1942. Languages: Dutch and German.

6. Karel HASVEND.

Nationality: Dutch. Age: about 35. Build: normal. Height: 1.68m. Hair: fair. Eyes: blue, no glasses. Face: long. Complexion: white. Nose: normal. Teeth: in good condition. Clean-shaven. In what capacities employed: Married to a German woman. Previously owned Hotel Suisse, Rijswijkseplein, The Hague (sold in 1943). Went to Brussels, worked here under Van VLIET. Languages: Dutch, German, French.

WAGNER.

Nationality: Dutch. Age: about 45. Build: normal. Height: 1.55m. Hair: dark. Eyes: brown, no glasses. Face: long. Complexion: ordinary. Teeth: normal. Clean-shaven, but has a thick mustache. Appearance: looks like a ret. Languages: Dutch and a few German words. In what capacities employed: Member Dutch Nazi Party. Worked under Van VLIET. Aided arrest of Bram BAKKER, summer 1943. Seen at The Hague and 22, Hoofdstad, Dordrecht.

PLAT.

Nationality: Dutch. Age: about 27. Build: normal. Height: 1.70m. Hair: black. Eyes: black, no glasses. Face: long. Complexion: dark - half caste. Nose: broad. Chin: normal. Clean-shaven. Appearance: normal. Languages: Dutch and Malayan presumably. In what capacities employed: Lived at 7a Molenstraat, The Hague (end 1942). DAMEN ordered by Van VLIET to shadow this man. DAMEN later heard he was a German agent.

Etienne de SMET.

Nationality: Belgian. Age: about 27. Build: normal. Height: 1.80m. Hair: light brown. Eyes: brown, no glasses. Face: long. Complexion: healthy. Chin: normal. Clean-shaven. Appearance: sportsmanlike. In what capacities employed: Used to live in Hotel de l'Automoto, Brussels early 1944. In contact with Van VLIET. Pretended to work for "Brigade Blanche". Languages: English, French, German, Flemish.

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21. Van VLIETH (called Jikke GEORG or De Dikke).

Nationality: Dutch. Age: about 47. Build: very stout. Height: 1.65m. Hair: fair. Eyes: blue, no glasses. Face: fat, lives too well, drinks too much, round face, big head. Complexion: reddish blue. Chin: normal. Teeth: not in good condition. Clean-shaven. In what capacities employed: Reported to be most successful German agent. Responsible for arrest of many Orangemen and Allied airmen. Co-operated with Willy KUPP and Jan MEURING. Moved to Brussels in summer, 1943 to combat "Brigade Blanche". Last seen in Brussels, February, 1944, by DANIEL. Peculiarities: walks like a woman, cannot walk far because he has once been shot through his left knee. Languages: Dutch, but not correctly, a few English words, bad French and bad German.

22. Jan MEURING & VAN DER BEND.

Nationality: Dutch. Age: about 48. Build: stout. Height: 1.70m. Hair: fair. Eyes: blue, wears glasses for reading. Face: long. Complexion: looks healthy. Chin: normal. Teeth: not in too good a condition. In what capacities employed: Keen master of Dutch Nazi Party. Member of Police Force - often works with van VLIETH and KUPP, also SIKO at The Hague. In December, 1943, made Head of Police in the town of Maastricht. Languages: Dutch, very bad German.

23. De WILDE (called Kleine GEORG) & MEURING.

Nationality: Dutch. Age: about 40. Build: stout. Height: 1.65m. Hair: light brown. Eyes: green, no glasses. Face: round and fat. Complexion: white. Chin: normal. Teeth: not very good. Often needs a shave. Languages: speaks no foreign languages, but very bad German. In what capacities employed: Member of Dutch Nazi Party. Policeman before the war. Later work for Abwehr under Willy KUPP 1940 - September, 43. Took part in expedition to break Allied escape routes Paris-Pennepont. With van VLIETH, lives Oosthoek, Houtman 7 or 8. Last seen in connection with his final admission to Hightown, September 19th, 1944.

SECRET

DAILY REPORT

in the case
of

Antonio DAMEN.

The investigation is proceeding in this case and the following information is in reply to D.I.D. (Mr. Stamp's) memorandum dated 13th October, 1944.

DAMEN has been closely cross-examined on his relations with van VLIETH (no call to "de dikke GEORGE"), and has also written a statement regarding this man.

Van VLIETH (called "de dikke GEORGE").

DAMEN was introduced originally to van VLIETH by Willem KUIP O SALM, another German agent, in October, 1942, at the latter's room at the Hotel Tourmaire, The Hague.

According to DAMEN, van VLIETH is one of the most successful German agents. He used to co-operate in his work with KUIP and was sometimes assisted by a Dutch Policeman, named Jean SEURENG & VAN DER BEEK.

Their chief task was to penetrate Allied organisations, trace British agents who had been dropped in Holland, and try and find out when and where agents, supplies or weapons were likely to be dropped.

Van VLIETH is reported to have had his first big success in 1940. At the end of that year, he discovered that some high Dutch Government officials were planning to escape to England by plane through an Allied organisation. The signal, stating when the aeroplane would arrive at a certain spot and a certain hour, was to be given by the playing of the opening bars of the Dutch National Anthem on Radio Orange. Van VLIETH reported this to the Abwehr and a careful watch was kept on Radio Orange. The signal came through a few days later, the Dutch officials were all rounded up and their plane seized.

Early in 1942 Van VLIETH is reported to have discovered an escape organisation in Delfzijl, also a landing ground between Amersfoort and Apeldoorn, about 19 kilometres from the former town, lying back about 500 yards from the road on the left hand side, where Allied agents were landed and weapons dropped. KIESSEWETTER told DAMEN that many arrests had been made there and weapons seized.

In November, 1942, DAMEN was instructed by van VLIETH to keep an eye on a certain man named PIAT, a half caste from the Dutch East Indies, living at 7a, Molenstraat, The Hague. After shadowing him for three days and finding nothing against him, this plan was dropped. In January, 1943, this man was seen again at a cafe in Amsterdam and DAMEN again tried to follow him unsuccessfully. Later DAMEN heard that this man was a German agent.

Early in 1943 van VLIETH made the acquaintance of KNOPPERIS, a former flying instructor in the Dutch Air Force at Soesteren, then living at Blaricum. Van VLIETH helped KNOPPERIS to escape to England, as he was anxious to give the impression in England that he was a loyal Dutch patriot. He hoped that when KNOPPERIS reached England he would make it known in Dutch circles that his escape had been due to van VLIETH.

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DAMEN is not sure when KNOPFERS left Holland, but thinks it was at the beginning of 1943. He has never heard KNOPFERS called by any other name.

In May, 1943, van VLIETH and AMPF arrested various members of an organization called "VIM", operating under a Jew in Brussels. This organization specialized in helping men and British pilots to escape from Holland, first sending them to Brussels and then on to England. The Germans were also successful in getting hold of one of the "VIM" Organization's wireless sets in Brussels. KISSNETTER suggested to DAMEN that he should pretend that he was a member of this organization, who had managed to escape arrest by the Germans. KISSNETTER said that he would always be able to find out whether a person was a genuine member of the organization or not by asking if he wore "BALLY" shoes. If the individual concerned did not know what DAMEN was talking about, then he was not a member. This password originated from an important member of the organization, who had been arrested by the Abwehr. His name was SMIT and he had been the owner of the BALLY Shoe Shop in The Hague.

In the summer of 1943 a man called Piet BAKKER, reported to be the leader of a Dutch organization, operating under British control, was also arrested. BAKKER first lived in Alkmaar and later at Heemstede near Haarlem.

DAMEN does not know Van VLIETH lived in Holland, but thinks it was at Rotterdam. In the summer of 1943 Van VLIETH and his wife left Holland and moved to Brussels, where they lived in a furnished apartment in the rue du Prince.

In October, 1943, DAMEN received instructions from a certain HUNTERMAN to go to the house of Frau KNOPFERS in Biaricum. HUNTERMAN was a German and the brains behind an organization, responsible for obtaining details of the codes and transmission times of captured British agents, and then forcing them to operate under control.

DAMEN was to greet Frau KNOPFERS with the password "Het Uur Nadert" (The time is approaching) to which she would reply: "De Klok Stuit Stil" (the clock has stopped). HUNTERMAN had told DAMEN that Frau KNOPFERS would introduce him to someone he already knew, but he was not to show any signs of recognition. DAMEN visited Frau KNOPFERS on a Sunday afternoon and after the password and correct answer had been exchanged, Frau KNOPFERS told DAMEN that the man he wanted to see would be there the next day, and he should go to a restaurant opposite the Central Station in Amsterdam at 11.00 hours. The next day DAMEN went to the rendez-vous and found Frau KNOPFERS there accompanied by van VLIETH. Frau KNOPFERS formally introduced them and van VLIETH and DAMEN greeted each other as if they had never met before. When Frau KNOPFERS had left, Van VLIETH told DAMEN he could go, as his mission was now ended. DAMEN states that during this conversation, van VLIETH boasted about now having six secret organizations under his control in Holland and thirteen lines of communication working with England. He also states that he was expecting to catch five more Allied pilots that week, who were hoping to escape from Schokland (Noord-Ost-Polder).

On January 3rd, 1944, DAMEN was sent to Brussels to assist van VLIETH. On arrival he was told by Van VLIETH to stay at the Hotel de l'Automatie opposite the Gare du Nord, under the name of Jan KROESSEN. Van VLIETH's job in Brussels was to try and contact the Belgian Resistance Movement "The Brigade Blanche".

He maintained constant contact with Doorn through a Dutchman named BRAM, who passed the frontier regularly at a secret place. This man was not seen after January 4th, 1944.

After a week DAMEN was ordered by van VLIETH to leave the Hotel and to go and stay with a Mrs. LEMOT, 15, rue d'Alliance, Brussels. This woman was a good patriot and had helped many prisoners of war to escape to France, her husband was in jail in Germany for the same reason. DAMEN was joined here by another man called VERHOOF, from Lille. Shortly after Mrs. LEMOT was arrested and imprisoned at St. Gilles, but was released after a few months, as she was in child birth.

Van VLIETH's other haunts in Brussels were the Hotel d'Automobile, where he was well known to the porter, Hanso, a cafe at the corner of the Place Royale, Chief of the Cafe, BERNI, the "Atlantique" Bar and an office belonging to "Joseph" a Belgian registered engineer.

His connections were a Belgian named Etienne de MEET (Hotel d'Automobile), a German called HAGEN, working for Abwehr III, a Dutchman Karel van HOUTEN, former owner of Hotel Suisse, Rijdschapsplein, The Hague.

DAMEN stated that MEET showed on a map a route to England they discovered, crossing from France (Holland) via Belgium (near Antwerp) and Germany (North of Amsterdam). The idea was to be cut at the last piece.

MEET left Brussels in February, 1943, and stated that he has not seen DAMEN since.

In addition to the above, DAMEN has given the following information concerning an escape route from France to England via Spain:

On the 8th September, 1943, DAMEN went to Paris with JOSEPHSTEN and HAGER, a German R.C.C. in the Abwehr, who speaks perfect Dutch, and de WILDE. The object of this journey was to contact a German named ARNOT, who had managed to penetrate a French escape organization. ARNOT speaks perfect French.

This organization specialized in helping escapees to get from France to Spain, and from there to England. DAMEN here explained that earlier on four British agents had been dropped in Holland. He did not know their real names but their aliases were ANNE, STEAK, FRANS and the fourth agent's alias he does not remember. As soon as these four men arrived they were arrested, but worked for the Germans as double agents. After they had worked in this way for a few months, a message was received from England, congratulating them on the good work they had done and instructing them to report. The Germans then arrested these four agents and it was the duty of DAMEN, HAGER, de WILDE and another Frenchman (name unknown when DAMEN met in Paris) to take the place of these four agents on their escape into Spain, so that the escape route could be blown to the Abwehr. HAGER took ANNE's place, DAMEN STEAK's place, FRANS was taken by the Frenchman and de WILDE pretended to be the fourth British agent, whose alias DAMEN does not remember.

The four men were taken by ARNOT to two different French localities for the night. The following day, the 9th September, the four men were picked up by a Frenchman who put them on the train to Perpignan. He also travelled on this train, but not in the same compartment. In Perpignan the party was handed over to another Frenchman and taken to a lorry, which was to drive them over the frontier into Spain. Whilst on their way to the frontier, HAGER, DAMEN and the unknown Frenchman jumped out, but de WILDE climbed into the driver's seat, pointed a revolver at the driver, who had to stop the lorry. De WILDE then had him arrested.

DAMEN then returned to Paris and from there to Holland.

Camp 020.
18.10.44.
H.W.-B/PHL.

[Signature]
for Major Wall-Row.

EXTRACT

30a

For P.H. 600,439 Name RIDDERHOF
From P.H. 600,366 DAMEN Serial 18z Dated 15.10.44
Original from Camp 020
Extracted on 20.10.44 By DJH Section R.B.

Extract from Documents from the Field re Antonie DAMEN, Abwehr
III agent, who gave himself up on 20.9.44. Forwarded by Camp 020

.....
Interrogation report on DAMEN Antonie, Abwehr agent.
Dated 21.9.44 Ref. III/21/63/1b.
.....

PERSONALITIES

.....
Van der VLIET (Dutch) - alias de Gilke Georges, ABWEHR agent.
Lives and operates in BRUSSELS.
.....

RALPH (German)

Description: Born c. 1910.
Height 1.58 m., normal build; fair hair,
blue eyes.
Career: Official Abwehr Gruppe III F.
In touch with RIDDERHOF & van VLIET in
February and March 1944.
Often stayed in Atlantic Hotel.

HUTTMANN (German) & "Der KRIEGER"

Description: Born c. 1903.
Height 1.70 m., broad shoulders, dark brown
hair, thin lips. Well dressed.
Unmarried.
Had been a shipping agent in West Africa.
Career: Abwehr Gruppe III official responsible for
messages sent to U.K. via controlled sets.
In December 1943 asked source for name of
W/T operator on his last ship. Then sent
message to U.K. in this name (ROBERTS).
Was told by U.K. to come up again after
Christmas.
About October 1943 sent source to KROPPERS'
wife with message "Het uur nadert". The
reply was "De klok slaat". Thereupon
KROPPERS' wife "introduced" source to van
VLIET.
17 September 1944. Was seen by source at the
Gruppe III Stalle, Driebergen. Was leaving
for Berlin and not intending to return.

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23/10/44

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SUPPLEMENT TO APPENDIX B.

30a

WILHELM VAN VLIET X X

Wilhelm van Vliet lived in a new building at the corner of the
de Grooten and de Kleine Kerkhof in the center of Amsterdam (about
117 on the left side of the canal). Van Vliet was a member of the
staff of a firm, a company dealing in sanitary engineering
equipment, which van Vliet used as a residence with his com-
pact. He did not believe van Vliet kept any papers there.

A female secretary, who had been engaged by a Spaniard,
knew van VLIET well and was herself in touch with a German RACHT
(see Supplement to Appendix A).

Van VLIET's private address was on the fifth floor of
a new building at the corner (facing South) of Rue du Commerce
(Western side) and Rue de Trone (Northern side).

de SMET, Etienne (Belgian)

Came from the Ardennes near the German frontier.

Was a collaborator of VAN VLIET.

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MAZUREN (Dutch)

Address: (also)

Witte de Witstraat, The Hague.

Description:

Plumber and sanitary fittings merchant.
Born c. 1898.
Height 1.70m., well built, dark graying hair,
small moustache.
Member N.S.B.

Career:

End 1942 beginning 1943, Gruppe III agent.
Worked for van VLIET in connection with the
arrest of Piet RAJER.

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EXTRACT

29b

Extract for: PF.600. 479Name: WOUDE Van der....
Original in: PF.600. 474Serial. 1a..Date.13.10
Original from: Field Interrogation Report.....No: 4104/310.....
Ref: T.P.103/15.....
Extracted on: 4.11.44.....By: ND... Section. RB.

G.S.O. 2.
21 Army Group.
C.I. Mission to Belgium.

- 1) Attached is a report of the Interrogation of Rene Louis BUYCKX BY a S.C.I. Officer.
- 2) It is proposed to allow BUYCKX to return home , in the hope that HARIMAN or some other S.D. agent may come to his house for shelter.
- 3) It is not considered that any further information of interest could be obtained from BUYCKX by sending him to the U.K. for interrogation.
- 4) It is suggested that the description of " GEORGES" (Appendix "A" no.1) be given to F.S. Sections operating in Brussels.
- 5) Please inform us whether you agree to the proposal in paragraph 2 above. We will continue to hold BUYCKX in the meantime.

213 Av: de Torvuoren,
BRUSSELS.

R.C.S. BARCLY. Major.
Commanding 103 SCI. Unit

.....
ORIGINAL STORY TOLD UNDER INTERROGATION.

a) Explanation of W/T Installation.

Subject states that in 1943 he visited Brussels regularly for business reasons and at the end of the year he happened to meet a man whom he only knows as "GEORGES". They struck up a friendship and further meetings were arranged during one of which Georges revealed himself as an Allied I.S. agent. Georges proposed that subject should mark tourist maps of the Ostend and Nieuport areas with locations of German beach defences and guns for transmission by him to the Allies. When subject had carried out this job , Georges gave him the W/T equipment later found in his house, and suggested that it should be fitted up in preparation for Georges arrival as an Allied W/T agent . This was also done by subject who in addition instructed his secretary , Mlle Mathilde MORNAUW to learn morse from an almanach . Georges was last seen in May 1944 and did not turn up in Ostend.

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[Signature]

FINAL STORY TOLD UNDER INTERROGATION.

a) L' affaire Georges.

(N.B. Subject explains that his story about Georges was true, but lacked the following essential development)

Debut 1944, fin janvier ou debut fevrier, control tres speciale des bagages et des passeports d'un groupe de voyageurs dont j'etais. J'avais l'impression tres nette que mon jeu avec Georges etait decouvert et ce jour-la je me montrais tres reserve vis-a-vis de lui. La quinzaine suivante je n'allais pas a Bruxelles: j'avais trop peur. Lors des deux semaines suivantes je recus la visite a Ostende de deux Messieurs parlant du mauvais Francais et qui se disaient envoyes par la Kommandantur pour question d'hebergement de civils allemands. Ils visiterent rapidement la maison, mais s'attarderent dans le jardin: ils semblaient examiner les antennes et me firent remarquer qu'il y en avait deux: je leur repondis que c'etait pour mon radio, pour changer d'antenne: ils n'insisterent pas et sortirent. A leur sortie je les entendis distinctement dire l'un a l'autre: " Es ist eine prima situation, am besten getarnt" (situation merveilleuse et bien camouffee). Je ne compris que trop bien: et je n'en dormis plus. J'allais toutefois a Bruxelles voir Georges au Cafe des Deux Becassas: parceque j'avais de plus en plus peur, et que voulais me retirer de tout. Je n'en eus pas l'occasion: devant le Cafe deux civils me prirent des suivre; sur ma protestation ils exhiberent leurs cartes de policiers allemands. Ils me conduiserent a trois ou quatre endroits differents pour finalement aboutir dans un immeuble de l'Avenue Louise. Juste au moment d'entree j'ai entrevu la silhouette de Georges et a ce moment je m'effonrai.

b) Recruitment par le S.D.

Immmediatement commenca mon interrogatoire devant les preuves - toutes les pieces remises a Georges etaient la - je me contentai de dire que je regrettais d'avoir fait ce que j'avais fait, que je voulais d'ailleurs cesser puisque j'etais venu a Bruxelles pour le dire a Georges.

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APPENDIX A.

List of Sipo and S.D. and G.F.P. Officials and Agent known to Source.

1) GEORGES.

Abt. IV. Brussels. Penetration agent. Spoke French with a Flemish accent, last seen in early summer '44. Aged 40: height 1.64m. bald. red-faced. Hook nose: badly dressed walks like a duck.

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P.F. 600,439.

Original in P.F. 600,388 16a.
DAMEN, Anton

29a

Extract.

To Colonel R. Stephens, Camp 020.

From Mr. E. B. Stamp, B.1.B.

DAMEN.

The report from the field regarding this case has not yet been looked up but, pending the look-up, I think I ought to call attention to DAMEN's relations with RIDDERHOF @ van VLIETH @ SALM @ Georges DIKKE.

It is apparent that DAMEN has a great deal of information regarding RIDDERHOF's penetration of the organisation with which KNOPPERS was in contact, and this is a case which has always caused us considerable anxiety. The extent to which RIDDERHOF had penetrated the organisation appears to have been most alarming and any information which can be obtained from DAMEN regarding that penetration would be of considerable interest.

.....

Sgd. E. B. Stamp.

P.F. 600,388/B.1.b.
13.10.44.

O'B/RB.

23/10/44

Copy.

KNOPPERS was a man who, following the occupation of Holland and Belgium, did illegal work as a member of resistance organisations in Holland. At the end of 1942 he was approached by a man he came to know as RIDDERHOF @ Georges van VLIET (I am told by the L.R.C. that RIDDERHOF has another alias, namely, van der WOUDE.)

Though KNOPPERS was unaware of it, RIDDERHOF had (according to S.I.S.) already successfully penetrated an allied organisation in Holland and had subsequently, in June 1941, fled to Belgium. RIDDERHOF at some subsequent date must have returned to Holland.

RIDDERHOF told KNOPPERS that he was working in an anti-German organisation on behalf of a man he referred to as "the General" and whose name sounded like MAHIEU in Belgium.

According to KNOPPERS, RIDDERHOF used to spend half of each week in Belgium and half in Holland. He was in possession of a forged letter of authority purporting to have been issued by the Gestapo on production of which he obtained official frontier passes valid for a fortnight at a time. (No doubt this was correct save that the letter of authority was not forged). RIDDERHOF had a regular place of residence in Blaricum though he was seldom there.

RIDDERHOF told KNOPPERS that he had been commissioned by the General to find out what he could about the set-up and requirements of secret organisations in Holland. In accordance with RIDDERHOF's request, KNOPPERS agreed to obtain such information. He in fact did obtain information about several resistance organisations in Holland and passed it on to RIDDERHOF who no doubt passed it to the Germans.

About 20th June 1943, RIDDERHOF asked KNOPPERS if he would go to England and report there on resistance organisations in Holland and obtain instructions for them. This KNOPPERS agreed to do.

In the meantime by the beginning of June an S.O.E. agent in Holland had been captured. This man was equipped with a W/T set which the Germans played back. They passed several messages through this set to S.O.E. stating in the name of the captured agent that he had made important contacts with a resistance organisation and suggesting that one of these contacts, namely KNOPPERS, should be sent to England to report. S.O.E. fell for this and arrangements were made for KNOPPERS to be received in England. From Paris onwards, at any rate, KNOPPERS travelled by an S.O.E. escape route.

On 13.7.43 KNOPPERS was introduced by RIDDERHOF to a so-called police inspector who took him on a motorcycle to a shed near the Belgian border near Bearle-Nassau. They then went on foot across country to a small village where they arrived at about 17.00 hours. At about 18.00 hours they took the train to Turnhout where they met RIDDERHOF again in a cafe. These three men then went by taxi to Antwerp. KNOPPERS was travelling with a Belgian identity card in the name of P.A. MAES. They then went by train from Antwerp to Brussels and stayed with RIDDERHOF at his flat there, where he was living with his wife and father-in-law, thought by KNOPPERS to be named Van der WELDER. The flat was in a block called St. Cicille.

On 15.7.43/

Original in P.F. 66224 V.3.
DE BRAY, Louis 101a..

P.F. 666,434.

26a

Extract.

To Colonel R. Stephens, Camp 020.
From Mr. Stamp, B.I.B.

Louis DEBRAY.

.....
A number of men who have passed through L.R.C. since 1942 have been helped by a dentist at Jeumont, but, more sinister, KNOPPERS, who was sent here (probably unwittingly) by the Germans was brought to Jeumont to a dentist's house by one HOLVOET who has hitherto been regarded as probably Andre HOLVOET and only possibly Georges HOLVOET. Here they met Van VLIET @ George RIDDERHOF @ Van der WOUDE who provided KNOPPERS with a French identity card. (Incidentally an engineer in Jeumont called BAURE is also known to have provided false French identity cards for escapers).

In view of the above it is possible that Van der VLIET @ Van der WOUDE is identical with Van der WOUDE @ PETIT known to LAUREIJSSSEN. It will be remembered that Van der WOUDE @ PETIT of the LAUREIJSSSEN case appears to have been working in the penetration of the Dutch escape organisations while DEBRAY was doing similar work in connection with the same escape route. The fact that DEBRAY and Van VLIET @ Van der WOUDE were contacts of the dentist suggests that Van der WOUDE may be connected with LAUREIJSSSEN's Van der WOUDE @ PETIT.

.....
E. B. Stamp.

B.I.B./MPH.
10.10.44.

O'B/RB.

23/08

Original in P.F. 600,388 6z.
DAMEN, Anton

T.F. 600,435

24a

Extracts taken from Interrogation of Anton DAMEN, d/d 30.9.44., forwarded by Camp 020 on 10.10.44. DAMEN is a Dutch subject who had been working for the Germans, and who surrendered to the Allies at Wychen, Holland, on 20.9.44.

(p.5)

Georges van VLIET (RIDDERHOF)

Jan/44. Source was sent by the Abwehr to Brussels to investigate the activities of one of its agents Dikke Georges @ van VLIETH @ SALM, who was apparently none other than the notorious George RIDDERHOF.

VAN VLIETH had been very successful in 1943, but had started to maintain his reputation by sending in false reports and was also guilty of various financial irregularities. VAN VLIETH is well known in the Cafe Leopold II, Gare du Nord, and also to the porters of the Hotel de l'Atlantique. He lived near the Porte de Namur.

Source mentioned that van VLIETH had established his credit among resistance groups by sending a Lieut. (sic) KNOPPERS to the U.K. and having Radio Orange cold messages broadcast. Source had also heard van VLIETH tell KIESEWETTER that he had become acquainted with a Lt. Col. KOPPERT of Soesterberg airfield in the train. This confirms information in our possession. In source's opinion both KNOPPERS and KOPPERT were good patriots, who were used by Van VLIETH.

Source also mentioned that he had spoken to the wife of a Sergeant, a friend of KOPPERT's,

who had/

23/11/44

who had also gone to the U.K. He apparently did not know that KNOPPERS and the Sergeant were one and the same person.

Feb/44. After watching van VLIETH, source returned to Holland and reported to BODENS.....

..... (p.9)

APPENDIX "A".

On page 9 is a description of KUPP, Willy @ SALM, (German) member of Abwehr III, who is stated to be a friend of George RIDDERHOF @ van VLIET.

.....

O'B/RB.

COPY

P.A. in P.F. 600,439 RIDDERHOFF.

22b

Original in P.F. 600,388 DAMEN serial 30a.

.....
Major Johnstone B.I.B.

Among his papers, DAMEN was in possession of a scrap of paper on which is written the word "VAPOR" and the name BRAM. DAMEN states that the name "VAPOR" refers to Van VLIET's office and "BRAM" is one of his assistants who travels between Brussels and Duren. DAMEN thinks that BRAM believes Van VLIET to be a Dutch patriot and is unaware that he is working on behalf of the Germans. BRAM may well be identical with the S.O.E. agent, CABBAGE referred to in a letter dated 12.14.44 under reference RAW/1240 from Major Welles. If this is so and CABBAGE is available S.O.E. may think it desirable to find out from him how much of his activities are known to Van VLIET.

B.I.B.
23.9.44

(Sgd) E.B. Stamp.

DJH/R.B.

No. P.F. 600,479.....

SERIAL 23a.....

has been removed from this file.

SEE P.F. 603,031.....

Removed by DJH/H4D.....

Date, 2.9.45.....

Ref. 600,143.

Original in S.F. 52/HOLLAND/2 Link V.3. 40a.
GERMAN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN HOLLAND.

20a

Extract from Report on Axis Intelligence
Activities in Holland dated June, 1944. Forwarded
by S.I.S. on 4.7.44., under Ref.

.....
B. POLICE (SIPO and S.D., INDIGENOUS, etc.)
and DENOUNCERS.

..... (p.5)

(b) A French source has reported that the
notorious agent provocateur

George RIDDERHOF @ van VLIET

has been active in France under the alias of

van der WOUDE.

and posing as a Belgian refugee.

In November 1943 a certain van der Wouden
penetrated a Dutch escape line in Paris,
possibly in association with Louis de BRAY,
the Ast Belgian Gruppe II passeur.

It is thus possible that this van der
Wouden, who is described as

Born c. 1907.

Tall, stout, light brown, thinning
hair.

was none other than George RIDDERHOF.

.....
O'B/RB.

23/4/44

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ACT 1958. March 2003

EXTRACT.

19a

Extract for File No. P-3-600-439 Name: RIDDERHOE @ VAN VLIET, "
 Original in File No. L-397/HOLLAND(3) V-1 Serial: ma82 Dated: 3.5.44
KNOPPERS, Hendrikus
 Original from: B.1.B. Under Ref: none
 Extracted on: 19.10.44 by: O'B. Section: RB

Extract taken from Minute from Major Wethered to D.D.E. re the case of KNOPPERS, Dutchman, who has come to U.K. by way of an escape route thought to be under German control.

(para.6)

An additional point seems to support my belief that KNOPPERS is no worse than an innocent dupe. George VAN VLIET has been responsible for the escape journeys of at least two other persons. One was the S.O.E. agent APOLLO, who was destined for Holland but dropped by mistake in Belgium. He evaded capture, but a chain of circumstances led to his meeting VAN VLIET in Belgium. VAN VLIET hid him and arranged for his return journey to the U.K. without having allowed him to go into Holland at all. VAN VLIET was insistent that APOLLO should obtain money and further instructions (both of which had been lost when he baled out) and then should return again to the field, making contact with VAN VLIET. No suspicion seemed to attach to APOLLO in these circumstances, and though I understand that he is not to be used again in the field it was thought quite clear that he had been used by VAN VLIET to create confidence in London that VAN VLIET was bona fide. The second case is that of an American Air Force Officer named John Kennard MURST, who was also sent out of Holland along George VAN VLIET's escape channel. This officer unfortunately only spent a

couple of days/

18/23

couple of days in this country before returning to the States. He was seen in Scotland by an S.O.E. officer, who came to the conclusion that his story was genuine and that he fell into the same category as APOLLO. It seems for these reasons that the Germans have recently been using a technique connected with innocent dupes and have taken some trouble in their endeavour to build up such a man as VAN VLIET in the hope that he will be used as a contact in the field by bona fide agents.....

Ref. 600,432

Original in S.F. 52/Holland/2 Link V.1. 35a.
GERMAN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN HOLLAND. 17a

Copy.

dated 25.4.44.

Dear Baxter,

Please refer to your B.I.d/L.R.C. dated 22.4.44, concerning BEEKHUIJS, J.J. GEORGE and George van VLIET. 1b-a

It had been suggested by the Dutch I.S. that BEEKHUIJS @ van DAM and RIDDERHOF @ van VLIET were identical, but we concluded that the contrast between the "upright carriage" of the former and the "bent back" of the latter precluded any possibility of their being one and the same person. We would point out, however, that our information is that RIDDERHOF @ van VLIET is about 1.85m. in height, as against the 1.70m. given by KNOPPERS.

According to the description given by K. de GRAAF (R.V.P.S. 18,967), J.J. GEORGE is of heavy build, looking young for his age, and has a red complexion, whereas P. de VOS (R.V.P.S. 19,743) describes BEEKHUIJS @ van DAM as being of thin build and having a thin swarthy face. We are inclined to think, therefore, that the two are not identical and that in RIDDERHOF, BEEKHUIJS and J.J. George we have to deal with three distinct individuals.

Yours sincerely,

Sgd. W.W. Pidcock,

Lt. Col. Baxter,
M.I.5.

O'E/RB.

25/10/44

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P.F. 600,439.

Original in S.F. 52/Holland/2 Link V.l. 34a.
GERMAN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN HOLLAND.

116a

Copy.

B.l.d./L.R.C.

22nd April, 1944.

Dear

12a, 5a

Please refer to the S.I.S. summary of Axis Intelligence activities in Holland for March, 1944 under the heading B. Police and Denouncers, sub-paragraph (iii) Provinces (a) South Holland, (1) The Hague. A description is given of an agent provocateur under the name of Dirk Van BEEKHUIJS @ VAN DAM. The description and the name given make it clear that the informant is probably De VOS (RVPS.19,743). Lines four and five of the description state that this man resembles Van VLIET @ RIDDERHOF.

KNOPPERS has already given us a description of Van VLIET and states that he is 1.70m. in height and walks with a limp, whereas DE VOS stated that BEEKHUIJS @ VAN DAM was at least 1.80m. or even 1.85m. and walked with a very upright carriage.

CELOSSE (RVPS.18,968) had never met Van VLIET but stated his height was 6 ft. Is it not possible that Van DAM is identical with J.J. GEORGE rather than with Georges Van VLIET?

Yours sincerely,

G.J. Baxter, (Lt. Col.)

S.I.S.

O'B/RB.

15.
23/4/44

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P.F. 600,432.

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GERMAN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN HOLLAND.

Copy.

15a

S.I.S. Summary of Axis Intelligence Activities
in Holland, March 1944.

Under the heading B Police (Sipo and S.D. indigenous etc.) and denouncers, sub-heading (III) Provinces, (a) South Holland, (I) The Hague, Pidcock refers to Van DAM alias Dirk Van BEEKHUIJS or BEEKHUIJSEN, giving a description and address obviously derived from source De VOS (RPS. 19,743). Pidcock makes mention of a resemblance between the description of this man and that of Georges Van VLIET alias RIDDERHOF.

It appears to me that a considerable discrepancy between these descriptions should be noted, i.e., whereas KNOPPERS (L.397/Holland/3) states that Van VLIET alias RIDDERHOF is only about 1.70m. in height and walks with a limp, De VOS is emphatic that Van DAM alias Van BEEKHUIJS is at least 1.80m. or even 1.85m. and walks with a very upright carriage.

The only other source from whom we have any description of Van VLIET is CELOSSE (RPS.18,968), who gives his height as 6 ft., but who had never actually met Van VLIET. There is, however, the possibility that Van DAM alias Van BEEKHUIJS may be identical with the suspect mentioned by CELOSSE - J.J. GEORGE - whom he had seen, whose age and height are not dissimilar from those of Van DAM. It thus seems more probable that there is identity between Van DAM and J.J. GEORGE than between J.J. GEORGE and Georges Van VLIET.

JE.
17.4.44.

O'B/RB.

(Capt.)

V.S.
22/10/44

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EXTRACT.

13a

Extract for File No. P.F. 600,479 Name: WOLDE Van der
 Original in File No. S.P. 52/Holland/2. Link Vol. 1. Serial: 32a Dated: 21.3.44.
 Original from S.I.S. (Mr. Piddock). Under Ref. 28.10.44.
 Extracted on 28.10.44. by K.R.V. Section R.B.
Extract from Report on AXIS INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN HOLLAND for March 1944.
forwarded by S.I.S. on 21.3.44.

B. POLICE (SIPO and S.D., I NIGENCUE, etc) and DENOUNCERS.

GENERAL.

A certain VAN ROUDE (probably an alias) has been active as an agent provocateur along escape lines. He is described as;

Age about 54.

Height 1.75m., bald, large nose, blotchy complexion.

Van der ROUDE claims to be an ex-flying officer and the brother-in-law of Consul-General Dufo MINDELBURG.

(iii) PROVINCES.

(a) S. HOLLAND.

(1) THE HAGUE.

(a) A dangerous agent provocateur has been reported active in the Hague. He used the name "van DAM" but holds a genuine identity card in the name of DIRK BEEKHULSEN (or BEEKHULSEN). His description closely resembles that of George van VLIET alias RIDDERIK, except that van DAM is said to have had a very upright carriage, whilst van VLIET walks with bent shoulders. (then follows a description of DIRK BEEKHULSEN & van DAM).

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P.P. 600,439.

Original in RPS.18968. CELOSSE.

12a

EXTRACT FROM BAYSWATER INTERROGATION REPORT ON
CELOSSE, dated 9th March, 1944.

VAN VLIET and J.J. GEORGE.

Asked if he knew of VAN VLIET in Belgium source replied that he had heard of George VAN VLIET of the Gestapo, who pretended to be a member of the British Secret Service and a Captain in the Belgian Army, and that he pretended to be a good Dutchman or a good Belgian, according to where he was; Source said he was well-known in Holland, but did not know of anything VAN VLIET had done there. Source had never seen VAN VLIET, but had given his description.

Description: About 6ft. tall, broad shoulders. Colour of eyes not known, but not blue. Inclined to puff and pant. Not very well dressed.

Source said there was also another man in Amsterdam called GEORGE (J.J. GEORGE), and he did not know whether it was the same man as VAN VLIET. Source thought he might have seen this man once from a distance, but was not sure if it was GEORGE. He had been given his description:-

About 6ft. tall, broad shoulders, aged about 53, but seems about 45. Blue eyes; hair turning grey; red complexion. Always wears yellow gloves and carries a yellow dispatch case. Wears a grey or light brown felt hat of the "Eden" type, and is well dressed.. Has a military bearing and is fairly fit. (This, source says, is the chief difference between VAN VLIET and GEORGE.)

O'B/RB.

15
B/10/44

11b

SUMMARY OF TRACES for J.J. GEORGE in I.397/Holland/3.Vol.1.
KROPPERS, Hendrikus.

- 1.2.44. Letter from S.I.S. from Mr. Pidcock to Major Wethered giving information that a report has been received of a J.J. GEORGE of 28 NOORDERMARKT, Amsterdam, alleged to be an important agent provocateur working for the S.D., and raising the point of possible identity with "GEORGES" (RINDENHOF). (Ser: 59a).
- 3.2.44. Letter from Major Wethered to S.I.S. dated 3.2.44. thanking S.I.S. for information about J.J. GEORGE. (Ser: 60a).
- 3.2.44. Minute from Major Wethered to B.1.d./LRC (Col. Baxter) forwarding S.I.S. letter (59a) and asking for information on J.J. GEORGE and the Dutch Sabotage organisation C.S.VI whose confidence J.J. GEORGE had penetrated with the result that several of its members were caught and executed.
- 5.2.44. Answering minute from B.1.d. Information Section giving no trace of J.J. GEORGE, or the C.S. VI. (Ser: 61a).
- 8.2.44. Letter to S.I.S. from Major Wethered to Mr. Pidcock stating we have no traces of J.J. GEORGE or the C.S. VI. (Ser: 62a).
- 12.2.44. Letter from S.I.S. giving more information recently received on J.J. GEORGE, born 1.8.89. living at 38 NOORDERMARKT, AMSTERDAM. On the pay-roll of the S.D. (Ser: 63a).

Further letters re J.J. GEORGE. at 69b and 69c.

12a.

K.R.V./R.B.

V.R.
3/10

P.N. 600,430

Original in L. 397/HOLLAND(3) V.1. 65a.
KNOFFERS, Hendrikus

Copy.

B.1.d/L.R.C. (Miss Wadason.)

Reference your Look-ups on the report of the American officer Lieut. John Kennard HURST, you raise a good point in your notes, and I quite agree that the connection between the Dutch and Belgian escape route and the part of VIC in France is important. As you say, VIC was here in December, and I was present at an interview with him. He was asked a lot of questions about the point of contact between his own escape route and that of George VAN VLIET at that interview.

The meeting point between the two is in Paris, and VIC had no idea whatever of the course the channel took before it reached Paris. There is no particular address where the two routes converge, but according to VIC a system of careful security exists. Meetings are arranged by cut-outs in public places, such as cafes or boulevards. In no circumstances do the two routes converge at a particular address. Each point of meeting is arranged by a cut-out verbally, and all are altered regularly. I have always thought that there was some danger of VIC's channel being penetrated. There is however no doubt that VIC himself is an excellent organiser who is one of the only representatives of S.O.E. in France who to my knowledge deals with security on a strict and consistent footing.

As a result of your enquiry however I am writing again to S.O.E. so as to make quite certain that no addresses or individuals are common to both escape routes. When I have a reply from them I will confirm the above.

B.1.B.
12.2.44.

Sgd. G.P. Wethered. (Major)

P.T.O. 2/12/44

B.I.B. Major Wethered.

With reference to para. 2 overleaf, please see 27a., para.2....It is not quite clear from this whether KNOPPERS actually met LEFORT and Georges, a) at 16 rue de Sevres, through M. HALLOT b) at another address through someone else c) through ARNAUD himself

If a) this hardly coincides with VIC's system of cut-outs in public places, particularly as set out in Min.51.

b) is it possible to get further information of through whom and where?

c) it appears that ARNAUD must surely be the contact between VAN VLIETIS and VIC's escape routes. (KNOPPERS states that ARNAUD had known V.V. for some time and trusted him completely!)

In any case, whether or not VIC's channel has been penetrated, it is clear that VAN VLIET and ARNAUD are in a position to send their escapees (? potential suspects) through the VIC route - see cases of KNOPPERS and HURST.

Sgd. N.S. Mace.

LRG/Information Section.

15.2.44.

O'B/RB.

Original in L. 397/HOLLAND/3 v.l. 57a. 58a.
KNOPPERS, Hendrikus

P.P. 600,432

10a
(Ser. 57a.)

L. 397/Holland/3/B.1.B.

28th January, 1944.

Dear

You will remember hearing all about the S.O.E. enquiry into the antecedents and intentions of Hendrikus KNOPPERS, who came to this country by means of an S.O.E. Organisation about last September.....

At the time when KNOPPERS first arrived I believe that S.O.E. asked you for any traces that you had of the main characters in the story, particularly of one George VAN VLIET @ RIDDERHOF, who was the individual who had been in close touch with KNOPPERS for weeks before his departure and who actually arranged KNOPPERS' escape journey. More recently we asked for a similar look-up when we were considering the case of KNOPPERS from a security point of view. At that time we had a reply to the effect that you had no traces for VAN VLIET.

I have just read in paragraph B(1) of your Report on Axis Intelligence Activities in Holland for December 1943, a resume of information concerning RIDDERHOF @ VAN VLIET. I see that the description you give there corresponds almost exactly with that given by KNOPPERS, and the last paragraph of the extract is a resume of the background as revealed by KNOPPERS. Paras. 3 and 4, however, of your report refer to information which I had not previously seen, and give details of RIDDERHOF's activities in 1940 and June 1941. I assume from the fact that you had no traces of the man when LRO asked for a look-up in September 1943, that the information contained in these two paragraphs has

only recently/

29/1/44

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only recently come to your notice. Firmaton-Williams in his letter, of the 7th December, 1943, also told me that you had no other information about this man than was known to S.O.E. Would you very kindly let me know whether it is certain that it refers to KNOPPERS' George VAN VLIET. It may be very valuable for me to have this information, as I understand that two S.O.E. Dutch agents who recently escaped from Holland to Switzerland, are now in Gibraltar awaiting transport to the U.K. and I shall have to consider their case in a few days.

Yours sincerely,

G.P. Wethered,
Major.

S.I.S.

(Ser.58a.)

dated 31.1.44.

Dear Wethered,

.....
The RIDDERHOE G. VAN VLIET mentioned in our Report on Axis Intelligence Activities in Holland for December 1943 is almost certainly identical with KNOPPERS' George VAN VLIET, who was concerned in the penetration of an S.O.E. organisation.
.....

Sgt. W. W. PIDCOCK.

Major Wethered,
M.I.5.

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P.F. 600,432

Original in S.P. 52/Holland/2 Link V.1. 25a.
GERMAN INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN HOLLAND.

9a

Extract taken from Report on AXIS INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN HOLLAND for December 1943,
forwarded by S.I.S. on 31.12.43., under reference

(p.2)

B. POLICE (SIPO and S.D., INDIGENOUS, etc)
and DENOUNCERS.

(1) GENERAL.

(a) RIDDERHOF alias George van VLIET, alias GEORGE, has been recently successful in penetrating patriot and Allied organisations in Holland. He is described as follows:-

Age about 50, height 6 ft. 1 in., fairly heavy build, dark greying hair, wrinkled and irregular features; walks with a slight stoop, often lame through rheumatism.

In 1940 he was introduced by a Gestapo agent SCHONBRUNN alias JANSEN, or "the big boss", and claimed to have worked for the Belgian Secret Service in 1914 - 1918.

About June 1941, when the Dutch had discovered a connection between a known Gestapo agent, STELBRINK, and JANSEN, RIDDERHOF disappeared and apparently resumed his work in Belgium.

At some unknown date he returned to Holland, travelling backwards and forwards over

the frontier/

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SECOND INTERROGATION OF KNOPPERS AT THE ORATORY SCHOOLS.

I saw KNOPPERS again yesterday afternoon. I first asked him to be rather more explicit on the precise work he did for VAN VLIET. KNOPPERS replied with apparent frankness as follows: VAN VLIET asked KNOPPERS if he might use the latter's address as a boîte aux lettres. KNOPPERS agreed to this, but the address was never in fact so used. KNOPPERS does not know for what purpose VAN VLIET made the request.

KNOPPERS continued to see VAN VLIET about once a week from the time of their first meeting until he left Holland. They usually met at KNOPPERS' own house, but sometimes in a café. The reasons for these meetings were various. In the first place, the members of resistance organisations with whom KNOPPERS slowly came in touch often wanted either to meet VAN VLIET or to have a question asked of him. Thus for example Jan de HAAN, referred to already in this file as a member of RINUS, wanted to have a discussion with VAN VLIET and to ask the latter for addresses to which he could send information. Apparently de HAAN had used an address in Rotterdam and a Belgian address as a channel for sending military information (as for example German dispositions, armaments etc.) to England. The Rotterdam man had been arrested, and de HAAN wished to consult VAN VLIET. KNOPPERS arranged an address for these two men to meet, c/o Misses PONT, Hoevellan 18, Bussum, who were known to KNOPPERS as thoroughly patriotic Dutch people. They may have been in touch with a resistance organisation, but KNOPPERS never asked them. De HAAN and VAN VLIET met at this house and VAN VLIET said that he would ask the General about the addresses. KNOPPERS does not know if he did ask the General, but imagines that he may have done nothing about it as he, KNOPPERS was the only communicating link between VAN VLIET and de HAAN, and he had no further message from either of them on this matter. BART also wished to meet VAN VLIET in connection with the matters referred to on page 4 of 27a.

In addition to this, KNOPPERS collected certain pieces of information about production and factories which he gave to VAN VLIET at their various meetings. He does not think VAN VLIET asked for this information but he appeared to be interested by it, so KNOPPERS continued to collect it. He could do this fairly easily as he knew a Mr. de JONG, Director of a big insurance company which insured different firms and factories for war risks and other risks. De JONG was therefore able to give VAN VLIET information as to the size, production figures etc. of various Dutch factories, as for example, Fokkers and various chemical factories. Besides passing this information on to VAN VLIET, KNOPPERS also gave it to a Mr. SCHILP of the Dutch Military Intelligence in Holland, whose rank was that of First Lieutenant in the Dutch Navy.

About a fortnight after VAN VLIET had contacted KNOPPERS he expressed his desire to meet Colonel KOPPERT. This suggestion certainly came from VAN VLIET, in KNOPPERS' recollection. There then followed the episode of the rendezvous at the café, where Colonel KOPPERT did not turn up. This has already been related. At this rendezvous KNOPPERS and VAN VLIET waited for over two hours. VAN VLIET brought with him a man in civilian clothes, who he then said was a Dutch policeman. KNOPPERS saw him but did not speak to this man. He heard no more about him until the day of his escape, when he met and recognised the same man in Breda.

in Breda. It was this man who took KNOPPERS over the Dutch/Belgian frontier on his motorcycle. KNOPPERS describes him as follows: Age 40-45; Height 1.75m; Broad build; Flat face; rather pale complexion; skin rather pock-marked; nose a little turned up; clean-shaven; medium fair hair brushed flat. VAN VLIET mentioned afterwards on the escape journey that this man was not in fact a Dutch policeman but had various papers made out as such.

VAN VLIET told KNOPPERS that he had once been a member of a reception committee and had received several consignments of arms from this country at a place near Stenweg. He showed KNOPPERS a piece of sponge rubber taken from a container. KNOPPERS thought that he did this as evidence that he was to be trusted.

I next asked KNOPPERS a question or two about his activities in resistance work before he met VAN VLIET. As regards the work that he did for VOUTE, referred to on page 1 of the report at 12a., KNOPPERS explains that he merely distributed pamphlets through letter boxes from time to time and also helped to print them on a duplicator worked by VOUTE at Martinsdijk. KNOPPERS also carried various letters for VISSER, also referred to as above. The position was that while KNOPPERS was travelling about Holland in the course of his own business he would hear from time to time at one of the chemical factories which he visited news which would be of interest for the underground press. On these occasions he asked the man concerned, if he could trust him, to write out the information, and he carried the papers to VISSER. VISSER also gave KNOPPERS copies of the underground paper to carry to various towns in Holland and to post them there. These papers could obviously not be posted where they were printed.

In addition to this KNOPPERS often carried sums of money contributed by himself and his friends for the benefit of wives and families of Dutchmen arrested by the Germans. He used on his travels to hand in these sums of money to the local Government office concerned and ask them to use it accordingly.

On these points and also in connection with his work for VAN VLIET, KNOPPERS struck me as giving quite reasonable replies. I shared the S.O.E. examiner's slight doubt when KNOPPERS was questioned on these matters at Bayswater, but it seems to me that he has now given a rational account of them.

As regards the passeur, ARNAUD, KNOPPERS told me that he had met him for the first time at Jeumont, where ARNAUD met him for the escape journey. They had to wait for a train, and had a long talk, in the course of which ARNAUD said that he had been married but was now divorced, that his home was with his sister, and that he came from Alsace Lorraine. He asked KNOPPERS to say in England that he, ARNAUD, was very happy to continue to act as a guide in the escape organisation, that he did not want money for his work, but would like to come to England after the war. He indicated to KNOPPERS that he would like a ribbon.

KNOPPERS thought one other episode worth mentioning in connection with ARNAUD. When they arrived in Paris ARNAUD took him to the Hotel l'Odeon, Place de l'Odeon. Soon after they arrived at this hotel a friend of ARNAUD was shown up to their rooms. This man was surprised to find that they had arrived so early, and said he had come to the hotel in order to reserve rooms, as arranged. He called ARNAUD "EUGENE". KNOPPERS thought he was a Dutchman and for no particular reason imagined that he might be identical with JEREMIAH I. He had the impression that the visitor had come from Holland. He describes him as follows (but says that the description must be considered very vague): height about 6 ft; age 28-30; long face; clean-shaven; no spectacles; fair, rather curly hair; normal complexion; rather hooked nose.

KNOPPERS/

KNOPPERS told me that ARNAUD stated that he had known VAN VLIET for a long time. It was apparent to KNOPPERS that ARNAUD trusted VAN VLIET completely. KNOPPERS, who could probably see that I was particularly interested in VAN VLIET, added that having thought the whole matter over he still thought that VAN VLIET was a loyal Dutchman.

At the end of this interrogation I asked KNOPPERS if he had given the matter careful thought in the last few days. He said he had and that he was still quite unable to understand why he was regarded with such great suspicion. He again professed his willingness to tell us anything he could. I asked him if he had had any contact with the Germans while he was living in Blaricum, or anywhere else in Holland. He said that, apart from ordinary visits to travel offices he had only spoken to the Germans on one occasion when just before he left Holland he had been to visit Lieut. WEINBERG in the camp where the latter and other Dutch army officers were interned prior to being taken to Germany.

Until further information is to hand from S.O.E. I do not see how any useful purpose can be served in interrogating KNOPPERS again. It is agreed that he cannot be released until further information has been assembled, but I must state that at this stage of the enquiry I feel with some confidence that KNOPPERS may be regarded as harmless. It is however possible that the Germans proposed to use him as a dupe and to make use of him for their own purposes only after he was sent back to Holland. In these circumstances it is admittedly astonishing that the German-controlled organisation should have sent a wireless signal on June 5th, stating that they had come into contact with Colonel KOPPERT, leading man in the O.D., who wished urgently to send his best man to the United Kingdom. It is evident that KNOPPERS was referred to in this message. If we are to assume, as we must at present, that this and subsequent messages were German-controlled, it is very difficult to understand how such a bad mistake could have been made. It must have been evident to the Germans that KNOPPERS (as a dupe) would give them the lie as soon as he was interrogated in this country - as in fact he did, when he told us that Colonel KOPPERT had nothing to do with the O.D. and had not wished him to come to the United Kingdom. It is true however that it would have been from the German point of view an even worse mistake to make on the assumption that KNOPPERS is in fact an enemy agent. If he were so one must assume that he would have been instructed to state that Colonel KOPPERT had wished him to come. On the whole, therefore, I am inclined to think that this reasoning does not detract from the possibility that KNOPPERS is a dupe. It is conceivable that VAN VLIET or the Germans generally thought that KOPPERT was closely connected with the colonel, and took a chance in stating that the Colonel wanted KNOPPERS to be sent to this country. Admittedly this is not a very satisfactory surmise, considering that we know that VAN VLIET had made the acquaintance of the Colonel before the date of the wireless message.

Sgd. G. P. Wethered.
(Major).

B.I.B.
11th December, 1943.

Original in L. 397/HOLLAND(3) 2.1. 43a.
KNOPPERS, Hendricus

P.P. 600,439. 76

Extracts from FIRST INTERROGATION OF KNOPPERS AT THE
ORATORY SCHOOL'S, by Major Wethered (S.I.B.) on 9.12.43.
KNOPPERS is a Dutchman who has been connected with Escape
Organisations in Holland.

My first interrogation of KNOPPERS yesterday afternoon
was no more significant than I expected, except that it re-
vealed perhaps slightly more grounds for suspecting VAN VLIET
and did something to confirm my views that KNOPPERS himself
is innocent of intent.

.....
I next took KNOPPERS through the contents of the enve-
lope which contained his papers left behind in France, and
which had been received by S.O.E. recently.....The report
marked Appendix A. was also brought from Holland by ARNAUD in
the form of a microphotograph in Dutch. ARNAUD said that it
had been handed to him by VAN VLIET for delivery to KNOPPERS.
.....KNOPPERS understood that the name of Captain SOMERS
(who is head of the Dutch Intelligence Service in the United
Kingdom) was wellknown to VAN VLIET and ARNAUD.....

.....
The fourth and last document which ARNAUD brought was a
note in pencil on a small piece of paper from VAN VLIET to
KNOPPERS reading in translation as follows:

"Hallo Henk. You see the connection is O.K. Wife and
children prima. Herewith from Daddy the letter for
Somers. They ask for a call on Radio Oranje for Daddy:
'The flowers for grandmother received with thanks.'
If the report is in order then the reply is 'Enci ce-
ment eight parts to one.' Many greetings etc. Good
Luck. George Cherry." (CHERRY was the name by which
VAN VLIET was sometimes known.)

.....
Having dealt with the above matters I had to respond to
KNOPPERS' statement that he supposed we thought him to be a
German agent. I told him that we had recently received a great
deal of information, not available when he was first interro-
gated, which caused us to feel the greatest suspicion about his
activities and those of his contacts before his departure for
this country.....I asked him whether he had entertained at
any time any suspicions about any one of the persons responsible
for his briefing or journey to the United Kingdom. We began
by discussing VAN VLIET. KNOPPERS told the story about his
first meeting with VAN VLIET much as before, but added that VAN
VLIET first visited KNOPPERS at his cottage, when he gave two
references:

1. Jacob VOSS, of Cafe Ruimzicht, Blaricum, and his
family, and
2. Sergeant BERGMAN, a sergeant in the Dutch Army
living at Blaricum, previously unknown to KNOP-
PERS, who cannot remember his address.

On the morning after VAN VLIET's visit KNOPPERS tele-
phoned to Kees VOSS, son of Jacob VOSS, and asked him to come and
see him urgently and bring Sergeant BERGMAN with him. Both came,
and stated that VAN VLIET was 100% all right. KNOPPERS thereafter
accepted this estimate of VAN VLIET. Next day VAN VLIET returned
and asked KNOPPERS if he was in any resistance organisation al-
ready. KNOPPERS said "No", and then agreed to work for VAN VLIET.

KNOPPERS/

KNOPPERS (when I asked what Colonel KOPPERT thought of VAN VLIET) repeated the story he has already told of the meeting between these two men, and said that he understood from the Colonel that he regarded VAN VLIET as reliable.

It is perhaps significant to note that VAN VLIET told KNOPPERS distinctly that England had asked for a man to be sent to the United Kingdom from Holland. This is clearly not the case from the traffic and not inconsistent with VAN VLIET having forced a man on us. KNOPPERS remembers clearly that VAN VLIET made this statement on a Monday morning, either June 14th or June 21st. This date is well after the first message from the field telling London that the organisation itself was anxious to send a man to England.

When VAN VLIET made this suggestion KNOPPERS replied that he would like to ask his Commanding Officer, Captain KAMP if he or Lieut. WEINBERG would like to go to the United Kingdom, as KNOPPERS was only a sergeant-major and did not think himself suitable. To this suggestion VAN VLIET agreed. KNOPPERS therefore resolved to go himself, and told VAN VLIET that he would. VAN VLIET then asked for photographs of KNOPPERS, which were given to him and used by VAN VLIET for the purpose of a carte d'identite for Belgium. VAN VLIET stated that he did not quite know why KNOPPERS was to go to England, but thought that it was in order to co-ordinate various resistance organisations in Holland from the United Kingdom.

It seems to me that VAN VLIET's actions in recruiting KNOPPERS, particularly when his statement that England had asked for a man and that he did not know why is contrasted with the real wireless traffic, is entirely consistent with VAN VLIET being in enemy employment.

I asked KNOPPERS if he had given VAN VLIET from time to time information about resistance work in Holland. KNOPPERS told me that VAN VLIET had never asked for such information, and that he had only given it to him in the last week before he left Holland. Information about the HOOPD organisation and DODDY WOLZAK had only been given by KNOPPERS to VAN VLIET the very day he left Holland. KNOPPERS is certain that he offered VAN VLIET this information, and that VAN VLIET did not ask for it. He added to this however that VAN VLIET told him that he would be back in Holland in six weeks, and that KNOPPERS pointed out that it might take him longer. Whereupon VAN VLIET agreed that it might be better for KNOPPERS to give him his information.

KNOPPERS has always been certain that VAN VLIET is all right. I asked him however to reconsider the whole affair and tell me whether he had ever entertained any passing doubts about VAN VLIET's bona fides. KNOPPERS remembered the following episodes:

1. VAN VLIET once warned KNOPPERS against a man living in Blaricum, on the grounds that this man was collaborating with the Germans. The man was a builder who was not known to KNOPPERS, and whose name he cannot remember. KNOPPERS discussed this allegation with Sergeant BERGMAN, but BERGMAN told KNOPPERS that he did not believe it, and said that the builder had shortly after the occupation of Holland done some building work for the Germans. For the purpose of this work he had been given a frontier pass to Belgium. He had used his travel facilities for smuggling jewels and gold across the Dutch frontier. According to BERGMAN the builder had fallen out with VAN VLIET about either gold or jewels.
2. When KNOPPERS reached VAN VLIET's flat in Brussels (Saint Cecilian Buildings) he happened to notice that VAN VLIET's wireless set was Italian. He commented on this, and VAN VLIET told him that he and his wife had just moved into the flat, which

had belonged/

- 2 -

had belonged to an Italian. KNOPPERS does not know the Italian's name or where he had gone. KNOPPERS states however that he understands that VAN VLIET got this flat through a German friend connected with official circles in Belgium, who VAN VLIET said was anti-Nazi.

3. VAN VLIET was in possession of a pass which enabled him to cross the frontier. This pass had been described in other documents in this file. KNOPPERS says that these papers had also been obtained from VAN VLIET's German friend, and that they were thought to be genuine.

O'B/RB.

P.F. 600,439.

Original in L. 397/HOLLAND(3) V.1. 29a.
KNOPPERS, Hendrikus

6a

Copy.

L.397/Holland/3/B.1.B.

3rd December, 1943.

Dear Firmston Williams,

We spoke on the telephone yesterday about a certain Dutch set up of which I gave you the names - Hendrikus KNOPPERS, Lieut.Col. A.M. KOPPERT and George Van VLIET @ RIDDERHOF - and asked if you would be good enough to let me know whether you had any traces of them. You will find, I think, that the matter has already been referred to you, both by teleprinter lookup from ourselves and verbally by Major Warden of S.O.E. sometime in September. I rather anticipate that you will not be able to help but as the matter is rather important I should I think set out the brief facts as follows:-

During the summer of this year an organisation in Holland which was in touch with S.O.E. suggested by wireless that they should send to the U.K. an individual who turned out to be Hendrikus KNOPPERS. After some consideration S.O.E. replied that they were willing to receive the agent and arrangements were made in Holland for his journey to this country, partly, apparently, by the S.O.E. organisation and partly by George Van VLIET @ RIDDERHOF, who with another agent named ARNAUD (real name apparently, Anton PIERREFEU) accompanied KNOPPERS through Belgium and France to Paris. He arrived in the U.K. in September and created a fairly good impression during interrogation. His background, however, in Holland seemed to be a strange and suspicious one, chiefly because of

his close/

23/12/43

his close personal connection with a Dutch officer called Lieut. Col. A. M. KOPPERT, of whose bona fides we felt considerable doubts. I do not think I need here set out the rather complicated reasons for regarding KOPPERT with suspicion, but I should mention that he has a private address - Obrechtlaan 5, Bilthoven - and as a business address - O/o N.V. KIRMOPA, 37/43 St. Nicolaasstraat, Amsterdam. It appears that Van VLIET was in touch with the Colonel about KNOPPERS' journey. Van VLIET's address is given as: Molenweg, Blaricum, and "Ste. Cicillie" (block of flats) Laeken, Brussels.

Recently S.O.E. have had a message from Switzerland to the effect that the organisation in Holland which was responsible for the traffic about KNOPPERS' journey to this country as well as partly responsible for his journey, was under German control at the relevant time. From this it appears that KNOPPERS may well be a German agent and that Van VLIET almost certainly is. We are arranging for the detention of KNOPPERS and I hope to interrogate him early next week. It would be very helpful if you could let me know whether any of the matters or names referred to above have traces in your records. I have not set out all the minor names since we have already had look ups by teletypewriter which revealed no traces.

Yours sincerely,

G.P. Wethered,
Major.

(S.I.B. replied to the above letter on 7.12.43. under Ref. CX/22666/A/V.B.7. saying that the only information they had had on the characters mentioned was already in the possession of S.O.E.)
(Letter in L.397/Holland(3) V.1. 40a.)

O'B/RB.

Original in L. 397/HOLLAND(3) V.1. 27a.
KNOPPERS, Hendrius

Extract from NOTE with Reference to S.O.E. file for
KNOPPERS, (Dutchman who has been connected with Escape Organ-
isations in Holland). D/d 2.12.43.

.....

(p.2)

It will perhaps be relevant to note KNOPPERS' account
in this report of his meeting with George van VLIET. This is
as follows:-

"At the end of 1942 he was visited by George van
VLIET (alias, as his real name is RIDDERHOF), living at
Blaricum, who asked him whether he would like to work
with his organisation. After some hesitation KNOPPERS
agreed. He was asked whether his address might be used
as a contact address and told that R. was working for a
Belgian organisation under General MAHIEU and for the
organisation of Jan BOTTEMA, of Zoutkamp (Major HOOD).
BOTTEMA's alias was BRANDY. BOTTEMA worked with George
and Major HOOD since 1938. Apparently BOTTEMA took Major
HOOD in the "Helena" (a boat whose captain was called JAN)
to an English ship when the Germans were in Holland. Van
VLIET asked KNOPPERS to seek contact with as many organ-
isations as possible with a view to introducing more unity
and getting guidance from England. Furthermore, he asked
him for military or other information which might be of
use. In case of necessity KNOPPERS could apply to BOTTEMA,
who knew all about what was going on."

.....

(p.4)

It is also to be noted that KNOPPERS states that shortly
before his departure for England he put Van VLIET in touch with
Doddy WOLZAK and the HCOFD organisation. Van VLIET appears to
have been given the fullest information by KNOPPERS of all that
he had been able to find out in Holland.

.....

Later BART received a message that RINUS was caught in
Spain. The day before I left Holland I saw BART and he knew
nothing further about RINUS. I had put Van VLIET and BART in
touch with one another and, on the day of my departure, Van
VLIET had 3,000 for BART which BART was to get in Breda. BART
did not come to Breda that day. A contact address for BART is
my address in Holland.

BART now has contact with a wireless set in Holland for
England. He asked me to enquire whether he might use this set
and if so whether "Radio Oranje" would broadcast. Hier
volgt een boodschap voor Piet. De appels zijn rijp. If not,
the message would be: De schapen loopen in de wei. He would
then make no attempt to use this set.

Furthermore BART will be able to use a Dutch set which can
work with England when my code book comes from Barcelona, and the
other one has been given to Van VLIET by ARNAUD. (p.5)
.....
Organisatie X.

In order to get to know more about this contact should be
made with DOMINEE (?) at Bussum. This can be done via KNOPPERS'
address in Holland as follows:
Let Van VLIET ask CORRY (KNOPPERS' wife) to ask LENNY
from Bussum when the Da. can receive a friend of K's. LENNY's

husband/

husband, Lieut. RIDDERS, before he went away as a prisoner-of-war in June 1943 spoke to the Ds. about K. and agreed that K. should visit them. K. went there but the Ds. were not at home and, due to his departure for England, had no time to repeat the visit.

Let Van VLIET make this visit accompanied by LEMMY. CARRY can put Van VLIET into touch with LEMMY as they do not know each other.

The object of this organisation is not known to K.

Organisatie van Jan ROTTEMA, to ZOUTKAMP.

This organisation, KNOPPERS thinks, is well-known here. What KNOPPERS knows is as follows:

The alias of Jan ROTTEMA, who works with his brother and Van VLIET, is BRANDY. Van VLIET told KNOPPERS that on the Drentsche Hei and in the neighbourhood of Steenwijk weapons had been received from English planes in large cylinders dropped by parachute.

Van VLIET asked KNOPPERS when he left to greet Major HOOD from BRANDY and to say that the Engelschmanplaat is still waiting and that everything is in order there.

Organisatie WIM en/of Albert.

KNOPPERS has heard only the name and knows nothing further. Possibly BART or Van VLIET can get to know something, and perhaps DODDY.

X

(p.6)

A further interrogation report of KNOPPERS contains the following extract concerning Van VLIET's organisation in Holland)-

"VAN VLIET @ RIDDERSHOF, who lived at Blaricum, got into touch with source at the end of 1942 or the beginning of 1943, to ask if he could use source's address as a contact address, to which source agreed. Van VLIET himself had an official address in Blaricum, but hardly ever went there, except to see his father-in-law whose name source cannot remember. The approach was made by Van VLIET, who called at source's house and not finding him at home told his wife that he was living under the name of Van VLIET, but that his real name was RIDDERSHOF. This source was able to check up before pursuing the contact.

"VAN VLIET was connected with General MAHIEU's (?spelling) organisation in Belgium; the General wished him to have no direct contact with Dutch organisations, but to find information about them. For this purpose he asked source's help, but source is unable to say why Van VLIET selected him. He did not carry messages for Van VLIET, nor work for him directly, though Van VLIET had asked him to.

"Every Wednesday or Thursday Van VLIET went to Belgium, returning on the Sunday, when he rang source up to make an appointment for them to meet. He travelled to and fro by train, with a false letter purporting to come from one of the chiefs of the Gestapo, on production of which he was issued with an orange coloured paper allowing him to cross the frontier fourteen times. Source had seen these papers.

"Besides the information about various Dutch organisations, source gave Van VLIET details about various factories (e.g. Fokker factories, the PANDER factory at the Hague, which makes glider wings). This information source obtained from a friend called DE JONG who lived at Blaricum and worked at Amsterdam

in a group/

in a group of insurance companies responsible for war insurance in factories.

"Source states that he has entire confidence in Van VLIET. It was Van VLIET who asked him to go to England, saying that England had asked for someone to be sent over for instructions and then return to Holland. Van VLIET said he was in touch with the U.K. by transmitter. Source's own idea was that an officer with more authority than himself should be sent over, and he went as far as to approach two officers of his acquaintance. Neither, however, was willing to go, probably because it was dangerous, as they said that if he did the journey successfully, they would be willing to go later. He was not willing to give the names of these two officers, because it might look as if they had failed in their duty but their names have been given to Major Bingham among the safe address in Holland. Neither is a member of Daddy WOLZAK's organisation.

"During source's absence in this country, VAN VLIET is taking over his contacts, to which the General has agreed. VAN VLIET knew source as HENK.

"He is described by source as very like Albert de BOOY, the Dutch singer, who broadcast in the Dutch radio before the war. He is about 50 to 52, 1.70m. in height, a heavily built man with grey eyes, cleanshaven, hook nose, plenty of hair which is going grey, no spectacles. Before the war he had a small factory in Amsterdam, making art metal goods and also apparatus for making ozone. This business ceased after the war owing to the lack of raw materials."

P.T.O.

X "General" MATHIEU (MAHIEU) has been working in close touch with VAN VLIET, and as the latter is almost certainly a German agent, it is apparent that MATHIEU must also be given careful consideration. His real name is Maurice HOUBEN.

C'E/RB.

EXTRACT.

Extract for File No. RAF 600,439 Name: RIDDERHOFF, G. VAN VLIET,
 Serial in File No. 1.397/HOLLAND(3) KNOPPERS Serial V.1.26a Dated 2.12.43.
 Original from S.O.E. Under Ref. NONE.
 Extracted on 17.10.44. by O'B. Section BB.

Extract from Note on S.O.E. Traffic in the Case of
Hendrikus KNOPPERS. Dutchman who has been in contact with
Escape Organisations in Holland.

On 6th. Oct/43, at a time when SERGEANT's background had begun to cause suspicion in London, S.O.E. sent a message to GOLF stating that they were puzzled by SERGEANT's mission, and asking who was behind him and whether GOLF knew VAN VLIET or Col. KOPPERT, also what was the connection between these two, and how GOLF was connected with SERGEANT's wife. The reply, on Oct. 13th, was "CANNOT TELL YOU ANYTHING ABOUT SERGEANT AS ALL ARRANGED BY FRANS (BROADBEAN). KOPPERT UNKNOWN TO ME. VAN VLIET COLLABORATOR OF ARNAUD IN BELGIUM NOT ATTACHED ANY ORGANISATION BYT PAR REACHING RELATIONS. VAN VLIET KNOWS KOPPERT ONLY FROM CONVERSATION CONCERNING SERGEANT'S JOURNEY STOP COUSIN CAME TO SERGEANT'S WIFE VIA FRIEND AT BERGEN OP ZOOM STOP HAS FRANS NOT YET ARRIVED.

On Oct. 21st. London informed GOLF that they had heard that FRANS had been arrested in the Pyrenees. On Nov. 7th, London informed GOLF that they had had a warning that VAN VLIET was undoubtedly an agent provocateur. To this GOLF replied that his opinion

of VAN VLIET
 22/44

of VAN VLIET was favourable and that London's suspicions were absolutely unintelligible as he was a great patriot etc. etc. It was at this stage that S.O.E. decided to close down. Before doing so, however, they had sent a message instructing ARNAUD to come to this country, to which GOLF replied that he could not be spared as the whole transport business depended upon him, and that ARNAUD did not see the necessity for coming.

.....

Original in L. 397/HOLLAND(3) V.1. 18a.
KNOPFERS, Hendrikus

P.P. 600,432

300

Extract from letter from S.O.E. giving
information on persons mentioned in SECOND REPORT
on KNOPFERS. (d/d 16.10.48.)

.....

RIDDERHOF, whose alias is VAN VLIET, is known to our escape organiser in Holland, is claimed to have no contact with any organisation but has a wide circle of useful acquaintances. There is no doubt that through the escape organiser mentioned he can be considered to be in contact with us. Apparently he also has contact with BOTTEMA, who at one time was used by or organiser CATARRH; this organiser indeed received stores in Drente. Major HOOD is the alias of Major HUMPHRIES, who in 1938 instructed BOTTEMA in the use of explosives. The Captain SOMERS mentioned is Major SOMER, head of the Dutch S.I.S., and his name is probably known to RIDDERHOF on account of documents addressed to him and originating from an intelligence gathering organisation in Holland with whom it is quite clear that RIDDERHOF was also in touch.

.....

O'B/RB.

23/46

Original in L.397/HOLLAND(3) V.1. 12a.
KNOPPERS, Hendrikus

Extract from Report on KNOPPERS, Dutchman who has been
connected with Escape Organisations in Holland. (d/d 8.10.43,
forwarded by S.O.E.)

=/insp/.....

It was not until the end of 1942 or beginning of 1943 that SERGEANT started any regular resistance work. At this time he was approached by RIDDERHOF @ George van VLIET. Van VLIET had apparently been keeping an eye on SERGEANT for some time through the agency of Jacob VOS of the Cafe Vos, Blaricum, where SERGEANT often went, and SERGEANT thinks that Van VLIET delayed making any approach until VOS had assured him that SERGEANT was a safe man.

Van VLIET was apparently working for a man called the "General" (whose name sounded something like MAHIEU) in Belgium. He used to spend half of each week in Belgium and half in Holland, travelling to and fro on official frontier passes issued by the Germans. According to SERGEANT, Van VLIET was in possession of a forged letter of authority purporting to have been issued by the Gestapo, on production of which he obtained official frontier passes valid for a fortnight at a time. Van VLIET had a regular place of residence in Blaricum, and was registered as residing there under that name, though it seems that it was generally known that he was very seldom there, and SERGEANT had little difficulty in finding out from the registration authorities that his real name was RIDDERHOF. Van VLIET apparently had no cover occupation in Holland, but relied on his documents from the Gestapo.

Van VLIET told SERGEANT that he had been commissioned by "the General" to find out as much as he could about the set up and requirements of secret organisations in Holland generally, but that he was not to make any direct approaches to such organisations himself. Van VLIET therefore wished SERGEANT to acquire as much information of this sort as he could, and pass it over once a week. SERGEANT agreed to do so, and for the next five or six months he met Van VLIET once a week at different places in Holland. Van VLIET would ring him up each time he returned from Belgium and would say where the rendezvous was to be. In pursuance of these instructions, SERGEANT got into some sort of touch with three organisations, viz: (a) the RINUS organisation, about which he found out quite a lot, and the head man of which (BART) he met; (b) the "Hoofderorganisatie" of which Doddy WOLZAK was the secretary, about which he found out very little until after he left Holland; and (c) "Organization X" which was under the control of the person at Bussum, about which he found out nothing at all (since the person was out when he called) except a method of making a contact with it.

On behalf of the RINUS organisation, he asked Van VLIET, who claimed to have a wireless channel to England from somewhere near Utrecht, to send a message asking for a broadcast on Radio Oranje which would serve as a password on which the organisation would be able to get funds from a certain banker. According to Van VLIET the message was transmitted to England, but the answer was that the RINUS organisation was not known and Radio Oranje therefore refused to play. (this apparently is substantially correct). Van VLIET then arranged to finance BART himself and made a rendezvous through SERGEANT to meet him at Breda. This was on the day that SERGEANT himself left the country and BART never turned up.

In addition to making inquiries for Van VLIET about these organisations, SERGEANT also passed over to him such information/23/

information as he picked up on his travels about the location of firms and factories working for the Germans etc. On this subject SERGEANT is not very convincing. He admits that he reported to Van VLIET once a week for about five months, but apart from the specific matters mentioned above he is unable to say what he reported about. On the contrary, he says that he carried all his information in his head, and made it his business to forget it as soon as he had passed it over.

On the 20th June Van VLIET asked SERGEANT if he would go to England and report on the various organisations, and return with instructions for them. As SERGEANT understood it, the idea was that the several resistance movements headed co-ordination and central direction, as well as official recognition and support from London, and this could best be obtained by the sending of an emissary from Holland, and his return as a liaison officer with London credentials. SERGEANT at first said that he was hardly the right person to send, as he had found out little about any of the movements and practically nothing about the "Hoofdoororganisatie" which he understood was far the most important of all.....Finally he agreed to go.

On the 13th July at 12.30 he had a meeting with Van VLIET at Breda, and was handed over to a so-called police inspector. This man took SERGEANT on the back of his motor-cycle to a shed near the Belgian border in the neighbourhood of Baarle-Nassau. They then went on foot across country to a small village where they arrived at about 17.00 hrs. At about 18.00 hrs. they took the train to Turnhout, where they met Van VLIET at his flat in Brussels. Van VLIET was living there with his wife and father-in-law (O named VON DER VELDE). The flat was in a block called St. Cécile, which is reached by a No. 98 tram from the Gare du Nord, being about ten minutes run in the direction of Leeken.....SERGEANT was handed on to HOLLEVOET....then on to a third passeur who brought him into France.....In Jeumont he was taken to the house of a dentist, and here he was provided with a French identity card in the name of MAES.....This card was provided by VAN VLIET, who turned up again in Jeumont. After these formalities SERGEANT was taken to a small cafe to get some food and then to another near to the railway station. Here Van VLIET met him again and introduced ARNAUD, who took over his conduct to Paris. VAN VLIET and HOLLEVOET went back to Belgium from Jeumont. SERGEANT was held up in Paris for about five weeks. While he was there ARNAUD gave him Duddy WOLZAK's report, which Van VLIET had fetched in the meanwhile, and also another report in the form of a very reduced photograph about the organisation of JEREMIAH (of which SERGEANT previously knew nothing).....

.....SERGEANT'S mission seems somewhat lacking in purpose and precision, but it is made infinitely more mysterious by his tie-up with Lt. Col. KOPPERT. Although SERGEANT is quite satisfied that it was Van VLIET who invited him to go to England,our agent's messages states that Col. KOPPERT, leading man C.D., wishes urgently to send over his best man for a few weeks.....(later telegrams make it clear he is referring to SERGEANT).

.....When VAN VLIET asked him to go to England, SERGEANT at once consulted the Colonel, who advised him strongly against it.....Although SERGEANT admits that VAN VLIET knows the Colonel (he claims to have introduced them himself) he is satisfied that the Colonel was no party to his mission to England.....It is obvious that Van VLIET has much more connection with the Colonel than Sergeant knows of, and if the Colonel is a German agent, it seems....to be about an even chance that Van VLIET is also.....

Original in L. 397/HOLLAND(3) V.1. 7a.
KNOPPERS, Hendrikus

P.F. 600,435

Extract from SECOND REPORT on KNOPPERS,
Dutchman who has been in contact with Escape Or-
ganisations in Holland. (R.V.P.S. d/d 15.9.43,
Ref. Q.247 Y.3,993.)

1. KNOPPERS has been interrogated again in the
light of the look-ups at 5a.....

4. It is impossible to establish whether RID-
DERHOF @ George Van VLIET is identical with the
man RIDDERHOF of whom we have a record as being
connected with a Captain Van den BERG of the O.D.
Organisation who was thought by SERVAAS (RPS.6667)
to have betrayed him.

5. The only Van den BERG KNOPPERS thinks he
can recall, was before the war, and that he be-
lieves he was a man in G.S.3.(Du.Int.). KNOPPERS
could not say whether RIDDERHOF was a member of
the O.D. and as regards this organisation, he
states he knows nothing apart from the two ap-
proaches, mentioned in the 1st Report, for him to
join but which actually never developed into any-
thing.

6. RIDDERHOF, who KNOPPERS always calls George
from safety first habit, is the only person who
has ever invited him to go to the U.K. He adds
that he was quite prepared to go but expressed
some doubt as to whether he was of sufficient value.
However, RIDDERHOF assured him in this respect and
as a result, KNOPPERS agreed to go. KNOPPERS
states that he was told that some-one was required
to go over with reports regarding organisations
and with information of value to the Allies, with

the idea/

23/10/44

the idea of later returning to organise everything in Holland properly from the U.K.

7. KNOPPERS appears quite certain that RIDDERHOF is linked with country (i.e. with S.O.E.) RIDDERHOF stated that he knew a Major HOOD and in case of any difficulty at all in this country, KNOPPERS was to ask for him or Captain SOMERS. KNOPPERS mentions that he strongly suspects that Major HOOD is in fact Major Bingham. RIDDERHOF has contact with this country, according to KNOPPERS, via a transmitter which he believes is situated somewhere in the district of Utrecht but he was never told where it was and did not ask. KNOPPERS, further states that RIDDERHOF has had weapons delivered to him by parachute and he has seen parts of the containers in which these were dropped in Brante. He was never actually called upon by RIDDERHOF to put up anyone.
.....

9. As regards the "General" MAHIEU or MATHIEU,KNOPPERS is unable to give much assistance as he never saw him. RIDDERHOF not allowing KNOPPERS to go with him when he went to see MAHIEU at Brussels. KNOPPERS states that he is quite certain, however, that RIDDERHOF takes his instructions from the afore-mentioned as does also ARNAUD, who picked up KNOPPERS at Jeumont for S.O.E. and the guide HOLLEVOET. Thus it would appear that all these people are connected with S.O.E. and it would be quite easy to have a confirmation from the latter on this point.
.....

x

Look up at Ser. 5a

RIDDERHOF goes under the alias of George VAN VLIET, 1st or 2nd Molenweg, Blaricum, supposed to work between Belgium and Holland for secret organisation. He is the son of a Naval officer, believed at one time to have lived in Amsterdam and was at a Standard and Table lamp factory. Aged c.50 thin greying hair, thick-set, looks like a country cattle dealer height c.1.75m. Walks with limp through having been shot in the leg.

O'B/RB