

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 4, 1944

WOMEN SPIES IN THIS WAR

Cautious Else Weusenfeld Serves as Ring Paymaster

By MARTHA STRAYER

Scripps-Howard Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—Plump Else Weusenfeld, listed by FBI as No. 3 world war II feminine spy, was an efficient Manhattan legal secretary who may have turned Mata Hari for love.

"It is interesting to note," says the FBI record in her case, "that Else Weusenfeld first came to the attention of the federal bureau of investigation because of her association with Hans Ritter, a principal in the German espionage system. Else Weusenfeld began living with Hans Ritter in 1935."

Else is now living out a five-year Federal prison sentence, after pleading guilty as a member of the Frederick Duquesne spy ring, sentenced Jan. 2, 1942.

Takes Out Papers

Plump, efficient Else came to America in 1927 from her home in Essen, Germany, to marry Albert Weusenfeld of Pontiac, Mich. She was divorced by him on cruelty charges two years later. She then studied nursing, stenography and became a secretary on a German-operated steamship line. From 1935 to 1941 she was secretary to the law firm representing New York City's German consulate general. She became a naturalized American citizen, but always said she was an American only "on paper."

She was a terrified, cautious, efficient spy. Her job involved getting no information for the Nazis, but she sent information collected by others to principals in Germany. She operated as a "forwarding address."

Two Plotters Meet

Cautious Else took no chances. When Lilly Stein was sent to New York City in October, 1939, to join the Frederick Duquesne spy squad, she was referred to Else. Lilly brought for Duquesne, spy ring leader, \$300 and micrographed instructions to get information about gun turret design, anti-fog devices, automatic range finders, bacteriological warfare, anti-aircraft shells, gas masks, size of army and navy, shipments of war materials and troop movements. They met at a hotel and playgirl Lilly gave the password to substantial workaday Else. "Greetings from friends in Verdun-on-the-Aler," said Lilly, and was received into the Duquesne ring.

All Actions Tabbed

Else served as paymaster for some members of the Duquesne ring, a far-flung group whose couriers rode trans-Atlantic planes out of South America and sailed on neutral ships. She kept at her fingertips the movements of all members of the ring.

Else lived in constant fear of apprehension, says the FBI, but at the same time she must have been thrilled by her job. She and Lilly Stein became pals, though Else was 40 and Lilly only 23 when they met in 1939. They visited each other, sat by the hour talking about their respective espionage operations, running down Uncle Sam, saying how smart the Germans were.

Trip Plans Thwarted

Else thrilled her friends with talk about forwarding contacts in Tokyo and sending messages to Germany "over the top," possibly meaning Siberia.

She was planning a trip to Germany in 1941. For 16 months Hoover's G-men had been weaving a net around Duquesne ring members, of whom Else was one, and she was arrested June 28, 1941.

AIR COMBAT CREW EXAMINATIONS HELD

Examinations for air combat crew

training and the army specialized training program are given at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. every day except Saturday afternoon and Sunday at the U. S. army recruiting station and AAF examining board, 419 Federal building.

Enlistment into the air combat crew program is open to young men 17 to 20 years old. In order to participate in the army specialized training program, the youth must be graduated from high school before March 1, 1945, and not be more than 17 years and 9 months of age at the time he is accepted for the program.

Happy and amazed though they are at our luck in reaching and breaching the Siegfried line, they promise nothing regarding the Rhine and refer you to the politicians if you demand prophecy.

At least one correspondent has sent home for his skis just to show how he feels. Guess what?

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TECKEMEYER TO VISIT POST-WAR PARLEY

Earl B. Teckemeyer, Indianapolis realtor and member of the board of governors of the National Institute of Real Estate Brokers, will attend the post-war action conference of the National Association of Real Estate Boards the week of Nov. 23 in Chicago.

PENSIONERS WILL MEET
Indiana Old Age Pension group 3 is sponsoring a card party at 8 p.m. tomorrow in the McKinley clubhouse, 2217 E. Michigan st.

RATIONING DATES

MEAT—Red stamps A8 through 31, 28 and A5 through K5 in Book 4 good indefinitely for 10 points each.

CANNED GOODS—Blue stamps A8 through Z8 and A5 through R5 in Book 4 good indefinitely for 10 points each. No more blue stamps will become valid until Nov. 1.

SUGAR—Stamps 30, 31, 32 and 33 in Book 4 are good indefinitely for 5 pounds. Stamp 40 in Book 4 good for 5 pounds of canning sugar. No one is eligible for additional home canning sugar except those who produce for sale.

Applicants applying for canning sugar should send in one spare stamp #7, attached to the application for each applicant.

GASOLINE—Stamp A-13 for 4 gallons through Dec. 21. B3, B4 and B5 and C3, C4 and C5 good for 5 gallons; (4th quarter) good good immediately.

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