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SECRET

551

TO: Chief of Station, Luxembourg
 FROM: Chief, WX
 SUBJECT: Trace request: Peuly
 Josef Marcel Victor Wilhelm MERCKMANS
 ACTION REQUIRED: PII

DATE: 17 JUL 1959
 RE: 433 - (CHECK 1 ONE)
 MARKED FOR INDEXING
 NO INDEXING REQUIRED
 INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ DESK ONLY

REFERENCES:
 A. 10-30, 19 May 59
 B. 07-24/59, 18 June 59
 C. 20-15517, 2 July 59 (not sent)

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- Headquarters files contain no information on Subject's wife.
- A wartime document dated 18 Sept 44 gives the following information on Subject:

POLICE RECORD	1919	Arrested at Geneva for co-licity in an assassination and sentenced to life imprisonment.
	1925	Released through the influence of friends.
	Feb 1939	Accused at Luxembourg of embezzlement.
	Dec 1939	Arrested by the French authorities on suspicion of espionage and interned at Gerny.
	Jun 1940	Released from Gerny through the intervention of M. FUCHER, LAVAL, BARTHOLEMY etc.
	Nov 1943	Arrested by the "Gestapo" and imprisoned at Fresnes.
	Nov 1943	Released and placed under house surveillance at his Paris home.
	Dec 1943	Expelled from France by the "Gestapo" and instructed to live at Fudelage in Luxembourg.
- Additional information states Subject was reported to have been given an important intelligence post at Bordeaux by the Germans (August 1941). A description of Subject in the early 40's is as follows: 1'70cm tall, thin, has gold teeth. Reported to be an art dealer and a homosexual. Subject was described as wealthy and cultured. Subject had numerous friends in good Parisian circles and appeared to be more than a collaborator. Subject was arrested by SOGICAL on 16 September 1944 at Fudelage, Luxembourg. Papers found on Subject at that time indicated Subject had a fair amount of influence with the Germans and possibly was an agent.
- Subject's address in 1940-41 was Hotel St. James, rue de Rivoli, Paris 4^e. When arrested, his Paris residence was 117 rue de la Faisanderie.
- Headquarters files contain no further information on Subject except that forwarded in reference B.

ASW
 ROBERT A. WIGNY IT

14 July 1959

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