

KV 2/1705-1 + 2; KV 2/1706

Part IV

Drueke-Vera-Waelti

This final document on Drueke and Waelti, and on Vera von Wedel, Erikson, or von Schalburg, is shorter, and of less interest to me; as it mainly repeats information provided previously, time and again.

Nevertheless, in my perception, significant to notice, is, the reproduced copy of one of his last letters which had been signed by Karl Theo Drueke; without “ck”. I suppose that he stood under great stress, as is clearly reflected by his increasingly ‘deteriorating’ handwriting; his name was, **I must admit**, spelled here correctly.

It was addressed towards the end - to a family member, whoever he (**Herrn**) was (brother, father, or another male relative); which is being reproduced on our PDF pages: 9, 10 and 11.

Please, bear this in mind and neglect all the foregoing occasions in which **I** have added the ‘c’ to the ‘k’ in Drueke’s name before.

I bit disillusioned? I cannot deny it; but we have to accept what did remain over the 75 years since the end of World War Two.

What next?

Already noticed before, I suppose we should next deal with the particularities of:

KV 2/14; KV 2/15 and KV 2/16

All dedicated to **Vera** - whatever she named herself.

One point of (**hypothetical, thus not proven**) consideration: why became Vera and Drueke involved in this *hopeless* case?

Drueke, might have been the victim of a kind of blackmail (call it pressure) on behalf of **Abwehrstelle Hamburg**, due to the fact: - that he (**Drueke**) was actually the ‘driver’ of (Vera’s husband) “Major Hilmar Dierks’ ” car; and he was responsible for the fatal road accident, in which Vera’s “husband”, was killed (in the evening of 2nd September 1940). There are signs that the marriage between him (**Dierks**) and Vera, had reached already a delicate point; maybe ending-up in problems, anyway.

Please, bear in mind that they (**Drueke** and **Vera**) landed on the Scottish coast near Port Gordon, in the early morning of 30 September 1940! **Coincidence?**

AOB: An additional remark: it is **most unusual** sending a regular employee of an espionage service (Abwehr) on a dangerous endeavour abroad, where the chances are almost nil.

When I approached hereafter Vera's first file KV 2/14, I discovered that there do exist more file references: KV 2/17, KV 2/18 and KV 2/19; on Waelti and De Deeker an alias of Druke.

However, KV 2/18, page 13 (Druke), is putting a new dimension in this case; quote: His first attempt was based upon the humanitarian motive that he wished to offer himself, before he dies, as the father of Vera Erikson's child.

Here we have to go back to a previous letter written by Vera to Druke. Quoting: In Holloway Prison, Vera Eriksen wrote on 22nd December 1940 this rather touching letter to Karl Theo Druke:

My dear Theo, I'd like to ask you again to speak the truth, it will be good for both of us. Hans did not want you to die. And I ask you, if you love me, to try to save both of us. It is so awful to imagine to die like this, and your mother and my parents will not survive it either when they read it in the papers, and we must not do it. Dear, dear Karl-Theo, I am pregnant, and for the sake of our child try to help us.

All the best, yours, Vera.

(AOB, I would expect a less formal greeting - because they were "lovers")

This English language translation differs quite much from Vera's genuine German letter she wrote (KV 2/19, page 16); a typical British nuisance, which we seldom can prove, because almost all genuine German text materials have been destroyed, already during wartime days. For the German transcript: please, consider the appendix.

However:

Like in all my historical considerations based upon KV 2/xxx materials, all selections made are my particular choice; my additional comments are good recognisable, due to the fact that I write them in blue, red or, sometimes, green colours.

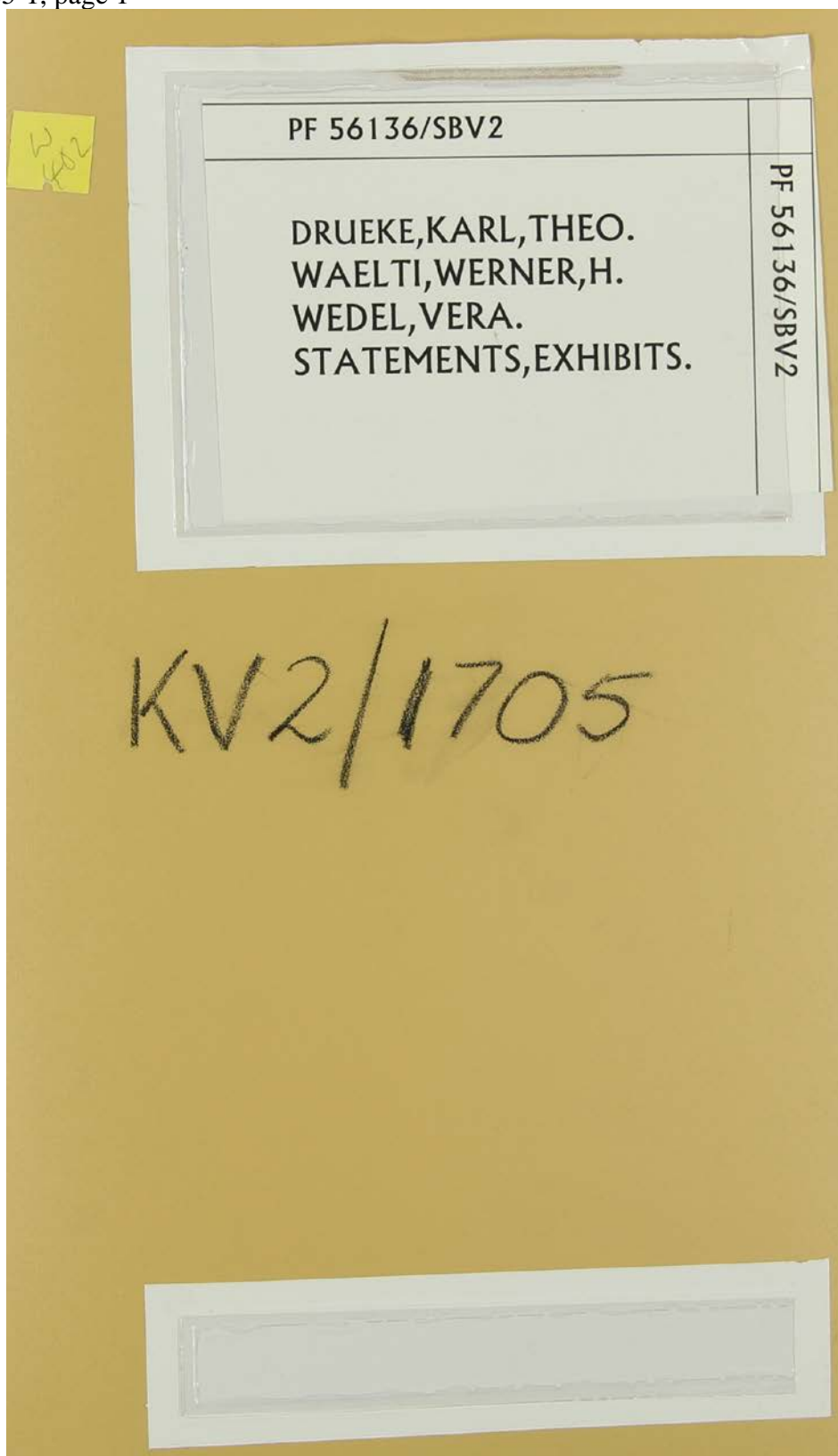
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Quite unusual for me - to be forced to add onto the introduction page details and references which aren't directly dealt within the following document. Though, I would like, nevertheless, to challenge you with aspects which you otherwise will, most likely, never be confronted with.

By Arthur O. Bauer



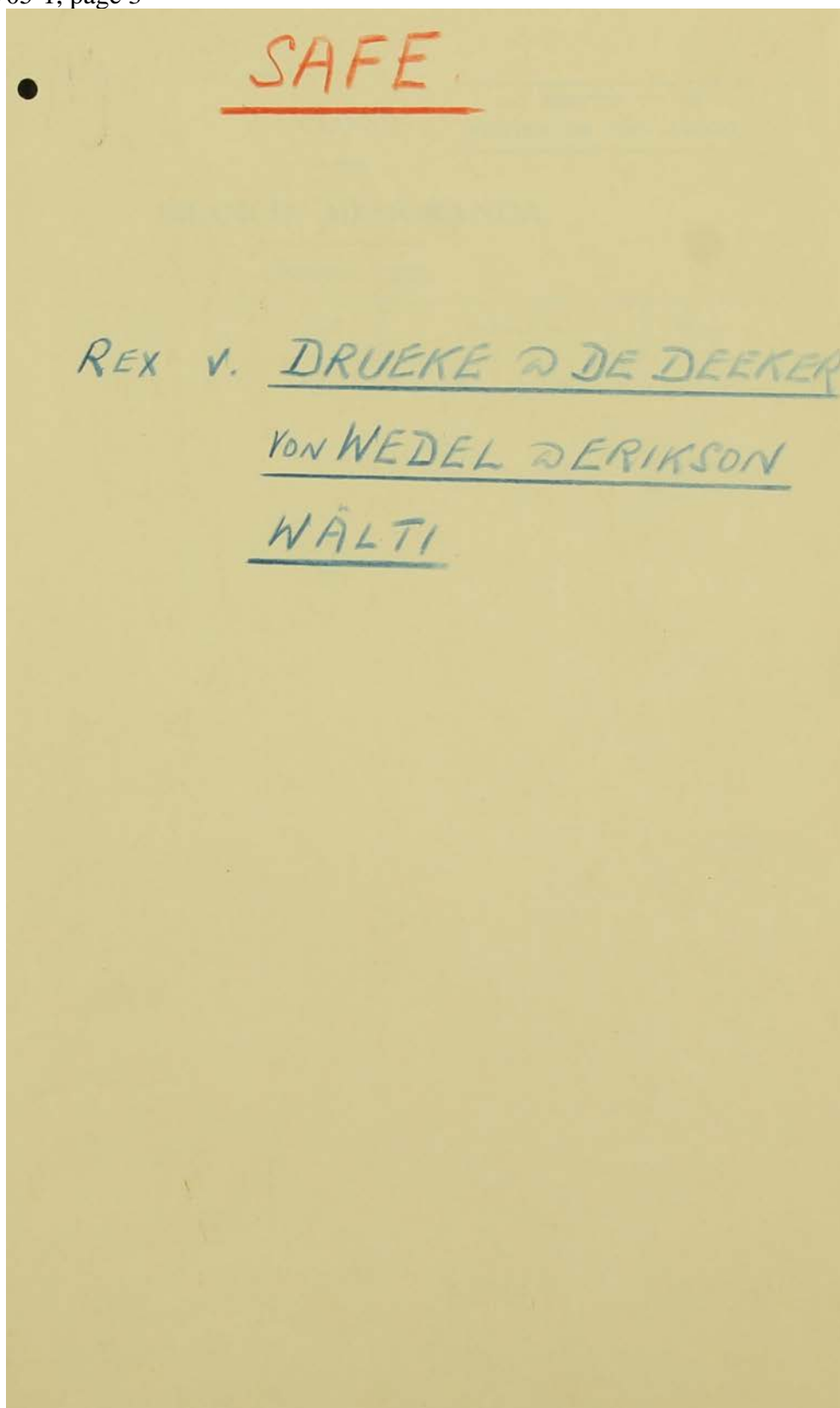
KV 2/1705-1, page 1



KV 2/1705
Drueke, Karl Theo
Waelti, Werner Heinrich
Wedel, Vera
PF 56136



KV 2/1705-1, page 3



Rex v Druke @ De Deeker
Von Wedel @ Erikson
Wälti



Statement by Baroness Vera VON WEDEL @ ERIKSON.

I have been cautioned by Lieut.-Colonel Hinchley Cooke that I need not say anything unless I wish to do so, but that anything I do say will be taken down in writing and may be used in evidence. I understand this caution.

I was born in Siberia in the year 1912. My mother's name was STARITSKY and my father's name was VON SCHALBURG. My mother was Russian and my father Danish. I adopted my mother's maiden-name (STARITSKY) in 1929 when I was on the stage in Paris as a dancer. In 1930 I married in Paris a man named IVAN IGNATIEFF, a Russian, who had a Nansen passport and posed as a White Russian. He was in fact a Red Russian Agent and he employed me from time to time as a courier. IGNATIEFF died in 1937. About 3½ years ago, it was in the month of October, I married in Hamburg a Baron HANS FRIEDRICH VON WEDEL, a German, who died in August 1940 under circumstances I do not wish to discuss. The National Registration Identity Card in the name of VERA ERIKSON, produced to me by Lieut.-Col. Hinchley Cooke, was given to me in Germany. I do not know who wrote the name and number on it, but I signed it. They told me to put the address down, but I do not wish to say who "they" are. The name ERIKSON is an invention. On a Sunday night some time ago I left Stavanger, Norway, in a German seaplane with two men, one named DE DEEKER and one named WALTI. When we reached the north of Scotland the seaplane alighted on the water and then DE DEEKER WALTI and I went ashore in a small rubber boat. The two men rowed the rubber boat for about 3½ hours before we reached

V. v. Wedel

CNFX/141/2

V. v. Wedel

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Statement by Baroness Vera von Wedel @ Erikson.

I have been cautioned by Lieut.-Colonel Hinchley Cooke that I do not need to say anything unless I wish to do so, but that anything I do say will be taken down in writing and may be used in evidence. I understand this caution.

I was born in Siberia in the year 1912. My mother's name was Staritsky and my father's name was von Schalburg. My mother was Russian and my father Danish. I adopted my mother's maiden-name (Staritsky) in 1929 when I was on the stage in Paris as a dancer. In 1930 I married in Paris a man named Ivan Ignatieff, a Russian, who had a Nansen passport (stateless passport provided to Russians opposing the Soviets) and posed as a White Russian (those favouring the Russian Tsar). He was in fact a Red Russian Agent and he employed me from time to time as a courier. Ignatieff died in 1937. About 3½ years ago, it was in the month of October, I married in Hamburg a Baron Hans von Wedel, a German, who died in August (2nd September) 1940 under circumstances I do not wish to discuss. The National registration Identity Card in the name of Vera Erikson, produced to me by Lieut.-Col. Hinchley Cooke, was given to me in Germany. I do not know who wrote the name and number on it, but I signed it. They told me to put the address down, but I do not wish to say who "they" are (AOB, think of Ast-X Hamburg). The name Erikson is an invention. On a Sunday night some time ago (29th September 1940) I left Stavanger, Norway, in a German seaplane with two men, one named de Deeker (albeit, that she knew his real name which was Drücke/Drueke) and one named Wälti. When we reached the north of Scotland the seaplane alighted on the water and then De Deeker, Wälti and I went ashore in a small rubber boat. The two men rowed the rubber boat for about 3½ hours before we → reached the shore near a place which I think was Gordon or something like that.

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KV 2/1705-1, page 5

reached the shore near a place which I think was Gordon or something like that. It was about four o'clock in the morning when we landed. DE DEEKER and I got out of the boat into water which went nearly up to my knees and waded ashore. WALTI stayed behind, I think for the purpose of drowning the boat. DE DEEKER had in his possession one suitcase and WALTI had ^{in his one or} two suitcases. We parted company after landing, that is to say, DE DEEKER and I turned to the right and WALTI to the left, because WALTI wanted to go by himself. I have not seen WALTI since. After DE DEEKER and I had walked some distance, we arrived at a small railway station, intending to go to London. I believe the name of the station was Gordon. I asked someone the name of the station and I bought two railway tickets to the station where I thought we had to change for London. DE DEEKER suggested that we should not buy tickets direct to London, but I don't know why. It was probably so that people should not know where we went. DE DEEKER and I were arrested shortly before the train came. It was not until DE DEEKER's suitcase was opened at the Police Station that I knew that there was a wireless set in it. I did not want to come over here to spy but I was told by a Major RANTZAU of the German Secret Service that I would be shot if I did not come. DE DEEKER was a friend of my late husband Baron VON WEDEL. My late husband was an acquaintance of Major RANTZAU. I really intended to go to London to see a Major MCKENZIE, a friend of mine, whom I met on a previous visit to London and it was my intention to tell him the whole story with a view to being put into prison until the war was over. I do not wish to say anything more, because I have been interrogated on several occasions by Dr. Dearden and other persons. Dr. Dearden said it was all finished and that

V.v. Wedel

V. v. Wedel

I

→ reached the shore near a place which I think was (Port) Gordon or something like that. It was about four o'clock in the morning when I landed. De Deeker (Drueke) and I got out of the boat into water which went nearly up to my knees and waded ashore. Waelti stayed behind, I think for the purpose of drowning the boat. De Deeker had in his possession one suitcase and Waelti had, another one or two suitcases (AOB, actually the latter possessed a bigger suitcase, in which a second smaller suitcase contained another wireless set).

We parted company after landing, that is to say, de Deeker (Drueke) I (Vera) turned to the right and Waelti to the left, because Waelti wanted to go by himself. I have not seen Waelti since. After De Deeker and I had walked some distance, we arrived at a small railway station, intended to go to London. I believe the name of the station was Gordon. I asked someone the name of the station and I bought two railway tickets to the station where I thought we had to change for London. De Deeker suggested that we should not buy tickets direct to London, but I don't know why. It was probably so that people should not know where we went. De Deeker and I were arrested shortly before the train came. It was not until De Deeker's suitcase was opened at the Police Station that I knew that there was a wireless set in it. I did not want to come over here to spy but I was told by a Major Rantzau (Known to M.I.5., for some time, as: "The Dr." an alias of "Major Nikolaus Ritter") of the German Secret Service (The same Secret Service branch as her husband "von Wedel" alias of Major Hilmar Dierks was employed at: Abwehrstelle Hamburg) that I would be shot if I did not come.

De Deeker was a friend of my late husband Baron von Wedel. My late husband was an acquaintance of Major Rantzau (actually, both men were engaged at Abwehrstelle Hamburg!) (De Deeker's real name was Drueke/Drüke, who was the driver of her "formal husband" Major Hilmar Dierks' car, on the fatal evening of 2nd September 1940).

I really intended to go to London to see a Major McKenzie, a friend of mine, whom I met on a previous visit in London and it was my intention to tell him the whole story with a view to being put into prison until the war was over. I do not wish to say anything more, because I have been interrogated on several occasions by Dr. Dearden and other persons. Dr. Dearden said it was all finished and that → I would be "off trial" and would not be shot or hanged.

I have read this statement over and it is true.

Signature Vera v. Wedel (a quite amateur-like signature)

Signature witnessed by Hinchley Cooke

Date 28/2/41

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London, 31st of July 1941

Dear Sir,

I wish to thank you for all you have done for me in my case. Especially I would like to express you my gratitude for your just and brilliant way in which you conducted my defence before the Appeal Court.

In appreciation I beg you to communicate for your fees with my brother, after the war, at the undermentioned address:

Herr Amtspräsident Dr. Meke
Kerkerchen
über Treysen
Germany

Yours, Sir,

Yours faithfully

Karl-Theo Arnold

London, 31st of July 1941

Dear Sir, (Mr Figg was Drueke's Solicitor)

I wish to thank you for all you have done for me in my case. Especially I would like to express you my gratitude for your just and brilliant way in which you und??ted my defence before the Appeal Court.

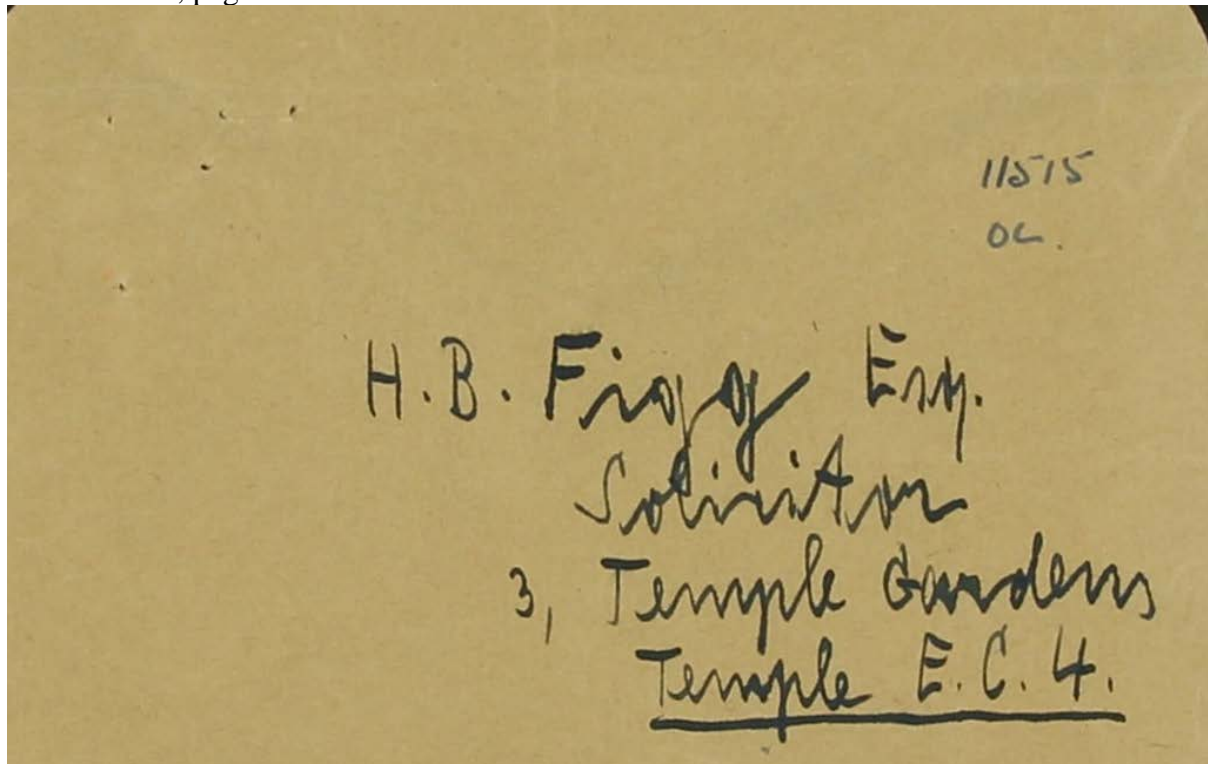
In appreciation I beg you to communicate for your fees with my brother after the war, at the undermentioned address:

Herrn Amtsgerichtsrat Drueke
Neukirchen
über Treysa (Western Germany)
Germany

I am Sir,
Yours faithfully
Karl Theo Drueke.

(AOB: [Karl Theo Drueke's letter](#), likely written not long before his execution. It possibly suffered ultimately the same [embarrassing treatment](#) as encountered those executed in the Meier, Kieboom and Waldberg cases: <https://www.cdvandt.org/seeloewe-espionage.htm>; where their last letters had also [never been forwarded, even not after the war!](#) The latter been proven here as well: [by the still existing addressed envelope and hand-written letter](#)) ↓

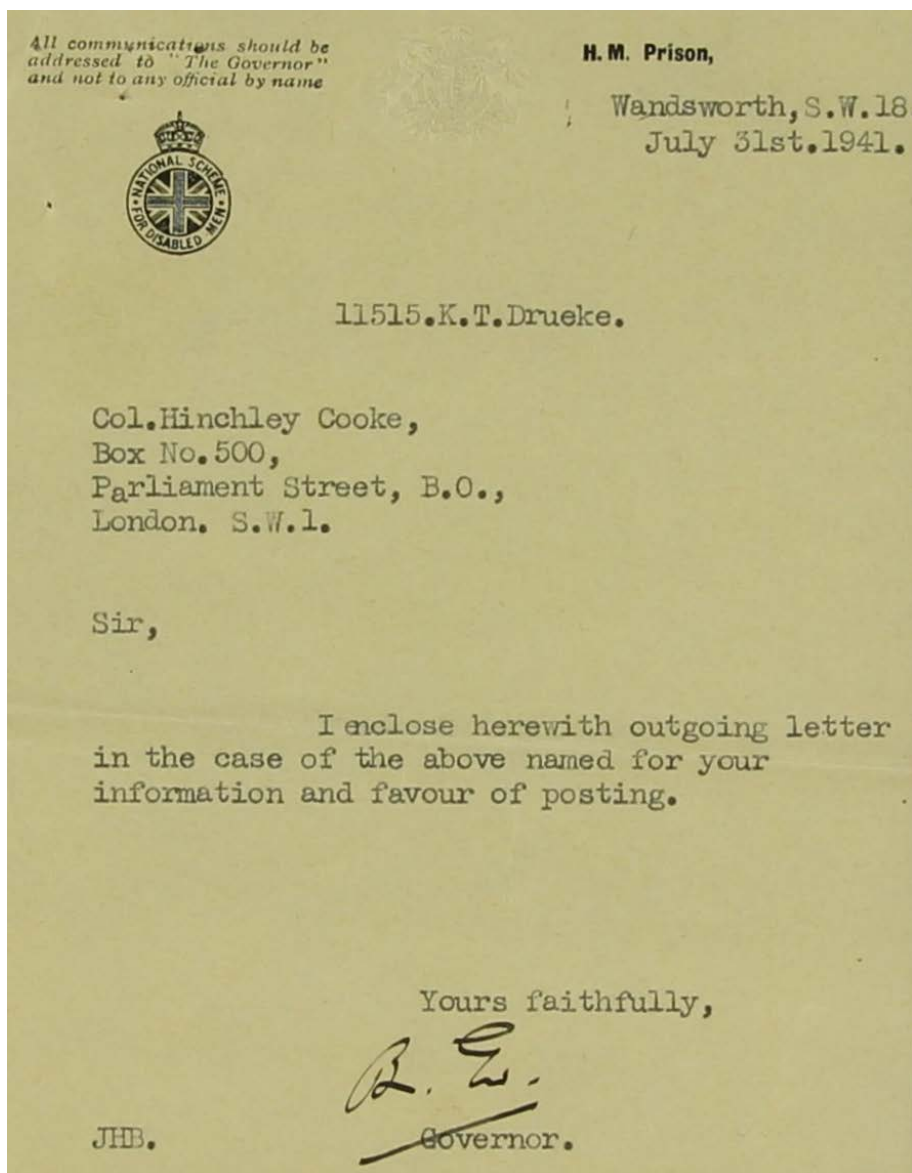
KV 2/1705-2, page 59



H.B. Figg Esq.
Solicitor
3, Temple Gardens
Temple E.C.4.

(AOB, [11515 was Drueke's prisoner number](#))

KV 2/1705-2, page 60



H.M. Prison,
Wandsworth, S.W.18

11515.K.T. Drueke.

Col. Hinchley Cooke
Box No. 500,
Parliament Street, B.O.,
London. S.W.1.

Sir,

I enclose herewith outgoing letter in case of the above named for your information and in favour of posting.

Yours faithfully,

Governor

(AOB: we may assume, that this matter concerned Drueke's letter written a few days before his execution, which was addressed on to his Solicitor; though, that apparently never had been forwarded!)

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Friedrichshafen a. B.

N° 4924

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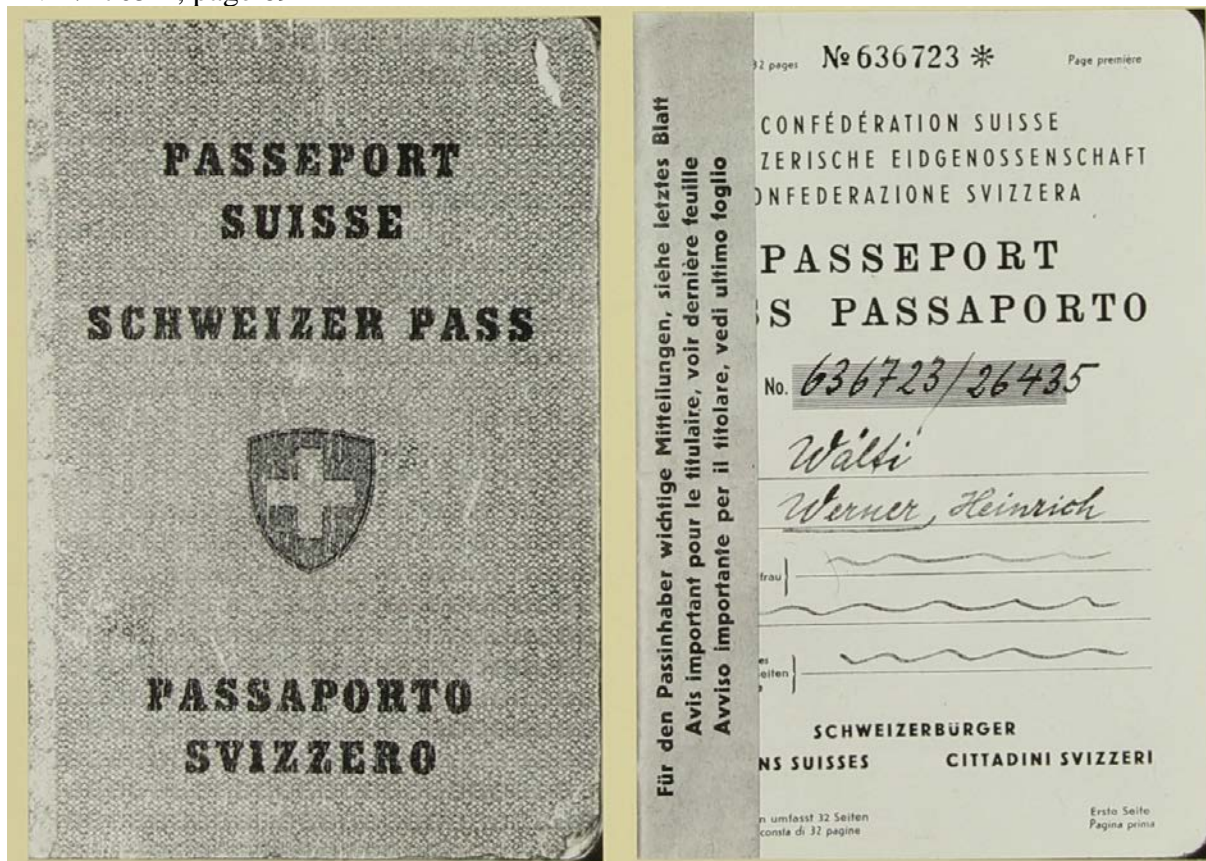
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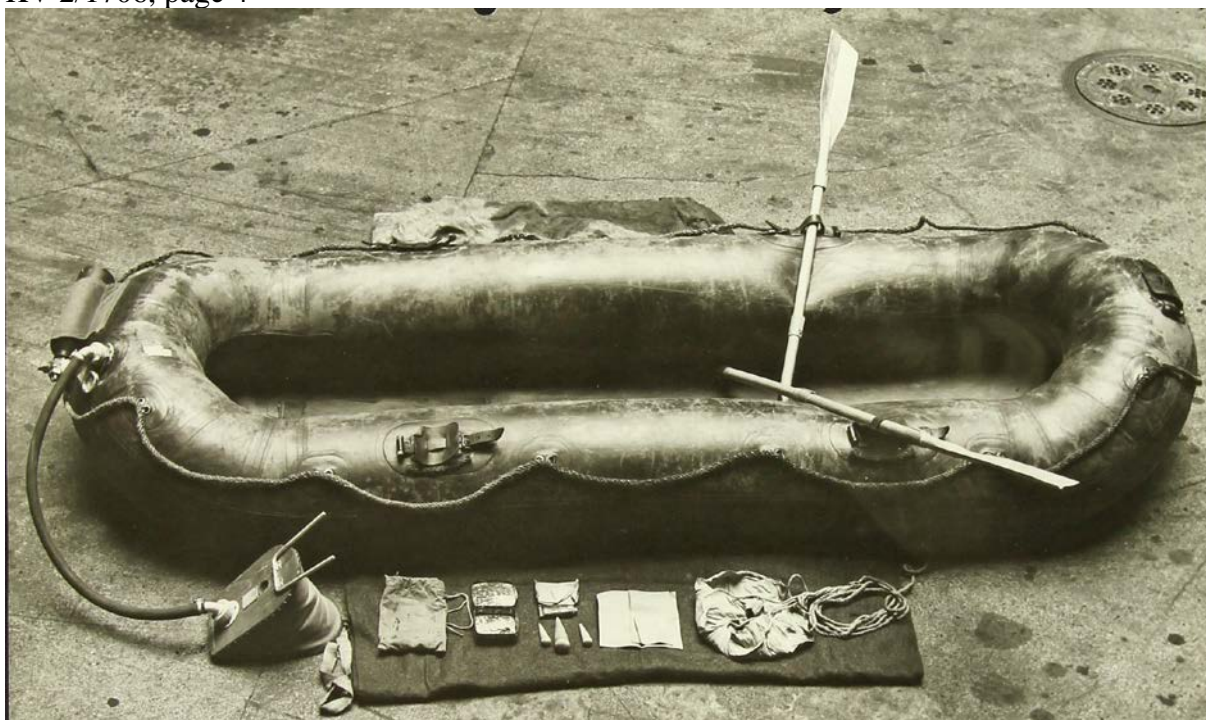
KV 2/1705-2, page 69



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KV 2/1706, page 4



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Their rubber boat (dinghy)
 Re-fitted during the progress of investigations.



Appendix
KV 2/19, page 16

Mein lieber Theo!

Ich moechte Dich noch Mal bitten sag die Wahrheit, es wird uns beide gut tun. Hans wollt nicht dass Du stirbst. Und ich bitte Dir wenn Du mich liebst, versuch uns beide zu retten, es ist so furchbar zu denken so zur sterben, und Deine Mutter und meine Eltern werden es auch nicht ueberleben wenn sie es in Zeitung lesen, und wir duerfen es nicht machen.

Lieber, lieber Karl- Theo, ich bin pregnante, und unsere Kind wegen versuch uns zu helfen. Sprich offen zu Dr. Dreaden, er ist ein fabelhafter Mensch und Gentleman. Ich schreibe noch diese Mal zu Dir und und denke wenn Krieg ist vorbei kannst Du wieder frei sein und ich Dich schon eine gute Freundin sein. Aber um Gottes willen sei klug und sprich, und das kann uns helfen.

Alles Gute

Deine

(signed) VERA.

Mein Lieber Theo,

Ich moechte Dich noch Mal bitten sag die Wahrheit, es wird uns beide gut tun. Hans wollte nicht dass Du stirbst. Und ich bitte Dir wenn Du mich liebst, versuch uns beide zu retten, es ist so furchtbar zu denken so zu sterben, und Dein Mutter und meine Eltern werden es auch nicht ueberleben wenn sie es in Zeitung lesen, und wir duerfen es nicht machen.

Lieber, lieber Karl-Theo, ich bin pregnate ([schwanger](#)), unsere Kind wegen versuch uns zu helfen. Sprich offen zu Dr Dearden, es ist ein fabelhafter Mensch und Gentleman. Ich schreibe noch diese Mal zu Dir und und denke wenn Krieg ist vorbei kannst Du wieder frei sein und ich Dich schon eine gute Freundin sein. Aber um Gottes willen sei klug und sprich, and das kann uns helfen.

Alle Gute
Deine
(signed) Vera

B.L.
23.12.40
MEM

(AOB, first we might understand that her German language is not too good; maybe caused also by the one who copied (typed) the text on to the according document. Second: That the German text differs from the foregoing English language translation).

Termination of

Part IV
on
6 January 2020