

**KV 2/3306**

Holger Winding Christensen

PF 603256

Born: 22 August 1902, in Fredericia.

On Christensen's statements in respect to  
Vera and von Wedel her alleged husband.

Christensen claims: that it was him who arranged the connection between the Abwehr and  
Vera.

This file is rather curious, because on the one hand I have my strong doubts (reservations)  
about the qualification of Christensen, on the other hand what he describes is, in our  
foregoing context: The [Drueke – Vera and Waelti](#) file, of great significance.  
As it fills-in gaps, and might be the only opportunity to solve queries; and he gives, in my  
perception, the ultimate clue of some curious matters.

At the end of this file, you will find some of the experiences explained.

By Arthur O. Bauer

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Translation from Danish.HOLGER WINDING CHRISTENSEN,  
No. 281/328.

Alsgades Skole, the 10.9.1945.

TO: Interrogation Centre,  
Alsgades Skole,  
Copenhagen V.-SUBJECT: Microphone tapping equipment in Palægade, Copenhagen  
(Febr. 40).  
Enclosure: 3.-

Nearly a year after my joining the firm SIEMENS & HALSKE, Berlin. OKW asked me to travel to Copenhagen in order to install microphone tapping equipment.

Further particulars were given on Tirpitzufer 80 by an "Abwehr" naval officer, Kapitänleutnant MEISSNER, who explained that the job was of purely technical nature, but extremely important - and to my relief not directed against Danish interests. In Copenhagen I should go to an apartment in Palægade and examine the possibilities for installing the above-mentioned equipment there and buy the necessary material in Copenhagen. I knew Meissner beforehand through the Major from Hamburg (Gkd.X) mentioned in my main report. He had in November 1939, when I received a wire that my father had got cerebral haemorrhage, in the most friendly way provided me with papers for an outward journey and aeroplane-ticket within less than an hour - I had also been a guest in his home in Berlin-Zehlendorf.

There was no form of restraint from the part of Meissner regarding the job, but I could on account of the kindness he had previously shown me and from the fact that "Abwehr" had offered me a job as an engineer at SIEMENS & HALSKE at my forced resignation from the Danish army hardly decline to render my assistance the first time they appealed to me, so much the more as it was explicitly emphasized that the undertaking was not directed against Danish interests.

I, therefore, promised to do my best, went to Copenhagen and enquired at the apartment concerned in Palægade (as I cannot remember the number any longer, I have made the sketch below for your guidance).

St. Kongensgade.

x  
Palægade

Bredgade

13 DEC 1945

Translation from Danish.

Holger Winding Christensen

No. 281/328

Alsgades Skole, the 10.9.1945.

To interrogation Centre

Alsgades Skole.

Copenhagen V.

Subject : Microphone tapping in Palägade, Copenhagen (Febr. 1940)

Enclosure : 3,-

Nearly a year after my joining the firm Siemens & Halske, Berlin. OKW asked me to travel to Copenhagen in order to install microphone tapping equipment.

Further particulars were given on Tirpitzufer 80 by an “Abwehr” naval officer Kapitänleutnant Meissner, who explained that the job was purely technical nature, but extremely important – and to my relief not directed against Danish interests. In Copenhagen I should go to an apartment in Pälgade and examine the possibilities for installing the above-mentioned equipment there and buy the necessary material in Copenhagen. I knew Meissner beforehand through the Major from Hamburg Gkd X (Ast-X or K.d.M) mentioned in my report. He had in November 1939, when I received a wire (telegram message) that had got cerebral haemorrhage, in the most friendly way provided me with papers for an outward journey and aeroplane-ticket within less than an hour – I had also been a guest in his home in Berlin-Zehlendorf.

There was no form of restraint (command) from the part of Meissner regarding the job, but I could on account of the kindness he previously shown me and from the fact that the “Abwehr” \* had offered me a job as engineer at Siemens & Halske at my forced resignation from the Danish army hardly decline to render my assistance the first time they appealed to me, so much the more as it was explicitly emphasized that the undertaking was not directed against Danish interests.

I, therefore, promised to do my best, went to Copenhagen and enquired at the apartment concerned Palägade (as I can not remember the number any longer, I have made the sketch below for your guidance).

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Two persons were in the apartment at my arrival, viz. a German man called WEDDEL (naval officer) and a lady, [Miss VIERA von SCHALBURG] a sister to the chief of the Freecorps. It appeared that the point was to tap the apartment situated upstairs and belonging to the French military attaché, but the problem could not be solved with the material bought in Copenhagen. I, therefore, at once returned to Berlin and asked to be released from the job, unless they could place the best tapping-material, which Germany had to show, at my disposal.

They gave me therefore some special tapping apparatus of the type "Grosses Raumlauschgerät", a light, transportable equipment with two valves Audion-amplifier and battery-box (shown in the enclosure). The microphones used were of electromagnetic type, as coal-horn microphones by sufficient loud amplifying gave so strong whistling sounds that the speech would be unintelligible (see enclosure 1).

Supplied with such equipments I again went to Copenhagen and could now complete the installation within a few days. After having measured the ceiling-height on the stairs and set microphones up on metal-hooks at the end of long flexible wooden lists, which had the exact ceiling-height of the stair-case, I pushed the lists carefully through the ventilator openings, which were found immediately under the ceiling of nearly all rooms, these ventilator openings were covered with metal netting. This metal netting and the ventilator fins were first removed.

After this it must be supposed that the microphones were in place behind the corresponding netting in the flat lying above - that is to say in the most advantageous position. As far as I remember 4 microphones of this type were placed in an equal number of rooms.

My task was herewith brought to an end, and I returned to Berlin in order to resume my work in my firm. The enterprise had all in all - including the intervening trip to Berlin - taken about a fortnight. As already mentioned I only dealt with the purely technical part. The tapping itself was done by the persons staying in the apartment and was in full swing at my departure, but should, if I understood Mr. Wedel quite right, be taken over by a special staff of ladies proficient in languages, and they were expected at my departure. It is furthermore well-known to me from Lt. Capt. von SCHALBURG that his sister shortly after my departure was attacked in the apartment in question one night, when she was there alone, and she was severely wounded by a stab. It is possible that the installation at the same occasion was destroyed, as the culprits are said to have ravaged the apartment seriously. Miss von Schalburg was brought to a lazaret in Flensburg at the request of Mr. Wedel.

The profit of the tapping is unknown to me, but it is to be supposed that the subjects discussed by the French military attaché at a time, when the winter-war in Finland was reaching its climax, and important events in Scandinavia were at hand, could very well be of interest to OKW.

The said Mr. Wedel seemed by the way to be a rather enterprising intelligent man. One day during my stay in the apartment he waited until the house-maid from upstairs went down with

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Two persons were in the apartment at my arrival, viz. a German man called Wedel (naval officer) and a lady, [Miss Vera von Schalburg] as sister of the chief of the Freecorps. (AOB, **he later became engaged in the SS, and was killed during combat**). It appeared that the point was to tap the apartment situated upstairs and belonging to the French military attaché, but the problem could not be solved with the material bought in Copenhagen. I, therefore, at once returned to Berlin and asked to be released from the job, unless they could place the best tapping-material, which Germany had to show, at my disposal.

They gave me therefore some special tapping apparatus of the type “Grosses Raumlauschgerät”, a light transportable equipment with two valves Audion-amplifier and battery box (shown in the enclosure) (AOB, **the latter photo/drawing is not found within this file. I suppose equal equipments had been used very frequently later - as to listen whether people being caught after bombardment**) The microphones used were electromagnetic type, as coal-horn? Microphones by sufficient loud amplifying gave a strong whistling sounds (noise) that the speech would be unintelligible.

Supplied with such equipment I again went to Copenhagen and could now complete the installation within a few days. After having measured the ceiling-height on the stairs and set microphones up on metal hooks at the end of long flexible wooden lists, which had the exact ceiling height of the stair-case I pushed the liste (**Latte**) carefully through the ventilator openings, which were found immediately under the ceiling of nearly all rooms, these ventilator openings were covered with metal netting. This metal netting and the ventilator fins were first removed.

After this it must be supposed that the microphone were in place behind the corresponding netting in the flat lying above - that is to say in the most advantageous position. As far as I remember 4 microphones of this type were placed in an equal number of rooms.

My task was herewith brought to an end, and I returned to Berlin in order to resume my work in my firm. (**Siemens & Halske**). The enterprise had all in all – including the intervening trip to Berlin – taken about a fortnight. As already mentioned I only dealt with the purely technical part. The tapping itself was done by persons staying in the apartment and was in full swing at my departure, but should, if I understood Mr. Wedel quite right be taken over by a special staff of ladies proficient in languages, and they were expected at my departure. It is furthermore well known to me from Lt.Capt. von Schalburg that his sister shortly after my departure was attacked in the apartment in question one night, when she was there alone, and she was severely wounded by a stab (knife). (AOB, **might this wound have been the same one frequently referred onto in Vera's time spent in British prisons? Which she described as which once had been caused by her first husband Ignatieff, about 1935 in Paris?**) It is possible that the installation at the same occasion had been destroyed, as the culprits (**offenders**) are said to have ravaged the apartment seriously. Miss von Schalberg was brought to a Lazarett in Flensburg at the request of Mr. Wedel.

The profit of the tapping is unknown to me, but it is to be supposed that the subjects discussed by the French military attaché at a time, when the winter-war in Finland (**due to a Russian invasion**) was reaching its climax, and important events in Skandinavia were at hand, could very well be of interest to OKW.

The said Mr. Wedel seemed by the way to be a rather enterprising intelligent man. One day during my stay in the apartment he waited until the house-maid from upstairs went down with → the pail (**trash container?**), where after he quietly went upstairs and through the kitchen into the military attaché's middle office, which happened to be empty, as the whole staff so far it could be asserted beforehand – were in the front rooms.

the pail, whereafter he quietly went upstairs and through the kitchen into the military attaché's middle office, which happened to be empty, as the whole staff - so far it could be asserted beforehand - were in the front rooms.

Shortly after he came down triumphantly with a heap of papers, which he the next day sent to Berlin. I had no opportunity of seeing these papers, so I do not know whether they contained anything of interest. It was however, easy to register the disturbance upstairs immediately after the coup.

I told Mr. Wedel that it of course could be very thrilling from a sporting point of view, but taking regard to the uninterrupted utilization of the installed microphone system it might maybe have been more expedient to desist from doing such things, but this did not concern me. All in all Mr. Wedel behaved in spite of his 50 years as a big boy, who took nothing serious.

The French and English he always mentioned with sympathy, as if there was no war at all. "They are brilliant fellows", he said. But he was on the other hand always very sombre, if the Sovjet-Russians were brought up. This is certainly due to the fact that [Vera von Schalburg] with whom he was in love and probably later on has married, as a Russian emigrant was always threatened by Sovjet's agents and had several times been exposed to attacks.

Later on in Berlin I received recognition and thanks for the quality of my technical installation in Paläsgade, the ground-plan of which is shown as a sketch in the enclosure 2. Neither have I ever before or after this built such microphone tapping equipments outside of Germany.

I have on the other hand composed a special trunk equipment based on the big "Raumlauschgerät". Four microphones could be connected and could be used about a week on one accumulator-charging. The form suggested was accepted and has after the production of one series been put into use. (See enclosure 3).

The contrast to "Grosses Raumlauschgerät" was "Kleines Raumlauschgerät" containing a small coal-microphone in rubber-capsule and a pocket-battery in cases of pressed material with bushings to microphone-cable and the headphones.

Signed: H. WINDING CHRISTENSEN.

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I told Mr Wedel that of course could be very thrilling from a point of sporting point of view, but taking regard to the uninterrupted utilization of the installed microphone system it might maybe have been more expedient to desist from doing such things (AOB, quite right!), but this did not concern me. All in all Mr. Wedel behaved in spite of his 50 years as a big boy, who took nothing serious.!

The French and English he always mentioned with sympathy, as if there was no war at all. “They are brilliant fellows”; he said. But he was on the other hand always very somber, if the Soviet-Russian were brought up. This is certainly due to the fact that Vera von Schalburg with whom he was in love and probably later on has married, as a Russian emigrant was always threatened by Soviet agents and had several times been exposed to attacks.

Later in Berlin I received recognition and thanks for the quality of my technical installation in Palägade, the ground-plan ..... (not enclosed in the file)

...

Signed H. Windig Christensen.

\* We may draw the conclusion, that this report, as far as I have reproduced it (for this context), is likely our only source lifting some secrets on: as to how Vera might have come in touch with the Abwehr, and Dierks, alias von Wedel her alleged husband.

Vera already pointed in some of her interrogations in England, that via a brother, but her own stepbrother; she contacted him as to come in touch with the “enemy of my enemy” (maybe her first husband Ignatieff.

(Reason: the Belgium administration in Brussels informed Vera, that she stood on a German Blacklist, as being a Russian spy!)

The story bents now a bit. Vera's brother might have contacted Christensen, who may already have had sympathies for the Germans - as has Vera's brother.

Both men, thus Christensen and Vera's brother, became part of the German machine. Vera's brother in the SS and Christensen later also. Albeit the latter in the RSHA's military intelligence organisation Amt VI F “H” (non-combatant).

It is not unlikely now, that Vera's medical complains - due to her stab-wound - may have been caused in early 1940, at Pälgade; where apparently Vera stayed for a while; and, not in Paris, about 1935/36.

Is this the ultimate proof? No! But the most likely evidence, we possess!

Terminated on 31 January 2020