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Letters from the Spy Left Out in the Cold:
Werner Klingeberg and the IOC

Werner Klingeberg emerged quietly as a bit player during the post- 1930 period of the International Olympic Committee. A student of Carl Diem, and presumably with a master's degree from the University of California, Berkeley. Klingeberg was a member of the technical staff for the 1936 Olympic Games in Germany. He also contracted to go to Japan as the Technical Counsellor for the 1940 Games, but the Japanese government.

at war with China. withdrew as hosts for the Games in the summer of 1938. Klingeberg moved on to Helsinki to assist with the 1940 Games in Helsinki, Finland. Additionally, Klingeberg was designated *secrétaire-adjoint* at the 1939 IOC sessions in London.

Up to this point there is nothing unusual in Klingeberg's story. He returned to Helsinki and in his capacity as *conseiller technique* to the Finns maintained a regular correspondence with IOC President Baillet-Latour. A careful examination of this primary source correspondence between Klingeberg and Baillet-Latour details both the difficulties of preparing for the games, and a fascinating story of life in Helsinki during the fall and winter of 1940-41 as Russia launched an attack on Finland. The correspondence was regular and reveals the naively optimistic hope that the 1940 Games might yet be staged despite the war.

The correspondence suggests that Klingeberg remained in Finland until February of 1941, but the plot begins to thicken as mail was then directed to him in c/o Monsieur W. Frey (DNB), Hotel Majestic, Vichy, (Allier). Klingeberg returned to Germany in the summer of 1944. The frequency of correspondence increased during the summer of 1945. and there were some interesting developments. Klingeberg submitted claims to be paid to him for his service to the IOC, apparently with little success. He persisted over the next five years. but, Sigfrid Edstrom, President of the IOC, denied knowledge of Klingeberg and his work on behalf of the IOC in a letter dated November, 1950. Further, in December, 1950. Edstrom wrote, "The fact is that Klingeberg during the time he was in Helsinki acted as a spy for the Germans." The denouement continued into the 1960s and 1970s. In 1964 Otto Mayer of the IOC addressed correspondence to Klingeberg at the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. Correspondence ceased after a final letter from Klingeberg to Monique Berlioux in June, 1975 in which the titles suggest that Klingeberg had retired as a German ambassador.

In this paper I address several intriguing questions: Was Klingeberg serving as a spy for the Germans? How and why did he re-emerge in Paris during the war? Why did Edstrom deny knowledge of Klingeberg's work? Was there an ongoing link between Diem and Klingeberg, given the suggestion that Diem was attempting to fulfill Hitler's idea of permanently locating the Olympic Games in Nuremberg? Careful translation (German and French) of this correspondence may provide answers to these questions and more details of the story of Werner Klingeberg.