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Topic: Austria, Vienna

Report No: EAV-2816

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Report Made By: *LT*

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Dissemination:

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Source of Info:

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For additional data, see comments:

- Subject: KPOe Campaign to Exploit Austrian Neutrality
- Date of Info: 20 May 1955
- Date Acquired: 20 June 1955
- Date Distr: 6 July 1955
- Evaluation: 3

obtained this information from (Krim. Insp.) Johann Angerer, Salzburg.

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Subject: KPOe Campaign to Exploit
Austrian Neutrality

Report No: EAV-2816

Date of Information: 20 May 1955

Place Acquired: Austria, Vienna

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Date of Report: 6 July 1955

Source: Austrian (F) from a well-placed informant (F)

- of present*
1. During a meeting of the Austrian Communist Party Central Committee on 20 May 1955, one of the important topics under discussion was the effect of the State Treaty on the future of the KPOe. The Party leadership expressed confidence that they will be able to halt any mass resignation from the Party following the withdrawal of Soviet occupation troops, if they succeed in exploiting the favorable wind which is ~~presently~~ blowing between Vienna and Moscow.
 2. Party leaders base their hopes on the assumption that the fight against Communists in Austria will be suspended. In furtherance of this objective, the KPOe intends to start a large-scale propaganda campaign based on the formula that anti-communism and neutrality are incompatible. The KPOe will insist that fighting communism is equivalent to fighting the Soviet Union and all other communist states and therefore must be considered a violation of Austria's neutrality.
 3. This slogan is to be spread among the people through all available propaganda outlets and particularly by means of a whispering campaign. KPOe leaders expect considerable success from such propaganda, because they believe that most Austrian people have little conception of what neutrality means and that they can be persuaded that anti-communism is a violation of their country's neutrality.

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