

VIA AIR
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CLASSIFICATION

TO Chief, EE

DATE FEB 7 1956

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FROM Chief of Station, Vienna

ATTN: []

SUBJECT { GENERAL Operational
SPECIFIC [] -> Visit to Amt fuer Landesverteidigung

1. On 15 and 16 December 1955 [] spent a number of hours in conference with officials of the Evidenzbuero (Austrian Military Intelligence) in the headquarters building of the newly organized Amt fuer Landesverteidigung (Federal Defense). Much to his surprise, Subject found the Evidenzbuero under the dual chairmanship of two newly appointed SPOe officials. One of these, (Dr) Karl STEFANIE, assured him that his long-expected transfer to Austrian Military Intelligence would soon materialize and held open the possibility that [] may be asked to head a branch office operating out of Salzburg. After this disclosure, STEFANIE presented a lengthy discourse on current problems and future plans of the Evidenzbuero. [] submitted a lengthy report on this dissertation on the following day.
2. We are forwarding under separate cover an almost literal translation of this [] report. A number of the agent's highly subjective and emotional comments were found to be not pertinent and have, therefore, been eliminated. The sequence in which [] covered the various topics has been slightly rearranged in order to make this document more readable. The footnotes at the end of attachment are [].
3. We believe the attachment to be of considerable value and interest for the following reasons:
 - a. It is typical of [] very thorough, but somewhat naive, gullible and emotional reporting.
 - b. It gives strong indication that the Evidenzbuero has a long way to go before it can hope to be taken very seriously as an active intelligence organization.
 - c. It shows that, at least in the minds of SPOe appointees, Austrian

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military intelligence has been reduced to a Socialist Party activity dependent largely on Socialist informants.

- d. It depicts Dr. STEFANIE as an inordinately talkative senior official, willing to discuss detailed plans with a man whose transfer to the Evidenzbuero is still open to question.
- e. It claims that Austrian Military Intelligence considers the GIS and the Monarchists as the most important initial targets. *Wow!*
- f. Last, but not least, it shed considerable light on the political enmity and jurisdictional conflicts between the Evidenzbuero and Grengulf-1's office.

27 January 1956

Attachment: [] report

Distribution:

3-EE (w/attachment) (under separate cover)
1-COPS/ [] (w/attachment)
1-COS " "
1-Registry " "
1- [] " "

Visit to the Office for Federal Defense (Landesverteidigungsamt)

"On 15 and 16 December 1955 I had occasion to confer at length with officials of the Evidenzbuero (Case Officer Comment: hereafter referred to as Aust MIS) in the Vienna Headquarters for Federal Defense. During a brief conversation with Dr. Herbert SEDERL (room 76, III Stock) I learned that Colonel LINSBAUER is still on sick leave and is, in actual fact, not expected ever to return to his desk. Dr. SEDERL soon referred me to Dr. Karl STEFANIE (Room 52, III Stock), from whom I obtained the information summarized in the following paragraphs:

"Colonel LINSBAUER was forced to resign from his position as head of the Aust MIS because he showed himself, during his brief tour of duty, to be utterly incapable of running the organization entrusted to him. This failure was caused not only by the Colonel's poor health but also by his utter lack of aptitude for intelligence work. Unfortunately LINSBAUER remained in office long enough to cause much damage, rectification of which will take considerable time and effort. Thus LINSBAUER is accused of having completely neglected properly to read, file, evaluate and disseminate incoming information reports. Often he carelessly filed these in the nearest folder or, what was even worse, indiscriminately shared them with SPOe or ATUF officials of his acquaintance. At this writing, therefore, no one in the Aust MIS knows what information is available and which data has yet to be procured.

"When it became clear that LINSBAUER would have to be replaced, the Aust MIS was placed under the dual chairmanship of Dr. Herbert SEDERL (see footnote 1) and Dr. Karl STEFANIE (see footnote 2). Both are SPOe appointees and both claim to be fully trusted and supported by the Socialist party leadership. Dr. STEFANIE, incidentally, seems to consider it a foregone conclusion that he will soon be appointed officially to succeed LINSBAUER as commanding officer of the AUST MIS.

members of

OF AUST MIS

"The *current staff* assisting the above chairmen includes the following persons: FECHNER (OeVP), *Christ* CHRIST (SPOe), Hans KRATKY (SPOe), (Frau) Johanna BARTSCH (now STEFANIE's secretary), (Fr.) WITTL (SEDERL's secretary) and (Fr.) MELZER (FECHNER's secretary).

"Dr. STEFANIE made an excellent first impression. He is handsome; tall (approximately 1.85 meters); of strong build; has black hair, a thin face and an apparent age of 35-40 years. His comments indicated that he is well versed in intelligence matters. At least he appeared to be well informed on various intelligence organizations inside and outside of Austria. He claims to foresee little difficulty in obtaining the full cooperation of SPOe offices and functionaries in his information gathering program. Since the Austrian Socialist Party is determined as soon as possible to bring into being an efficient intelligence organization, enough money will always be available. At one point STEFANIE said verbatim: 'For valuable information and contacts, money is available in unlimited quantities.'

"The two groups of most immediate interest to his organization, continued Dr. STEFANIE, are the Monarchists (high-ranking Austrian civil servants are said frequently to visit Otto von Habsburg in Altoetting) and German intelligence in Austria. STEFANIE openly referred to already existing contacts with the GIS

through Salzburg Security Director Oberpolizeirat Kurt PLANCK and the head of the Salzburg Staatspolizei (Dr) Utho HOSP. In an effort fully to exploit these promising assets STEFANIE and SEDERL in early December personally contacted the Deputy Provincial Governor of Land Salzburg, Franz PETERL. Similar efforts will be made to assure the future assistance of other carefully selected government and police officials.

"In addition to the headquarters organization in Vienna, STEFANIE plans initially to set up branch offices in Salzburg and Graz. Part of the headquarters staff and the two provincial offices will be entirely operational and will be known as Gruppenkommandos. Eventually other branch offices may be set up in Vorarlberg and Tyrol (see footnote 3).

"STEFANIE briefly referred to FECHNER, the only OeVP member on his current staff, and admitted that the latter has 'some intelligence contact' with Krim. Bezirksinspektor BEHAM of the Vienna Sicherheitsbuero and (Dr.) Roman LOOS of the Salzburg police. FECHNER, BEHAM and LOOS reportedly served in the same German Geheime Feldpolizei unit in Greece.

"STEFANIE next referred in glowing terms to a former colleague in Abteilung 13 of the Interior Ministry, Kriminalabteilungsinspektor Franz EILMER. EILMER's current position with the Interior Ministry affords him a maximum of mobility and STEFANIE plans his future use as Aust MIS courier and general trouble-shooter in the various provinces (see footnote 4).

"STEFANIE concluded his discussion of personnel plans by declaring his intention fully to exploit the various Austrian trade unions for the spotting and recruiting of informants. He is especially interested in employees of the tourist industry and hopes for tangible results from the use of waiters, bellhops and desk clerks.

"The remainder of this discussion was devoted to STEFANIE's plans for bringing about the early fall of Min. Rat (Dr) Maximilian PAMMER. He claimed that much derogatory material against PAMMER is already available but admitted that more is needed before this dangerous competitor can be eliminated. STEFANIE claimed that the OeVP already plans shortly after the 1956 parliamentary elections to move PAMMER to the Bundeskammeramt, where he will head an autonomous section solely responsible for all foreign, internal and military intelligence. (Case officer comment: STEFANIE claimed that even after this PAMMER promotion the Austrian MIS will continue to exist but failed to explain what the function of his Evidenzbuero would be under these circumstances.) STEFANIE was severely critical of Interior Minister HELMER whom he considers so weak that he is afraid to insist on insight into PAMMER's secret files (reportedly kept in the Rennwegkaserne). STEFANIE expressed considerable interest in these secret files and named two officials who reportedly serve as custodians for these classified documents: Oberkommissar (Dr) Alfred PETROVIC (see footnote 5), referent for KPOe matters and Ministerialkommissar (Dr) Oswald HLUBICEK (see footnote 6), referent for espionage matters. Both officials are SPOe members but are completely loyal to PAMMER; the SPOe, therefore, refuses to afford either of them insight into Socialist Party files. A number of years ago PETROVIC allegedly was sent by Pammer to London or Washington on a special assignment. PETROVIC and HLUBICEK make frequent trips to Munich and maintain close contact with the Amt BLANK.

"STEFANIE next outlined various PAMMER liaison channels as follows:

- a. Through the Austrian Consulate in Munich and the German Consulate in Salzburg to the Director of the Bavarian Landeskriminalamt in Munich, Franz MEINERD (see footnote 7). MEINERD, in turn, is alleged to be an intimate friend of GEHLEN. (Case officer note: STEFANIE claims inadvertently to have discovered the above PAMMER asset during a visit to Munich while still a member of Abteilung 13 of the Interior Ministry. MEINERD, at that time, mistakenly assumed STEFANIE to be PAMMER's representative and took him on a complete tour of the Landeskriminalamt. MEINERD seemed especially proud of Ermittlungsabteilung III b, which, he stated, was solely engaged in intelligence activity. MEINERD also referred to intelligence contacts between his office and Salzburg Security Director Kurt PLANCK as well as to the head of the Salzburg Staatspolizei Pol. Rat Dr. HOSP.)
- b. From unnamed members of the Salzburg security and police directorates through an unnamed middleman in Munich to German customs officials in Freilassing and Cologne.
- c. A similar channel to German customs officials in Freilassing is said to exist through gendarmerie office EISL of the Security Directorate Salzburg, Krim. Rayoninspektor ~~MEINERD~~ of the Staatspolizei Salzburg and Krim. Oberinspektor Ludwig NESSL of the Salzburg criminal police.

"Concluding his comments on PAMMER, STEFANIE stated that, shortly before the withdrawal of occupation forces from Austria, the BIS handed PAMMER a complete list of their police and gendarmerie informants. STEFANIE claimed that disciplinary action against a number of officials thus compromised has already been initiated. STEFANIE stated that the Austrian MIS is in possession of a number of photographs depicting former BIS installations in Vienna and identified Hans KRATKY as the Evidenzbuero official currently analyzing this pictorial material."

Footnotes:

- (1) (Dr) ~~Herbert SEDERL~~ is a known member of the Austrian Socialist Party and is believed to have come to the Evidenzbuero from the Interior Ministry.
- (2) (Dr.) ~~Karl STEFANIE~~; born 8 June 1916 in Vienna; residing Vienna XIII, Heimgasse 78, formerly with Abteilung XIII of the Interior Ministry.
- (3) STEFANIE claimed that one collaborator for each of these provinces has already been recruited as follows: (a) for Tyrol: (inu) MOOSGRUBBER (phon), 2. Vorsitzender der Gewerkschaft der öffentlich Bediensteten in Tyrol and 1. Vorsitzender der Fachgruppe Sicherheitswache, Bundespolizeidirection Innsbruck. (b) for Vorarlberg; (inu) ~~PETER~~.

collaborator province

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- (4) Franz EILMER; born 30 December 1898 in Krems; resides Vienna VIII, Pflaigasse 32/19; currently with Abteilung XIII of the Interior Ministry.
- (5) Ministerialoberkommissar (Dr.) Alfred PETROVIC; born 16 December 1921; resides Vienna XXV, Maur, Linke Wienzeile 2/2.
- (6) Ministerialkommissar (Dr.) Oswald HLUBICEK; born 25 November 1927; resides Vienna II, Austellungsstrasse; SPOE member
- (7) MEINERD's deputy is reported to be Oberregierungsrat (fnu) STURM.

DIRECTOR OF THE
BAYARIAN LANDESKRIMINALAMT
IN MUNICH

SECRET

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