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CLASSIFICATION [redacted]

25X1A

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [redacted]

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Austria/USSR

DATE DISTR. 14 September 1948

SUBJECT Planned Communist Strike and Putsch CONFIDENTIAL

NO. OF PAGES 1

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PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 13 October 1978 from the [illegible] to the [illegible]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INF [redacted]

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

[redacted]

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1. A general strike for Austria is planned to begin about mid-September 1948 in the Upper Styrian heavy industry area; the strike is to center in particular on Kapfenberg and Donawitz. The Communist strategy is to start with demonstrations by women workers against high food prices. As soon as the Government puts a stop to the women's demonstrations, the men will intervene, ostensibly to defend their women, and start a strike which will spread through Austria. The Communists hope that many Styrian workers will be won over by the Communist demand for a 25% wage boost.

2. The Communists plan to carry out a putsch in Vienna this fall. Plans for this action were being discussed in a Soviet-requisitioned villa at 6 Laufenbergstrasse, Vienna II, from 23 August to 6 September. The villa was under constant Soviet guard during closed sessions. Twenty Communist Party members were present at the villa. All but Communist leader Franz Honner were required to remain at the the villa for the duration of the session. Uniformed Soviets were also present. Besides Honner, the Communist Party official Repka (sic) was also identified among the twenty persons present. The final step in the planned coup is to take over control of the Austrian Police. Selected Austrian quislings are being briefed for this purpose.

25X1A [redacted] Comment: The above report is unconfirmed; similar stories have often been reported in the past.

BY CABLE

CONFIDENTIAL

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