

November 7, 1951 (P/03403)

SUBJECT: Ing. Franz HARANT

Time : Beginning of November 1951

Received: November 6, 1951

PP 3

1. The following report is based on confidential information with SALZBURG Security Office.
2. (Ing.) Franz HARANT,
born July 1, 1927, at SCHLINS (Vorarlberg), Austrian citizen, Roman Catholic, unmarried, residing with his parents at SALZBURG, 11 Pegiusgasse,
uses to boast with good connections with the Soviets. According to his own statement, he holds close contact with a Soviet officer at VIENNA, named SHIDOV (phonetic), and permanently procures for his employer Hans PIXNER, owner of an automobile repair shop at SALZBURG, 10 Elisabethstrasse, automobiles from the Russians, which are sold by PIXNER. (PIXNER denies such statement; he declares that HARANT is only working as an occasional mechanic at his shop with a monthly income of 200 or 300 AS.)
ATT-8.
doc: BUSINESSMAN
ATT-8.
3. HARANT pretends to have been proposed as head of the Communist controlled 'peace movement' at SALZBURG, but could not accept because he was sentenced by court to one year imprisonment for theft, and to a several-months imprisonment for fraud. Nevertheless he replaced Josef DOBRETSBERGER as speaker when DOBRETSBERGER did not appear because prevented. HARANT is closely connected with Rudolf MADER, head of SALZBURG 'peace movement'.
4. No evidence has been established as yet that HARANT is collaborating with SALZBURG Communist Party; he pretends however to regularly visit Nationalrat Ernst FISCHER, when he is staying at VIENNA for business reasons.

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HARRANT so far unknown, also SHIDOV

The connection of HARRANT w/PIXNER is of interest. (similar to PIXNER's connection w/STIRBER - presently in CIC custody -) Investigation on PIXNER has been opened any info. on person and his connections desired.

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