

EASA-549

30 December 1952

Chief, EE
Attention: []
Chief of Station, Vienna

Operational, []

Ex-GIS Personalities in Austria and Germany

Ref: NYTH-301, LGNA-133, SSALZ-673, EASA-409, EASA-372, et al

1. We wish to express our thanks for the withdrawal of Capote sponsorship and support to Dr. Wilhelm Hoettl, as reported in LGNA-133 and confirmed in EASA-372. It is extremely interesting to note that the news of Hoettl's fall from grace is having some telling effects on the peripheral personalities with whom he maintained contact or who sit close enough to the center of the ex-GIS group in Austria and Germany to have become aware of Hoettl's fate. A natural result has apparently been a good deal of re-shifting of position and fence mending, some of the off-shoots of which are covered in the reports attached.

2. The Hoettl affair has not been without its effect on the Salzburg Base. We were preoccupied with watching the Hoettl/CC-2 (Grossbahn Agent) relationship through the small window offered us by Detachment 35's Karl Hass; this without furnishing any undue interest or operational direction. As a result of this operation, we now find ourselves in possession of several Hass reports which appear highly interesting and possibly particularly useful in the charting of the future course of events in KUBARK handling of ex-GIS personalities or groups in Austria as well as Germany, in that they indicate quite clearly an undisciplined modus operandi as well as an almost utter lack of security on the part of some element of the resurgent German Services.

3. In addition to the reports on the Hoettl/CC-2 contact (which we have reported on separately to Headquarters with no distribution to German Station bases as they have no direct bearing on attachments), Hass has furnished nine other reports, entitled as follows:

a. Streit zwischen der ex-"Leitstelle Oesterreich" und der "Aussenstelle Muenchen" des Dienstes "Amtes Blank".

b. Der Nachrichtendienst des Amtes Blank (Leiter; Oberst Heinz).

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- (2)(A) Privacy
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c. Polizeibeamter in Salzburg, der mit dem ND des Amt Blank in Bonn zusammenarbeitet.

d. "Ingenieur Mayer", Wien, Agent des Bonner ND von ex-Oberst Heins.

e. Abschrift (Concerns report from Mayer for Munich, passed through Eder.)

f. Theo von Albert, Salzburg, Neufangasse 3.

g. Wiesenthal/Jewish Agency - Verbindung zu Dr. Hoettl.

h. Alfred Lobenwein, Munchen, Schlossbergstr. 15.

i. Die US-Nachrichtendienste und Jugoslawien.

4. In spite of the fact that Frankfurt and FOB have kept us remarkably well abreast of their operations which do, or might, bear on Austria, we nevertheless feel that we are somewhat unqualified to attempt to sort fancy and fiction from fact in the attachments. This is especially true when one considers the predilection of Hase and his ilk for using even the most nebulous of contacts in such a way as to further their own prestige. Any comment on our part, founded partly or in whole on conjecture, we feel would only tend to becloud the issues involved and that the cogent and pertinent comments can best be furnished by German stations concerned.

5. Hase, who incidentally is the source of all the attachments, is being dropped by Detachment 35 on 1 January 1953. It would seem a fair guess that he will go with "Amt Blank", if he is not already with them. We are opposed to any direct or indirect sponsorship of Hase as this is, due to his strong connections with Hoettl, tantamount to re-sponsorship of the latter, which would be an odious turn of events indeed.

6. Gramba, who insists on keeping track of some of the more prominent ex-GIS personalities in his area for security reasons, has recently come up with a report originating with Erich Kernmayr, who states that Dr. Schott and Hoettl have recently dissolved their partnership in the Nibelungenverlag, Linz, and that Baron Harry Mast is now running the enterprise. Schott has allegedly gone to Ulm to work for the Europa Verlag, an alleged cover for intelligence operations. According to Kernmayr, the Nibelungenverlag has recently received an infusion of new capital from an unknown source. Incidentally, Kernmayr himself has gone to Munich (exact place of residence is not at hand at the moment, but has been passed verbally to [] of FOB) and is working for the Schild Verlag, Muenchen 27, Cuvilliesstrasse 16. He has not as yet given up his Garmen residence at Vello Wense.

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7. In the report entitled "Der Nachrichtendienst des Amtes Blank (Leiter: Oberst Heins)" we noted the item concerning one EDER being the chief of nets covering military OB in the Soviet Zone of Austria. We have called this matter to Detachment 35's attention, and they report that they had already planned to clarify this matter further, if possible, with Hass during their final meeting with him. We will forward whatever additional information is learned.

8. As reported in SSALZ-873, [] of MOB visited us on 13 December 1952 to look into the possibility of using Hass in a scheme to canvass legal crossers from the East Zone, temporarily residing in Munich. After a discussion of Hass' background and his present machinations, it was unanimously agreed Hass appeared a poor choice for the job for several basic reasons; it would mean our eventually assuming the disposal problem which so rightly rests at present on G-2 USFA's shoulders, and secondly, his work in our behalf would probably soon become almost public knowledge in Germany. Coupled to these points is the almost certain fact that Hass would no doubt trade on his connection with us to further the building of his own prestige with any and all other groups with whom he may be maintaining contact.

9. If further reports are forthcoming from Detachment 35 bearing on this issue, we will forward them to interested stations.

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