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*Encl. to
MGKA 76544
8 Feb 51
NEG*

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY 16 October 1948
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2008

SUBJECT : Memorandum regarding the former member of the
"Reichssicherheitshauptamt, Amt VI", Dr. Wilhelm H e c t t l .

TO : LT. COL. BERRY

1) It has become known from a reliable source that the former member of the "Reichssicherheitshauptamt, Amt VI", Dr. Wilhelm HOETTL, through the intervention of the US ambassador at Vienna, Mr. ERHARDT, has been commissioned by an American office - presumably the War Department Detachment - to build up an intelligence net in Austria.

incl. /

2) Inclosed reports are being submitted about Dr. HOETTL and his circle.
3) Up to the end of the second worldwar HOETTL belonged to the ill-famed RSHA, Amt VI, and it is well known that he was not one of the few decent representatives of the former SD.
Knowing HOETTL's past, his own dubious character as well as of his co-workers and the most questionable political intrigues of HOETTL and his circle, emphatical warning must be given to have HOETTL used in the American IS. This so much the more as should it eventually become known that HOETTL is being used by the Americans, this would be incomprehensible to all decent Germans and Austrians.

FOR COORDINATION WITH *Army*

Encl. to 34
MGKA 26544
8 Feb 51
Composites Group

MGKA-76544

inclosure to memorandum 34 to Lt. Col. BERRY
reg. Dr. HOETTL.

I. The following is known about Dr. HOETTL :

1) Before 1938 Dr. HOETTL belonged to the illegal K.D.A.P. of Austria and to the SS in Vienna.

1938 he was taken over by the SD. By order of the RSHA, Amt VI, he was first working in Vienna, during the war for some time at BUDAPEST, from where he was recalled though as proceedings had been started against him on account of some illegal money transactions.

In 1944/45 he was in charge of Hungarian political affairs within the Amt VI in Vienna. From this period it is known that he grossly neglected his duties due to excessive consumption of alcohol and affairs with women.

Shortly before the end of the war he has made attempts, by orders of the Amt VI, to start peace negotiations with American authorities in Switzerland.

Shortly before the war was over he was at the emergency quarters of the RSHA, Amt VI, near KIRCHDORF on the Krems (Austria).

2) Before Germany collapsed, the Amt VI had its money (especially foreign currency) buried in the ground near KIRCHDORF a.d. Krems. There are some clues to the effect that Dr. HOETTL has now at his disposal at least part of the foreign currency then buried and that he now makes use of this money to finance his activities.

- 3) There is a suspicion, which cannot be definitely proven yet though, that during the war Dr. HOETTL had acted as an informer for the Amt VI amongst German officers and that he was the one who supplied the material which led to the execution by the "Flying court martial", instituted by Hitler, of Count von RITTEBERG, Lt.Col. in the General Staff, Ic of the Army Group South.
- 4) An especially reliable source, having known Dr. HOETTL for many years, judges him to be a coward and an opportunist.
- 5) During his present work, Dr. HOETTL is relying upon his former co-workers in the SD and upon former ES circles in Austria. A large part of the families of former members of the SD are at ALT-ARXSEF (Austria) since the end of the war, a fact which facilitates any contacting for HOETTL.
- 6) Regarding HOETTL's methods to get co-workers, the following case has become known :
HOETTL stated that he was exchanging letters with a former German General staff officer, whose rejection of the SD and its methods were generally known. This, as can be proven, was not true.
HOETTL tried hereby to create the impression that he himself did not belong to the ill-famed circles of the SD, as otherwise the above-mentioned former Gen.staff officer would never have anything to do with him.

II.) One of the closest co-workers of HOETTL is Erich KERUMAYER.

The following is known about KERUMAYER :

- 1) Up to 1934, KERUMAYER was a member of the "Republikanische Schutzbund" (Association for the safeguarding of the Republic) in Austria and he belonged to the extreme left wing of the Socialdemocrats, perhaps

even to the KPA.

After the February revolt of the SPA and the KPA in 1934, KREIBMEYER was brought into the camp HOELLERSDONF. There he took up connections with Nationalsocialists, who had also been brought into this camp. After a while he turned around and confessed himself to be a Nationalsocialist. When released he was working for the illegal NSDAP in Austria and became chief editor of the illegal "Oesterreichischer Beobachter". On the strength of this he later-on held the office of a "Gauwirtschaftsleiter".

As is registered in the party-files, Rudolf HESS himself, the deputy of the Fuehrer, declared KREIBMEYER as acceptable for the position of a "Gauwirtschaftsleiter" owing to his merits. This special approval was then necessary as KREIBMEYER had been accused of criminal offences. During the war KREIBMEYER belonged to the SS Propaganda Staffel "Standarte Kurt EGERS".

- 2) KREIBMEYER is alleged to have connections to the CIC SALZBURG.
- 3) The manner in which KREIBMEYER approaches new co-workers is extremely clumsy, so that one can presume that his endeavours have in the meantime become known also to the Sovjet IS.
- 4) KREIBMEYER is in contact with the former Hitler Jugend Gebietsfuehrer (Hitler Youth district leader) of Vienna, KOWARIK, who some time ago was released from his arrest after the proceedings were finished. At the beginning of August KOWARIK appeared in Vienna. He was furnished with large amounts of money and had many conversations with persons of former congeniality and Hitler Youth leaders. He declared that he had sufficient funds and that he could also support needy former HJ-members. He hinted too that now one had put one's trust in these circles.

KERIBKYER and KOWARIK have the intention to create an organization of former members of the NSDAP and the Hitler Youth.

- 5) In order to influence former NS circles, HOETTL and his co-workers want to make use of the "Alpenlaendischer Heimatruf". This is the newspaper of the so-called "4. Party" of Austria. KERIBKYER is a contributor to this newspaper. He writes under the non-de-plume of KLAUSNER. KERIBKYER is at present attempting to have the "Alpenlaendischer Heimatruf" transferred from GRAZ to LINZ.

KERIBKYER is also a co-worker of the "Berichte und Informationen" (reports and informations) of Dr. KRAUS - SALZBURG.

From a CI report can be seen that the Soviets have apparently the intention to make use of the "Alpenlaendischer Heimatruf", through a man by the name of NEUBACHER (trained Soviet agent), for their own purposes with the aim, to create in Austria with the so-called "Fourth party" a parallel enterprise to the "National-democratic party" of the Eastern zone of Germany.

- 6) KERIBKYER used to belong to the circle ROESNER- JOUCEK, known from the Neo-Nazi trial at GRAZ.
- 7) There are connections from the circle HOETTL-KERIBKYER-KOWARIK to the former Reichsjugendfuhrer (Reichs Youth leader) LAUTERBACHER, who is supposed to have approved of the plans of this circle.
- 8) KERIBKYER is not an IS expert. He is being judged as not having a clean-cut character, to be of a boasting and unscrupulous nature. According to information from various sources he would be prepared to cooperate with any group, even a Soviet one, if this would enable him to get an influential position and would be his personal advantage.