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HOETTL FILE

COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS

430th DET. U. S. F. A.

Land Upper Austria Sub Detachment

APO 174

U.S. Army

IC 12-15
CHIC ORNS
RECORDS FILE 1

6 February 1950  
Linz City Field Office (CIS)  
JKA:KK:ocd  
MOIC: L/17677

MEMORANDUM FOR THE OFFICER IN CHARGE:

SUBJECT: NIBELUNGEN-VERLAG, BUECHERDIENST, BUCHVERLAG UND VERTRIEBS-  
GESSELLSCHAFT, SPECK UND CO.

RE : Investigation

1. Reference is made to SOI, L/17452, dated 16 January 1950, Subject "HOETTL, Wilhelm and WIEDERTHAL, Simon" in which it is stated that HOETTL is well along in his plans to open a book agency in Linz. Further reference is made to SOI, L/17679, dated 6 February, Grunden Field Office, Subject, "HOETTL, Wilhelm Dr. - Mussolini Diary" and SOI, L/17678, dated 1 February, Grunden Field Office, Subject, "HOETTL Wilhelm", in which details are given on HOETTL's efforts to publish a book through Subject agency and his journalistic connections with the Salzburger Nachrichten. Pursuant to instructions from the Chief of Operations, this Sub-Detachment, the following investigation was conducted.
2. A check with Source 5990 (C-2) of this office revealed that HOETTL is using his wife Dr. Elfriede HOETTL to handle his interests in Subject firm.
3. Records of the Handelskammer, Linz, revealed a business license on file for "Bucherdienst, Buchverlag and Vertriebsgesellschaft, Speck und Co., Walterstrasse 19, Linz, General Manager with power of attorney is Dr. Otto SIKOT, Owner is listed as a Mr. SPECK. Two license requests are on file, the first dated 3 December 1948, giving the firm's address as Burgerstrasse 12. The second is dated 16 February 1949, and gives Walterstrasse 19 as the address. The name HOETTL does not appear anywhere in the Handelskammer records.
4. Check at the Linz Handelsgericht showed that on 5 October 1949, a Frau Dr. Elfriede HOETTL, private citizen residing Alt Aussee, entered Subject firm and is invested with power of attorney for the firm.

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Authority: \_\_\_\_\_  
by \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

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This power is also held by Dr. Otto SCHOTT and Johann SPECK. On 29 December 1949 the firm name was officially changed to correspond with that listed as Subject of this report.

5. Linz Police files contain the following information:

Dr. Otto SCHOTT, publishing house agent, born 1 August 1916 in Vienna, Austria, Protestant, single, residing Linz, Dinghoffstrasse 4 (Physicians House) member NSDAP from July 1938 to time of induction on 1 December 1948. No criminal record.

Johann SPECK, retired, former Regierungsinspektor at the Land Lavalid Office, presently with the "Book Service", Linz, Walterstrasse 19, born 18 March 1886 in St. Georgen/Gusen, Bezirk Perg, Austria, Roman Catholic, married, residing Linz, Burgerstrasse 12, member of the NSDAP from 1 May 1938 to May 1945. No criminal record.

RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

It is recommended activities of Subject firm be kept under close surveillance by this Sub-Detachment and that copies this report be forwarded to CDDI, USFA, for their information.

FILE CHECK:

Pertinent references listed under first paragraph.

APPROVED: *J. P. Allen*  
John D. MACGUILD  
Chief of Operations  
Land Upper Austria

*John H. Allen*  
John K. ALLEN  
S/A CIC  
*Karl Wittstein*  
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