

COPY OF CIC VIENNA REPORT  
NO. FOIC-15117, dated 25 October 1950

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 25X2  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2000 2000

SUBJECT: STRANGL Raimund, Vienna XIII, Fasangarten; case 101/50

RE : Progress Report No. 6

1. REASON FOR INVESTIGATION: To determine the extent of Subject's intelligence activities.

AUTHORITY: Instructions from the Chief, Sub-Detachment "C" (Vienna), 430th CIC Detachment.

REFERENCES: Previous Progress Reports, Subject as above.

2. Swiss Intelligence Contacts: During September 1950, Subject forwarded the following information regarding Josef GRATTONI to his Swiss intelligence control officer in Bern. The EEI requesting the information was signed by (fnu) SCHULFROTH, Colonel General Staff, instead by Colonel Paul HONSBURG who had signed previous EEI (see previous progress reports).

Josef GRATTONI, residing at Vienna III, Weisagerherlaende 83/IV, 50, married, two children, operates a construction firm, office at Vienna III, Mariahilferstrasse 51 (approximately 80 employees), which had previously belonged to his father. During a trip to Switzerland in 1949 GRATTONI made the acquaintance of L. ALBERTINI, Zurich, Corvetstrasse 19; at that time GRATTONI was interested in airport runway construction and was in contact with the Austrian "Amt fuer Zivilluftfahrt" (Office for Civil Aviation). ALBERTINI subsequently sent GRATTONI a copy of the "Schweizer Bauzeitung" (Swiss construction periodical) containing an article on the Zurich airport, but since this type of construction is not currently being undertaken by the Austrian Government, GRATTONI dropped his contact with ALBERTINI and with the Austrian Office of Civilian Aviation. Since February 1950 GRATTONI has been attempting to develop a better type concrete, especially suited for airport runways.

GRATTONI has recently made the acquaintance of (fnu) RAKOVSKI (or STRANKOVSKI) residing in the Coopersen, Vienna I, Opernring 11, allegedly a displaced person from Rumania traveling often to Switzerland and in the lumber business.

Subject claimed he obtained the above information directly from GRATTONI, often introducing himself as a representative sent by a Swiss agency "interested" in GRATTONI's construction company.

According to Subject, former German Lt. Gen. Erhard RAUS, a tank expert, currently residing in Badgastein, Land Salzburg, will soon visit (Colonel) (fnu) [redacted] of the Swiss General Staff, Zurich, Remistrasse 23, for the purpose of discussing tank problems. Subject had made arrangements for this meeting to take place. (See previous reports.)

3. French Intelligence Contacts: As previously reported (Progress Reports 4 and 5), Subject is in contact with French Intelligence personalities: (Dr.) Wilhelm SCETTL had forwarded copies of intelligence reports which he had compiled for US Authorities while in their employ to Subject, who had in turn given them to (Dr.) Ludwig JEDLIKA, agent for the French, for transmission to the FIS. (fnu) [redacted], also an FIS agent and whom Subject had met through JEDLIKA in April 1950, dispatched one Dr. (fnu) KAYR to SCETTL during September 1950 to inform him that Soviet authorities are

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planning to bring before the Allied Council in Vienna an official objection to the publication of HOETTL's book "Die Geheime Front" (The Secret Front), an account of German Intelligence organizations during World War II. MAYER informed HOETTL that the French would not endorse the Soviet objection to HOETTL's book and to HOETTL's personality if HOETTL consented to work for the French. HOETTL, who knew that Subject had French contacts, immediately wrote Subject and asked him to determine the identity of MAYER if possible (MAYER seemed familiar to HOETTL, but HOETTL could not place him) and to determine whether French authorities had in reality sent MAYER. Subject contacted MEIXNER (JEDLIKA had meanwhile been released from French employ for embezzlement) and MEIXNER stated that he had sent MAYER to HOETTL, but only after failing to reach Subject who, he knew had excellent contacts with HOETTL. MEIXNER arranged for Subject to officially contact HOETTL on behalf of the FIS and thus dispel any fears on the part of HOETTL regarding MAYER and FIS methods for obtaining informants.

On 18 September 1950, Subject visited HOETTL in Alt Aussee, Land Upper Austria, presented an introductory letter from Captain (fnu) PEILLER, Vienna (Unknown to Subject) and requested HOETTL to work for the FIS. HOETTL stated that he would need much money and much time to organize a network similar to that which worked under him at the time he worked for US authorities. Specifically, HOETTL requested 12,000 schillings per month; he would supply the FIS information concerning Jugoslav, Czech and Hungarian internal conditions. Occasional reports from Ukraina would also be forthcoming. If the French desired only information regarding internal Austrian matters, the cost would be 3,000 schillings per month.

To date, MEIXNER has not yet informed Subject of the disposition of the FIS toward HOETTL's offer. MEIXNER was described as an Austrian citizen, married, 46, 5'7" 145 lbs, slim, wears glasses and usually a lumber jacket. MEIXNER stated to Subject that he desires to immigrate to Morocco and that the French will aid him in procuring proper clearance and documents. MEIXNER, according to Subject, does not know HOETTL nor does HOETTL know MEIXNER, although MEIXNER had been a member of the Waffen SS and a member of the NSDA. MEIXNER can be contacted by Subject under the alias ("Dr. KREUTSCH" at the French Reading Room at Mariahilferstrasse, Vienna VI. Subject was requested by MEIXNER to obtain an autographed copy of HOETTL's (pen name Walter HASEN) "Geheime Front" for (fnu) FENCHENIER, currently in Vienna and a representative of the French newspaper "Le Monde".

4. Miscellaneous Intelligence Contacts: Sepp MASCHER has confided in Subject that he is working for an intelligence organization; his contact allegedly lives in Linz, Land Upper Austria. MASCHER claims that on 6 October 1950 he was given an expensive camera with which he is to photograph Soviet installations.

According to former German Colonel Eduard KODRE of Linz, Land Upper Austria, Count (fnu) BERGMAN, residing in St. Ulrich am Spillersee near Ritzbuechl, Land Tirol, is dabbling in intelligence and allegedly sells information to anyone who will buy it.

KODRE, on 8 October 1950, has commissioned Subject to obtain all possible aid from the Swiss to help establish a "resistance movement" (See Progress Reports 5 and 7). Especially desired by the movement is radio equipment to be utilized for maintaining contact with the "West" in the event that Austria is overrun by Soviets.

According to Dr. Wilhelm HOETTL, a former Nazi functionary (fnu) KOWARIK of Linz, Land Upper Austria, is planning organization of an anti-Communist group.

Also according to HOETTL, former General LAHOUSEN of Seefeld, Land Tirol, is in difficult financial straits and must therefore move from that expensive resort town. LAHOUSEN does not work for any intelligence organization; a former Lt. Col. (fnu) FICHERER of Tirol had previously been employed by the FIS but has since left their service. One (Dr.) (fnu) KRUEGL, former SS member, residing in Germany, was mentioned by HOETTL as an intelligence agent for the new "Atlantic Pact General Staff".

The duplicate copies of reports HOETTL had made to US authorities while in their employ are cached at the residence of former Nazi Karl MORAVEK, a resident of Steir-ling, Upper Austria. According to Subject, approximately two foot lockers full have been read by him with HOETTL's permission (c.f. Progress Report No. 5).

Dr. HOETTL's general delivery address in Alt Aussee is "Postfach 3, Alt Aussee, Land Oberoesterreich".

An acquaintance of Subject, journalist Wolfgang OBERLEITNER, residing at Vienna VI, Gumpendorferstrasse 10, Subtenant at (fnu) BURDA, has evinced a desire to work for an intelligence agency. Subject has recently presented OBERLEITNER's name to MEIXNER.

AGENTS NOTE:

Duplication of information supplied this office by Subject has been discovered by CIC, Land Salzburg Sub-Detachment. An investigation has been initiated by Sub-Detachments concerned to determine circumstances involved.

FILE CHECK:

SOI-V-4754, dated 8 February 1948, Subject: "WINKLER Karl von, Control Agent, Project Fort Worth", reports that the FIS is interested in the activities of Count (fnu) BERCHEN; Count BERCHEN and Count RECHEN, possible identical with BERCHEN, are listed as former German counter intelligence agents.

SOI-I-7514, dated 29 March 1948, Subject: "GIS Agents, Present Affiliations", lists Kurt RECHNER, (ex-colonel) former specialist in Balkan questions, as an important member of the French II Bureau, Innsbruck.

A condemned CCG intercept, dated 30 March 1950, No. A/P/552515, sent by Wolfgang OBERLEITNER, Vienna VI, Gumpendorferstrasse 10, to the WESER KURIER, Bremen Zweite Schlachtpforte, Z.H. Chefredakteur 507, US Zone Germany, appears to be a press report of Soviet Danube River activities.

CCG intercept, dated 18 July 1950, No. L/P 19911, sent by Wolfgang OBERLEITNER, Vienna VI, Gumpendorferstrasse 10, Russischer Sektor (sic) to the Redaktion der Chemischen Industrie, Z.H. METENER A. Dr., 12 am Hauptbahnhof, Frankfurt/Main, Germany reports on Hungarian industrial planning.

X KOWARIE Franz (possible identical with KOWARIK, above) is listed in numerous reports as a former Hitler Youth leader.

Numerous personalities named MEIXNER are listed in the files of this Office.