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A U S T R I A

March 20, 1952 (P/23656)

SUBJECT: Dr. Wilhelm HOTTL

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BH 1

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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1. Reference is made to report, same subject, dated March 4, 1952 (P/23612).
2. Apparently the battle started by Erich KERNMAYR against Dr. Wilhelm HOTTL has found further followers.

Mrs. Liesl and ALB BUNNER (probably of Linz), wife of Nuremberg-exalted former chief of Sicherheitshauptamt Dr. Ernst WALTERBUNNER, informs her friends that when last seeing her husband, he advised her to approach Dr. HOTTL for help. When she did so, HOTTL was evasive and did not give her any support. According to her further statement, HOTTL also endeavored, using Dr. Emil TONCEL as intermediary, to receive a valuable stamp collection (former property of her husband's) from her, pretending that he would sell it. She, however, declined. She further alleges that HOTTL without doubt had large large sums of AL BUNNER's and former SD accounts in Switzerland. Branding HOTTL a 'criminal' Frau Liesl WALTERBUNNER predicts HOTTL's scandalous ending in the near future.

3. Erich KERNMAYR informed BH 1 that he some time ago had been interrogated by CIC (probably unidentifiable subject) on HOTTL, and that he has been asked for HOTTL's collaborators during the time of his intelligence work for the US. KERNMAYR claims that he has declined giving such information and that he did refer respective interrogators to HOTTL directly. KERNMAYR alleges that during such conversation he found out that HOTTL was suspected of direct and indirect collaboration with Soviet intelligence (he claims not to know, whether such concerns Dr. Ludwig JEDLIKA or other persons). HOTTL, according to KERNMAYR, had personally guaranteed the reliability of his then collaborators.

KERNMAYR further spreads the information that HOTTL during his activity received 3,000 dollars monthly from the US and that his intermediary to US intelligence at such time was Lt. Col. LUCID (then of Linz), who has since fallen in disgrace and, had been released from intelligence affairs because of

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'düstere Geldgeschichten' (shady money affairs).

Comment: The battle against Dr. HETTL has a very noticeable personal background. HERNIMAYR's statement regarding 'Lieutenant Colonel LUCID' is completely off the track, nevertheless it will be believed by a good number of his brown-pink playboys and will thereby not only damage Mr. LUCID's reputation personally, but that of the United States.