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Source Cryptonym: Central [] Through References: WIR-2429, 2952

Source, Operational Data, and Comments:

1. Attached is an untranslated report, originating with the Italian Ministry of Interior, on the activities of Wilhelm HOTTL, born at Vienna on 19 March 1915, Austrian citizen, who was a member of the Austrian Security Service and a collaborator of the American service during and after the war.
2. In the summer of 1949 HOTTL's collaboration with the Americans is alleged to have ceased for the following reasons:
 - a. The information which he had submitted was shown to have been invented by Subject and his journalist informants;
 - b. Part of the information was deliberately furnished with the idea of deceiving the American service;
 - c. A confidential observation of Subject revealed that he was in contact with the Soviet Secret Service and was, therefore, suspected of playing a double game under Soviet control;
 - d. He repeatedly lied about the sources of his information and he appropriated funds which were to be used for operations he himself proposed; and
 - e. On many occasions he deliberately furnished to other parties information on personnel and methods of the American secret service.
3. The British were also interested in Subject because of the recent arrest in the Soviet zone of an agent whom they trusted and from whom they received military information. This agent was an associate of HOTTL and the British maintain that Subject has signalled the agent to the Soviets because he refused to collaborate with Subject in the fabrication of false information.
4. Until his removal from the American service, information regarding his secret contacts with the Soviet service were very frequent; it is known that he had

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INDEX

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WIR-3385

bx-CIC Salzburg
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4. ~~Subject~~ contacts with the Soviet agents Hans Georg SCHWARZKOPF, Frietjof RIEDL, and Richard KAUDER, alias KLATT, all of whom have recently operated in the zone of Salzburg.

5. At the present time Subject is working to establish a Soviet control on the new German Information Service. His movements are carefully followed and future reports will be made on his activities.

Editorial Comment: It is possible that this report duplicates WIR-2952 which was also forwarded to Washington untranslated.