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CIVIL CENSORSHIP GROUP AUSTRIA (US)

P APO 541 U.S. ARMY Salzburg STATION

14 April 53

To sender posted in Salzburg		To: TILLY, Mr. Hans Luisenstr.123 Bonn, Germany	
Communication date 13 Apr 53 German	DISPOSITION Passed (P) P	STATION ALLOCATION CIC	CCG ALLOCATION CIB
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Reviewer	Excised (E)		
Previous Comments	Returned (RET)		

LETTER REFERRING TO SPY CASE HOETTEL

" Dear Hans,
 Many thanks for your letter dated 7 and 8 April to which I am replying immediately, seeing that you are a bit worried.
 As far as Dr. H. is concerned, I don't think that his personal attitude has been correctly represented. H.'s sympathy is certainly with the West, but the American agents who as investigators had contacted him already in Nuremberg, questioned him on several of his connections without his knowing that these agents had become or maybe even had been then in contact with the East.
 I believe that he has slid into an awkward situation rather innocently, but according to what I know about him he will manage to extricate himself. H. seems to me to dabble too much in intrigues of all sorts without any clear concept for the future. Of course, if the Americans want to stage a show trial on him, then I am sorry for him, for those democrats are quite capable of doing such a thing even at the risk of ruining or exposing their own friends or other absolutely pro-western elements.
 I am quite certain that this will not entail any trouble whatever for you, apart from the fact that the thing will certainly be staged in Washington with VERBER, PONGER. Incidentally H. will certainly be a very important witness in this trial. There is no doubt that the affair will be given considerable prominence.
 Personally you need not be worried, you have nothing to do with it, and the mere fact of chancing to know him does not involve you in the least.
 I suppose this will do for the time being. Should I hear anything of interest, I shall of course inform you.

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As far as the meeting in August is concerned, I am increasingly in favor of deferring it to next year. Our comrades are mostly lacking the necessary traveling money, perhaps even interest. ...

Grashei is certainly still in office and, as far as I know, in connection with the infantry training.

I cannot recall any man of the name of Spinka, but I will inquire. ...

Your comrade

Signed: HERBERT."