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MEMORANDUM FOR: THE RECORD

SUBJECT : Fritz Neeb and the Junge Adler

Source : The two OSO files on

TREONTACT OF FRITZ TEEB / E

20 June 1952 XAAZ-23031

MEMO 20 JUN 52



Comment

It was initially felt that there was a great deal of operational information in the SO files which would be of value to the Austrian PC Mission in their exploitation of Neeb and his organization. The files contain much information on his background, his contacts, and the difficulties encountered by SO in running him. Some of the controversial allegations made concerning Neeb are touched upon in these files but are not explored in sufficient detail to allow any conclusions.

The field was informed that these files existed and they were requested to inform us if they felt that a resume should be made of these files. It could not be attempted otherwise because of the detailed nature of the file and the time and trouble that an effective resume would involve. They have recently stated that they do not desire a resume.

Biographical Background

Fritz Neeb was born in Vienna on 26 December 1918 as the son of engineer Fritz Neeb and Clara Neeb. He attended elementary and high school in Vienna. He was a leader in the Studentenfreikorps and a member of the SK. After the Anschluss in 1938 he was arrested by the Nazis. In the fall of 1938, after having again been arrested, he joined the Wehrmacht with which he served until 1945. His final rank in the Wehrmacht was Captain. From 1942 to 1945, he directed all the enemy radio monitoring of the intelligence troop of the Heeresgruppe Mitte, at first west of Smolensk, then east Prussia, then Stettin. He was a leading expert on all Russian radio matters. Since 1943 he has been in contact with the Austrian resistance movement through Fritz Molden. He was unwitting of the OSS connection with Molden until at least the end of the war. For a time after the war he studied chemistry and physics at the University of Vienna. He speaks fluently, German, English, French and some Russian. Neeb

was at one time in contact through CIC with the technical intelligence section of MIS. MIS was interested in his qualifications as a radio expert and indicated that they might use him. Neeb dropped the contact, however, as no effective use was going to be made of his capabilities. There is in the home office file a photograph of Fritz Neeb.

Neeb was the principal agent in a project run by SO, the purpose of which was to penetrate the Communist organization. Three of Neeb's sub-agents were planted in this youth organization after a heated and public resignation from the OeVP.

In mid-1949, Neeb was paid off by SO and his project was terminated because of the difficulty in controlling him plus the poor security of his operations.

In the period of 1948 Need had obtained a job as federal secretary of the Austrian Youth Movement.

On 30 April 1949, while on a hiking trip with members of his "Junge Adler" organization, he fell from a wall and falling masonry broke and crushed his left Reg. Several operations and lengthy hospitalization was necessary to put him in shape. Neeb attempted to carry on his former activities including intelligence work from his hospital bed.

Neeb was still in the hospital when he was terminated and he took his termination in good grace but expressed his conviction that the slow machinery of the U.S. government would eventually cause him to be reinstated. Although terminated in July 1949, he continued during that month to turn over a certain amount of miscellaneous intelligence and tried to obtain money.

During this time in the middle of 1949, Neeb became organizational secretary of the Vienna Branch of the "Young Front"—Junge Front.

On 19 June 1951 Neeb attempted once more to establish contact with U.S. intelligence. He offered some intelligence information and stated that he was at that time employed as a statistician for Hutter and Schrantz in Vienna. He had at that time been in that position for about one year. He stated that he was married and expected an offspring.

In MAV-W-1352, the home office expressed as part of their reasons for opinioning that complete and final termination of Neeb was the most desirable course, the fact that the man had not given evidence of the maturity, stability, and willingness to submit to discipline which are required of a principal agent in a complicated intelligence network.

On 2 August 1950 Neeb signed a quit claim renouncing all claims against the U.S. government arising from his former service on behalf of representatives of the U.S. government in Austria. At that time he also received 5,000 schillings which constituted full payment for his services rendered through June 1949.

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On 29 June 1951, Neeb appeared athome bringing with him a
history of German efforts against the Soviet front line traffic during World
war II which he had prepared on the basis of a briefing given him by
a year before. This history, which . I did not think had sufficient detail,
which Neeb should have been able to add, was forwarded separately to
The purpose of Neeb's visit was obviously to get back on the U.S. intelligence
payroll. He invited to come to Vienna to talk to who
allegedly was desirous of discussing unspecified matters with Neeb
admitted later that the visit was his own idea and he obviously wanted someone
to get in touch with so that could tell what a
rough deal Neeb had gotten at the hands of the Americans, to express how mad
he was at this, and to request that \[\] put Neeb back on the payroll.
evaded the point and gave Neeb a cold reception.

At this same time Neeb claimed to know the location of the cached recrods of a German signal unit charged with intercepting and breaking Russian front line signal traffic. He claimed to know the location of these records to be inside the Soviet Zone of Germany only a few miles from the British Zone city of Lubeck. He also claimed to be in contact with former Abwehr personalities in Bratislava, CSR.

Control

Throughout Neeb's contact with SO, the greatest problem in his handling and in his relations with his case officer was the almost total lack of control over Neeb and his operations. This problem is continually spelled out in reviews of the operation and in reports of contacts with Neeb. The case officer very frequently and openly admits that control over the agent is very tenuous.

It is stated in one bi-monthly progress report that control over Neeb is very tenuous but that he exercises good control over his sub-agents through their personal loyalty to him as leader of their youth movement and through their belief that they are working for an Austro-American resistance movement and through the monetary support supplied them.

On several occasions his primary loyalty was shown to be to the group in Salzburg as well as to an abstract idea of what is good for Austria. He fancies himself as a big wheel in future Austrian politics and in an eventual resistance movement. Neeb had to be reminded constantly by ______ to keep his intelligence operations separate from his resistance program. His enthusiasm had to be held in check and he had to be talked to more fully on operational matters.

It is also stated that Neeb could not be divorced from his KPOE pentration personnel because of the fact that they were the product of Neeb's youth movement, the Junge Adler.

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The case officer believed that
In another report about the spring of 1948
January-February 1949 that as a result of a very frank discussion with Neeb he, had assured himself that Neeb would not engage in intelligence activities desired by his case officer. stated that Neeb directed his agents to obtain such information as he considers to be of interest to his own political ambitions. His long range penetration of the KPOE was largely an illusion. stated that Neeb had placed his friends and members of his youth organization in the KPOE and its cover organizations for the purpose of sabotaging these organizations and if possible destroying them. It was stated that the enthusiasm and ability to produce intelligence on the part of these penetratees wore out in about six months, and the sabotage plan against any particular organization failed.

Resistance Activities of Neeb

From the beginning, a major difficulty in handling or controlling Neeb was his interest in creating and carrying out resistance activities. SO attempted to exploit his interest in resistance in order to acquire stay-behind intelligence gathering assets. However, in the several plans which he submitted to his case officer, his ideas were clearly shaped along large scale resistance lines. Neeb originally claimed that his Junge Adler organization was formed to serve as a cover for resistance activities. Several of these plans have been duplicated and forwarded to the field for their information. It was noted that Neeb's resistance plans followed the same pattern as that of the _____ brothers who were interested in inactive resistance.

In April 1948 ZACABIN home office notified the field station that they were somewhat concerned at the prospect of basing a stay behind organization on anyone like Neeb who was of interest to other U.S. agencies and whose former activities in the Abwehr made him a likely object of interest to non-U.S. agencies as well.

In a report dated 12 November 1948 it was stated that Neeb had been told by ______ that a high U.S. agency was about to take over the whole resistance movement in Salzburg and put it under its wing with emphasis on the military but including intelligence aspects. This caused quite a flurry between Neeb and his case officer. Neeb considered himself as a driving force in a movement to unify all Austrian resistance efforts. Neeb stated at that time that he had the plans for setting up a good resistance movement. He stated that the resistance movement that he was talking about is an organic development which had its conception in 1947 soon after he, Neeb, had returned from PW camp. At that time he and unspecified members of what is known as the ______ group decided to build up the resistance movement with four distinct branches.

- 1. Political group to keep informed on political events, execute political manuevers and take over the government in a crisis.
- 2. Military branch to work out defense and resistance plans and prepare the necessary units for underground forces.
- 3. Youth Organization Branch to instill the proper ideology in the youth and prepare it for service under the other branches.

In an interview with ______ on 29 June 1951, Neeb stated that the members of his youth group, Junge Adler, were virtually all being given W/T training and that he had two sets which could be used for clandestine traffic.

Lateral Contacts of Neeb	SUPPLIED FUNDS FOR GROUP
SEX F	ENGAGED IN RESISTANCE ACTIVITI
Miss (Mrs.) Lee Vones	FRANCE
On 6 October 1948 a conference between	
that before \(\square\) was excommunicated	
effecting a contact with a woman in Pari	
FFM/SFZ/10 of 16 November 1.948 as Miss of	or Mrs. Lee Jones. She is stated to
be an old acquaintance of a	and to be living at about that time in
Paris. This woman agreed to supply fund	is to the group for its operations in
resistance activities. It is believed t	hat Neeb received for a time some of
these funds. In some manner	succeeded in learning from
the address of this woman and subsequent	ly approached her independently and
secured her assurance of further financi	
in October 1948, was planning to leave f	or Switzerland again to pick up 1200 lb
sterling which this woman had banked for	them there. These funds were usually
deposited to the account of the Freie Pro	esse in a Zurich bank from where it was
channeled back through the courtesy of t	he Lichtenstein authorities.

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In a dispatch from	lated 12 November 1948
(VSM/SIZ/108h) it is stated that Neeb no longer rece	ived funds originating from
this channel. This had been estimated as 3,000 schi	llings monthly.
stated that he hoped to forward a report in greater	
private financial deals of the group. He	
was picking up donated funds at a letterbox in Licht	
the donor by name. The last time \(\square \) was no	
were on deposit at Lichtenstein for his and	
later found to be a mistake and that this money was a	meant for someone else.

Connection with the French

According to one report received through ______ reporting information obtained from Armand Fellner noted to be a well known French IS operative in Vainna (and also partner in a very well known paper mill), Neeb had been working for the French for over a year. Fellner reported that Neeb had a B rating with the French.

received an incomplete report from which stated that Neeb came in contact with a French IS officer, (Captain Baudet (Baudu or other spellings) in approximately 1917 and offered to work for him. This allegation was made by "French agent" Armand Fellner who did not know whether Neeb became a full time agent of the French or merely an occasional contributor but he did know that Neeb had given the French some information which may have been given Heeb deliberately by the KPOE. This may refer to the "Scharf letter which gained wide publicity".

In the last paragraph (Para 8) of report VSM/MIL/968 dated 23 February 1949, it is stated that Neeb not being aware that we suspected that he had any contact with the French, made an attempt to explain away any information that we should get on this subject by telling the following. On 19 February 1949, Neeb entertained in his home the new press chief of the Foreign Office.

[Dr.] George Zimmer-Lehmann was invited and he brought with him a French captain Baudet who in the course of the evening said that he had heard a lot about Neeb and that he would like very much to maintain contact with him. Neeb asked if he should go to see the French captain. Advised him not to go but expressed the expectation that Neeb would probably, at some time in the near future, mention that he had seen Baudet.

In VSM/MIL/1014, it is reported that on 16 or 17 March 1949, Neeb and Dr. George Zimmer-Lehman were invited to dinner at the home of Captain Baudet of the French Intelligence Service. The invitation was allegedly a reciprocation for Baudet's visit to Neeb in February 1949. Allegedly Baudet made no further attempt to recruit Neeb. He did offer to provide contacts for Neeb in Morocco in connection with the latter's plan to send one or two groups of Junge Adler to Morocco next summer.

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Neeb reported to	•
Neeb Connection with the Police—leterlunger POLICE	E
On 25 January 1949 in WFM/MIL/905, it is reported that in order to supply his network with police contacts and with documentation and protection and in hope of getting leads to	To add the second of the secon
A later report—WSM/MIL/927 dated 4 February 1949 states that eleven agents of the staff police are investigating Neeb with respect to his friends and especially his allied connections (sic).	
Contact with and the group	3.
As of 18 February 1949 Neebwas giving a bi-weekly political briefing to Dr. George Zimmer-Lehman. In addition to Zimmer-Lehman, Neeb exchanged information with a Mr. Vodopivec, a roving reporter for the Kurier. (Vodopivec is not believed to be a part of the group.)	Separate Sep
reported that he believed that Neeb's information was distributed to Dr. Zimmer Lehman and Alfred Bleileben who, in turn, use that information for their political activities in Bienna and furthermore forward the information to	
It had only been in April 1948 that	

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Based upon arrangements made in mid-1948 between and Neeb brought copies of his information reports to and Neeb expressed the thought that they might be incorporated into a filing system which started with the approval of about August 1948. Neeb received 3000 schillings per month for this service. was able to determine that Neeb's reports also found their way to the Swiss intelligence service, and according to that service these reports were received directly from sources in Vienna who turned them over to the Swiss Legation in Vienna for a fee of 30 Swiss francs for each report.
assures his case officer that he is not and has never had any real operational contact with Neeb's operations, sources, procedures of operations, etc.
Security elements to Neeb's contacts and operations
Neeb and several members of his group, including are known to one Otto Arlow who is a close friend of Kurt Bielka and Kurt Tolloi who are reported to be Communist activists and propaganda workers. One of these two men is reported to be an RIS agent. As of 27 April 1948 Neeb reported that there was nothing to fear from Arlow since Neeb holds damaging evidence against Arlow which if filed in court would be sufficient to convict Arlow of homosexuality. Neeb did not state specifically just what Arlow knows of the group.
In one report it is stated that it is obvious that Neeb probably learned something about the status of our organization from
In May of 1948 a Soviet official was said to have stated that Neeb was unfriendly to the Soviet authorities. He referred to Neeb as being engaged in hostile acts against the Soviet union. This report was discounted by SO as being the product of a somewhat hysterical mind.
In one report the case officer stated that since many of the sub-agents of the net knew each other, the arrest of one person could roll up the whole operation. It is also estimated that the main security threat to the operation was the continued contact between Neeb and in Salzburg. It is also stated that Neeb's agents know that he has U.S. connections.

In approximately June 1948 Neeb was issued an L tablet. It was still in his possession later that year and the file does not show that it was turned in by him. It was issued at a time when his security appeared to be seriously threatened and he asked us to provide him with a means of protecting his subagents in case he should be apprehended by the Soviets. It was proposed that he be allowed to retain this tablet as long as he remained in Vienna.

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Homosexual Allegations against Neeb

In the fall of 1949

VSM/MIL/776 dated 16 November 1948, subject: Homosexuals, stated that one Kurt Schneider, a 16 year old juvenile delinquent had made a good living as a male prostitute and was then living with various friends of Fritz Neeb. The case officer reported that he might have to put him up in an operational apartment. (No further explanatory comment was made.)

accused of being a homosexual (sic). However, this accusation was deferred because Neeb had a girl friend (sic).

The reported some accusations of homosexuality against Neeb. He reported that at a meeting of the Junge Front executive on 11 February 1950 at Ling two delegates brought forth Proll documented charges of homosexuality.

made an accusation that Neeb had been previously

at Linz, two delegates brought forth "well documented charges of homosexuality against Neeb containing specific complaints of soldiers who had been associated with him during the war". As a result of this disclosure, a vote on the appointment of Neeb to the position of head of the youth section (Jugend Referat) of the Junge Front Bundersleitung turned Neeb down almost unanimously.

Allegations involving Neeb in a Fabrication Ring

The first indications of fabrication from within thenetwork
came to light when it was believed that information reported by
(Alfred Mickovsky - alias Alfred Huber) on the KPOE was also being reported to
the French. This was verified in WSM/MIL/927, 4 February 1949. This was
discovered when an exchange service between the ODI, USFA and French intelligence
produced the same reports which had been produced by the system.
The same thing had occurred previously concerning a letter written by Ernest
Fischer to Erwin Scharf on 16 November 1948. General Bethouard (French) showed
showed a copy of this letter to other commanding generals on 3 January 1949.
The question was left open as to whether Neeb was involved in the possible
duplication of information from
that original employer was Josef Adolph Urban who had been an
agent of the French but was at that particular time being held in jail by the
Austrians for CIC as a war criminal.

Laterreports cover Neeb's contacts with _______ and with ______ and with _______ and with _______ and with _______ and _______ it develops, was also involved with _______ in supplying information to Urban through a Mr. Heinz (alias Friedrich). ______ admitted some considerable trading of information. Later reports also mentioned that _______ might be in contact with the British. This traffic between ______ and Urban had been carried on since November 1948. Urban had passed these on to his various customers including Perelunger.

Mickovsky had originally approached the net through [] (Theodor von Albert) who placed Mickovsky in contact with [] (Hans Bauman) who placed Mickovsky in contact with Neeb. This was in July 1948. Mickovsky claimed a network of 50 agents and claimed to be responsible to a chief who was formerly in the German diplomatic service. He mentioned at that time a former [Major General] Pohl as the director of his operation. It was at first estimated that Mickovsky was a Rusty or CIC agent.

Mickovsky after becoming a part of the [] net became a full time reporter for a while on various subjects, notably KPOE.

In a short memorandum dated 24 February 1949 from E.H. to N.J.L., it was stated that Neeb was protected by Secretary Graf in his intelligence work for Graf. Information from Fellner.

Comment: The allegations against Neeb involving him in fabrication activities seem to be based mainly upon the following information which seems to come mainly from CIC reports:

So Report GLA-446 from Chief of Station, Vienna, to Chief of Station, Salzburg Base, dated 15 February 1950 forwards several CIC reports concerning Neeb. _____, in a memorandum accompanying the CIC reports, attaches some credability to the allegations but believed that the people involved in the reports were in the business to make money and were not paid by the Soviets. ______ stated that the group of which Neeb was alleged to be a member channelled its reports to CIC through the Azuza operation of which Joseph Adolph Urban was a member. According to this memorandum by ______ was no longer in contact with Neeb, although according to ______ Neeb was still in contact with Bleyleben.

The CIC reports forwarded state as follows:

CIC Vienna Report SOI V 8116 dated 3 Otober 1949 signed by Paul E. Haefner. Information is stated to come from Informant 1008 evaluation B-3. This SOI reports on information supplied by the source which alleges that a group of individuals are engaged in supplying false information on the KPOE and the Soviets to whomever will buy the information. According to source, the Austrian government officials are aware that the group exists. This group is supposedly led by Joszi (Joseph) Urban and includes among its members Heinz Froehlich, Ferdinand Mickovsky, Fritz Neeb and (fnu) Meinhold. Neeb is alleged to supply to Graf information supplied by Meinhold on the DU. Graf then gave Neeb spurious information on the OeVP. Herbert Baumann is reputedly another member of the group. Source reports that the source of the false reports was in the KPOE and the DU.

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CIC Salzburg S-5883 dated 18 November 1949 signed by Jack E. Heibler stated that the information contained came from Informant 2584, evaluation C-3. The source alleged that the intelligence service operated by the Austrian Ministry of Interior and the separate one operated by Ferdinand Graf, the State Secretary for Interior, had been penetrated by the KPOE and the Soviets. Source alleged that a large group of agents operating for the KPOE were channelling false information re the KPOE and the Soviets to the Ministry of Interior and to Graf. Four of these agents were alleged to be:

Herbert Baumann
Ferdinand Mickovsky
Fritz Neeb
Alexander Vodopivec - occ REPORTER

CIC Vienna report SOI V 9710, dated 13 January 1950, source not stated, is signed by Paul F Haefner and is evaluated B (6)-3. This report states essentially the same as SOI V 8116 but adds to it the name of Dr. Erich Rubak. Source stated that the group began operating about November 1948 but became really active in February March and April 1949. Mickovsky is alleged to have discussed the plan to peddle false information to allied intelligence agencies with a Soviet official at the Hotel Imperial. Source detailed some of the information which would be peddled by the group in the near future.

Neeb's Sub Sources

Hans Baumann, possibly also Herbert Baumann
Karl Rucker
Robert Eb <u>har</u> t (Ekhart)
Karl Obenbugler
Maria (Maidy) Kaan
Felizitas Goldschmidt (married to Baumann)
Theodor von Albert
Fritz Wahl
Alfred Mickovsky - T
) Frank Murko
AUSTRIA
OKA N

Herbert (Hans) Paumann Vienna 6, Koenigs Klostergasse 7, was the leader of the Academic Freedom Fighters. He married Felizitas Goldschmidt at a later date. He is a young lawyer and was imprisoned by the Nazis for Austrian resistance activity.

Karl Rucker with ____ were part of Neeb's penetration of the FOEJ. After a set up show of disagreement with the OeVP, these three left the OeVP Youth Movement in October 1947 and went over to the FOeJ and there achieved varying degrees of success as penetratees. Rucker was at one time a foreman in a scrap iron firm.

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(4FA) H. EKHART

Robert Ebhart as reported above. He is a mason apprentice.

Karl Obenbigler born 24 May 1927 in Vienna, protestant, joined OeVP in 1946. Since 1947 has been a member of FOef. Since 1 March 1948 employed as occlerical worker in export department of Elina A.G., Vienna. This is a non-USIA branch of this firm. His transfer from OeVP to FOeJ is reported above.

Maria Kaan. This woman was originally recruited to serve as secretary. She served as a cutout for _____ while he was working the _____ out from under _____ In late 1948 she had reason to be 7 In late 1948 she had reason to believe that she was on a Soviet watch list. She is a Catholic and speaks fluent French and English. Her nickname is Maidy. She has visited Italy, Swit, erland, Yugoslavia and Germany during 1939 vacation trips. From 1943-46 she did laboratory work at Wiedner Hospital, Vienna. From 1945-46 she served as a secretary-interpreter with the British Army in Austria. From 1946-47 she worked as a laboratory technician at Guys Hospital, London. There is a photograph of this woman in the file. In 1948 she obtained a position as interpreter and translator in the Political Section of the Austrian Foreign Office. On 19 July she informed that she was willing to continue cooperation with us on an intelligence basis to the extent of transmitting important information from the Foreign Office should she have access to such information. In March 1949 she quit her job with the Foreign Office and went to Switzerland to stay with her mother who is a British subject. The latest information on Kaan is that she is employed as permanent secretary to the newly accredited Austrian Press Attache, Sieferd, at Bern, Switzerland. She is willing to perform cutout services for us in Switzerland. MARRIED

Felizitas Liane Maria Goldschmidt, born 9 January 1926 in Vienna. Since the summer of 1947 she has been a clerical employee of the Austrian Ministry of the Interior assigned to the Soviet Censorship Office, Schillerplatz, Vienna. She was at one time active as a part time cashier for the KPOE, Bezirk 2. She has been an active KPOE member since 1945. Her father is a retired bank official. She has an illegitimate daughter. At some time in 1947 she worked as a bookeeper for ZK KPOE. She is believed to be now the wife of Herbert Baumann. In MAV-W-3509 dated 31 May 1951 it was pointed out that she had been reported as a collaborator in a well known intelligence fabrication ring including Joseph Urban, Alfred Mickowsky, Theodor von Albert, et. al. As of 10 May 1951 it was reported that she was still employed with the Soviet Censorship Office. Her brother is reported to be active in the KPOE.

Fritz Mahl. About 32 years old. A noted Austrian swimmer who has written for the Volkstimme V

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Alfred Alckovsky. Up until August 1948 he collected information for Joseph Adolph Urban, an employee of CIC, Linz. He did not know until July 1948 that he was working for CIC. He encountered von Albert, found he had connections of intelligence interest and tried to recruit him. However, it is claimed that von Albert recruited him instead. When Urban was arrested as a war criminal, Mickowsky's connection with CIC was cut off. In early 1949 it was found that Mickovsky was trading information with agents of the French and possibly other services. It was also suspected that he was fabricating some of this information. He is involved in allegations made in CIC reports in 1949 and 1950 which claim that he was active with Neeb in a fabrication ring feeding snow to the U.S. and other intelligence buyers. Following his drop by Neeb he took employment with the Phillips radio company. His photo is in the file. He is a nephew of the director of the Hotel Imperial.

Frank (Franz) Murko was originally active in the Ergocrat party as a leader of a student faction thereof. At our suggestion he shifted over to the Scharf group and received editorial assignments on the Scharf paper. He was born in 1926 and is a graduate of a hotel operation school in Salzburg. He was a member of the Austrian resistance movement.