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ABSA, Johann aka "Carlo"
RFI Employee; Background Investigation
Vienna, Austria

6-37761
26 January 1955
LA 005587-6-5 (3)

INFORMANT INFO:

Johann ABSA, born 30 December 1921 in Budapest, Hungary; Hungarian citizen (officially SUBJECT's citizenship status is not clear); Journalist - RFI Vienna; Roman Catholic; single; parents: Georg and Maria von Eysel (not further identified); presently residing in the Catholic seminary located at Vienna IX, Hollmanngasse 1A. SUBJECT has been registered as residing at the above address since 2 April 1949. However, since 9 December 1954, SUBJECT has also been registered as a sub-tenant of one Helene Fuesgen, Vienna III (written), Salzburgerstrasse 21/1.

During his residence in Vienna, SUBJECT has resided with his brother, [redacted] a Hungarian Catholic priest, at the Hollmanngasse address. SUBJECT has resided as a permanent resident of Vienna since 1949. He is presently employed as Journalist with the American AFK office in Vienna. However, he is not recognized as an accredited correspondent by the Austrian Press Service. According to reliable interviewed sources, SUBJECT's character and general way of life are to be considered commendable. He lives a very modest and quiet life and no derogatory information was volunteered concerning his moral outlook.

It is generally known that SUBJECT suppresses the identity of his present position and it is believed that he fears contact with satellite personalities in Vienna. SUBJECT's status as a former Hungarian national residing in Vienna can be assumed to be the reason for this anxiety. SUBJECT's political orientation and/or convictions is unknown; however, it is not believed that he participates actively in Austrian politics. He is presently the possessor of an Austrian permanent residence permit and is in the process of obtaining Austrian citizenship.

On 5 January 1955, SUBJECT was interrogated by this Region. SUBJECT corroborated all of the personal background data concerning himself, previously shown to this Region and, in addition, stated the following:

SUBJECT asserted that he has never been in contact with or passed any information to the French Intelligence Service (FIS) in Vienna. He was then informed that it was alleged that he was associated with FIS members. In this SUBJECT explained that he had at one time two neighbors, both of whom were stationed with the French Army in Vienna. He identified these personalities as a Captain (FIS) [redacted] and a Captain (FIS) [redacted], both of whom were considered by SUBJECT to be FIS agents. Background data concerning these personalities was not forthcoming. This individual was explained as being of a casual social nature only and did in no way affect SUBJECT's position with RFI. SUBJECT avowed that he has never volunteered or been requested to furnish these FIS contacts with RFI information or material. He stated further that these contacts have both departed Vienna. Concerning Captain [redacted]

Lucien DCP - 24 Mar 1945

1868/1111, 8/As CIC
630th CIC Region "C" (Vienna)

1868/1111 RIT-FRANCE
ALLEGED WITH FRENCH INTEL
SOURCE IN VIENNA.

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FOR COORDINATION WITH

Army

DAR-4604
26 JAN 55

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ALAN, Johann and "Carlo"
AFB Employee; Background investigation
Vienna, Austria

W-37701
26 January 1955
LA 005507-5 (3)

Intelligence Service (AIS) personalities operating in Vienna. SUBJECT failed to recognize any of the photographs shown to him. Repeated efforts to induce SUBJECT to elaborate regarding any of the photographs failed to disclose any further information. Questioning regarding SUBJECT's contact with or knowledge of Anna Farkasova, wife of the Soviet cultural attaché in Vienna, also produced negative answers. During their continued on late SUBJECT's knowledge of the AIS's possible penetration of the AFB's Vienna office and AFB personnel. To this, SUBJECT answered very carefully and with a certain amount of hostility that neither he, nor, to the best of his knowledge, any of the other AFB employees, have ever been approached or are presently in the employ of the AIS. He reiterated very firmly his own certain repudiation of any such recruitment attempt and was of the opinion also, that all of the AFB personnel would, as himself, resist any AIS recruitment effort.

SUBJECT was then questioned at length concerning his possible contact with members of the Czech Intelligence Service (CIS) during his employment period with AFB. He stated that he has never been, nor is he presently, in contact or working with the CIS. When confronted with his attempt at deception concerning the same question during his Lie Detector examination, SUBJECT explained that his retort should be attributed to his extreme nationalistic feelings against the Czech nation. He added that being Hungarian he resented the Czech acquisition of a part of the Hungarian fatherland.

When questioned concerning Friedrich Wahl, AFB employee, Vienna, SUBJECT stated that his only association with Wahl was in the office of AFB. He elaborated that because of Wahl's promiscuous personal life he did not consider him desirable as a friend, consequently he never associated with him even from the office nor was he aware of any of Wahl's friends or associates. Concerning Robert Wessell, SUBJECT asserted that, as with Wahl, his association with Wessell was of an official nature only. He went on to explain that while he did not dislike Wessell, he considered him a difficult person to become friendly with, and had never attempted to do so. SUBJECT also stated that he knew none of Wessell's close friends and/or associates.

Summing up, SUBJECT stated that he enjoys his work with AFB and has great respect for Mr. Maxwell Hill, his American superior at AFB, and as a consequence would never wish to jeopardize his position with AFB. He vehemently disclaimed and criticized any allegations that contend that he had worked against the best interests of AFB and stated further that he knows of no information which would indicate that any other AFB employee had been selling AFB information or material to an outside agency.

(23)

1288/1111

1268/1111, S/As CIC
330th CIC Liaison "C" (Vienna)

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[DAR 4602]

AMM, James and "Harry"
AMR Employee; Background Investigation
Vienna, Austria

W-37701
26 January 1955
CIC LA 00157-37 (3)

Agent's Note: It should be noted that SUBJECT's acceptance of the interrogation was with a cooperative approach if, however, with some restraint, and that in contrast with the interrogations of Leebell, there appeared to be an honest endeavor on SUBJECT's part to assist in the investigation. He was evasive regarding some of the questions put to him, particularly so in regard to his US contacts. However, constant hammering on this point failed to change his story.

Files of Region "C" (Vienna), checked concerning SUBJECT and all other personnel mentioned in this report, revealed only the following information not previously reported in this case dossier:

Personnel Questionnaire, dated 17 November 1947, Subject: Captain Lucien Mico, French Army, AMR 09407, wherein Mico's duties are listed as the advisor to the Chief Travel Control Officer during the Military Summit Conference in Berlin, which was for the purpose of coordination of travel between this headquarters and the French Forces, Austria.

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List of US and Foreign Licensed Personnel Processed and/or Accredited to Headquarters, CIC, dated November 1945 to 1 March 1950, lists one Captain Lucien Mico, born 26 March 1905; male; height 5'5"; weight 140 pounds; black hair; brown eyes; medium build. Mico was last reported in Austria on 29 November 1947, as a member of the Liaison Mission sponsored by the Director of Intelligence, USAF, Travel Control (CIB).

(Confidential - Unrestricted)

AMM Report 3-1280, dated 26 February 1952, Subject: Harry, James, Count; Suspected intelligence 'competence', which reports on Harry's association with one Captain Marcel Mico aka Mym, a French Army officer formerly with the French security organization "Securite Militaire", and a former French Travel Permit officer in Vienna.

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1269/1111, S/As CIC
07028 CIC Region "C" (Vienna)

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[100-134-2-5-56]