

Grisoloni

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RASW-677

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8 FEB 54

Air

Chief of Base, Salzburg
ATTN: []
Chief, []

Info: Chief of Mission, Vienna

Operational/Op OVI
Reinrich NAST - Karl HASS Meeting

Ref: AIR 6099 (Not sent Salzburg or Vienna)

R/S comp. #33

1. A sensitive Italian source has reported that on 2 October 1953, Baron (fnu) NAST arrived in Rome to confer with Karl HASS. NAST's purpose in arranging the meeting supposedly was to obtain HASS' collaboration in obtaining information for "the economic intelligence service of the VCEST Plant in Lima". NAST reportedly offered HASS the position of director of the Italian Sector of the service.
2. NAST was accompanied to Rome by his son, described as a young officer in the Austrian Police.
3. The report does not indicate HASS' reaction to the proposal. Source states, however, that "HASS is not in a position to throw any light on the matter".
4. The NASTs left Rome on 7 October for Genoa and Milan. NAST allegedly has a cousin, one (fnu) [] who heads an Austrian delegation in the latter city.
5. Arrangements for the conference were sent HASS by letter on 21 September 1953. In the letter HASS was instructed to direct any further correspondence to a WALTER RICHTER, c/o Villa Richter, Solbad/Hall, Tirol.
6. NAST is undoubtedly Baron Reinrich NAST whose biography as an intelligence fabricator, Zipperite and connections with GAF/IS, HASS and Willi WETTL are already well-known to you. HASS, as you probably know, is now the accredited Blank Office liaison man to the Italian IS.

EE/PI EE/Italy EE/FIG EE/PIZ EE/A

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in Rome. You are probably also aware of GARDNER's recent fall from grace, the possibility that he will be forced to retire in March and of reports that HAST, as a GARDNER protégé, has expressed uneasiness about his position.

7. Although the report does not indicate that young HAST took part in the conference, we feel that the presence of the Austrian police officer is interesting. According to the report, young HAST was accompanying his father on vacation.

8. The West Plant, of course, is hardly large enough to warrant having its own intelligence service. In view of the improbability that HAST could be a bona fide representative of the plant and the presence of the Austrian police officer at the conference, we feel that we should again query [redacted] on the status of his relationship with HAST. Since we have previously expressed concern about this contact, we feel we can check with him now without danger of compromising the Italian information.

RIS
MPP/G #33
9. We have attempted to check out the persons mentioned in the report. A recent Italian report shows that HAST's cousin is (Baron) Rodolfo ALTENBERGER, head of the Austrian Foreign Trade Office in Milan, Via F. Sforza 19. Young HAST is Johann George HAST, born 21 May 1930, living in Absam, near Solbad Hall, Tyrol. We have no traces on Gunda RICHNER.

8 February 1954

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