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FROM: Austria, Vienna

REPORT NO: EAV-6988

REPORT PREPARED BY: [ ]

NO. OF PAGES: 3

REPORT APPROVED BY: [ ]

NO. OF ATTACHMENTS: 0

REPORT CLASSIFIED BY: [ ]

REFERENCES: EAV-6621

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SOURCE: [ ]

SOURCE

For the RI Main Index: Wolfgang \*PFANDLER [ ]

According to Source, [ ] also met with unidentified South Tyrolean extremist leaders and remembered, among other things, that he had put some 400,000 Schillings into the South Tyrolean movement but did not want this to come to the attention of the Austrian authorities, since it would get him in trouble. In the interest of protecting our Source, we are not disseminating this item. In view of [ ] somewhat precarious financial situation, we wonder if this was all his money in any case.

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# FIELD INFORMATION REPORT

GRADING OF SOURCE: A: Completely reliable. B: Usually reliable. C: Fairly reliable. D: Not usually reliable. E: Not reliable. (Applied to sources of doubtful honesty or loyalty, regardless of their competence). F: Reliability cannot be judged (Applied to untested or insufficiently tested sources).

APPRAISAL OF CONTENT: 1: Confirmed by other independent and reliable sources. 2: Probably true. 3: Possibly true. 4: Doubtful. 5: Probably false. 6: Cannot be judged.

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COUNTRY Austria/Italy

REPORT NO. LA 6988

SUBJECT Developments in the South Tyrol

DATE OF REPORT 23 November 1960

NO. PAGES 3

REFERENCES LA-6621

DATE OF INFO. 20 August - 10 October 1960

PLACE &

DATE ACQ. Austria, Vienna (16 November 1960)

CS 3/460,093

22 Dec 60

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION. SOURCE GRADINGS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

SOURCE: With contacts in South Tyrolean extremist circles (F).  
Appraisal of Content: 3.

## Wolfgang Pfaundler and the BAS

1. Wolfgang Pfaundler, the Innsbruck journalist who has involved himself in the schemes of the South Tyrolean extremists, had over 100,000 leaflets printed for the Liberation Group for South Tyrol (Befreiungsaktion für Südtirol - BAS) in the summer of 1960. The manifesto on the leaflets was signed with the initials FIST (Freundenlegion Südtirol). The South Tyrolean resistance leaders to whom Pfaundler wished to give the leaflets objected to this appellation and stated that their movement consisted of genuinely local Tyrolean patriots, not of foreign legionnaires, and that the name Befreiungsaktion für Südtirol had been chosen after mature deliberation. Pfaundler argued then that any effective underground activity financed and supplied purely from within the South Tyrol was impossible and that the designation FIST was therefore quite in order. When the BAS leaders remained adamant, Pfaundler threatened to destroy the already-printed leaflets. <sup>1</sup>
2. In the summer of 1960 Pfaundler promised to deliver the BAS some "walkie-talkie" portable radio transmitter-receivers, but after some months passed and the equipment did not materialize, the BAS leaders became disenchanted with Pfaundler and complained that he had also promised other things in the past and had not kept his promises.
3. On 20 August 1960, Pfaundler met at the Pension Elisabeth in Innsbruck with five South Tyroleans to discuss the activities of the various South Tyrolean resistance groups. >

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INDEX 14

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chief editor and assistant editor of the newspaper received identical letters, signed "BAS" and dated 10 September 1960, which warned them that steps would be taken against their personal safety if a retraction of the editorial stand of 5 September was not printed by 17 September. The letter ended: "Be assured that the Brenner frontier gives you no reason to feel secure! This we guarantee you. The BAS."

1  
Field Comment: This episode would tend to give weight to the suspicion voiced in ~~24~~ 6537 of 13 April 1960 that the Fremdenlegion Südtirol is a figment of Pfaundler's imagination and is generally synonymous with the BAS. Source comments, however, that there are many independent dissident groups in the South Tyrol which are not affiliated with the BAS and which espouse a more radical policy than the BAS. These splinter groups are independent of each other as well as of the BAS and have no central control organization. It is possible then that FLS or FLST does not denote an organization, but is a term used by Pfaundler and his associates in Austria in reference to their activities in support of various extremist groups in the South Tyrol.