

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

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The arrest of Eichmann's assistant Rajakovic by Austrian authorities has drawn extensive editorial comment. ARBEITER-ZEITUNG regrets that the war crimes act was abolished in 1957--when no one could foresee the Eichmann trial--because Austria's involved legal system is highly unsuited for dealing with such cases. DIE PRESSE describes as the "biggest postwar mistake" the fact that no clear line was drawn between "opinion and deed" so that at first some injustice was done to people on account of mere political convictions while later on participants in Nazi misdeeds were rehabilitated. VOLKSBLATT editorially warns that Austria has incurred "grave responsibility" by arresting Rajakovic

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AUSTRIA  
19 April 1963

since the world will closely watch this affair. The Communist VOLKSSTIMME resents what it terms "antisemitic trends" in this VOLKSBLATT article and claims that Rajakovic "virtually forced himself upon Austrian legal authorities," who had never intended to seek his extradition. The paper claims that a number of former Nazi criminals are actually occupying high positions in Austria's police in the wake of the "unfortunate Helmer era" when, in his "rabid anticommunism," former Interior Minister Helmer systematically purged the police of antifascists and promoted the infiltration of former SS police officers. The paper calls for the greatest vigilance in view of new Interior Minister Olah's statement that he considers Helmer his "political teacher."

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)  
(2)(A) Privacy   
(2)(B) Methods/Sources   
(2)(G) Foreign Relations

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