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Reinhardt, Ing. Anton

17 Feb 1955

100-380381-B-1-1

Agent's Notes: Examination of reference material available at this region revealed the following:

Heinrich Gleitsner is presently Governor of Land Upper Austria, Max Stendebach is presently a VdU member of Austrian National Assembly, Ferdinand Fageth is an FPÖ National Assembly member, and Johann Kurs is FPÖ District Chairman in Nied, District Nied.

On 7 Feb 1955, the following information concerning SUBJECT was obtained from informant 46-74 during the course of a routine liaison meeting:

a. From Aug 1946 until the latter part of 1953, SUBJECT was either in prison or awaiting trial for war crimes committed while a leading member of the National Socialist Party. Presently SUBJECT appears to be taking an active part in the formation of the "Dritte Kraft" (Third Force), a political organization which is attempting to conceal the various liberal minded nationalistic splinter groups into a single, cohesive and powerful organization. The "Third Force" claims to have the unqualified support of the Verband der Unabhangige (League of Independents) (VdU), the Aktion zur politischen Erneuerung (Action for Political Renewal), the Freie Sammelung Oesterreichs (Free Assembly of Austria), the Komitee der National Einigung (Committee for National Unity), and probably also of the Oesterreichische Nationalrepublikaner (Austrian Nationalist Republicans). The theory that SUBJECT has been designated to serve in a leading capacity in the "Third Force" is predicated on two factors:

(1) On 23 Jan 1955, at a convention of the Provincial Committee of the VdU, held in the Linz Railroad Station Hall, Linz, Upper Austria, and attended by 159 delegates, a speech was made by vice-chairman Karl Leitl, who stated that Ing. Anton REINHARDT was one of the most influential proponents of the unification of nationalist groups and that SUBJECT had already expressed his avowed intention of supporting the VdU in future elections.

(2) On 26 Jan 1955, SUBJECT attended a conference of nationalist associations in Linz, at which time he stated that only through the formation of a new political community could bonafide representation of the voter be secured. He further stated that several nationalist groups had already expressed their willingness to weld themselves

Page 3 of 6 pages

COORDINATION WITH US Army

1352, 430th CIG Det.,
Region "B"

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together into one powerful organization; that the "Third Force" was not represented exclusively by the FdI, but that all nationalist groups must be unified in one political organization in order to assemble all liberal forces. (B-3)

b. Informant stated further that sub-sources in Attensee, District Voecklabruck, SUBJECT's place of residence, described SUBJECT as a righteous, honorable, straightforward man, who is very popular among his neighbors, and whose principal interest lie in cultivating his two (2) farms, which are located in that area. Though SUBJECT keeps abreast of politics, he has not openly evinced excessive interest in associating himself with or promoting the program of any particular political party. Informant added however, that this information was dated and that SUBJECT might possibly have taken a more lively interest in politics since Jan 1955.

Agent's Note: It seems, from the information available to this Agent, that SUBJECT is likely to be one of the prominent leaders of the "Third Force", if and when it comes into being and is recognized as a legitimate political party.

On 15 Feb 1955, examination of the name files of the Regional Registry, 430th CIC Detachment, Region "B", APO 174, US Army, revealed the following information concerning SUBJECT:

a. NSDAP Order of Battle - List of Wanted Persons, dated 7 Jun 1946, undated, unevaluated, contains SUBJECT's name on the wanted list.

b. Arrest list, dated 15 Sep 1945, unnumbered, unevaluated, lists SUBJECT as an SS-Brigadefuehrer who was arrested at Alkoven Grieskirchen on 7 Sep 1945.