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24 Feb 1955

BRUNTHALP, Anton

KA-020381 dfw

1955

On 25 Jan 1955, Josef Ginner, born 17 May 1910 in Attersee, District Voecklabruck, Land Upper Austria, mayor of Attersee, was interviewed at his home, Attersee 11, concerning SUBJECT. Source, who is a member of the Sozialistische Partei Oesterreichs (Socialist Party of Austria) (SPOe) stated the following in substance:

a. Source has known SUBJECT in Attersee since approximately 1920. SUBJECT's wife is a native of Fuchlbach, Attersee, and both own a farm which is located at Fuchlbach 6, Attersee. In addition, SUBJECT owns a country estate at Kettmach, District Sied, Land Upper Austria, where he was born. Since living in Attersee, SUBJECT has been known as an individual of good character who is well liked by everyone.

b. In the late 1920's, SUBJECT became a member of the National Sozialistische Deutsche Arbeiter Partei (National Socialist German Workers' Party) (NSDAP) and remained a member of that party until 1934, at which time it was outlawed by the Austrian government under the late Austrian Federal Chancellor Engelbert Dollfuss. For his affiliation with the NSDAP, SUBJECT was interned for approximately six (6) months in Woellerendorf, the Austrian concentration camp near Vienna, Austria. After his release from internment until late February 1938, SUBJECT was politically impartial and was concerned with managing his farms in Attersee and Kettmach.

c. In late February 1938, at which time Federal Chancellor Seyssingquart established the National Socialist Government in Austria, SUBJECT was appointed Federal Minister of Agriculture. He remained in this position until the annexation of Austria by Germany on 13 Mar 1938, at which time he was made an Under-Secretary of State in the Nazi Government. SUBJECT remained in this position and resided either in Berlin, Germany, or Vienna, until 10 Mar 1945, and the capitulation of the Third Reich.

d. In May 1945, SUBJECT was arrested as one of the top members and functionaries of the NSDAP and was tried as such before the War Crimes Court in Muenberg, Germany, and the Austrian People's Courts in Vienna and Linz, District Linz, Land Upper Austria. The outcome of these trials is unknown to Source, but he believes that SUBJECT was found not guilty of all charges and that he was finally set free in 1951 or 1952. Since that time, he once again has retired to his country estate and has been completely and unequivocally impartial politically. (X-2)

Page 1 of 5 pages

FOR COORDINATION WITH

US Army

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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AGENT REPORT

REINTHALER, Anton

24 Feb 1955

XA-020381 dfw

On 9 Feb 1955, Frans Schuerer, born 31 Oct 1900 in Mettrach, District Ried im Innkreis, Land Upper Austria, who resides at Haugenossenschaft 12, Attnang-Ruhmeshaus, District Voecklabruck, Land Upper Austria, and Josef Katzenhofer, born 21 Apr 1923 in St. Valentin, District Amstetten, Land Lower Austria, who resides at Vorstadt 8, Voecklabruck, District Voecklabruck, were jointly interviewed concerning SUBJECT. Schuerer is the chairman of the SPOe for District Voecklabruck and is a congressman in the Austrian Parliament. Katzenhofer is the secretary of the SPOe for District Voecklabruck. Sources, neither one of whom has ever met REINTHALER personally, stated that there has been no mention of SUBJECT in official SPOe circles, neither in connection with the SPOe nor in connection with the "Dritte Kraft" (Third Power), which is yet to be formed. Sources stated that they know nothing more concerning SUBJECT, other than that which they have read in the newspapers. Sources are aware of the fact that the Verein der Unabhangigen (League of the Independents) (VU), which is presently in a run-down condition, would have welcomed SUBJECT into its fold, but Sources are of the impression that REINTHALER would never join the VU, because he would not lend his name to an organization whose leaders he dislikes. (P-2)

On 3 Feb 1955, (Dr.) Hans Fischer, born 30 Aug 1909 in Marienberg/Erzgebirge, Bohemia, Czechoslovakia (CSR), who resides at Grundnerstrasse 85, Voecklabruck, District Voecklabruck, Land Upper Austria, and is the chief of the Sicherheitsreferat (Public Security Office) of the Bezirkshauptmannschaft (District Administration) in Voecklabruck, was interviewed concerning SUBJECT.

a. Source, who is a member of the Oesterreichische Volks Partei (Austrian Peoples Party) (OeVP) and chairman of that party's civil servants' organization in Voecklabruck, stated that the only time he has ever had personal contact with SUBJECT was when REINTHALER came to Source's office in 1953, shortly after having been granted amnesty by Austria's Federal President. After the end of World War II, in May 1945, SUBJECT was interned in prison camps in both Austria and Germany and was tried for war crimes before the Allied War Crimes Tribunal in Muenberg, Germany. After having been released by this tribunal, REINTHALER went through a series of trials before the Austrian People's Courts in Vienna, Austria, and Linz, District Linz, Land Upper Austria. Source does not know when and where SUBJECT was interned, the exact dates of any of his trials, or the outcome of any of the trials. Source stated that there is no record with the Sicherheitsreferat in Voecklabruck concerning these factors, but that SUBJECT was released from internment in 1952 and received his final amnesty in 1953.

Page 2 of 8 Pages

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1521, 430th CIC Det
Region "B"

CONFIDENTIAL

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AGENT REPORT

REINTHALER, Anton

24 Feb 1955

IA-020381

dfv

b. Being the chief of the Sicherheitsreferat in Voecklabruck, Source was naturally interested in SUBJECT's political actions following his release from internment, but he has no information in his possession which could lead him to believe anything other than that SUBJECT is strictly impartial and wants nothing to do with any political party. It is further believed by Source that an amnesty would not have been granted SUBJECT by Figl if REINTHALER had become deeply involved with any political party, Neo-Nazi or otherwise.

c. Other than what he has recently read in the newspapers, Source was unable to give any additional information concerning SUBJECT, but did state further that REINTHALER's name has not come up in official Oe'P Party circles. (F-2)

On 21 Jan 1955, Franz Kroiss, born 25 Jan 1916 in Seewalchen, District Voecklabruck, Land Upper Austria, who owns a gasthaus, was interviewed in his home at No. 8, Seewalchen, concerning SUBJECT. Source, who is a member of the VDU and has known SUBJECT since approximately 1930, stated the following in substance:

SUBJECT is a forest engineer by profession, though in recent years he has concerned himself primarily with his two (2) farms at Muehlbach 6, Attarsee, District Voecklabruck, and Mettmach, District Pled, Land Upper Austria. SUBJECT was employed by the Wildbachverbauung (Upper Austria Land Commission for the Regulation of Flood Waters) until approximately 1934, at which time he was released because he had been a member of the NSDAP. The NSDAP at this time had been outlawed by the Austro-Fascist government under the Federal Chancellor Dollfuss. In 1934, SUBJECT was interned in the Austrian concentration camp at Moellersdorf near Vienna, Austria. SUBJECT was interned for but a short period of time. He had claimed illegal arrest and internment without trial, and therefore he was released. In 1938, a Nazi government was elected in Austria and SUBJECT was appointed Minister of Agriculture and Forestry. With the annexation of Austria in 1938, SUBJECT was appointed to the position of Under-Secretary of State within the German Nazi government in Berlin, Germany. SUBJECT remained in this position until the capitulation of the Third German Reich at which time he was arrested by the Allied Forces and tried by the Allied War Crimes Court in Nurnberg, Germany. In addition to this, SUBJECT was tried for war crimes before the Austrian People's Court in

Page 3 of 8 Pages

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1521, 430th CIC Det
Region "B"

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

AGENT REPORT

REINHOLDER, Anton

24 Feb 1955
XA-020381 dfw

Vienna, and Linz, District Linz, Land Upper Austria. He was released in 1951, and in 1953, amnesty was finally granted him by the Austrian Federal President. Since that time, SUBJECT has concerned himself once again with his farms in Nettsch and Kuehlbach and in addition has remained politically impartial. On several occasions, SUBJECT has been approached by members and functionaries of the VdU in an attempt to entice him into joining the Party, but in the face of all requests and pressure applied, SUBJECT has steadfastly upheld his desire to remain out of politics. In early January 1955, the VdU once again approached SUBJECT hoping to entice him into accepting the leadership of a new party to be formed based upon the tenets of the VdU, but once again SUBJECT turned them down. In conclusion Source stated that SUBJECT is an individual of high character, conduct and integrity who is well liked in the communities of Kuehlbach and Nettsch. (F-2)

On 25 Jan 1955, Rudolf Seifert, born 15 Sep 1882 in Gross-Sientschitz, Moravia, CSR, who resides at Attersee 33, District Voecklabruck, Land Upper Austria, and is a retired president of the Austrian Federal Courts, was interviewed concerning SUBJECT. Source, who is the chairman of the VdU in the Attersee area, stated substantially as follows:

a. Source has known SUBJECT since early 1934, at which time Source, being chairman of the Supreme Austrian Federal Court, had the occasion of receiving a complaint filed by SUBJECT against his illegal arrest by the Austrian Secret State Police. At the time, SUBJECT had just been released from internment in Weollersdorf, the Austrian concentration camp near Vienna, Austria, and his complaint was against the method of arrest and internment without trial. According to Austrian law, SUBJECT was correct in his complaint and accordingly all records of this arrest and subsequent internment were ordered to be removed from all files.

b. From that time until early 1938, Source had no contact with SUBJECT. In February 1938, SUBJECT was made Federal Minister of Agriculture and Forestry under the Nazi Government in Austria established by the Austrian German annexation of Austria on 13 Mar 1938, at which time SUBJECT was made Under-Secretary of State in the Nazi Government. Simultaneously, SUBJECT received honorary ranks in both the SS (Schutz Staffal) (Body Guards) and SA (Sturm Abteilung) (Storm Troopers). SUBJECT remained in this position until the end of World War II.

Page 4 of 8 Pages

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1521, 430th CIC Det
Region "B"

CONFIDENTIAL

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

AGENT REPORT

REINHOLDNER, Anton.

24 Feb 1955

KA-020381

dfw

c. With the capitulation of the Third German Reich on 10 May 1945, SUBJECT was arrested and tried before the Allied War Crimes Court in Nuernberg, Germany, and before the Austrian People's Courts in Vienna, and Lins, District Lins, Land Upper Austria. SUBJECT was interned from 1945 until either 1951 or 1952, at which time he was set free. In 1953, SUBJECT received a grant of amnesty by the Austrian Federal Chancellor Leopold Figl.

d. Since his release from internment, SUBJECT has been living on his two (2) farms at Mettmach, District Ried, Land Upper Austria, and Wuehlbach, Attersee. Since 1951, though being politically impartial, SUBJECT has been contacted on several occasions by different political parties who wanted SUBJECT to be a candidate for election. In 1953, SUBJECT was contacted by the SPO in Mettmach and was requested to be a candidate on the SPO ticket for mayor of Mettmach, which SUBJECT declined. In late 1954, SUBJECT was contacted by several high ranking functionaries of the VdU from Vienna and Salzburg, Land Salzburg, Austria, who wanted SUBJECT to join the VdU. In connection with this, SUBJECT was invited to and attended a meeting of the VdU held in Lins in November or December 1954, at which time SUBJECT expressed himself as not being interested in politics and having no desire to join any political party. In addition to this, Dr. (fnu) Kandusch (phonetic) and Dr. (fmn) Zellinger (phonetic) have visited SUBJECT on several occasions in order to entice SUBJECT to join the VdU. According to Source, Kandusch is a VdU functionary from Vienna and Zellinger, a VdU functionary from Salzburg.

e. On 21 and 22 Jan 1955, the VdU held a meeting of its functionaries in Lins, which was attended by Source. During this meeting, a discussion was aimed at targets of reformation of the VdU for the coming elections in Upper Austria, but nothing was mentioned concerning SUBJECT. Source further stated that as the chairman of the VdU in Attersee, he has heard nothing concerning a possible draft of SUBJECT by the VdU, but his unofficial knowledge of this fact comes directly from SUBJECT. (P-2)

On 20 Jan 1955, the files of the Passant (Pass Office), Voecklabruck, District Voecklabruck, Land Upper Austria, were examined concerning SUBJECT and the following information was revealed:

Name:	REINHOLDNER, Anton
Date of Birth:	15 Apr 1895
Place of birth:	Mettmach, District Ried, Land Upper Austria

Page 5 of 8 Pages

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1521, 430th CIC Det
Region "B"

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CONFIDENTIAL

AGENT REPORT

REINHALTER, Anton

24 Feb 1955

XA-020381

dfw

Citizenship:	Austrian
Marital status:	Married
Profession:	Farmer
Description:	6'2" tall, blue eyes, grey hair
Residence:	Muehlbach 6, Attersee, District Voecklabruck
Identification:	On 11 Dec 1950, SUBJECT was issued Identification Card number 72682, by the Bezirkshauptmannschaft (District Administration), Voecklabruck. (3-2)

On 20 Jan 1955, the files of the NSDAP Registry, Voecklabruck, District Voecklabruck, Land Upper Austria, were examined concerning SUBJECT and the following information was revealed:

Name:	REINHALTER, Anton
Date of birth:	14 Apr 1895
Place of birth:	Netzbach, District Ried, Land Upper Austria
Citizenship:	Austrian
Profession:	Engineer (presently farmer, formerly Under-Secretary of State)
Permanent residence:	Muehlbach 6, Attersee, District Voecklabruck
Temporary residence:	From 13 Mar 1938 until 23 Apr 1945, Augartenstrasse 1, Vienna, Austria; and at Gelfertstrasse 27, Berlin-Dahlem, Germany
NSDAP membership:	From Apr 1928 until May 1933; From Mar 1938 until May 1945; From 14 Mar 1938 until May 1945, SUBJECT held the honorary rank as SS Brigadier General; From 1929 until 1930, SUBJECT was a member of the SA.
NSDAP party medals:	Golden membership badge of NSDAP and medals in brass and silver
NSDAP function:	From 1928 until 1929, Ortsgruppenleiter (local section leader)
Convictions:	On 26 Oct 1950, SUBJECT was tried before an Austrian People's Court at the Land Court in Vienna;

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AGENT REPORT

REINTHALER, Anton

24 Feb 1955

KA-020381

dfv

On 7 May 1952, SUBJECT was tried before the Land Court in Lins, District Lins, Land Upper Austria, for having violated paragraphs 10, 11, and 12 of the Austrian National Socialist Law

Wife:

Theresia Reintaler, nee Oehn, born 5 Jun 1901 in Alkoven, District Lins

Date of marriage:

27 Nov 1924

Remarks:

According to National Socialist Law, SUBJECT ranks among the group of "implicated persons"; On 12 Jun 1953, SUBJECT was amnestied by the Austrian Federal President. (B-2)

On 20 Jan 1955, the files of the Gemeindeamt (Community Office), Attersee, District Voecklabruck, Land Upper Austria, were examined concerning SUBJECT and the following information was revealed:

Name:	REINTHALER, Anton
Date of birth:	14 Apr 1895
Place of birth:	Postnach, District Ried, Land Upper Austria
Citizenship:	Austrian
Marital status:	Married
Profession:	Farmer, retired forest engineer
Residence:	Hushlbach 6, Attersee
Wife:	Theresia Reintaller nee Oehn, born 5 Jun 1901 in Alkoven, District Lins, Land Upper Austria.

Agent's Notes: Attention is invited to the discrepancy in spelling of SUBJECT's family name.

On the dates indicated, the files of the following sources were examined relative to SUBJECT and no record was disclosed:

20 Jan 1955	Gendarmerie Posten (Gendarmerie Post), Attersee, District Voecklabruck, Land Upper Austria
20 Jan 1955	Arbeitsamt (Employment Office), Voecklabruck, District Voecklabruck

Page 7 of 8 Pages

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1521, 430th CIC Det
Region "B"

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AGENT REPORT

WHEWELER, Anton

24 Feb 1955
XA-020381

47v

On 16 Feb 1955, a check of the Regional Registry, Region "B", 430th CIC Detachment, APO 174, US Army, revealed no information pertaining to personalities mentioned herein not reported in previous agent report, dated 17 Feb 1955. Subject and file as above.

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Page 8 of 8 Pages

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1521, 430th CIC Det
Region "B"

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