

DISPATCH

CLASSIFICATION

S E C R E T

PROCESSING ACTION

MARKED FOR INDEXING

TO
Chief, European Division

X

NO INDEXING REQUIRED

INFO.

ONLY QUALIFIED DESK
CAN JUDGE INDEXING

FROM

MICROFILM

SUBJECT

GROOVY GRCAMERA

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

Action Required: Please see paragraph 2e

Reference: EAVA-46038 dated 23 February 1973

1. Summary: The MBFR preparatory talks have provided special reason for meeting Subject, and lead ultimately to our arranging for him to meet with the U.S. Delegation Chief. Subject continues to maintain a very full schedule, but likewise continues to be a thoughtful observer of, and voice on, the Austrian scene, with a distinctly pro-American bias. He is badly out of touch with the United States, though, and should be stimulated, if not subsidized, to visit there.

2. Operational:

a. Subsequent to the discussion held with Subject in his office as reported in Reference, he and undersigned met for dinner on 1 March, an appointment we had in fact arranged at least a week before events described in Reference provoked a more immediate meeting. The point is mentioned simply to illustrate that Subject continues to be extremely busy and appointments outside his office must be arranged long in advance. The dinner was devoted very largely to a discussion of MBFR issues, and in particular to countering Subject's reiterated apprehensions that MBFR is merely a "cover" for withdrawing American troops in Europe on the basis of a high-level bilateral understanding reached between the United States and the Soviet Union. I feel I at least caused Subject to reexamine some of his preconceptions and to feel less confident about his opinions relating to the American political scene. This is not to imply that Subject is ignorant of the political facts of the American scene, but it was brought home to him that this scene is not without its complexities and that he should discuss his views of American policy with his American contacts in Vienna.

Distribution:
3 - Chief, European Division

Continued . . .

MAR 14 1973

CROSS REFERENCE TO

E-2 IMPDET

DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER

EAVA-46285

DATE

Typed 13 March 1973

CLASSIFICATION

S E C R E T

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

b. Principal result of the 1 March meeting was an appointment for lunch on 9 March with Mr. Jonathan Dean, Head of the American Delegation to the MBFR preparatory talks, which undersigned arranged and attended. Mr. Dean, whose years in Germany have given him much practice in countering the German "nightmare" concept of a high-level agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union, was highly persuasive and gave Subject much food for thought. Subject indicated that he had conducted the "brain washing" exercise mentioned in Reference, and in general gave the impression that he had at least to some extent modified his own views and was considerably more thoughtful about MBFR.

c. Subject has for reasons not entirely clear to me literally thrown himself into activities connected with the 125th anniversary of his newspaper being observed this year (apparently all year long). He is holding "meet the people" sessions in little towns throughout Austria as often as two and three evenings a week in the course of which he and two or three of his staff "take the pulse" of the Austrian public and seek to determine Austrian popular attitudes of domestic and foreign affairs. It is my impression that the paper's financial position is -- if not precarious -- at least causing him some concern and this exercise, which takes so much of his time and energy, may have at its core a hope of expanding the readership of the newspaper. But it certainly reduces his availability.

d. Our relationship remains an extremely cordial one, whenever we are able to work out a mutually compatible opportunity to meet. We do not, in fact, need to get together very often since Subject is the recipient of the usual NVPEER handouts and a limited amount of personal attention from the LNFALL Press Officer, which together with his own natural bent, usually means that the stories of interest to us appear without our intercession. He has taken our lead on some stories in which we were particularly interested -- we have strongly encouraged him to report on the repression of Soviet dissidents and on Soviet backing of Arab terrorists, for example. Most recently, we provided him material on Soviet trade unions and suggested he consider an article using the Shelepin visit to Norway as a peg. His main importance to us, though, is his own status in and understanding of the Austrian scene, plus his pro-American bias (about which I have no doubt). We are thus in a position to intercede with him as we did in reference without detriment to our relationship; indeed, I feel if anything it has fostered our relationship, it having been of some profit to him. (He is certainly one of the very few Vienna news media representatives who have even laid eyes on Mr. Dean, let alone had something over an hour's conversation with him.)

e. All in all, I regard Subject as a distinctly positive influence in the local media and a very useful contact. But for some time I have felt that he is out of touch with the United States (he was last there in 1968) and would profit from even a fairly brief visit. I have not

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is not to suggest that we should make a counter-offer, but only to illustrate that the Soviets are actively encouraging him to visit the USSR, and that he mentions this in conversation with me. At least one possible interpretation is that he would like us to urge him to visit the USA. An expression of Headquarters interest and views is requested.

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