

DISPATCH	CLASSIFICATION	PROCESSING ACTION
	S E C R E T	MARKED FOR INDEXING
TO	Chief, European Division	x NO INDEXING REQUIRED
INFO		ONLY QUALIFIED DESK CAN JUDGE INDEXING
FROM		MICROFILM
SUBJECT	GROOVY GRCAMERA Lunch with IDENTITY, 31 October 1973	

ACTION REQUIRED - REFERENCES

Action Required: FYI

Reference: EAVA-46285 dated 13 March 1973 ~~XXXX~~
filed GRCAMERA

1. Having been repeatedly frustrated in our efforts to meet GRCAMERA (an elusive bird), who has been on several guest lists but failed to appear at any social event of recent vintage, the writer took advantage of the regular appearance of IDENTITY (stand-in for GRCAMERA?) to strike up several brief conversations and exchange cards. IDENTITY impresses one as an intelligent, perceptive individual with considerable exposure (including study in the U.S.) to things American. *J* had also remarked that IDENTITY was very knowledgeable on the local scene, and his employer's expert on things internal Austrian.

2. Happily, IDENTITY is not as elusive as GRCAMERA, although he clearly will give him a good run for his money; we attempted no less than seven times to reach him at his place of employment (he has not been travelling, but maintains somewhat odd hours), until we were able to meet him for a quiet lunch on 31 October.

3. IDENTITY recounted his long association with things American, requiring no recapitulation here, and then changed the conversation to the current crisis in the Middle East. It was somewhat difficult to bring him back to more banal subjects, but during the course of a leisurely discussion, the following pertinent information emerged:

Attachment: S/C ATT'D BY IP/AN /Continued/
 Dated 19 Nov 73
 IDENTITY SHEET - Original & 1 copy - under separate cover
 Distribution:
 Original & 1 - Chief, European Division w/att (Orig & 1) - u/s/c

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CROSS REFERENCE TO	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER	DATE
	EAVA-46756	NOV 8 1973 Typed 06 November 1973
	CLASSIFICATION	HQS FILE NUMBER
	S E C R E T	<i>Defer</i>

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2D
 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
 12/2006

CONTINUATION OF DISPATCH	CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NUMBER EAVA-46756
<p>a. Subject considers himself his employer's expert on the internal Austrian scene; while he takes considerable interest in broader political horizons, his forte remains the Austrian political imbroglio, a subject on which he writes with obvious knowledge and finesse.</p> <p>b. When it was somewhat facetiously suggested that he would make an excellent candidate as the next Washington correspondent of his paper, he responded that in spite of his continuing interest in (and association with) things American, he is rather settled in his ways, and is devoted to his weekend house in the vicinity of Wiener Neustadt, to which he escapes at every opportunity.</p> <p>c. He has no desire to expand his writing capabilities beyond the Austrian internal scene; he cannot at present plausibly pretend to be an expert on other parts of the world, nor does he have any desire to enlarge his expertise. He finds the local scene sufficiently convoluted to require his full-time attention, and his aspirations are modest.</p> <p>d. During our discussion of the local publishing scene, he remarked that his newspaper regularly loses money, in spite of a daily run of 50 - 60,000 issues and a weekend figure of some 80,000. He commented that the only newspapers which manage to break even are the <u>Revolverblaetter</u>, such as the <u>Kronen-Zeitung</u> and the <u>Kurier</u>. Nonetheless, his own newspaper, which enjoys a high reputation, will no doubt continue to appear in spite of its financial difficulties. He indicated that he was unaware of any plans for a change in ownership at this time.</p> <p>4. One of our purposes in seeing IDENTITY was to ascertain his suitability for the [] program; on the basis of our exploration of the Far East in general with him, it became apparent that he has relatively little interest in that area, and while he might be amenable to a free trip, it is questionable that we would derive the requisite benefit from sponsoring him. An additional consideration which led to our scratching him at this time from the [] program is the fact that since both he and [] work for GRCAMERA, and the latter had played a role in selecting [] earlier for such a tour, we might have offended GRCAMERA by playing fast and loose (in his eyes, that is) with his staff. The option remains open, however, and we can fall back on IDENTITY at some later date if it seems appropriate.</p> <p>5. Another goal in seeing IDENTITY was to explore his [] potential, realizing full well that the best opportunity no doubt lies with GRCAMERA himself, but given the latter's frequent unavailability, a second string to our bow might still be in order. IDENTITY expressed some interest in subjects related to [], but by his own definition of his responsibilities, it appears that for him to float any topic in connection with [], unless it had a direct bearing on the internal Austrian scene, would be out of context for him, and would also probably catch the beady eye of GRCAMERA. Consequently, while IDENTITY does represent a potential outlet, in a narrow sense, we should proceed with considerable circumspection, lest we find ourselves in the unpleasant position of double-tracking with GRCAMERA.</p> <p>6. In sum, IDENTITY is a pleasant, intelligent and stimulating conversationalist, who is doubtless worth an occasional contact for such insights as he can give on the local scene, and for the time when we may wish to launch an [] or</p>		
FORM 53a 8-64 (40) USE PREVIOUS EDITION.	CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T	PAGE NO. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CONTINUED 2 of 3

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similar activity with local ramifications, in the absence of GRCAMERA. We shall keep you advised of further encounters, but suggest that for the moment, it is necessary only to consider this interlocutor as a stockpiled potential asset to be drawn upon when the need arises.

[]

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S E C R E T

TO: CHIEF, EUROPEAN DIVISION

FROM: CHIEF OF STATION, VIENNA

SUBJ: SEPARATE COVER ATTACHMENT TO EAVA-46756

IDENTITY: Dr. Thomas C H O R H E R R of Die Presse

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slc # 1 EAVA-46756