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SECRET

OELA-5929

19 APR 54

To: Chief, WE
Attn: []
From: Chief of Station, []

File
5/103

Info: Vienna
[]
Frankfurt
Pullach

Subject: Redox/Befinal/Zipper
Befinal 103

Ref: [] 0296 dated 22 March 1954

1. During a meeting in [] on 1 April 1954, [] informed us that Befinal 103 and company were released on 3 March in Vienna and that Austrian officials are not pressing the deportation question. According to [] whose opinion is based entirely on reports received through [French] Befinal 103 was released because [French] protested vigorously to the Austrians and, perhaps more important, because Befinal 103 agreed to cooperate with the Vienna Staatspolizei on internal security matters, which he had previously refused to do. In any case the situation, on the surface, appears to be as it was.

2. [] had no information on paragraph 4 of VIEN 2206.

3. [] plans a trip to Germany or Austria sometime in May to work out a new plan with Befinal 103. At the moment he believes it safer to move Befinal 103 into one of the Western Zones of Austria, despite the fact the Austrians now seem happy enough to let him stay in Vienna. [] pointed out that [] does not enjoy exclusive control over Befinal 103 and Zipper might have other plans; that American, French and British security services share a deep suspicion of Befinal 103 and will harass him continually if he tries to resettle in any of the three Western Zones of Austria; and, finally, that the garbage collectors, who are the main object of the exercise, are not dependent upon Befinal 103 and can be tapped directly by Kutark or Javelin.

4. [], Javelin's representative, agreed with this but pointed out that the only reasons for getting [] and Befinal 103 out of the operation would be to increase our control and to cut costs. He feels that better control would not improve the product, that Befinal 103 and the collectors are uncontrollable in any case, and that any small surface saving would be more than offset by increased administrative headaches and overhead expenses if we try to "run" the collectors ourselves. [] is willing enough to let Zipper handle the collection of documents, with or without Befinal 103, provided only that all raw ~~xxx~~ documents come promptly to [] as

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heretofore, for joint Javelin/Kubark processing. As there is no sign yet that Lipper can or will do this; he felt that [] should be allowed to continue with his plans unless, and until, someone comes forth with a better solution.

5. This seemed reasonable enough but there is a possibility one of the two Vienna Stations, or Zipper, are proceeding along different lines. It was decided, therefore, to let the situation develop further before any final decision is made. [] will see Befinal 103 in May and discuss his plan with him, but will not make any drastic changes in the operation without first checking with Befinal in []

6. For the benefit of Frankfurt and Pullach, identities of the following will be sent separately:

a. []

b. Befinal 103

Distribution:
Wash - 4
Vien - 1
[]
Fran - 1
Pull - 1
Files

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