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Report No: B-3837
Pouch: 30 July 1946

From : Austria
Info Date : 29 July 1946
Report Date : 29 July 1946
Source : Stormovik
Subsource : Austrian timber merchant, Zurich, formerly a close friend of Subject, who has now lost all confidence in him.
Evaluation : B-2
Country : Austria / Switzerland
Subject : Dr. Karl von Winkler 
Distribution : Washington, Vienna, Amson, Paris, London, Files (3).

✓ *amf* 1. ^{SFX} Dr. Karl von Winkler, alleged leader of the "Astra" Resistance Movement in Austria, has recently founded an import and export trading firm in Austria, known as the GESTER, KONZERN, MBH. Its head office is at Graz, Operaring 15. There is a branch office in Vienna at Rathausstrasse 5 (fifth floor). *CD*

2. One of the objects of the firm is to undertake compensation business with Switzerland, which Winkler visited a week ago.

✓ 3. The Graz Authorities have refused to recognize Winkler's firm on the grounds that one of its partners is a compromised Nazi. Winkler explains that he took over the firm's trading permit from this Nazi, who insisted on being taken on as a partner. The attitude of the Graz Authorities has resulted in the Vienna Authorities refusing to sanction Winkler's transactions.

CD 4. Winkler deals in Switzerland with OKYDA A.G. of Zürich, the Managing Director of which is a Russian Jew, named Victor D. Schereschewski.

5. When recently in Switzerland, Winkler gave out that he was going to be appointed an Austrian Consul in Switzerland.

6. Among his closest friends in Austria, Winkler lists:

CD Dr. Karl Stepan, of Graz, Küblergasse 43

Constant Herr Bendel, of Graz, Meranstrasse 1

Herr Gessle, Vice-President of the Salzburg Chamber of Commerce

Dr. Kleiböck, of Salzburg

Major Molling, of Innsbruck

Dr. Veiter (?) of Feldkirch (or Bregenz).

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