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AUSTRIAN FORTS BELIEVE NEUTRAL POSTURE

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(Summary of MAGYAR NEMZET article)

(Text) Austrian War Minister Schleiner announced the other day that a line of fortifications had been constructed along the Hungarian frontier. The following questions arise: Against whom does Austria want to defend itself with antiquated concrete forts? Are such preparations for war compatible with its voluntarily accepted eternal neutrality? How do the Austrians find the money to finance such schemes?

As for the first question, the Austrian bourgeois press has for some time watched with anxiety the steadily increasing number of Austrian tourists visiting Hungary. The example of socialism has an ever deeper impact, and it seems that this is regarded as a great danger by some Austrian circles. In connection with the second question, the objective of such measures is to pave the way to renouncing neutrality and thus endangering the fundamental interests of the Austrian people. As for the third question, all information points to the same direction: West Germany. The concrete curtain on Austria's frontier is the defense line not of Austrian neutrality but of West Germany's revanchist and militarist policy.

HOETTL RUNS SPY CENTER IN AUSTRIA

(Editor's Note--A) The Budapest daily NEPSZABADSAG from 25 June to 1 July carries in five installments an article totalling 7,600 words by Istvan Pinter and Lasko Szabo, "Dr. Hoettl, the World Champion of Survival," dealing with the wartime and postwar activities of Dr. Wilhelm Hoettl, "former SS Sturmbannfuhrer, Kaltenbrunner's confidential right-hand man, deputy head of the Foreign Department of Kaltenbrunner's Reichssicherheitsamt, head of the Nazi espionage organization operating in Hungary." On 25 February, the Hungarian Government unsuccessfully tried to have Hoettl extradited. He is now running a private school in Bad Aussee in Austria, the article says.

The fifth installment on 30 June says of Hoettl: "The war was not even over when he shifted his allegiance and sold his services to the American espionage organization. No doubt the seed of the idea was planted in his mind when, in the beginning of 1945, he carried

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out personal negotiations with Allen Dulles, who then directed the European espionage organization of the United States from Switzerland. As a matter of fact, at that time Hoettl was assigned to go to Switzerland on Kaltenbrunner's orders, which were confirmed by Himmler. His task was to offer that the Germans hold up the advancing Soviet Army on the Austrian border and give free passage to the Americans to Austria, if, in return, the Kaltenbrunner clique would be allowed to form an Austrian Government. On this mission Hoettl's number as an agent was 144/7947. He returned from his negotiations with only partial success. It is obvious that at the time Allen Dulles could not accept Kaltenbrunner as the new Austrian chancellor. This head executioner with blood on his hands had compromised himself too much. Dulles was, however, willing to establish contact with the Nazi secret service through Hoettl.

"It is understandable that the agreement with Allen Dulles put Hoettl in an extremely advantageous position. Of course, when he went to Switzerland for the second time to meet his new boss, he would not dream of tying his fate, for better or worse, to that of the gravely compromised Kaltenbrunner. Returning from the trip, he did report to Kaltenbrunner, but all he told him was: 'Allen Dulles is working to bring Austria under Western influence, if possible, without a revolution.' (SS Gruppenleiter Wanek's testimony at Nuremberg-- NEPSZABADSAG)"

The article asserts that there would have been many reasons for indicting Hoettl and continues: "Yet the Americans did not arrest him. Of course, it is not difficult to arrive at the solution of the secret, the more so because the West German anticommunist paper, DER SPIEGEL, openly disclosed it. The 22 April 1953 issue of the paper said: 'Immediately after the end of the war, the American CIC assigned Hoettl to reestablish his connections with his former contacts in Budapest and Bucharest. In the summer of 1945, Hoettl's old Steyregg SD transmitter was operating again with its aerial pointed to the southeast under the supervision of American soldiers.'

"Thus the CIC, the American espionage organization, saved Hoettl from arrest, from well-deserved punishment. It is another matter that Hoettl could not save his former well-organized network for the CIC. Nazi agents failed to react to his message, and the Nazi espionage agencies in Hungary and Rumania disintegrated through the events following the war. It was necessary to begin the organization of a new agency. In spite of this, however, his new overseas masters retained and protected Hoettl."

The article says that Hoettl is running a flourishing espionage center even today.