

CLASSIFICATION

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

CD NO.

25X1

COUNTRY

Germany/Austria

DATE DISTR.

17 May 1955

SUBJECT

Field Marshal Ferdinand Schörner
and Other Ex-Prisoners

NO. OF PAGES

1

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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DATE OF
INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

1.

[Redacted] return from the USSR. He did not remain in the GDR because he was given the political mission of establishing connections with his previous officers and soldiers [Redacted]

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[Redacted] Schoerner, although he had been a rigid disciplinarian, was by no means as unpopular as the West German press was writing. [Redacted]

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[Redacted] The Soviets therefore believed that he was the right man to convince the former Austrian soldiers that the USA wanted to make West Austria a bastion of the NATO powers and thus furtively to bring about a new Anschluss of part of Austria with West Germany. Schoerner was informed in Moscow that the execution of these plans would bring about the division of Austria.

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2.

It was learned that the last German soldiers still retained in the USSR because of alleged war crimes would return soon. They had no longer been treated as PWs for more than a year and were being trained for important posts in Germany.

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[Redacted]

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