

INFORMATION ~~SECRET~~ ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY Austria/USSR

DATE DISTR. 16 November 1948

SUBJECT Soviet Telephone Monitoring in Vienna

NO. OF PAGES 1 50X1-HUM

PLACE
ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

pld.
641

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1.

Soviet

authorities had installed recording machines in Room 105 of the monitoring office. Conversations in French and English are monitored and Austrian interpreters are called upon from time to time to determine the relative importance of calls, since there are not sufficient recorders to cover all the lines tapped in Room 105. (Comment: [redacted] 50X1-HUM

Rooms 105, 106, and 107 are used by the Soviets to tap Vienna city calls routed to them from their agents in the various city exchanges. This official had not heard that recording machines were being used.) 50X1-HUM

2. Room 105 is known to the Austrian employees as the room of the Soviet experts. All important processed intercepts are brought there for transmittal to two Soviet officers. If both are absent, such intercepts are taken by an Austrian employee to the Soviet Censorship Headquarters at Vienna IV, Technikerstrasse 5. Austrians are not allowed in the building, but they ask for the Zensurstelle and a Soviet official comes to the door to accept the intercept.

3. Telephone monitors were instructed during the week of 4 - 10 October 1948 to watch especially for calls concerning border crossing from Czechoslovakia, discussion of the Marshall Plan, and compensation transactions with [redacted] or 50X1-HUM

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letter of 16 October 1978 from the
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Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. [redacted]
NO CHANGE in Class. [redacted]
DECLASSIFIED [redacted]
Class. CHANGED TO: TS, S, C
Auth: NDA [redacted] Apr 77
Date: 8 MAY 1978

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CLASSIFICATION

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