

CONFIDENTIAL2 Authority AND 007016
By dt NARA Date 6/9/05Interrogation Report No. 517.
Ref. No. AIU/PIR/135.
11th June, 1947.CIC DOSSIER
D-61504BRITISH INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES SUB-COMMITTEEInterrogation of Karl FIEBINGERon 7th May, 1947Target No. G22/6925

Main Interest: Building Construction.

1. PERSONAL HISTORY

- a. Citizenship: Austrian.
- b. Address: Salzburg, Kapellenweg, 16, (presently under Salzburg town arrest).
- c. Date and Place of Birth: 20 January 1913 at Vienna, Austria.
- d. Description: Height 6'1"; weight 187 lbs; brown hair; blue eyes; married, no children.
- e. Education: Attended Technische Hochschule, Vienna from 1931 to 1937, studying civil engineering.
- f. Political Affiliations: NSDAP applicant since June 1938, member of NSV since 1941 and of NSBDT (Nazi Engineering Association) since 1939.
- g. Military Service. None.

2. OCCUPATIONS: Upon completing his studies at the Technische Hochschule, Fiebinger accepted a position as assistant professor in the "Eisenbetonbau und Static" (Reinforced Concrete Construction and Statics) section of the civil engineering department of the Hochschule in September of 1937. His reputation grew so rapidly that Professor Dr. Ernst Melan, then chief of the Hochschule's civil engineering department, asked his co-operation on a huge construction project of a cement factory to be built at Kirchbiehl Tyrol. This project was initiated in October of 1938 and was later known as "Perlmoser Cement Werke". It occupied Fiebinger so fully that he was unable to carry on with his duties as assistant professor at the Hochschule. On 15 April 1939, he established his own office in Vienna, which was known as "Buerro fuer Bauwesen Dipl. Ing. Karl Fiebinger". He claims to have employed a staff of 40 engineers and to have gained national recognition for the many projects he handled between 1939 and the end of the war, a fact which was borne out by statements made to interrogators by his former associates. Fiebinger moved his office to Strobl on the Wolfgangsee, in February 1945. Upon cessation of hostilities, he claims to have presented detailed plans for underground installations constructed by him at Ebensee, (V-2); Melk (Ball Bearings); Redl Zipf (V-2), Messerschmitt factory (Me-262) at St. Georgen, to a team of American investigators that was allegedly dispatched from Paris in June or July 1945 specifically for this purpose. During the fall of 1945 Fiebinger organized a new concern in Salzburg, called "Spezial Baugesellschaft, Salzburg" (Firm for specialized construction), which was contemplating the production of small wooden houses. His work was interrupted in February 1946 by his arrest by American authorities as a security threat. The reason for his arrest, as stated on his arrest report, is the supervision of important SS building matters, including a V-2 factory and a crematory for a concentration camp at Ebensee, for which slave labor was used and for which he allegedly received 1,000,000 marks. Fiebinger denies the above charges. On the 29th April, 1947, he was removed from the full arrest category and placed under town arrest in Salzburg, per letter order from G-2, United States Forces in Austria.

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3. GENERAL INFORMATION: Fiebinger is claimed to be one of Germany's foremost experts on the construction of modern industrial plants, particularly underground installations. His ability was soon recognized by various German authorities charged with the construction, enlargement and improvement of underground factories for the Nazi war effort. Among the orders filled by Fiebinger's office upon the request of such agencies as the German Air Ministry were:

a. Architectural design and supervision of construction.

- (1) Ebensee underground installations originally intended as a testing station for V-2 rockets. This testing establishment was built for General Dornberger of the High Command of the German Army, who was charged with the development of the V-2 and covered a space of approximately 300,000 cubic meters (November 1943 to the end of the war).
- (2) A Messerschmitt factory for the Me-262 (code name: Bergkristall), an underground installation of approximately 15,000 cubic meters, located at St. Georgen an der Gusen, Upper Austria (Russian occupied zone of Austria). This order was originally given by General Wilder of the Luftwaffe but was executed under the supervision of the SS Building and Construction Corps, (February 1944 to the end of the war).
- (3) The underground V-2 testing station at Redl-Zipf, Upper Austria developed for the Rax Werke, Wiener Neustadt, covering a cubic space of approximately 35,000 cubic meters. This organization was later reorganized to become known under the code name "Steinbruch Verwertungs G.m.b.H." under the supervision of the High Command of the German Army (September 1943 to the end of the war).
- (4) An underground installation at Kirchbichl, Tyrol (French occupied zone of Austria) intended for production of aircraft engines by Flugmotorenwerke Ostmark, Vienna. Actual production in this 160,000 cubic meter underground installation never got underway (February 1945 to the end of the war).
- (5) A factory for the Rax Werke, Vienna for the production of coal tenders (December 1942 to the end of the war).
- (6) An aircraft assembly plant at Vienna - Schwechat designed and constructed for Heinkel werke. This plant, covering an area of 30,000 square meters, was destroyed by Allied bombing on the very day of its completion. (1943).
- (7) Design and construction of an air raid shelter intended as the last stand headquarters for Adolf Hitler and his staff. The location of the installation is claimed to be 10 kilometers south of the city of Gotha, Germany and 2 kilometers from the village of Kraewinkel in the direction towards the village of Arnstadt. The "top secret" order for this project was given to Fiebinger by SS-Obergruppenfuhrer (General) Kammler, on Christmas day 1944, with instructions to complete the project prior to 15 April 1945. The job called for the construction of three horizontal tunnels into the face of a hill with connecting passages. It was abandoned during March 1945 when the tunnels were almost complete.

b. Architectural Design:

- (1) Flugmotorenwerke Ostmark, an aircraft engine construction firm for which Fiebinger designed plants at Wiener Neudorf, Austria; Bruenn, Czechoslovakia; and Marburg, Yugoslavia. The designing job covered 40 specialized plant constructions and an area of 400,000 square meters (1941 to 1944).
- (2) The underground installation at Melk, Lower Austria (Russian occupied zone

of Austria), known under the code name "Quarz". This installation was constructed as a combination evacuation plant for the above mentioned firm "Flugmotorenwerke Ostmark" and the firm of "Steyr-Daimler-Puch", Steyr, Upper Austria. The scheduled production of ball bearings was never realized due to the course of the war. The Melk installation covered a cubic area of 120,000 cubic meters. The end of the war interrupted its completion. (February 1944 to the end of the war).

- (3) A plant covering 40,000 square meters designed for Steyr-Daimler-Puch, producers of aircraft engines, at Steyr, Upper Austria (November 1941 to April 1943).
- (4) Various designs for Junkers Werke, Dessau, i.e., a new aircraft engine factory at Prague (1942) and two construction plants at Bernburg and Aschersleben, both near Dessau, Germany (1942).
- (5) Design of a factory intended for the production of 1000 bombers per month, scheduled to be built at Oels, near Breslau for the German Air Ministry. This project was later abandoned (1942 to 1943).
- (6) Perlmoser Cement, a huge cement factory at Kirchbichl, Tyrol (French occupied zone of Austria), scheduled for a production of 100,000 tons of cement per year. Project was never completed. (1938 to 1940).
- (7) Design of air raid shelters, bridges and river control systems for the city of Vienna. (1941 to 1943).

4. DISPOSITION: Fiebinger is being further interrogated on German construction methods of underground installations. Any headquarters requiring further information should forward a brief outlining specific information desired to Chief, Air Section, Headquarters, United States Forces in Austria.

(Signed) ROBERT E. WORK.

ROBERT E. WORK.
Major, Air Corps,
Chief Interrogator.

AIR SECTION
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES FORCES IN AUSTRIA
Air Interrogation Unit (Int. Center-Austria)
APO 777, U.S. ARMY.

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