

# U.S. Senator Al D'Amato

## of New York

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
UPON RECEIPT

CONTACT: Ed Martin 202 224 6498  
Gary Lewi 212 947 7390

D'AMATO WANTS ALL DOCUMENTS FROM IDAR-OBERSTEIN PRISON CAMP  
CITES FORMER GUARDS WHO SAY MENGELE WAS HELD THERE BY U.S.

U.S. Senator Alfonse M. D'Amato (R-C-NY) said today that a second former guard at the Idar-Oberstein Prison Camp has surfaced to confirm that Nazi war criminal Josef Mengele may have been held by American forces immediately following World War II.

D'Amato said that the account of former PFC Richard A. Schwarz, who in 1945 served as a guard at the camp, corroborates information revealed last week by Walter Kempthorne, another guard who contends the Americans did have Mengele.

"We need to see the records from that camp," D'Amato said, noting that he has requested the Army to come forth with all information about the Idar-Oberstein Prison Camp.

"We know Nazi war criminals were held at that camp," D'Amato said. "Now, two former guards tell us that we had Mengele. If that's true, as I believe it is, then we must determine how he got free."

Last month, D'Amato requested Army Secretary John Marsh, CIA Director William Casey, and National Security Advisor Robert McFarlane to order an intensive search of post-war intelligence information. This is now underway and the Senator hopes that this information will determine how Mengele escaped and open new leads that will help find him today.

"If Mengele was in our hands and then released for whatever reason, we have an obligation to correct that horrendous mistake," D'Amato said. "The world must not remember that it was the United States that let the "Angel of Death" go free to live a normal life after cruelly destroying the lives of so many innocent people."

On Sunday, Senator D'Amato revealed that the United States has information indicating that Mengele recently may have been in Portugal.

"It is most urgent that the United States contact the government of Portugal, provide whatever information we can, and ask that they immediately initiate a search for Mengele or those who have helped him," he said.

"We need every piece of information we can get if Mengele is to be brought to justice," D'Amato said. "The clock is running out - Josef Mengele is 73 years old this year. It would be a cruel mockery of justice if this monster who killed and tortured so many thousands of innocent men, women, and children, were allowed to die in his bed of old age without ever having been called to account for his crimes."

-em021985-

HCD reviewed: no objection to release as redacted

United States Senate / Washington, D.C. 20510 / (202) 224-6498

Regional Offices: New York (212) 947-7390 / Albany (518) 463-2244 / Syracuse (315) 423-5171 / Buffalo (716) 346-4111 / Rochester (716) 263-6666

FEBRUARY 19, 1985

SENATOR ALFONSE D'AMATO  
STATEMENT ON  
THE SEARCH FOR  
DR. JOSEF MENGELE

MR. CHAIRMAN:

I AM PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO APPEAR BEFORE THIS SUBCOMMITTEE TODAY TO TESTIFY ON MY EFFORTS TO LOCATE DR. JOSEF MENGELE, THE INFAMOUS "ANGEL OF DEATH" OF AUSCHWITZ. WHILE I AM PLEASED WITH THE COOPERATION I HAVE RECEIVED SO FAR FROM VARIOUS AGENCIES IN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, I AM HERE TODAY TO MAKE CLEAR THE NEED FOR CONTINUED MAXIMUM EFFORT IN THIS SEARCH.

DR. MENGELE WAS THE CHIEF PHYSICIAN AT AUSCHWITZ, PERHAPS THE WORST OF THE NAZI EXTERMINATION CAMPS. HE WAS THE "SELECTING PHYSICIAN", THE MAN WHO STOOD ON THE TRAIN PLATFORM, INSPECTED THE JEWISH PRISONERS AS THEY ARRIVED, AND CHOSE THOSE WHO WERE TO

THE HONORABLE ALFONSE D'AMATO  
19 FEB 85

GO IMMEDIATELY TO THE GAS CHAMBERS FOR EXTERMINATION AND THOSE WHO WERE TO GO TO THE BARRACKS.

IN THIS ROLE, HE WAS DIRECTLY AND PERSONALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE MURDER OF MORE THAN 400,000 OF HIS FELLOW HUMAN BEINGS. BEYOND HIS ROLE AS THE SELECTING PHYSICIAN, HOWEVER, HE ALSO CONDUCTED DEADLY AND BRUTAL EXPERIMENTS ON INMATES. HE IS PARTICULARLY INFAMOUS FOR HIS GROTESQUE EXPERIMENTS INVOLVING TWINS -- EXPERIMENTS THAT WERE CLOSER TO TORTURE THAN THEY WERE TO ANY LEGITIMATE SCIENTIFIC EFFORT.

HE IS THE WORST OF THE SURVIVING NAZI WAR CRIMINALS.

MENGELE IS 73 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR. IT WOULD BE A CRUEL MOCKERY OF JUSTICE IF THIS MONSTER WHO KILLED AND TORTURED SO MANY THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN, WERE ALLOWED TO DIE IN HIS BED OF OLD AGE WITHOUT EVER HAVING BEEN CALLED TO ACCOUNT FOR HIS CRIMES.

THE HONORABLE ALFONSE D'AMATO  
19 FEB 85

WE MUST FIND HIM NOW. WITH EVERY PASSING DAY, THE CHANCES OF HIS ESCAPING JUSTICE INCREASE.

I TOOK IMMEDIATE ACTION WHEN THE SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER, WHICH RABBI MARVIN HIER HEADS, UNCOVERED THE APRIL 26, 1947 LETTER FROM U.S. INTELLIGENCE OFFICER BEN J. M. GORBY TO THE COMMANDER OF THE U.S. 430TH COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS DETACHMENT IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA. GORBY'S LETTER STATED THAT HIS OFFICE HAD RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT DR. MENGELE "HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN VIENNA."

SINCE THEN, I HAVE BEEN USING EVERY RESOURCE AT MY DISPOSAL TO UNCOVER AND REVEAL ANY AND ALL OTHER DOCUMENTS OUR GOVERNMENT MAY HAVE IN ITS FILES ON MENGELE. NO STONE MUST BE LEFT UNTURNED IN OUR EFFORTS TO FIND THIS MONSTER.

THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT BEARS A SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY TO SEEK THE APPREHENSION OF DR. MENGELE. IF THE REPORT IS

THE HONORABLE ALFONSE D'AMATO  
19 FEB 85

ACCURATE THAT WE HAD HIM IN CUSTODY SHORTLY AFTER THE WAR AND THEN LET HIM GO, WE NO LONGER HAVE THE CONVENIENT EXCUSE THAT MENGELE IS SOMEONE ELSE'S PROBLEM -- THE GERMANS', THE POLES', OR THE ISRAELIS'. HE IS OUR PROBLEM.

IF HE WAS IN OUR HANDS AND HE WAS RELEASED, FOR WHATEVER REASON, WE HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO CORRECT THAT HORRENDOUS MISTAKE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE. THE WORLD MUST NOT REMEMBER THAT IT WAS THE UNITED STATES THAT LET THE "ANGEL OF DEATH" GO FREE TO LIVE A NORMAL LIFE, AFTER HE CRUELLY HAD DESTROYED THE LIVES OF SO MANY INNOCENT PEOPLE.

UPON RELEASE OF THE GORBY LETTER, I WROTE TO THE PRESIDENT'S NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR, THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, AND THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE, CALLING FOR AN INTENSIVE AND SYSTEMATIC SEARCH OF THEIR FILES FOR ALL INFORMATION RELATING TO DR. MENGELE. THAT SEARCH IS NOW UNDERWAY.

THE HONORABLE ALFONSE D'AMATO  
19 FEB 85

I JOINED WITH RABBI HIER AND RABBI COOPER AS CO-PLAINTIFFS IN A SUIT AGAINST THE ARMY TO OBTAIN THE FOUR DOCUMENTS WHICH THE SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER HAD UNCOVERED THROUGH A FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST, BUT WHICH HAD BEEN WITHHELD BY THE ARMY ON THE GROUNDS, RESPECTIVELY, THAT ONE DOCUMENT WAS PROPERLY CLASSIFIED "CONFIDENTIAL," AND THAT THE THREE OTHERS WERE "PROVIDED [TO THE UNITED STATES] BY FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS WITH THE EXPRESS OR IMPLIED EXPECTATION THAT THEY BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE."

THIS SUIT WAS FILED IN FEDERAL DISTRICT COURT FOR WASHINGTON, D.C., ON JANUARY 29, 1985. JUDGE FLANNERY WAS ASSIGNED TO HEAR THE MATTER.

AS A RESULT OF THIS FILING, THE ARMY HAS ALREADY RELEASED THREE OF THE FOUR WITHHELD DOCUMENTS AND IS SEEKING PERMISSION FROM A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE THE FOURTH DOCUMENT. I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THE FOURTH DOCUMENT WILL BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY.

THE HONORABLE ALFONSE D'AMATO  
19 FEB 85

SUBSEQUENT TO MY INITIATION OF THE COORDINATED SEARCH FOR U.S. RECORDS RELATING TO DR. MENGELE, I MET WITH NEAL SHER, THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS IN THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT, WITH STANLEY SPORKIN, GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, AND WITH OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS. I AM PLEASED WITH THE COOPERATION I HAVE RECEIVED AND I AM CONFIDENT THE VARIOUS AGENCIES INVOLVED ARE TAKING THIS SEARCH SERIOUSLY AND ARE PUTTING SUBSTANTIAL EFFORT INTO IT.

I ALSO APPEARED LAST SUNDAY ON ABC TV'S "THIS WEEK WITH DAVID BRINKLEY." DURING THAT PROGRAM, I REVEALED THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS INFORMATION THAT INDICATES THAT MENGELE'S LAST KNOWN LOCATION WAS PORTUGAL. WE HAVE REPORTS THAT MENGELE'S FRIENDS AND ASSOCIATES CORRESPONDED WITH HIM IN PORTUGAL. THIS IS, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, THE MOST RECENT REASONABLY FIRM INTELLIGENCE REGARDING MENGELE'S WHEREABOUTS.

THE HONORABLE ALFONSE D'AMATO  
19 FEB 85

IT IS MOST URGENT THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT CONTACT THE GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL, PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION IT CAN, AND ASK THAT THE APPROPRIATE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS OF PORTUGAL IMMEDIATELY INITIATE A SEARCH FOR MENGELE. IF HE IS THERE, HE MUST BE ARRESTED. IF HE WAS THERE, WE WANT TO KNOW WHERE HE WENT. IF HE WAS ONLY USING A MAIL DROP IN PORTUGAL, WE CAN STILL LEARN THE ORIGINAL SOURCE OF HIS CORRESPONDENCE AND TRACE HIS LOCATION.

OUR SEARCH FOR MENGELE MUST NOT BE CONFINED MERELY TO DOCUMENTS. THAT IS WHY I WAS PLEASED TO BE ABLE TO INTRODUCE MR. WALTER KEMPTHORNE TO PUBLIC ATTENTION LAST THURSDAY IN LOS ANGELES. MR. KEMPTHORNE, AS A NINETEEN YEAR OLD PRIVATE FIRST CLASS IN 1945, WAS A TOWER GUARD AT THE IDAR-OBERSTEIN PRISON CAMP WHERE SEVERAL NAZI WAR CRIMINALS WERE DETAINED.

HE REPORTED THAT, DURING AN EXCURSION INTO THE CAMP IN JULY, 1945, HE CAME UPON A GERMAN PRISONER STANDING "AT ATTEN-



THE HONORABLE ALFONSE D'AMATO  
19 FEB 85

TION. . . (WITH) A FIXED LOOK UPON HIS FACE. . . BREATHING HEAVILY AND. . . RED FACED." MR. KEMPTHORNE FURTHER REPORTED THAT UPON ASKING ONE OF THE INTERIOR GUARDS WHO THE PRISONER WAS, HE WAS TOLD "WE'RE GETTING HIM IN SHAPE TO GET HUNG. THIS HERE IS MENGELE, THE BASTARD THAT STERILIZED THREE THOUSAND WOMEN AT AUSCHWITZ."

MR. KEMPTHORNE'S STORY HAS BEEN FURTHER CORROBORATED BY ANOTHER FORMER U.S. SOLDIER WHO CAME TO MY ATTENTION LAST FRIDAY AS A RESULT OF READING ABOUT MY EFFORTS TO FIND MENGELE AND WITH WHOM I SPOKE PERSONALLY LESS THAN AN HOUR AGO. MR. RICHARD A. SCHWARZ, WHO, IN 1945, WAS ALSO A NINETEEN YEAR OLD GUARD AT IDAR-OBERSTEIN, TOLD ME THAT HE WAS ASSIGNED AS AN INTERIOR GUARD IN THE NAZI WAR CRIMINAL SECTION. HIS STATEMENT SUPPORTS MR. KEMPTHORNE'S IN MANY IMPORTANT DETAILS, BUT GOES EVEN FURTHER WITH HIS MORE INTIMATE KNOWLEDGE OF THE WORKINGS OF THE CAMP AND HIS STATEMENT THAT "ONE OF THE PRISONERS HAD STERILIZED 6,000 WOMEN."

THE HONORABLE ALFONSE D'AMATO  
19 FEB 85

MEMBERS OF MY STAFF AND ARMY OFFICIALS ARE STILL IN THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING THE FULL DETAILS OF MR. SCHWARZ'S STORY AND ARE GOING EVEN FURTHER. THEY ARE SEARCHING ARMY FILES FOR THE FULL RECORDS OF THE IDAR-OBERSTEIN PRISON CAMP. IF THIS INFORMATION CAN BE LOCATED, WE HOPE TO MAKE IT AVAILABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

WITH THE REPORTED INCREASE IN THE WEST GERMAN REWARD FOR MENGELE'S CAPTURE TO \$300,000, AND WITH THE TREMENDOUS UPSURGE IN INTEREST IN HIS CAPTURE ON THIS, THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ, MENGELE IS PROBABLY FEELING THE HEAT. HE MAY HAVE GONE UNDERGROUND AGAIN, OR HE MAY BE RUNNING SCARED. NOW IS THE TIME TO PRESS THE SEARCH WITH ALL POSSIBLE ENERGY. THIS IS NOT BUSINESS AS USUAL. THIS MAY BE OUR LAST CHANCE TO BRING HIM TO JUSTICE. IF HE ESCAPES NOW, HE CHEATS JUSTICE FOREVER.

IN A WORLD WHICH HAS RECENTLY SEEN THE CAMBODIAN GENOCIDE AND WHICH IS NOW WITNESS TO THE SOVIET EXTERMINATION CAMPAIGN

THE HONORABLE ALFONSE D'AMATO  
19 FEB 85

AGAINST THE AFGHAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, WE MUST REITERATE OUR TOTAL REJECTION OF GENOCIDE. WE MUST AGAIN DEMONSTRATE THAT THERE IS NO SAFE PLACE IN THE WORLD FOR ANY PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY. BRINGING MENGELE AND OTHER NAZI WAR CRIMINALS TO JUSTICE IS ONE OF THE IMPORTANT WAYS WE CAN CONTRIBUTE TO SAVING OTHER LIVES NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

PAST GENOCIDES MUST NEVER BE FORGOTTEN, SO THAT FUTURE GENOCIDES CANNOT HAPPEN. NEITHER TIME NOR DISTANCE MUST BE ALLOWED TO SHIELD MONSTERS LIKE MENGELE FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF THEIR CRIMES. WHILE HE CAN NEVER FEEL THE TERROR HE INSPIRED IN HIS VICTIMS, OR SUFFER THE PHYSICAL AND EMOTIONAL PAIN OF THOSE WHO SURVIVED HIS TWISTED EXPERIMENTS, HE MUST NEVER BE ALLOWED TO SLEEP EASILY, IN CONFIDENCE THAT THE WORLD HAS CONDONED OR FORGOTTEN HIS CRIMES. HE MUST BE HOUNDED UNTIL HE IS CAPTURED, AND THEN HE MUST FACE THE ACCUSATIONS OF THOSE HE TORTURED AND OF THOSE WHOSE RELATIVES HE MURDERED.

THE HONORABLE ALFONSE D'AMATO  
19 FEB 85

I AM COMMITTED TO THE CAUSE OF APPREHENDING "THE ANGEL OF DEATH." I CALL UPON MY COLLEAGUES IN THE CONGRESS TO JOIN WITH ME IN THIS VITAL ENTERPRISE. WE MUST PROVIDE WHATEVER ADDITIONAL RESOURCES OR AUTHORITY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH REQUIRES AND WE MUST EXERCISE AGGRESSIVE OVERSIGHT OF THEIR ACTIVITIES UNTIL MENGLER IS CAUGHT. NOTHING LESS IS GOOD ENOUGH.

THANK YOU.