

SECRET

9 MAY 1968

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2E
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2005

Dear John,

XAE-5184

[] / Oskar REILE

1. Please refer to your [] letter No. 163/6 of 24 April 1968.

2. We have had several discussions with the BND concerning Oskar REILE. As related in our [] he was a close associate of Heinz FELPE. When it came to the question of which BND staff members several non-specific leads from LAVINIA seemed most likely to concern, we and the BND concluded that FELPE was a more likely candidate and concentrated on him, but without forgetting REILE. Later KAGO came up with a lead, equally nebulous, to a Soviet agent who had been a German intelligence officer in the Counter Intelligence field in France during World War II, and who had run agents from France through Spain to North Africa. This latter lead in particular appeared very possibly to apply to REILE. Please refer to the entry on REILE in the MI-6, Section V, German Primer, which we understand is also assumed to be in Russian hands.

3. The BND enquiry to you is most likely the result of a discussion we had with the BND about REILE early this year (February), during which we casually made reference to statements of REILE himself to a staff member of CIA several years ago to the effect that he had been in Britain under detention and interrogation for three years (i.e. until some time in 1948) after World War II. The BND expressed surprise at this information and claimed that the voluminous BND file on REILE contained no indication at all that he had been in British captivity. Our file contains a reference to CSDIC(UK) SIR of 29 August 1945 and to SIR's 1719 and 1720 of end October (?) 1945, but not full copies of same. The latter relate to interrogation of Subject in connection with German deception in W/T playback cases in France.

Yours,

Signed: []

XAE-5184

[] 9 May 68

100-002-103

Jim

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Prepared by CI/SIG/[]

[]/pp

(7 May 1968)

Original & 3 - Addressee/ ① - C/CI ✓

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