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SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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MEMORANDUM FOR: ISS/IP/EIS
FROM : []
Chief, Counterintelligence Staff
SUBJECT : Nazi War Criminal Investigation
REFERENCE : OLC-77-4817

1. The following information is available in the Staff on the named individuals:

a. Vilis A. Hazners [] a member of the Committee for a Free Latvia, had been of interest to the Agency since 31 October 1952. SR/2 requested a Provisional Covert Security Approval on 23 September 1957, for use of subject to spot, assess, and recruit agents in the United States who travel to the Soviet Union.

b. The relationship of Tscherim Tu Soobzoko [] and the Agency extends from 1950, when he provided information on Circassian activity in Jordan, to 1 April 1960, when OSG/OC cancelled his POA. OSG/OC, at that time, recommended that the proper authorities be notified regarding Soobzoko's false statements about his biographic information and his failure to report intelligence connections when applying for entry to the US. The file does not reflect whether or not any action was taken on this recommendation. In June 1955, Soobzoko obtained a visa for himself and his family to enter the United States. He did this on his own initiative, and the Agency did not assist him in any way.

c. Edgars Laipenicks [] was connected with a Chilean track and field team in 1957, at which time SR/2/Latvia requested a POA to use him as a

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spotter. In view of derogatory traces alleging one Edgers Laipenicks, born circa 1913, to have been an interrogator at the Gestapo Jail in Riga, Latvia, and to have killed four persons at the jail during interrogations, a limited POA was issued on 28 March 1958. SR/2/Latvia cancelled the POA on 31 July 1958 for lack of interest. SR/10, on 20 July 1962, received a PCSA to permit contact with Laipenicks in the United States regarding his contacts with Soviet athletes. In September 1962 Laipenicks underwent a debriefing, psychological assessment, and polygraph.

2. The Office of Security may have additional information.

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