

UNCLASSIFIED

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BT

CONTROLS  
UNCLAS BERLIN 01881

DEPARTMENT FOR CA/VO/L/C - BOB DOLCE

E.O. 12356 N/A

TEXT  
TAGS: CVIS, PGOV, PEPR, GM (COPPIETERS, GILBERTUS)  
SUBJ: POSSIBLE 212(A) (3) (I) INELIGIBILITY

REF: BRUSSELS 006552

1. FOLLOWING BDC SUMMARY PROVIDED AS REQUESTED IN REFTEL:  
COPPIETERS, GILBERTUS  
POB: ZELE, FLANDERN  
DOB: MARCH 6, 1919  
OCC: MANUFACTURER, LATER SS-FUEHRER  
ADDR.: NOT GIVEN

2. DECEMBER 15, 1941:  
--SUBJECT JOINED THE WAFFEN-SS, HIS WAFFEN-SS-NO IS NOT GIVEN, AS A GERMANISCHER SS-JUNKER (GERMANIC SS-JUNIOR-OFFICER CANDIDATE), HE WAS NOT GIVEN A SS-NUMBER;

SEPTEMBER 6, 1943 - MARCH 11, 1944:  
--SUBJECT WAS DETAILED TO THE 11. KRIEGSJUNKERLEHRGANG (LLTH WAR OFFICER CANDIDATE COURSE) AT THE SS-JUNKERSCHULE (SS-OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL) TOELZ; HIS

~~FOR~~ COORDINATION WITH State

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2001 2007

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
2000

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WAFFEN-SS-UNIT WAS GIVEN AS SS-WACHABTEILUNG BERLIN (SS-GUARD DETAIL BERLIN); HIS RANK WAS GIVEN AS SS-STURMMANN (PFC);

MARCH 14, 1944 - :

--WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE 11. OBERJUNKERLEHRGANG (LLTH SENIOR OFFICER CANDIDATE COURSE) AT THE SS-ARTILLERIE-SCHULE II (SS ARTILLERY SCHOOL II); HIS RANK WAS GIVEN AS SS-STANDARTENOBERJUNKER (SS SENIOR OFFICER CANDIDATE); HIS WAFFEN-SS-UNIT WAS GIVEN AS

SS-WACHABTEILUNG 1 (SS GUARD DETAIL NO.L);

APRIL 28, 1944 - :

--AFTER HAVING FINISHED THE COURSE AT THE SS-ARTILLERIE-SCHULE II BENESCHAU, HE BELONGED TO THE FUEHRERRESERVE (OFFICERS IN RESERVE); HIS FUNTION WAS GIVEN AS "B.-OFFZ." (PRESUMABLY BERUFS-OFFIZIER/CAREER OFFICER); HIS WAFFEN-SS-UNIT WAS NOT GIVEN;

JUNE 21, 1944:

--WAS PROMOTED TO SS-UNTERSTURMFUEHRER (2ND LIEUTENANT);

JULY 15, 1944:

--HIS PAY-RECORDS WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE FUERSORGE-SS-FUEHRER (SS-SOCIAL-SERVICE-OFFICER) WITHIN THE AREA OF BELGIUM;

NOVEMBER 28, 1944:

--WAS AWARDED THE STURMABZEICHEN (ASSAULT BADGE);

- DECEMBER 25, 1944:

-- BELONGED TO THE 5./SS-PANZER-DIVISION WIKING (5TH COMPANY/SS-TANK-DIVISION-WIKING);

DECEMBER 25, 1944:

- WAS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO THE SS-ARTILLERIE-AUSBILDUNGS- UND ERSTZ-REGIMENT (SS-ARTILLERY TRAINING AND REPLACEMENT REGIMENT), BUT THE TRANSFER WAS CANCELLED THE SAME DAY;

DECEMBER 25, 1944:

--BELONGED TO THE 5. KOMPANIE /SS-PANZER-DIVISION WIKING.

ANNEXE: ACCORDING TO LITERATURE THE SS-WATCH-BATAILLON NO.L WAS ESTABLISHED JANUARY 15, 1942 AS SS-WACHABTEILUNG BERLIN (VII.KOMPANIE/LEIBSTANDARTE ADOLF HITLER)

JONES

ADMIN

END OF MESSAGE

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CONTROLS

UNCLAS HAMBURG 01069

DEPT FOR CAVO/L/C FOR PATTY HILL  
BERLIN FOR BDC, ALSO FOR PAUL DALEY

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT

TAGS: CVIS, PGOV, PERP, GE, (JAHN, GERD WILHELM EDUARD)  
COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJECT: ADVISORY OPINION: POSSIBLE 212(A)(3)(E)(I) CASE -  
FORMERLY 212(A)(33)

REF: A) BERLIN 1231 HAMBURG 585

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GROUNDS FOR INQUIRY.  
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**NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
2000**

CONSULATE RECEIVED AN INQUIRY REGARDING A VISITOR VISA ON BEHALF OF GERD JAHN ON JUNE 10, 1993, 1993. APPLICANT HAD BEEN TURNED AROUND AT ATLANTA AIRPORT ON MARCH 23, 1993, WHEN ATTEMPTING TO ENTER THE UNITED STATES ON THE VISA WAIVER PROGRAM, BECAUSE LOOK-OUT LIST SHOWED "83" ENTRY UNDER HIS NAME. APPLICANT WAS UNAWARE THAT HIS NAME HAD BEEN ENTERED IN CLASS SINCE HIS LAST TWO TRIPS TO THE U.S. CONOFF REQUESTED BDC SUMMARY AND CONDUCTED IN DEPTH PERSONAL INTERVIEW IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURES OUTLINED IN AIRGRAM A-1410.

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 APPLICANT'S STATEMENTS ON WARTIME ACTIVITIES.  
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 A. PERIOD PRIOR TO MILITARY INVOLVEMENT:  
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APPLICANT GERD WILHELM EDUARD JAHN, WAS BORN ON AUGUST 25, 1921, IN UCKERMUENDE, GERMANY. APPLICANT IS A GERMAN NATIONAL. HE WAS TRAINED AS A "KAUFMANN" (BUSINESSMAN). IN 1933 HE JOINED THE HITLERJUGEND. EVENTUALLY HE HELD THE POSITION OF "GELDVERWALTER" (TREASURER) FOR HIS GROUP, ALTHOUGH HE CLAIMS HE NEVER HAD ANY OFFICIAL RANK WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION. HE WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE DAF - DEUTCHESARBEITSFRONT (GERMAN LABOR FRONT) - FROM 1937 TO 1939. HE CLAIMS TO HAVE HELD NO OFFICE WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION.

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 B. SERVICE IN WAFFEN SS:  
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OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1939

APPLICANT CLAIMS HE JOINED THE WAFFEN SS FOR THREE REASONS: A) HE WOULD HAVE OTHERWISE BEEN DRAFTED INTO THE ARBEITSDIENST (LABOR SERVICE) AND HE "DIDN'T WANT TO MARCH AROUND WITH A SPADE ON MY SHOULDER;" B) ONCE THE POLISH CAMPAIGN STARTED HE FELT IT HIS PATRIOTIC DUTY "NOT TO THE PARTY, BUT TO THE COUNTRY;" AND C) HIS BEST FRIEND, A WELL-KNOWN SPORTSMAN, WAS JOINING THE SS "FOR ATHLETIC PURPOSES," AND HE WANTED TO BE WITH HIM. HE STATES HE WAS REJECTED BY AN ELITE UNIT IN BERLIN BECAUSE HE WORE GLASSES, SO HE JOINED A "REKRUTENREGIMENT" (RECRUIT REGIMENT) IN WEIMAR. HE SAYS BECAUSE THE REGIMENT HAD NOT YET GOTTEN ITS OWN "DIENSTSIEGEL" (OFFICIAL SEAL), IT USED THE SEAL OF THE TOTENKOPFDIVISION "THUERINGEN" REGIMENT. HE STATES THE REKRUTENREGIMENT WAS NOT SET UP ENTIRELY ACCORDING TO REGULATION, AND THEY HAD TROUBLE GETTING A "DIENSTSIEGEL." HE SAYS THE RECRUITS DID NOT EVEN HAVE UNIFORMS TO WEAR. HE CLAIMS THEY PERFORMED ONLY USUAL SOLDIERLY DUTIES. (COMMENT: WEIMAR IS WHERE TOTENKOPF UNITS WERE ASSIGNED TO GUARD CONCENTRATION CAMPS, IN THIS CASE BUCHENWALD. THE "THUERINGEN" REGIMENT WAS ONE OF THE WORST PERPETRATORS OF ATROCITIES IN POLAND. APPLICANT WAS ALREADY ALLEDGING THIS STORY OF THE "DIENSTSIEGELN" TO THE AMERICANS IN 1947 TO AVOID PERSECUTION FOR WAR CRIMES. COMPARE HIS EXPLANATIONS WITH BDC SUMMARY WHICH INDICATES ASSIGNMENT TO THE 9.KOMPANIE TOTENKOPF - STANDARTE "THUERINGEN." END COMMENT).

SPRING 1940

AFTER TRAINING IN WEIMAR, APPLICANT WAS SENT WITH THE L.SS TOTENKOPFDIVISION (TK) REKRUTENREGIMENT TO BRESLAU. THEY WERE LATER MOVED TO VARIOUS POINTS IN BAVARIA, INCLUDING BAD TOLZ, AND THEN WENT ON TO PRAGUE.

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APRIL 1940 - OCTOBER 1941

APPLICANT WAS A MEMBER OF THE SS TOTENKOPFDIVISION INFANTERIE REGIMENT 3. HE SERVED IN SOUTHERN FRANCE, INCLUDING IN LA TESTE AND HUEGAS. HE SAYS THE UNIT THEN MOVED ON TO RUSSIA, AND HE SERVED IN SEBEAH AND LOWAT. DURING THIS TIME HE WAS WOUNDED IN THE HIP, BUT APPARENTLY NOT BADLY ENOUGH TO BE MOVED FROM THE FRONT. HE GIVES HIS REGIMENTAL COMMANDER AS GENERAL KLEINHEISTERKAMM. WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE HAD ANY PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF ATROCITIES COMMITTED BY SS TROOPS AT THAT TIME, HE DID NOT ANSWER THE QUESTION, BUT RECOUNTED AN INCIDENT OF SOVIET BRUTALITY.

NOVEMBER 1941 - APRIL 1942

DURING THE WINTER AND SPRING OF 1941/1942 APPLICANT ATTENDED THE JUNKERSCHULE (OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL) AT BRAUNSCHWEIG. AFTER DOING WELL IN TANK TRAINING, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE NEW SS TANK CORPS, THE 1. PANZER SS REGIMENT 1, LEIBSTANDARTE **ADOLF HITLER**. HE REMAINED WITH THE SAME UNIT UNTIL THE END OF THE WAR. HE STATES HE WAS IN THE ELITE UNIT WHICH WAS ALWAYS SENT TO THE HOT SPOTS. HE NOTED THEY HAD THE BEST EQUIPMENT AND NEWEST TANKS, AND THAT HIS ULTIMATE RANK WAS AS HEAD OF A TANK COMPANY. (COMMENT: COMPARE THIS STATEMENT TO HIS LATER CLAIM THAT HIS UNIT STAYED IN WESTPHALIA TO TRAIN RECRUITS. END COMMENT).

APRIL 1942 - 1943

IN 1942 AND EARLY 1943 HE SERVED IN FRANCE, IN SENNELAGER, EVREAUX, AND MAILLY LE CAMP, ALWAYS, HE CLAIMS, HOUSED IN MILITARY BARRACKS. HE STATES HIS COMMANDER WAS AN UNPLEASANT MAN NAMED SCHOENBERGER WHO WAS MUCH DISLIKED BY THE JUNIOR OFFICERS. ON THE EASTERN FRONT, HE SERVED IN STAROWEROWKA, SLYPSCHITZIE, KORNIN, KOTSCHEROWO, TETEREW, BASAILJA, AND SERETH. IN BETWEEN HIS UNIT WAS IN GERMANY AT ERLANGEN, GRAEFENWOEHR, ZONNEFEN, AND COLOGNE.

SUMMER 1943

APPLICANT STATES THAT WHEN MUSSOLINI "GOT INTO TROUBLE" IN ITALY AFTER THE ALLIED INVASION, HIS UNIT WAS MARCHED TO NORTHERN ITALY TO GUARD AIRPORTS FROM ALLIED PARACHUTERS. (COMMENT: THE LEIBSTANDARTE **ADOLF HITLER** COMMITTED A NUMBER OF ATROCITIES AGAINST AMERICAN PRISONERS AND ITALIAN PARTISANS AT THIS TIME. END COMMENT).  
END OF 1943 TO MAY 1945.

APPLICANT ADMITS HIS COMMANDER AT THIS TIME WAS COLONEL JOACHIM PIEPER. APPLICANT DESCRIBES PIEPER AS AN EXCELLENT COMMANDER AND OUTSTANDING SOLDIER. HOWEVER, HE STATES THAT HE HIMSELF HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THE ATROCITIES COMMITTED AT MALMEDY. HE EXPLAINS THAT THE THIRD AND SEVENTH COMPANIES OF THE 1. SS-PANZER REGIMENT 1 WERE LEFT BEHIND IN WESTPHALIA TO TRAIN RECRUITS, AND THAT HE DID NOT GO WITH THE REST OF THE REGIMENT TO BELGIUM. (COMMENT: PIEPER WAS CONDEMNED TO DEATH AT THE

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NUERENBURG TRIALS FOR HIS WAR CRIMES, AMONG THEM THE MASSACRE AT MALMEDY. END COMMENT). HE STATES THAT IN 1945 HIS UNIT WAS IN AUSTRIA, ASSIGNED TO SLOW THE ADVANCE OF THE RED ARMY SO THAT GERMAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN OCCUPIED COUNTRIES COULD BE EVACUATED. HE SERVED IN WEHDAM I.W., BERNSDORF, AND POTTENSTEIN.

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3. POST WAR DENAZIFICATION  
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APPLICANT'S UNIT SURRENDERED TO THE RAINBOW DIVISION IN AUSTRIA AT THE END OF THE WAR. HE WAS HELD IN A PRISON CAMP IN REGENSBURG, GERMANY AS A POW UNTIL 1947. HE WAS THEN RELEASED AS A POW AND AUTOMATICALLY REARRESTED AS A CIVILIAN PRISONER. HE WAS EVENTUALLY TRANSFERRED TO THE BRITISH ZONE, AND HELD AT THE FORMER CONCENTRATION CAMP AT NEUENGAMME. (HE NOTED WITH A SMILE THAT HE HAD TO SLEEP ON THE SAME TRIPLE TIER BUNKS THAT THE KZ INMATES USED). HE WAS RELEASED BY THE BRITISH IN 1948. ALTHOUGH HIS DENAZIFICATION CATEGORY WAS "V" (FIVE, "ENTLASTETE" OR EXONERATED), HE WAS FINED DM2500. (COMMENT: IN CONOFF'S LIMITED EXPERIENCE, THIS SEEMS TO BE MORE THAN TEN TIMES HIGHER THAN THE USUAL FINE IMPOSED ON PEOPLE IN THIS CATEGORY. END COMMENT).

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4. PURPOSE OF TRIP AND TRAVEL PLANS  
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APPLICANT WISHES TO VISIT FRIENDS IN FLORIDA FOR SIX WEEKS.

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5. CONOFF'S PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:  
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THE WORD THAT CAME TO MIND MOST OFTEN IN INTERVIEWING THE APPLICANT WAS "UNRECONSTRUCTED." ALTHOUGH COURTEOUS TO THE EXTREME, HE NONETHELESS DOES NOT GIVE THE IMPRESSION OF BEING EITHER FORTHRIGHT OR FORTHCOMING. HE DID NOT ADMIT BEING A MEMBER OF THE LEIBSTANDARTE **ADOLF HITLER** UNTIL CONFRONTED WITH THE BDC SUMMARY. HE SPENT A GREAT DEAL OF TIME DISCUSSING THE MATTER OF THE "DIENSTSIEGEL" TO EXPLAIN AWAY HIS SERVICE IN THE "THUERINGEN" REGIMENT. HE ALSO HAD HIGH PRAISE FOR COLONEL PIEPER, SAYING THE DECISION AT NUERENBURG DID NOT CHANGE HIS EVALUATION OF HIS COMMANDER. AND HE WAS EVASIVE WHEN ASKED ABOUT PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE OF ATROCITIES.

TO HIS CREDIT, HOWEVER, HE WAS ALSO GENEROUS IN EVALUATING HIS AMERICAN CAPTORS. HE HAD THE HIGHEST REGARD FOR GENERAL PATTON, WHO VISITED HIS POW CAMP. AND HE DESCRIBED HIS CIC INTEROGATORS IN THE PRISON CAMPS AS "EMIGRANT GERMAN JEWS, BUT STILL MOSTLY VERY FAIR." HOWEVER, THIS MAY BE A BIT SELF-SERVING, SINCE HE REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZES THAT THE ALLIES EVENTUALLY CLEARED HIM OF WAR CRIMES DESPITE HIS SERVICE IN SUSPECT UNITS, AND THAT HE THEREFORE SHOULD NOT BE HELD INELIGIBLE BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

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APPLICANT CONCLUDED THE INTERVIEW BY SAYING THAT HE WAS VERY WELL CONNECTED IN THE GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTRY THROUGH THE FDP (THE GERMAN POLITICAL PARTY TO WHICH THE FOREIGN MINISTER BELONGS). HE ALSO STRESSED HIS CONNECTIONS TO THE CDU (THE PARTY OF GERMAN CHANCELLOR KOHL). HE CLEARLY STATED THAT HE HAD HELD BACK FROM CONTACTING ANYONE ABOUT THE TREATMENT HE RECEIVED AT ATLANTA AIRPORT FROM INS WHEN HE WAS TURNED AROUND IN MARCH UNTIL HE COULD SEE HOW THE INTERVIEW AT THE CONSULATE WENT. HE DID NOT SAY WHAT ACTION HE MIGHT TAKE IF THE DEPARTMENT'S DECISION GOES AGAINST HIM.

THE INTERVIEW LASTED APPROXIMATELY SEVENTY MINUTES.  
POLIK

ADMIN  
END OF MESSAGE

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