

## Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

10 August 1992

Ms Elizabeth Holtzman  
Comptroller of the City of New York  
1 Centre Street  
New York, N.Y. 10007-2341

Dear Ms Holtzman:

The chief of CIA's History Staff has looked carefully into the question of declassification and release of any records CIA may have on Nazi war criminals, especially those four listed in your letter to Mr. Gates of 26 March 1992--Klaus Barbie, Otto von Bolschwing, Mykola Lebed, and Arthur Rudolph. Although CIA has a number of documents on Barbie, it has only a few that mention von Bolschwing, and no records have been found on Lebed or Rudolph. Of the documents we have, about 70 on Klaus Barbie and two on von Bolschwing have already been declassified (often with deletions) and released to the public under the Freedom of Information Act.

Concerning Klaus Barbie, you may recall that in August of 1983, Mr. Allan A. Ryan, Jr., Director of the Office of Special Investigations, Department of Justice, submitted a long report to the Attorney General on his investigation of "the relationship between Klaus Barbie and the U.S. government from the end of World War II to the present." The enclosed section from this report concerning CIA notes (on p. 167) that Mr. Ryan asked for, and believes that CIA provided him with, all material in CIA's custody relating to Barbie. Mr. Ryan concludes "that at no time from the end of World War II to the present time has the Central Intelligence Agency had any relationship with Klaus Barbie."

To support your timely proposal and open to the public as many as possible of the records we hold on Klaus Barbie and other Nazi war criminals, I have directed the Center for the Study of Intelligence (which has special responsibilities for historical declassification) to search for and review all such records, including those previously released only in part, for declassification and transfer to the National Archives.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2003 2005

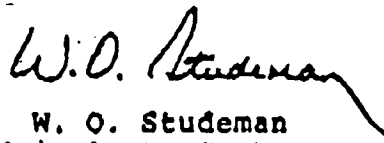
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Ms Elizabeth Holtzman

As we undertake this commitment, I should explain two points. First, because of the passage of time and of the way in which CIA's records are kept, finding documents relevant to Nazi war criminals will be a challenging task; we shall call on the Department of Justice and others to help us identify those persons suspected of having been Nazi war criminals whose names (and possible aliases) we should search for in our records. Secondly, since the Center for the Study of Intelligence is heavily engaged now in reviewing about 300,000 pages of material relevant to the assassination of President John F. Kennedy, it will be some time before CIA can begin to review the documents we collect relevant to Klaus Barbie and other Nazi war criminals. Recognizing your strong interest in opening all such records to the public, we shall let you know as soon as CIA completes its review.

Very respectfully,



W. O. Studeman  
Admiral, U. S. Navy  
Acting Director

Enclosure

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