

2 War Criminals Had Official Help in Getting to U.S., Study Finds

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WASHINGTON, June 28 — At least two wanted Nazi war criminals, as well as an SS officer and a convicted assassin, received official American help in immigrating to the United States after World War II, the General Accounting Office told Congress today. All four were said to have links to United States intelligence agencies.

Seven other important Nazis and their collaborators who had American intelligence connections were found to have entered the country but without official assistance, the accounting office reported.

But the accounting office, an investigative arm of Congress, said it had found "no specific program" to help German Nazis who had worked with United States intelligence to immigrate to the United States.

Report Concludes Inquiry

In a 40-page report wrapping up a three-year investigation into links between United States agencies and Nazi war criminals in the early postwar years, the accounting office did not provide the names of any of the Nazis cited, and in most cases it also withheld, as classified information, the identities of the intelligence agencies involved.

Congressmen and staff aides who had been eagerly awaiting the report indicated that they were not happy with the decision to conceal the names of the individuals and agencies and would press for additional data at hearings on the report's subject matter, which are to be scheduled, probably after the summer.

The accounting office did not explain why the material was still classified after almost 40 years, but generally intelligence agency material remains classified unless there is an overriding reason for making it public.

The report thus appeared likely to repeat a controversy over an accounting office study on Nazi war criminals. In 1978 the office announced it had found

no evidence of a Government conspiracy to obstruct investigations of reputed war criminals. That report was widely criticized as superficial, prompting the House Judiciary Committee to request the latest inquiry.

Representative Peter W. Rodino Jr., Democrat of New Jersey, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, called the report's findings "extremely distressing" and added in a statement released with the report:

"The laws and policies of our Government specifically excluded from ad-

mission to the U.S. those wanted for these unspeakable crimes during the war. It is unconscionable that we had any involvement in allowing anyone responsible for the Holocaust to find safe haven within our shores."

For the report, the accounting office analyzed files of 114 Europeans identified by Government and other sources as Nazis or collaborators of the German-Italian-Japanese alliance of World War II who had connections to United States intelligence agencies.

Among those the office said it found had been assisted into the country was a wartime "paid Nazi intelligence agent and cabinet member in a German-sponsored East European Government," now dead, who had been listed as a war criminal by the United National War Crimes Commission for ordering the executions of suspected Communist sympathizers.

Another war criminal with intelligence links who was said to have been helped into the country was described as having been involved in "massacres of several thousand civilians, predominantly Jews."

About 1951, the report said, he was approached in the American occupation zone of Germany by a Soviet agent who attempted to recruit him for spying. Instead, according to the report, he turned the Russian in to the Americans. As a reward, an American

intelligence agency helped him into the United States several years later, the report said.

After rising to an important job on an unnamed intelligence project, he came under investigation by the Justice Department's Nazi hunting office. He died before the inquiry could be concluded.

John Loftus, a former investigator in the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations for war crimes cases, said the identification seemed to match the case of Stanislaw Stankievich, a Byelorussian who worked for Radio Liberty, an American broadcasting station with intelligence links.

A man who was identified as a member of the SS, the Nazi elite guard, was reported to have been assisted into the country. He was described as having been involved "in the confiscation of Jewish properties and the resettlement of Jews." The American intelligence agency he worked with did not know this at first, the report said, but when officials learned of it they appeared to take no action.

Another figure brought into the country was described as a member of an underground revolutionary group in Europe who had been convicted of taking part in an assassination plot against an unnamed high East European official and who later escaped from prison.

Man Accused of War Crimes Is Scheduled to Have Bail Set

LOS ANGELES, June 28 (AP) — A Federal magistrate said today that he intended to set bail for Andrija Artukovic, accused of overseeing the deaths of 700,000 people as a Nazi collaborator, because the ailing man's imprisonment was cruel and unusual punishment.

Mr. Artukovic, whose ailments include senility and partial blindness, has been held at the Federal medical facility in Springfield, Mo., since March 15 as he battled extradition to Yugoslavia. Mr. Artukovic maintains he is not guilty of war crimes.

Magistrate John R. Kronenberg, who plans to announce his decision Monday, said: "The man is 85. He could go tomorrow."

"There is absolutely no question in my mind under the circumstances to place him in a facility separate from his family in my view constitutes cruel and unusual punishment and therefore for that reason I believe he should be admitted to bail."

Mr. Artukovic served as the World War II Interior Minister of the German Nazi puppet state of Croatia. The Yugoslavian Government has said he is responsible for the deaths of some 700,000 Jews, gypsies and Serbs.

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