

The New York Times _____
 Washington Times _____
 The Wall Street Journal _____
 The Christian Science Monitor _____
 New York Daily News _____
 USA Today _____
 The Chicago Tribune _____
REUTERS
 Date 2 MAR 88

BRITISH BLOCKING CIA FROM RELEASING WALDHEIM DOCUMENT

By Arthur Spiegelman

NEW YORK, March 2, Reuter - Britain is blocking the CIA from releasing a 1945 British army report naming Kurt Waldheim as a wanted German army intelligence officer, a source on a commission that probed the Austrian president said on Wednesday.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, told Reuters the Central Intelligence Agency was willing to issue the list of 200 hunted intelligence officers but Britain, which has the final say, had denied permission to release it.

The list was compiled by the British Army in the last years of World War Two for use in investigations once Germany had surrendered.

A copy of the list was given to the OSS, the CIA's predecessor. It contained Waldheim's name along with other German army intelligence officers in the Balkans.

The British government is studying the document as part of its own probe into Waldheim's past, according to a letter from Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe to David Owen, a Social Democrat member of parliament.

The main purpose of the British investigation into Waldheim is to determine whether he played a role in the questioning and execution of six British commandos captured off the Greek island of Alimna in 1944.

In his letter to Owen dated February 24, obtained by Reuters, Howe confirmed the existence of at least four files on the Alimna commandos and said three were destroyed including two during the 1970s when Waldheim was secretary general of the United Nations.

But he stressed that "allegations that papers may have been destroyed to conceal evidence about Waldheim are without foundation."

Waldheim was deputy to the chief of intelligence for the

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
 SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3828
 NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
 DATE 2000 2007

German army in the Balkans when the commandos were captured.

The New York-based World Jewish Congress (WJC), which has led a two year long probe into the Austrian president's past, has been trying since last June to force the CIA to make public its April 26, 1945, document listing Waldheim.

A spokesman said on Wednesday the WJC would go to court to force the release of the document.

The source on the international commission of historians that probed Waldheim's wartime past at the request of the Austrian government said commission members examined at least one page of the document.

"Waldheim is listed but not singled out. A physical description is given of him, including his height, eye and hair color. It is a very long list of people to be questioned if they came under Allied control after the war," the source said.

He said the British government refused to release the list because it might set a precedent.

"The United States cannot, in accordance with its agreement with the British, release the document without British permission," the source said.

The historians commission reported last month that Waldheim knew of German army atrocities but found no evidence of his personal involvement.