

SECRET

TO: Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Attention: T. S. J. Parish

FROM: Deputy Director, Plans

SUBJECT: Kasal SALAMON

1. Reference is made to the report made by SA Harry M. Whidbee at Los Angeles, dated 27 August 1949 and entitled Joseph SALAMON, Bureau File Number 100-77801. This report contains information provided by one Pal SALAJ concerning Kasal SALAMON, a Swedish diplomat who disappeared from the Swedish Embassy in Budapest in 1945. It is believed that the testimony of SALAJ, as recorded in SA Whidbee's report, would be of interest to the Swedish Government and to the official Swedish sources through whom this office might channel it. It is therefore requested that this office be authorized to furnish to a usually reliable Swedish official the following information:

a. A source of undetermined reliability has stated that prior to August or September of 1944 he was employed as a salesman for an export firm which manufactured woven baskets and related articles. He was well acquainted with Jews, especially those residing in the Jewish ghetto in Budapest. He helped SALAMON, whose main activity at this time was obtaining food, clothing and other services for Jewish refugees in Budapest after the war ended. He became closely associated with SALAMON.

b. The source last saw SALAMON in January 1945, at about the time that SALAMON disappeared. Source recalls that the Swedish Embassy accused the Soviets of kidnaping SALAMON, but he has no personal knowledge of what happened to him. The source is of the opinion, however, that the Soviets kidnaped SALAMON because he was one of the Jewish refugees who escaped from the Soviets into the West Zone of Germany.

REPORT/CONTINUOUS CONTROL

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c. In early 1942 the Soviets began an intense persecution of the Jews. All Jews were purged from important positions of employment in Budapest and in February, 1942, about 600 Jews were arrested by the GPC in Budapest. The source was arrested by the GPC on 23 February 1942. They never told him why he was arrested but after several days in the prison he was questioned daily concerning his former association with ALLENBROUGH and Jewish refugees in Budapest. After several months of interrogation, it became apparent that the GPC wanted the source to testify that in 1941 he observed ALLENBROUGH's body in the basement of a bank in Budapest. The GPC also desired the source to testify to ALLENBROUGH's activities on behalf of the Jews and that ALLENBROUGH had frequently visited the American legation in Budapest. The source believes that the Soviets desired to prove that ALLENBROUGH was an American spy and that the Americans were responsible for his disappearance. The GPC also wanted the source to testify that ALLENBROUGH was connected with two Jews, Fiksa MARKIS and Lajos F. [redacted], and that they were American spies. Source was released from the GPC prison in February 1943.

d. In about 1944, the source met a man whose name he does not recall but who had been recently released from a Soviet prison, a mining operation located at Tomsk in Siberia. This man confided to the source that he had worked with ALLENBROUGH and with the source's brother, both of whom were prisoners at Tomsk.

e. The source claims that he had heard from others that the Soviets had admitted in 1945 that ALLENBROUGH had died in a Soviet prison in the U.S.S.R. The source can not recall now whether someone told him this or whether he read it in a newspaper.

2. The proposed use of the source description, "of undetermined reliability," in paragraph 1.a. above is, of course, rather unsatisfactory in a case of this kind, and is perhaps also inaccurate. We would appreciate receiving, and being authorized to pass on to our Swedish contact, any comment or new wish to make regarding Pal SZALAI's reliability as an informant in this matter.

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