

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

18 June 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR: [OIM/PIRD/IRG] @ DCI

FROM: William H. McNair
DO/IRO

OFFICE: 1D4107

SUBJECT: Request for Information on Helmut Schneider re Raoul Wallenberg

REFERENCE: Letter, US Senate, Carl Levin, dtd 20 April 1998

1. Senator Carl Levin requested declassification of "Central Intelligence Agency documents which may relate to the disappearance of Raoul Wallenberg." He went on to say "Specifically, I request that any documents relating to Helmut Schneider be released." He described Schneider as a prisoner of the Soviets who "is believed to have come into contact with Wallenberg while in prison. Mr Schneider was subsequently released and arrived in Germany on August 1928, 1969. It is believed that Mr. Schneider was debriefed by U.S. Government officials in Bonn shortly after this date."

2. A complete search of the DDO files resulted with two documents. The first document, dated 21 June 1956, reports a request from a non-US agency for any information pertaining to a "Helmut Last Name Unknown (LNU) born circa 1925, self described as an ex-Tank Corps Lt." The basis for the request is the belief that he had information "in connection with the disappearance of the Swedish Counsel of Legation, Wallenberg." The request states that in the spring of 1949 he was in the prison of Lefortoskaia/Moscow but was transferred from there on 1 June 1949. The request goes on to say "It is not known whether he has returned to West Germany".

3. Our response, dated 2 August 1956 reported that a search of relevant files revealed three files on a "Helmut LNU". The only possible match is a Helmut Schneider (1st Lt). "Subject is a German officer held in the USSR in Camp 6124 Stalingrad, April 1952. (Information dated 10 Oct 52)" The response notes that a search of files on Wallenberg did not reveal any "Helmut LNU".

4. Senator Levin's letter reports that Schneider was subsequently released and arrived in Germany on 28 August 1969. Senator Levin says that he believes Schneider was debriefed by "U.S. Government officials in Bonn shortly after this date." Our records do not show any debriefing or contacts with Helmut Schneider at any time.

5. Kathy - please note that I cc' [] from OCA. She is most eager to get a response out. She will not use my nnote until you have notified her this is the official CIA response. Thanks.

CC: [] @ DCI

Sent on 25 June 1998 at 16:44:36

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