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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

DOCUMENT ID: 172018435
INQNO: GSCAN2D 00559097
DOCNO:
PRODUCER:
SOURCE: STATE
DOCTYPE:
DOR: 19830816
TOR: 12420000
DOCPREC: R
ORIGDATE: 198308161242
DOCCLASS: U

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HEADER
PP RUEAIIB
ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH
UTS8223
PP RUEHC
DE RUFHFR #0078/01 2281137
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 161136Z AUG 83
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO RUFJCX/AMCONSUL LYON PRIORITY 2061
INFO RUFJCX/AMCONSUL BORDEAUX 0956
RUFJCX/AMCONSUL MARSEILLE 4366
RUFJCX/AMCONSUL STRASBOURG 1963
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 6781
BT
EZ1:

CONTROLS
SR2

\UNCLAS PARIS 30078\
EZ2:

TEXT
SR3

E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: SCOM, US, FR
SUBJECT: USG REPORT ON **KLAUS BARBIE** CASE
REF: STATE 231254

1. THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT IS RELEASING ITS REPORT ON THE **KLAUS BARBIE** INVESTIGATION AT 0900 EDT AUGUST 16. IT IS EMBARGOED UNTIL 1300 EDT SAME DATE. A COPY OF THE REPORT HAS BEEN GIVEN TO THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON.

2. THE FOLLOWING CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE PREPARED BY THE DEPARTMENT IS FOR YOUR USE ON AN IF-ASKED BASIS:

- Q: IS DEPARTMENT SATISFIED THE JUSTICE REPORT TELLS THE WHOLE STORY ABOUT THE USG CONNECTION WITH BARBIE?

A: WE ARE SATISFIED THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE HAS DONE

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A THOROUGH JOB OF RESEARCHING ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION REGARDING USG INVOLVEMENT WITH BARBIE IN REACHING ITS CONCLUSION THAT THERE WAS NO INTER-AGENCY CONSPIRACY TO CONCEAL BARBIE FROM THE FRENCH.

Q: WAS THERE NO INFORMATION UNTIL NOW REGARDING WHAT REALLY HAPPENED TO BARBIE?

A: NO. ALTHOUGH THERE WERE OCCASIONAL RUMORS, THE REAL CONTRIBUTION THIS REPORT MAKES IS SETTING THE RECORD STRAIGHT AS BEST WE CAN DO MORE THAN 30 YEARS AFTER THE FACT.

Q: HAVE WE SAID ANYTHING TO THE FRENCH ABOUT THE REPORT?

A: WE HAVE PROVIDED THE FRENCH WITH A COPY OF THE REPORT AND WE HAVE EXPRESSED OUR DEEP REGRETS OVER THE ACTIONS TAKEN IN GERMANY IN 1950 TO CONCEAL BARBIE FROM THE FRENCH.

Q: WILL ANYONE BE PROCESCUATED FOR THOSE ACTIONS?

A: THE REPORT POINTS OUT THE DIFFICULTIES POSED BY THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS TO ANY PROSECUTION. THIS ADDRESSED TO JUSTICE FOR ANY FURTHER CLARIFICATION.

Q: HOW HAVE WE RESPONDED TO THE CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THIS CASE?

A: JUSTICE BRIEFED THE STAFFS OF THE INTERESTED COMMITTEES IN ADVANCE OF PUBLICATION OF EAATHE REPORT, COPIES OF WHICH ARE BEING PROVIDED TO THE CONGRESS.

Q: DID BARBIE CONTINUE TO WORK FOR U.S. INTELLIGENCE AFTER HE ARRIVED IN SOUTH AMERICA?

A: AS THE REPORT MAKES CLEAR, BARBIE NEVER WORKED FOR THE USG AT ANY TIME OR IN ANY CAPACITY OTHER THAN THE 1947-50 PERIOD DURING WHICH HE WORKED FOR ARMY COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE. THE INVESTIGATORS, AS THE REPORT INDICATES, MADE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO DETERMINE WHETHER THERE WAS ANY TRUTH TO STORIES CIRCULATED IN THE MEDIA ABOUT A CONNECTION WITH HIM IN SOUTH AMERICA. THEY FOUND NONE.

Q: WILL THE U.S. HAVE ANY FURTHER INVOLVEMENT IN THE BARBIE CASE IN FRANCE?

A: WE AND THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT HAVE ALREADY BEEN COOPERATING; THEY HAVE BEEN OF ASSISTANCE TO US IN THE JUSTICE INVESTIGATION AND WE HAVE OFFERED TO BE OF ANY ASSISTANCE TO THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT IN THE PROSECUTION OF THEIR CASE. AS YOU KNOW, THE BARBIE CASE IN FRANCE HAS TO DO WITH HIS ACTIVITIES DURING THE WAR, WHILE THE U.S. INVESTIGATION RELATED TO HIS POSTWAR CONNECTION WITH THE U.S. AUTHORITIES IN GERMANY.

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Q: HAVE THE FRENCH SAID ANYTHING TO US ABOUT THE REFERENCE IN THE REPORT TO BARBIE'S ACTIVITIES AGAINST FRENCH INTELLIGENCE IN GERMANY, OR HAVE WE SAID ANYTHING TO THEM ABOUT THEIR INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES IN GERMANY?

A: NO.

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: SCOM, US, FR

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3. ACTION: PLEASE REPORT ANY MEDIA REACTION TO ISSUANCE OF REPORT.

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