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4 June 70

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: [redacted] [redacted] [redacted], and Otto von BOLSCHWING.

1. At ca. 1500 hours on 8 May 1970 I was called on the telephone by [redacted] [redacted], formerly of the French desk (at that time the WE Division). I was out at the time and a message was left for me to return the call at his home phone. Upon return ca. 1600 hours I called him and told him that I was surprised to hear from him. I had not seen him for quite some time and therefore thought that he had been overseas and had just returned. He told me that he had not been overseas [redacted]

[redacted]. He also said that he is still an Agency employee and that the next time he comes to headquarters he will visit me and provide details.

2. The reason for his call was to ask me to telephone [redacted] [redacted], formerly an Agency employee who had been assigned to the CI Staff. [redacted] [redacted] gave me [redacted] [redacted]'s home phone number and explained that [redacted] [redacted] wanted to talk with me, but had misplaced my extension number. I asked ([redacted] [redacted]) how [redacted] [redacted] was doing and whether he was in good health. He replied that everything was fine with [redacted] [redacted]

3. I then telephoned [redacted] [redacted], who sounded quite [redacted] [redacted] lucid (I had had occasion to talk to him on the telephone and in person in the past when he sounded quite differently). After chatting briefly concerning generalities, [redacted] [redacted] explained that he wanted to reach me in order to ask me something concerning Otto von BOLSCHWING, a former agent of [redacted] [redacted]'s.

4. At this point an explanatory note concerning von BOLSCHWING would be in order. [redacted] [redacted] first came into contact with von

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

- EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
- (2)(A) Privacy
- (2)(B) Methods/Sources
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Declassified and Approved for Release by the Central Intelligence Agency Date: 2001, 2005

[Handwritten initials and scribbles]

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BOLSCHWING in Austria shortly after the end of World War II. He used him as an agent for quite some time and eventually von BOLSCHWING immigrated to the U. S. and settled in East (or West) Orange, N. J., where he worked for RCA. He continued to maintain social contact with [redacted]. When Adolf EICHMANN, the infamous SS war criminal, was seized by the Israelis, I conducted a search for captured German documents that contained information about EICHMANN. I was able to locate numerous records some of which clearly showed that von BOLSCHWING had been a member of the SS in the early days of the Hitler regime and that at that time, he had served in the same unit as EICHMANN. At the same time that I was amassing the documents containing this information, von BOLSCHWING contacted [redacted] (I believe he wrote him a letter and asked him to come and visit him) and told him that he was afraid for his life, in light of what had happened to EICHMANN. Then [redacted] came and told me about his former agent's fears and I showed him the information which I had been able to find. [redacted] was very surprised, said neither he nor others who had worked with von BOLSCHWING had known about his connection with the RSHA and expressed the belief that we would not have used him at that time had we known about it. As the public excitement of the EICHMANN case mounted, von BOLSCHWING remained in contact with [redacted], but he never admitted the true facts of the case, although he indicated that he had had some very minor connection which was grossly exaggerated after the war. He feared that because of these disproportionate exaggerations something untoward might also happen to him. Throughout the weeks of the EICHMANN crisis, [redacted] tried to keep him from panicking and eventually the entire matter faded into the background and I heard no more about it.

5. [redacted]'s reason for wanting to contact me on 8 May 1970 concerned von BOLSCHWING, who, [redacted] explained, now lives in California and is an officer of a commercial firm which has obtained a classified defense contract. For this reason an investigation of von BOLSCHWING is to be conducted and [redacted] wanted to know whether I thought that von BOLSCHWING's previous Nazi background would have an adverse effect upon his being cleared. Although [redacted] skirted around the direct point for awhile, there was no doubt that what he wanted from me was either an assurance that there would be no adverse

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effect or - he implied - action to insure such result, also offered to call DC/CI (he used []'s name - I do not know whether he knows of []'s relatively recent promotion) if it was necessary as backing to help me answer his questions.

6. I told [] that I have nothing to do with such matters, that I presume that the request will arrive in routine fashion and that some analyst or other will work on it and will have to evaluate the information in the record against the details in the request for clearance. I also said that I could not second guess an analyst and would have no idea how such information would effect a case at this time. [] indicated that he wanted to tell von BOLSCHWING what the chances for a clearance are and said that he would be going to the West Coast during the following week (11-15 May 1970). I left no doubt in his mind that I could not help him in this matter.

7. The entire conversation was very friendly in tone (we had always been on very friendly terms in the past) and [] promised to contact me socially in the future. He received no information or commitments from me and I did not indicate explicitly that I know his request to be most improper.

[]
CI/R&A

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