

bP SR

DISPATCH	CLASSIFICATION SECRET	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. EGFA-37465
TO Chief, SR	HEADQUARTERS FILE NO. E 7	
INFO Chief of Station, Germany		
FROM Chief of Base, Frankfurt	DATE JUN 29 1962	
SUBJECT O REDWOOD Operational Debriefing of Dr. Ilga BROMBERGS	RE: "43.3" - (CHECK "X" ONE)	
	MARKED FOR INDEXING	
	X	NO INDEXING REQUIRED
ACTION REQUIRED None	INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY	

REFERENCE(S)

EGOW-2884, 6 March 1962 *SR/2*

MICROFILMED
JUL 9 1962
DOC. MICRO. SER.

SECRET, LYMAN M.

1. Summary *ALIAS USED BY [redacted]*
See document for further information

a. On 21 June 1962, I was introduced to Dr. Ilga BROMBERGS by [redacted] in the lobby of the Hotel d'Angleterre in Copenhagen. The three of us immediately took a cab to the Imperial Hotel, where I was staying under the name of [redacted], (Lt. Col. USAR). The debriefing of Dr. Ilga BROMBERGS took place in Room 423 of the Imperial Hotel and lasted from approximately 1015 hours until 1800 hours. At 1300 hours Dr. Ilga BROMBERGS and I left the hotel, took a walk, had pictures taken in a photo automat (as per request contained in paragraph 1a of reference) near the Tivoli Gardens, had lunch, and returned to the hotel at approximately 1415 hours.

b. After arrival in my hotel room at 1015 hours, [redacted] and I asked Ilga BROMBERGS whether or not she had any questions about the financial arrangements made in behalf of her daughter. Ilga appeared to have no questions and stated that she understood everything clearly. With this out of the way, [redacted] left (he returned in the afternoon and sat in for a while during the interview), and I started questioning the lady about her biography. Although polite, Ilga BROMBERGS made it quite clear that she was not too anxious to answer personal questions which, in her own mind, had nothing to do with the settlement of her ex-husband's estate. I took exception to her reasoning and tried to impress upon her the fact that we came to her voluntarily a few years ago and that if we were to protect her daughter's and her interests in the future, we had to know everything about her biography and her past and present activities--especially in view of the fact that we were not 100 per cent certain that her ex-husband was actually dead. Although Dr. BROMBERGS accepted my arguments, she was obviously very suspicious and kept telling me that she wasn't even sure that I was an American and not a Soviet agent. In attempting to establish my bona fides, I showed the lady my active duty ID card (Lt. Col. [redacted]) and used every argument I could think of to convince her of my sincerity and motivation.

c. Although cautious and suspicious throughout most of the day, Dr. BROMBERGS reluctantly answered most of the questions asked. It was only during the last hour or so that the ice appeared to have melted. The lady became friendly and finally appeared to have accepted the fact that she was dealing with a true Westerner and not a Soviet agent or an American with alien political beliefs. The parting was very friendly and it is firmly believed that she will co-operate with us in the future should such co-operation be deemed either desirable or necessary. The subsequent paragraphs contain the answers posed in paragraph 1 of reference dispatch.

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

INDEX - H

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)

(2)(A) Privacy

(2)(D) Methods/Sources

(2)(G) Foreign
USE PREVIOUS EDITION.
51-28, 51-28A AND 51-29
WHICH ARE OBSOLETE.

CLASSIFICATION

Declassified and Approved for Release CONTINUED
by the Central Intelligence Agency
Date: 2005

PAGE NO.

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FORM 10-57 (40)

SHEWGS THE WIFE OF ARTURS BROMBERGS () , DIVORCED
FROM HIM IN 1954 RE BIOGRAPHIC SUMMARY
△ LEAUM, LINDVADEN 24, SWEDEN

2. (Dr) Ilga ^{NEEDRAFENS DOB} BROMBERGS ^{POB} was born on 1 January 1921 in Riga, Sex: F
Latvia. Her first few years were spent in "Varlejas" (farm), Dundaga occ: DENTIST
District (vicinity of Windau), where her mother still resides. At the
age of five she entered kindergarten and at eight an elementary school
in Windau, where she lived with relatives (see paragraph 18) while her
mother remained in the Dundaga District. She graduated from elementary
school in Windau at twelve and entered "Ventspils Pilsetas Gimnazija"
(high school), where she spent three years of her life. Her last two
years of high school were spent in Riga at the "Rigas Pilsetas 3
Gimnazija." She graduated in 1938 at the age of seventeen. Immediately
upon graduation from high school, she entered the "Latvijas (Angstskola)
Universitate" in Riga and began to study dentistry. She graduated as
dentist in May 1943. While studying dentistry in Riga, she married
Arturs BROMBERGS in October 1941. She had known him from high school
and after marriage took up residence with him at Rauwasstrasse 13, Riga.

3. After graduation from dental school, Ilga practiced dentistry
in the Dundaga District for approximately a year. In September 1944, she
left Latvia voluntarily and came to Dresden, Germany. Soon upon her
arrival in Germany, she obtained a job as dentist in Zittau, where she
worked for a female dentist whose name she alleges no longer to remember.
She remained in Zittau from September 1944 until the arrival of Soviet
troops in April 1945. With the arrival of Soviet troops, Ilga escaped
on foot and claims to have walked for three months until her arrival in
Wuerzburg, where she entered a DP camp. She remained in camp from the
summer of 1945 until April 1946. It was at that time that she read a
Latvian paper (published in Sweden) which contained a notice that her
husband was residing in Kristianstad, Sweden and was looking for her.
It was soon thereafter that she received a letter from her husband and
moved to another DP camp in Luebeck. It was there that she applied for
a Swedish visa, which she received after a two-three month waiting period.
In May 1946, Ilga finally rejoined her husband in Sweden, where he resided
in the vicinity of Vanersborg. The next six months Ilga was unemployed
and lived with her husband in barracks near his work project in
Vanersborg. In November 1946, she began working as a dentist for the
Swedish State in Vanersborg, left her husband temporarily, and moved in
with a female dentist friend (Gerda WELIN) who to this date lives in
Vanersborg. At the time Ilga's husband lived alone in the barracks.
In December 1946, Ilga moved to Alvsborgs Lan "Satila." She worked as
a dentist and rented an apartment which she shared with her husband.
The couple resided in this apartment until November 1951.

4. It was in 1951 that Ilga's husband Arturs left her for
Germany. She opposed his desire to leave Sweden, where she had estab-
lished herself professionally, although she realized that he could not
really help himself since he could only get factory-type work in the
country of her choice. According to Ilga there were no other marital
problems, and the marriage was a reasonably happy one, except for Arturs'
desire to seek greener pastures outside Sweden. Arturs visited his wife
in 1952, and at the time, there was no talk of a possible divorce. It
was only when Ilga received Arturs' letters from America that the thought
of divorcing him first entered her mind. Either in late 1953 or early
1954, Ilga submitted her divorce application. She claims that according
to Swedish law a three-year period of desertion must elapse before one can
apply for a divorce.

5. Ilga BROMBERGS received her divorce from Arturs BROMBERGS
in 1954. She alleges that she did not see her husband since 1952 when
he visited her in Sweden. His last letter to her was allegedly received

in 1954. She does not recall whether this letter was received before or after the divorce was granted. After Arturs left her in 1951, Ilga moved to Lerum, Lindvagen 28, Sweden, where she has been living ever since with her daughter Ingrida. Also since 1951, Ilga has been practicing dentistry in Lerum, where she is employed by the Swedish State.

6. Ilga BROMBERGS met her second husband, Guenther GEBERT, in Lerum, Sweden. Since he lived in her district and needed dental work, he was referred to her and became her patient in 1952. Although he was her patient, she never met him socially until April 1953. It was at her dental assistant's (Britte FAGERBERG, Lerum, Kantor Edgrens Vag) birthday party (March 1953) that Ilga met Guenther GEBERT for the first time outside her dental office. To the best of Ilga's knowledge Guenther GEBERT appeared in Sweden late in 1951 or early in 1952. She believes-- although she is not absolutely sure--that he came from Hamburg, where his parents and sister are still residing. Soon upon his arrival in Sweden he obtained employment as an optical worker with the firm Lange in Gothenburg. Although he worked in Gothenburg, he resided in Lerum, which is only 22 kms away.

7. From 1953 until 1955, Ilga saw much of Guenther GEBERT and finally married him in the Gothenburg Rathaus (City Hall) on August 24, 1955. According to Ilga her second marriage was not a very happy one. She describes her second husband as one who loved "wine, women, and song." Soon after marriage, Guenther GEBERT began to be regularly unfaithful to his wife and often stayed nights away from his home. Ilga rationalizes that she would have possibly forgiven his unfaithfulness had it not come so soon after the marriage took place. As it was, she could not stand it and admits to having nagged him continuously. She states that at the time she met Gebert, she was very lonesome and found in her future second husband a good listener. Furthermore, he was a non-Swede and had much in common with her, since he too went through the war and was not as conservative, cold, and disinterested as most Swedish men. Ilga also describes her husband as not thrifty, although not dishonest.

✓ *No 201* 8. After a two-year marriage period Guenther GEBERT asked for a divorce, although in actuality, it was Ilga who wanted it. Incompatibility was given as the reason for the divorce request. According to Swedish law one year must elapse between the submission of the divorce request and the actual granting of the divorce. During this one year waiting period both husband and wife must live separately and must testify that a change of mind has not occurred. The divorce request application was submitted in 1957 and was held in a Swedish court until the divorce was finally granted in 1958 or 1959 (Ilga does not remember the exact date) in Alvsborgs Lan, Alingsas, Sweden.

9. Ilga has not seen Guenther GEBERT since her divorce was granted. She has heard from acquaintances that he resides in Nykoping, Tysteberga, Sweden, and works as an engineering technician. She also heard that he attended a technical school from 1957-1959. Until 1957 Guenther GEBERT was a German citizen, but according to rumors he may now be a Swedish citizen.

10. According to Ilga her second husband was born on 26 March 1918 probably in Hamburg, Germany. His parents owned a small home in Hamburg which they sold after 1957. Guenther GEBERT's father is Ferdinand Albert. He is pensioned now but worked most of his adult life as a Zoll Beamter in Hamburg. Ilga could not recollect her mother-in-law's

first name. Guenther GEBERT attended school in Hamburg and Koenigsberg. He received his technical training in Zeiss, Weimar. He has one sister whose married name is Gertrud KAHN. She and her husband reside in Hamburg.

11. Ilga BROMBERGS has one daughter (Ingrida BROMBERGS) born on 27 January 1947 in Buras, Sweden. She is presently studying at the Grundschule in Lerum, Sweden.

12. Ilga's mother is Berta Wilhelmina DRAFENS. She was born on 10 May 1895 and presently resides in Dundaga "Varlejas" Talsu Raj, Latvia. Until 1931, she was a teacher. When her husband died in 1931, she gave up teaching to take care of the family's farm. Ilga's father was Eduard DRAFENS. He was born in 1887, was a farmer, and died in 1931 from injuries sustained in an accident on the farm.

13. Ilga corresponds with her mother monthly. She uses the name Ilga GEBERT (and her real address) as the return address on her letters. She addresses her letters as follows: Berta DRAFENS, Dundaga "Varlejas", Talsu Raj, SSR de Lettonie. Berta DRAFENS receives a small pension of 20 rubles per month from the government. She lives in a very old fourteen-room house completely isolated and in the middle of a forest. She usually walks 6 kms to the nearest store and busstop. Unless she can occasionally rent a horse, she is forced to walk 30 kms to fetch her monthly pension. According to Ilga her mother's house is so old and dilapidated that it can collapse at any time. Her mother shares the house with an old woman who was formerly Berta DRAFENS' servant. Ilga does not recollect this woman's last name and refers to her as Zete (first name) when writing to her mother. Zete is about fifty years of age.

14. Ilga received her first letter from her mother in 1957. Her mother found out Ilga's address from relatives in the United States. From 1943-1957 there was allegedly no contact between Ilga and her mother or brother. Ilga believes from circumstantial evidence that Soviet authorities did not link Berta DRAFENS with Ilga BROMBERGS and do not know that she (Berta DRAFENS) was the mother-in-law of Arturs BROMBERGS. To the best of Ilga's knowledge, neither her mother nor her brother was ever interrogated about Arturs BROMBERGS. Ilga also states that Arturs' name was never mentioned in correspondence with any of her relatives in Latvia.

15. Ilga's brother is Eduard Vilnis DRAFENS. He was born on 14 April 1930 in Windau, Latvia, and presently resides in Riga, M. Gorkija Ula 8, Apartment 10. He is a physical culture instructor and also helps train members of various athletic groups. Eduard is married to Zigrida (LNU), who is about twenty-five years of age. He has one boy who is five years of age.

16. According to Ilga her brother corresponds seldom with her and limits his correspondence to occasional holiday greeting cards. The last such card was received by Ilga last Christmas. Eduard DRAFENS lives in a one-room apartment with his wife, son, and mother-in-law. Ilga reasons that he must be poor, since otherwise, he would not allow his own mother to live in complete isolation. Ilga did hear, however, that occasionally her brother helps his mother with small donations and also visits the farm and helps his mother plant vegetables, and so forth. Ilga states that her mother is very poor, since she has only one cow and must live on the 20 rubles she receives from the state and the pittance she occasionally gets from her son. The few vegetables she has the strength to grow she cannot sell and needs for her own existence.

17. Ilga does not know too much about her brother. She left Latvia when he was twelve years old. He never writes about his political beliefs and in his correspondence has never invited Ilga to visit Latvia.

18. Ilga has a maternal aunt Emma SPROGIS. She is about seventy years of age and resides in Anceš paj "Saulites." During her early life she was a teacher in Windau. And it was with this aunt that Ilga resided while going to school in Riga (see paragraph 2 above). Emma SPROGIS has two children (son and daughter) residing in Melbourne, Australia. The son's name is Imants SPROGIS and the daughter's Aina Sprogis DAILE. In Lerum, Ilga has the exact addresses of her cousins and is willing to provide them should we ever ask her to.

19. Ilga's other blood relatives are as follows:

- a. Alma BUSCHEVIZ (paternal aunt) residing in Minnesota;
- b. Ints BUSCHEVIZ (cousin) residing in Minnesota;
- c. Milda ZEEMANN (paternal aunt) residing in Germany; and
- d. Eriks VAVERE (maternal uncle) whom the Soviet authorities deported to the USSR in 1942/1943 and from whom nothing has been heard of ever since.

NOTE: Ilga has the exact addresses of the above-mentioned living relatives in her home in Lerum and will provide them on request.

20. Ilga BROMBERGS claims not to have a police record and never to have been arrested. She was interrogated twice by Swedish authorities in 1957/1958 in connection with Arturs BROMBERGS' arrest in Latvia. At the time she was asked whether or not she knew that her first husband was a PBPRIME agent. The Swedish authorities also wanted to know with what PBPRIME persons Arturs BROMBERGS associated while residing in Sweden. When Ilga replied that she knew no one with whom her ex-husband might have been associated, she was not believed. The Swedish interrogators did not bother Ilga too much, however, and finally abandoned their efforts. During their last meeting they gave Ilga a telephone number to call in the eventuality she was annoyed by anyone and especially by Latvian or Soviet nationals.

*all this
was in
the book*

21. Ilga BROMBERGS makes a good over-all impression. Her hesitancy to speak freely about her past and her relatives is understandable in view of her background. By nature she appears to be an introvert and a suspicious person who does not make friends readily and who has to know a person a long time before deciding to confide in him. She appears to be a solid citizen who takes life and her profession extremely seriously. By her own admission she refused to leave Sweden when her first husband asked her to in 1951. And she divorced him merely because she established herself in Sweden and refused to give up security for an unknown future in other lands. She also divorced her second husband because the latter exhibited unfaithfulness and showed moral weakness by not being thrifty and by spending too much money and time on "wine, women, and song." Unquestionably, Ilga BROMBERGS is a determined, self-made woman who knows exactly what she wants. Although

