REPORT BY THE

Comptroller General

OF THE UNITED STATES

Widespread Conspiracy To Obstruct Probes Of Alleged Nazi War Criminals Not Supported By Available Evidence— Controversy May Continue

There was, in the past, a lack of progress by the Immigration and Naturalization Service in investigating and prosecuting alleged Nazi war criminals residing in the United States.

Controversy has existed as to whether the lack of progress was due to a conspiracy involving Service personnel and possibly other Federal agencies.

It is unlikely that a widespread conspiracy existed, but GAO cannot absolutely rule out the possibility of undetected, isolated instances of deliberate obstruction. GAO's investigation was hindered by the effect of the passage of time on the availability of information and limited access to agencies' records. In any event the inherent difficulty in establishing the existence of a conspiracy must be recognized.

Recently, Service efforts in this area have improved.

The Chairman, House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration, Citizenship, and International Law requested this report.



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