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TOT: 262330Z JAN 84

DIRECTOR 816714

SECRET

STAFF 262330Z DIRECTOR 816714

TO: [] INFO [] [] [] [] [] [] []

WNINTEL [] TRACE

SUBJECT: TRACE RESPONSE ON PRO-NAZI BANKER FRANCOIS ((GENOUD))

- REF: A. [] 3092650
 B. [] 3112756
 C. [] 3112595
 D. [] 3119607
 E. [] 3128190

SG/ECI	SEARCHED	INDEXED
SG/MS	RYBAT REST. CODE FOR COMLET DOCUMENT	RYBAT REST. CODE FOR NON-COMLET DOCUMENT
OG/CFS	FILE CHARGED TO OG/CFS	FILE CHARGED TO DIVISION OR STAFF

1. SUBJECT OF REFS, FRANCOIS GEORGES ALBERT ((GENOUD)), ENCRYPTED IDEN A, WAS BORN IN LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND, ON 26 OCTOBER 1915. THROUGHOUT THE 1930'S HE WAS A MEMBER OF VARIOUS SWISS ANTI-SEMITIC MOVEMENTS OF THE FAR RIGHT, INCLUDING THE NATIONAL UNION. DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR HE SIDED WITH THE NAZIS AND FASCISTS AND ACTED AS AN ABWEHR AGENT IN SWITZERLAND. FOLLOWING THE WAR, GENOUD APPEARED AS THE DIRECTOR OF A NEO-NAZI PUBLISHING COMPANY (NFI). HE ACQUIRED THE POWER OF ATTORNEY FROM MARTIN BORMANN'S EXECUTORS AND, ACTING AS A LITERARY AGENT, SOLD "HITLER'S TABLE CONVERSATIONS" TO THE FLAMMERION PUBLISHING COMPANY. GENOUD HAS ALWAYS MAINTAINED CLOSE CONTACT WITH A NUMBER OF EX-GERMAN OFFICIALS LIVING IN THE MIDDLE EAST (ESPECIALLY EGYPT).

2. IN 1955 HE LIVED IN TANGIERS AS AN EDITOR, CONDUCTING NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE MEMOIRS OF MARTIN BORMANN. IN MARCH 1957 HE WAS IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH THE ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES AMIS DU MONDE ARABE LIBRE AND IN 1959 COLLABORATED WITH THE COMITE DE LIBERATION DE MAGHREB ARAB. IN 1961-1962 HE WAS THE SUBJECT OF AUSTRIAN POLICE REPORTS BECAUSE OF HIS ASSOCIATION WITH ADOLF EICHMANN AND HIS ACTIVITY IN FINANCING EICHMANN'S DEFENSE.

3. IN THE 1960'S GENOUD WAS CONNECTED WITH THE VARIOUS ARAB (ESPECIALLY ALGERIAN) LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND BANKING INSTITUTIONS AS WELL AS SEVERAL ALGERIAN LEADERS, INCLUDING AHMED BEN ((BELLA)). BY MARCH 1966 HE WAS THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FRIENDS OF THE ARAB WORLD AND THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE BANQUE COMMERCIALE ARABE (BCA) IN GENEVA. HE HAD BECOME A CLOSE

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FRIEND OF MUHAMMED ((KHIDAR)), AN ALGERIAN POLITICIAN WHO HAD FLED ALGERIA WITH A LARGE SUM OF ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT MONEY WHICH HE DEPOSITIED IN THE BCA AFTER ALGERIA'S INDEPENDENCE IN 1967. THE ALGERIAN GOVERNMENT KNEW NOTHING OF THIS TRANSACTION, AND WHEN KHIDAR WAS ASSASSINATED IN 1967 NOT EVEN HIS FAMILY WAS TOLD ABOUT THE DEPOSIT. IN 1964, GENOUD WAS SUSPECTED OF HAVING AIDED KHIDAR IN THE ILLEGAL TRANSFER OF FUNDS, WAS PUT IN AN ALGERIAN JAIL FOR SEVERAL MONTHS BEGINNING OCTOBER 64, AND FINALLY DEPORTED IN 1965. SHORTLY AFTER HIS RELEASE HE WAS IMPRISONED IN TUNISIA. ALLEGEDLY, HE WAS INVOLVED WITH RIGHT-RADICAL GROUPS IN THE PROCUREMENT AND SMUGGLING OF WEAPONS INTO VARIOUS ARAB COUNTRIES (NFI).

4. IN 1970 HE REPORTEDLY ATTENDED THE TRIAL OF THREE TERRORISTS WHO ATTACKED AN EL-AL-AIRPLANE IN ZURICH. AS AN OFFICIAL SUPPORTER OF THE POPULAR FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF PALESTINE (PFLP), HE ACTED AS A COUNSELOR BETWEEN ARAB LAWYERS AND THE PALESTINIAN PRISONERS. IN THE SAME YEAR HE ALSO FINANCED THE DEFENSE OF A YOUNG SWISS, BRUNO BREGUET, WHO HAD BEEN CAUGHT SMUGGLING EXPLOSIVES IN HAIFA HARBOR IN ISRAEL. ALSO IN 1974, GENOUD CLAIMED TO BE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH GEORGE HABBASH, THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE PFLP IN LEBANON. HE WAS INCLUDED IN A FOURTEEN-MAN GROUP AT A DINNER TO HONOR THE ARAB LAWYERS WHO DEFENDED THE PALESTINIAN HIJACKERS.

5. IN THE MID-1970'S PNXCEL WAS INTERESTED IN GENOUD AS AN UNWITTING SOURCE OF INFORMATION ON ARAB TERRORISM AND HAD DEVELOPED CONTACT WITH HIS ASSOCIATE [] (IDEN B), WHO PROVIDED INFORMATION ON GENOUD'S TRAVELS AND ACTIVITIES. IN A REPORT DATED JUNE 1974, [] SUSPECTED THAT GENOUD CONTRIBUTED A NUMBER OF PROPOSALS AND SERVED AS A SUPPORT ASSET FOR ARAB TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS.

6. IN 1975 GENOUD ALLEGEDLY MAINTAINED CONTACT WITH THEN LIBYAN REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL MEMBER, FOREIGN MINISTER, AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE CHIEF, MAJOR ABD AL-MUNIM AL ((HUNI)), VIA A SPECIAL CONTACT IN PARIS. ACCORDING TO [] GENOUD CLAIMED THAT HE HAD BEEN GIVEN A SPECIAL MISSION BY THE LIBYANS TO CONTACT AND ASSESS UNNAMED REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS IN VENEZUELA IN MARCH 1975. THAT SAME MONTH, THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN BOGOTA DENIED GENOUD'S REQUEST TO TRANSIT THE U.S. ON THE RETURN LEG OF A "BUSINESS TRIP" FROM LATIN AMERICA TO EUROPE.

7. ACCORDING TO [] IN 1975 GENOUD REGISTERED A HOLDING COMPANY, VALCOMAR, S.A., IN SWITZERLAND. THE COMPANY WAS REPORTEDLY CAPITALIZED BY THE LIBYAN GOVERNMENT AND SERVED AS A COMMERCIAL FRONT AND FUNDING CHANNEL FOR LIBYAN POLITICAL INVESTMENTS. ACCORDING TO "SCHWEIZARISCHES RAGIONENBUCH 1981", VALCOMAR WAS LOCATED IN FRIBOURG AT THE RUE DE ROMONT 29, APPARENTLY AT THE RESIDENCE OF A G. ((CHASSOT)), ONE OF THE ORIGINAL SHAREHOLDERS. IN

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1975 CHASSOT WAS DESCRIBED AS A BUSINESSMAN AND HONORARY CONSUL FOR THE REPUBLIC OF SENEGAL AS WELL AS A RIGHT-WING TYPE WHO HAD RESIDED IN LAUSANNE FOR MANY YEARS.

8. [] EVENTUALLY PROVED TO BE AN UNPRODUCTIVE SOURCE AND REALIZING THIS, BEGAN MANUFACTURING TIDBITS HE THOUGHT MIGHT BE INTERESTING TO US. IN 1976, [] ACCEPTED A POSITION IN SOFIA, BULGARIA, AND CONTACT WITH PNEXCEL WAS CONSEQUENTLY DROPPED.

9. IN THE COURSE OF A ROUTINE LIAISON MEETING IN CIRCA SEPTEMBER 1975, [] REPORTED THAT GENOUD HAS BEEN IN INTERMITTENT CONTACT WITH [] SINCE THE LATE 1950'S. AT THAT TIME GENOUD'S SUPPORT OF FLN CAUSES AND SYMPATHIZERS HAS BEEN OF INTEREST TO [] LATER, INTEREST CONTINUED DUE TO HIS EXTENSIVE CONTACTS WITH ARAB EXTREMISTS. [] EFFORTS, IN LINE WITH THEIR CHARTER, HAD BEEN PRIMARILY A DEFENSIVE NATURE. HOWEVER DESPITE ALL INVESTIGATIVE TACTICS, [] HAD BEEN UNABLE TO PRODUCE EVIDENCE THAT GENOUD ENGAGED IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES, ALTHOUGH [] FELT THAT HE WAS SERVING AS A FUNDING CHANNEL FOR THE FEDAYEEN.

[] ALSO CLAIMED THAT GENOUD HAD SEVERED HIS TIES WITH THE ARAB BANK OF GENEVA AFTER A SERIOUS DISAGREEMENT WITH THE BANK MANAGEMENT. HE FURTHER DESCRIBED GENOUD AS "PERSONALLY OBNOXIOUS" ALTHOUGH THEIR RELATIONSHIP REMAINED CORDIAL IN NATURE.

10. ACCORDING TO [] INFORMATION, A "FRIENDLY SERVICE" REPORTED THAT IN 1978 GENOUD WAS IN IRAQ WITH BRUNO BREGUET. [] WERE NEVER ABLE TO CONFIRM THE REPORT. THEY DID NOTE IN 1982 THAT GENOUD HAD BEEN KEEPING "A LOW PROFILE."

11. IN THE 7-8 MARCH 1982 ISSUE OF LE MONDE (P.16) AN ARTICLE ALLEGED THAT GENOUD HAD TIES WITH A WIDE RANGE OF TERRORIST GROUPS, INCLUDING NEO-NAZIS, THE PFLP, AND BRUNO BREGUET, WHO HAD BEEN ARRESTED IN PARIS AND ON WHOSE BEHALF THE INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST CARLOS THREATENED THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT. IN RESPONSE TO THE ARTICLE THE LAUSANNE PAPER TRIBUNE-LEMATIN INTERVIEWED GENOUD ON 12 MARCH 1982. THE ARTICLE CLAIMS THAT GENOUD EMPHATICALLY DENIED THE ALLEGATIONS.

12. THERE IS NO INFORMATION IN 201 WHICH INDICATES DIRECT RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN VERGES AND GENOUD. WE DO NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT VERGE WAS RESIDING IN ALGIERS IN 1961, AT THE SAME TIME AS GENOUD, AND WAS THE HEAD OF THE AFRICAN SECTION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS UNDER THE POLITICAL BUREAU OF THE FLN. HE, TOO, REPORTEDLY WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BEN BELLA AND KHIDAR.

13. THERE IS NO FURTHER INFORMATION IN GENOUD'S FILE AFTER 13 JULY 1982.

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