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USBERLIN FOR BDC; DEPT FOR CA/VO/L/C AND EUR/CE  
E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: CVIS, GE(KIEINGER, WILHELM)  
SUBJ: VISAS 212(A) (33) CASE OF WILHELM KIENINGER  
DPOB: APRIL 11, 1920 STUTTGART GERMANY  
1. VISAS DONKEY  
2. KIENINGER, WILHELM, GERMAN, APRIL 11, 1920, STUTTGART,  
GERMANY.  
3. SUBJECT APPLIED FOR B-2 NIV BY MAIL ARRIVING AT POST  
AUGUST 16, 1983. HE IS LISTED IN AVLOS AS "83 DPT". HE  
HAD PLANNED TO TRAVEL ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1983 TO VISIT HIS  
SISTER LINA SMITH OF ROUTE 3, BOX 191-A. MIDDLETON, NEW  
YORK 10940. HE WILL NOW DELAY TRAVEL PLANS TO NOVEMBER  
OR EECEMBER 1983, MR. KIENINGER WAS INTERVIEWED ON  
SEPTEMBER 21, 1983.  
4. THE INFORMATION GIVEN BY MR. KIENINGER DURING THE  
INTERVIEW CORRESPOND WITH THE DATA SUPPLIED BY THE  
BERLIN DOCUMENT CENTER EXCEPT THAT THE LATTER DID NOT  
MENTION HIS INJURIES.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2001 2007

FOR COORDINATION WITH State

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
2000

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5. SUBJECT JOINED THE HITLER YOUTH ORGANIZATION IN NOVEMBER 1933 AT THE AGE OF 13. HE DESCRIBED HIMSELF AS ACTIVE IN THIS ORGANIZATION ALTHOUGH HE ONLY ROSE TO THE LEVEL OF GROUP LEADER (QPAWP YOUTHS). HE JOINED BOTH THE NAZI PARTY AND THE WAFFEN SS DURING SEPTEMBER 1939. HE INDICATED THAT HE WILLINGLY VOLUNTEERED FOR DUTY. HE FURTHER STATED THAT IT WAS DIFFICULT TO JOIN BECAUSE THE SS WAS AT THAT TIME TAKING ONLY THE MOST DEDICATED AND PHYSICALLY STRONG APPLICANTS. SUBJECT JOINED BECAUSE HE FELT IT WAS HIS DUTY TO SERVE HIS COUNTRY.

6. SUBJECT TRAINED WITH THE LEIBSTANDARTE SS **ADOLF HITLER** RESERVE BATTALION FROM SEPTEMBER 12, 1939 UNTIL FEBRUARY 1940. DURING FEBRUARY 1940 HE TRANSFERRED TO THE PANZER GRENADIER DIVISION OF THE LEIBSTANDARTE SS **ADOLF HITLER**. HE SERVED WITH THIS GROUP UNTIL SEPTEMBER 6, 1943. HIS DIVISION TOOK PART IN THE INVASION OF HOLLAND, BELGIUM AND FRANCE DURING 1940. HE SAID HE HELD THE RANK OF PRIVATE AND WAS A FRONTLINE COMBAT SOLDIER WITH THE MECHANIZED INFANTRY.

7. DURING 1941 HIS DIVISION TOOK PART IN FIRST THE INVASION OF THE BALKANS AND THEN THE INVASIONS OF GREECE. HIS UNITS, HE STATED, WERE ALWAYS AT THE FRONT. EXCEPT A BRIEF PERIOD OF GARDISON DUTY IN GREECE DURING 1941 AFTER THAT COUNTRY FELL.

8 MR. KIENINGER INDICATED HE TOOK PART IN THE INVASION OF RUSSIA BEGINNING IN APRIL 1941. HIS PANZER GRENADIER UNIT WAS PART OF ARMY GROUP SOUTH, THEY ADVANCED THROUGH THE UKRAINE. HE SPECIFICALLY DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF ATROCITIES IN RUSSIA. HE CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE OF EINSATZGRUPPEN (MOBILE DEATH SQUADS) OR OF ANY ACTS AGAINST CIVILIANS. HE STATED HE WAS ALWAYS FIGHTING WITH THE FRONT LINE TROOPS.

9. IN DECEMBER 1941 SUBJECT WAS WOUNDED NEAR ROSTON-ON-DON. HE SPENT THE NEXT SIX MONTHS IN A HOSPITAL NEAR BERLIN RECOVERING FROM HIS WOUNDS. AFTER THIS TIME HE SPENT AN ADDITIONAL SIX MONTHS TRAINING NEW RECRUITS, ALSO NEAR BERLIN. SHORTLY AFTER BEING WOUNDED, HE WAS PROMOTED TO UNTERSCHARFUHRER (SERGEANT)

10. DURING LATE 1942 SUBJECT WAS TRANSFERRED BACK TO THE SS PANZER GRENADIER DIVISION, LEIBSTANDARTE, **ADOLF HITLER** ON THE RUSSIAN FRONT. THERE HE WAS GROUP LEADER OF A UNIT OF 12-15 MEN. HE EARNED THE IRON CROSS 1ST AND 2ND CLASS. SUBJECT INDICATED THAT THE FRONTLINE SHIFTED BACK AND FORTH OFTEN DURING THIS TIME.

1. IN 1943, ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF HIS LIEUTENANT AND DUE TO HIS MILITARY EXPERIENCE, HE WAS RECOMMENDED FOR OFFICERS TRAINING. HE ATTENDED THE 11TH WAR OFFICER CANDIDATE COURSE AT VAD TOELZ FROM SEPTEMBER 1943 TO MARCH 1944, AND THE SENIOR OFFICER CANDIDATE COURSE AT THE SS PANZER GRENADIER SCHOOL AT KIENSCHLAG FROM MARCH TO APRIL 1944.

HE THEN RETURNED TO BAD TOELZ WHERE HE SERVED AS AN INSTRUCTOR UNTIL MARCH 1945, AT THAT TIME HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE SS DIVISION "NIBELUNGEN" WHICH WAS DEFENDING SOUTHERN GERMANY. HE WAS WOUNDED IN APRIL

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1945 AND CAPTURED BY U.S. FORCES WHILE IN A HOSPITAL.

12. MR. KIENINGER STATED DURING THE INTERVIEW THAT HIS DUTIES DURING THE WAR WERE EXCLUSIVELY MILITARY IN NATURE, AND HE DENIED HAVING COMMITTED ANY ACTS WHICH WOULD RENDER HIM INELIGIBLE UNDER SECTION 212 (A) (33) OF THE INA. HE APPEARED SINCERE HE INDICATED THAT HE JOINED THE NSDAP AND THE SS VOLUNTARILY AND ENTHUSIASMICALLY BECAUSE HE FELT IT WAS HIS PATRIOTIC DUTY TO HIS COUNTRY. HE FURTHER INDICATED HE WAS THOROUGHLY INTERROGATED BY U.S. FORCES BEFORE HIS DISCHARGE ON DECEMBER 19, 1947.

13. THE INTERVIEWING OFFICER HAS ONLY ONE REASON TO DOUBT THE APPLICANT'S STATEMENTS, I.E. THAT HE MAINTAINED THAT AT NO POINT DURING THE WAR DID HE WITNESS, OR EVEN HEAR OF A RUMOR OF DELIBERATE ACTIONS AGAINST CIVILIANS OR OTHER ATROCITIES. MR. KIENINGER, HOWEVER, IS NOT ALONE IN THIS PROTESTATION UNLESS DEPARTMENT BECOMES AWARE OF DEROGATORY INFORMATION PERTINENT TO THIS CASE, THE CONSULAR OFFICER RECOMMENDS THAT THE APPLICANT'S NAME BE DELETED FROM THE AVLOS SYSTEM.

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