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DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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VISAS
E.O. 12356: N/A
TAGS: CVIS (WITTLAND, AUGUST)
SUBJECT: SAO REQUEST
REF: A) BONN 29142; O) STATE 220746; C) BONN 19144
1. VISAS TWO AUGUST WITTLAND (33).
2. DEPARTMENT DOES NOT FIND THAT MR. WITTLAND HAS CREDIOLY DEMONSTRATED THAT FROM 1939-1940 HE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES WHICH FALL WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF SECTION 212(A)(33) OF THE ACT.
3. OF PARTICULAR CONCERN ARE WITTLAND'S "TRAINING PROGRAMS" WHILE SERVING UNDER COMMANDER KOCH IN 1939 AND HIS UNEXPLAINED DUTIES BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 1939 - OCTOBER 1940 WHEN HE CLAIMS HE SERVED UNDER CAPTAIN PAUL KAUSCH.
4. ACCORDING TO WITTLAND FROM FEBRUARY 20, 1939 TO SEPTEMBER 1939 HE SERVED WITH THE 3RD SS DEATH'S HEAD REGIMENT "THURINGEN," WEIMAR. HE STATES THAT WHILE ASSIGNED TO THIS UNIT HE WAS A TRAINER (IN HEAVY ARTILLERY) AND SERVED UNDER COL. KOCH. HE ALSO STATES THAT FROM SEPTEMBER 1939 - OCTOBER 1940 HE SERVED WITH THE 4TH ARTILLERY REGIMENT OF THE DEATH'S HEAD DIVISION UNDER A CAPTAIN PAUL KAUSCH.
5. FROM 1937-1941 KARL KOCH WAS THE NOTORIOUS

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COMMANDANT OF THE OUCHENWALD CONCENTRATION CAMP. THE 3RD SS DEATH'S HEAD REGIMENT PROVIDED THE CONCENTRATION CAMP GUARDS FOR OUCHENWALD. THOUGH WITTLAND CLAIMS HE UNDERWENT TRAINING OR ACTED AS A TRAINER (HIS TWO STATEMENTS ARE CONFLICTING IN THIS REGARD - REFTELS A AND C) GIVEN THE UNIT OF HIS ASSIGNMENT AND THE OFFICIAL POSITION OF KOCH, HIS PARTICIPATION IN CONCENTRATION CAMP DUTIES CANNOT BE DISCOUNTED.

6. PAUL KAUSCH (WHO WAS ENTERED INTO AVLOS AS "33") ACCORDING TO WITTLAND KNEW NOTHING ABOUT ARTILLERY AND, IMPRESSED WITH WITTLAND'S SKILLS IN THIS AREA, INVITED WITTLAND IN SEPTEMBER 1939 TO SERVE WITH HIM IN MUNICH. ACCORDING TO OUR RECORDS FROM ABOUT 1932-1935 KAUSCH WAS ARTILLERY BATTERY CHIEF OF SS LIEBSTANDARTE "**ADOLF HITLER**". WE THEREFORE FIND IT UNREASONABLE TO BELIEVE THAT KAUSCH WOULD INVITE WITTLAND TO MUNICH UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES AND IN FACT, THEU - RECORDS DO NOT SHOW A MUNICH ASSIGNMENT FOR KAUSCH UNTIL DECEMBER 1940.

7. FROM 1936-1939 KAUSCH WAS ASSIGNED TO SEVERAL DEATH'S HEAD UNITS. THESE UNITS WERE KNOWN TO BE INVOLVED IN GUARDING AND ADMINISTERING CONCENTRATION CAMPS. AFTER SEVERAL MORE UNDEFINED "TRAINING PROGRAMS", IN DECEMBER 1940 KAUSCH WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE SS "VIKING DIVISION" AS AN ADJUTANT. IF WITTLAND SERVED WITH KAUSCH FROM SEPTEMBER 1939 - OCTOBER 1940 AS HE CLAIMS, THEN HE WAS EITHER ASSIGNED TO THE SS DEATH'S HEAD UNITS OR PARTICIPATED IN UNDEFINED "TRAINING PROGRAMS," AND THEREFORE, THERE IS MORE REASON TO BELIEVE THAT HE PARTICIPATED IN CONCENTRATION CAMP DUTIES OR OTHER ACTIVITIES WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE ACT.

8. THE APPLICANT HAS THE BURDEN OF PROVING THAT ALTHOUGH A MEMOER OF THE SS HE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES WHICH FALL WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF THE ACT. GIVEN THE CHARACTER OF HIS UNITS OF ASSIGNMENTS, COMMANDERS UNDER WHOM HE SERVED, DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN HIS VERSION OF HIS ACTIVITIES WHILE WITH THESE UNITS AND INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT, AND HIS UNSATISFACTORY EXPLANATIONS OF THE NATURE OF HIS DUTIES BETWEEN 39-40, WE DO NOT FIND THAT HE HAS SUSTAINED THIS BURDEN.

SHULTZ

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