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DOCUMENT ID: 169335743
INQNO: DOC10D 00600775
DOCNO: TEL 010364 88
PRODUCER: THE HAGUE
SOURCE: STATE
DOCTYPE: IN
DOR: 19881219
TOR: 142814
DOCPREC: R
ORIGDATE: 198812191529
MHFNO: 88 1306075
DOCCLASS: U

HEADER
RR RUEAIIB
ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH
MSI6614
RR RUEHC
DE RUFHTH #0364/01 3541530
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 191529Z DEC 88
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4392
RUEHFB/DIRFBI WASHDC
BT

CONTROLS
UNCLAS THE HAGUE 10364

VISAS DONKEY

FOR CA/VO/L/C (PASS TO FRED SMITH) AND EUR/C

AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM SENDS

E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT
TAGS: CVIS, NL (STROINK, GERHARD)
SUBJECT: SAO REQUEST FOR POSSIBLE 212(A) (33)
INELIGIBILITY CASE

REF: A) THE HAGUE 9290 B) THE HAGUE 9692 C)
USBERLIN 3380 D) STEPHENSON/SMITH TELECON 12/14

1. VISAS DONKEY

2. STROINK, GERHARD, A DUTCH CITIZEN BORN 06 NOV. 1916,
IN BIREUEN, INDONESIA, APPLIED FOR A B-2 VISA ON
NOVEMBER 2, 1988, TO ENABLE HIM TO VISIT HIS SON AT 220
CALLE CORTEZ, SAN CLEMENTE, CALIFORNIA, FROM
APPROXIMATELY JANUARY 14, 1989, UNTIL FEBRUARY 4, 1989.

3. THE DEPARTMENT ENTERED MR. STROINK IN AVLOS UNDER
"83" IN NOVEMBER 1980. IN RESPONSE TO REFS A AND B, THE
BERLIN DOCUMENT CENTER (BDC) PROVIDED A DETAILED

FOR COORDINATION WITH ^{ed} State

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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READ-OUT OF MR. STROINK'S SERVICE IN THE WAFFEN SS. DURING A FOLLOW-UP INTERVIEW HELD DECEMBER 15, MR. STROINK REVIEWED THE RECORD SUBMITTED BY THE BDC, ACCEPTED THE MAJORITY OF IT AS CORRECT, AND SUBMITTED CONVINCING EVIDENCE TO CONTRADICT CERTAIN DATES AND ASSIGNMENTS. A RESUME OF STROINK'S WORLD WAR TWO ACTIVITY FOLLOWS.

4. STROINK SERVED IN THE DUTCH ARMY FROM OCTOBER 5, 1936, UNTIL MAY 15, 1940. ALTHOUGH THE BDC SUMMARY INDICATES STROINK JOINED THE WAFFEN SS IN AUGUST 1, 1940 (REPEAT 1940), STROINK CREDIBLY DEMONSTRATED THAT THE CORRECT DATE IS AUGUST 1, 1942 (REPEAT 1942) BY PRODUCING HIS ORIGINAL ORDER TO REPORT FOR DUTY, AS WELL AS A SUMMARY FROM A GERMAN DOCUMENT CENTER. STROINK EXPLAINED THAT HE STAYED OUT OF THE MILITARY FROM MAY 1940 UNTIL AUGUST 1942 BECAUSE HIS FATHER, A COLONEL IN THE DUTCH ARMY, WAS EMBROILED IN A DISPUTE WITH SS LEADERS OVER WHO WAS IN CHARGE OF THE DUTCH LEGION. COL. G. W. STROINK RESIGNED IN THE FALL OF 1941 WHEN THE GERMANS INSISTED ON ASSIGNING GERMAN OFFICERS TO THE DUTCH LEGION.

5. THUS, STROINK SERVED ACTIVELY IN THE WAFFEN SS--AS AN OFFICER OF THE DUTCH LEGION, HE INSISTS, NOTING HE WORE DUTCH MARKINGS ON HIS SS UNIFORM--FROM AUGUST 1, 1942, UNTIL HE WAS WOUNDED IN RUSSIA ON AUGUST 31, 1943. HE DISPUTES THE BDC SUMMARY'S ENTRY LISTING HIM AS A MEMBER OF THE SS-INFANTRY ERSATZ BATTALION "LEIBSTANDARTE ADOLF HITLER," EXPLAINING THAT ONLY GERMAN OFFICERS TALLER THAN TWO METERS WERE ELIGIBLE. STROINK'S GERMAN-LANGUAGE SUMMARY OF HIS MILITARY SERVICE INDICATES INSTEAD THAT HE SERVED BRIEFLY (FROM AUGUST 1 TO OCTOBER 1, 1942) IN THE SS-INFANTRY ERSATZ BATTALION "GERMANIA" BEFORE BEING SENT TO THE SS-JUNKERSCHULE TO TAKE A PREPARATORY COURSE FOR GERMANIC SS OFFICER CANDIDATES (FROM OCTOBER 1 UNTIL DECEMBER 15, 1942). ALL EVIDENCE THEN PLACES STROINK IN TOELZ AT THE SS-OFFICER SCHOOL UNTIL APRIL 30, 1943.

6. WHILE THE BDC SUMMARY SHOWS THAT STROINK WAS ASSIGNED TO THE GENERAL KOMMANDO GERMANISCHES SS PANZER KORPS FROM MAY 1, 1943, UNTIL OCTOBER 1, 1943, HE SAYS THAT HE NEVER IN FACT SERVED WITH THE KORPS. ACCORDING TO STROINK, GENERAL STEINER, THE KORPS' COMMANDING OFFICER, SENT STROINK TO THE FRONT SO THAT HE COULD "GET FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE." THE BDC SUMMARY AND STROINK'S GERMAN DOCUMENTS AGREE THAT STROINK'S NEXT ASSIGNMENT WAS TO THE SS-PANZER GRENADIER DIVISION "WIKING," WHICH FOUGHT IN THE BATTLE OF ISJUM NEAR THE DONEZ RIVER IN RUSSIA IN JULY 1943. ON AUGUST 31, 1943, STROINK WAS WOUNDED IN COMBAT NEAR POLTAWA AND HOSPITALIZED TO HAVE HIS LEFT HAND AMPUTATED.

7. AFTER RECOVERING FROM THE AMPUTATION OF HIS HAND, STROINK WAS ASSIGNED TO THE RESERVES (SS-ARMORED INFANTRY TRAINING AND REPLACEMENT BATTALION) FROM

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OCTOBER 1, 1943, UNTIL JUNE 30, 1944. FROM JUNE 30, 1944, UNTIL OCTOBER 20, 1944, STROINK WAS ASSIGNED TO STAMMKOMPANIE "NORDWEST," AND THEREAFTER TO STAMMKOMPANIE NEDERLAND IN AN ADMINISTRATIVE POSITION.

8. AFTER THE WAR, STROINK WAS FOUND GUILTY OF HAVING SERVED IN THE ENEMY'S FORCES AND WAS SENTENCED FIRST TO UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 THE HAGUE 10364

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DEATH, THEN TO TWENTY YEARS IN PRISON. HE ACTUALLY SPENT FIVE YEARS IN DUTCH JAILS BEFORE BEING RELEASED IN 1952. THE DUTCH GOVERNMENT CONFISCATED HIS HOUSE AND OTHER BELONGINGS AND STRIPPED STROINK AND HIS FAMILY OF DUTCH NATIONALITY (SUBSEQUENTLY RESTORED).

9. PER REF D, CONOFF ASKED STROINK ABOUT HIS POLITICAL LEANINGS BEFORE THE WAR. AS EXPECTED, HE WAS A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST MOVEMENT (NSB), BUT HE SAID OTHER FACTORS HAD HAD A MUCH GREATER INFLUENCE ON HIS THINKING. HE NOTED THAT HIS FATHER, A CAREER MILITARY OFFICER, ADMIRERED THE GERMAN MILITARY MACHINE AND THE GERMANS IN GENERAL. STROINK ALSO RECOUNTED HAVING GROWN UP IN ENSCHEDE, NEAR THE DUTCH BORDER WITH GERMANY, WHERE IN 1921 HE SAW GERMANS STARVING. HIS MEMORIES OF GERMAN CHILDREN BEING ALLOWED TO CROSS THE BORDER ON SATURDAY AFTERNOONS TO BEG FOR FOOD, HE SAID, LEFT HIM WITH A GREAT DEAL OF SYMPATHY FOR THE GERMAN PEOPLE.

10. WHEN ASKED IF HE HAD PARTICIPATED IN ANY WARTIME ATROCITIES, STROINK SAID NO. IN THE APPARENT ABSENCE OF ANY INFORMATION WHICH MIGHT LINK STROINK WITH A MILITARY UNIT RESPONSIBLE FOR SUCH ATROCITIES, CONOFF CANNOT RECOMMEND A FINDING OF INELIGIBILITY UNDER SECTION 212(A) (33). GIVEN STROINK'S METICULOUS DOCUMENTATION OF HIS CASE, AND HIS CONSISTENT, EVEN PRESENTATION, CONOFF HAS NO REASON TO DOUBT HIS CREDIBILITY OR TO BELIEVE HE IS HIDING ANYTHING.

11. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT DEPARTMENT REVIEW CASE AND ADVISE AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM WHETHER IT CONCURS THAT STROINK IS NOT INELIGIBLE UNDER EITHER SECTION 212(A) (33) OR 212(A) (9). END ACTION REQUESTED.
SHAD

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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