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TEXT
TAGS: CVIS AU (LEXKES, ROLF)
COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE 212(A) (33) INELIGIBILITY

REF: (A) 90 BERLIN 1218 (B) 90 VIENNA 12827

1. LEXKES, ROLF AUSTRIAN CITIZEN
APRIL 23, 1921 KRONSTADT, ROMANIA
RETIRED

2. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: LEXKES APPLIED FOR A TRANSFER OF HIS INDEFINITE VISITOR VISA (ISSUED AT VIENNA) FROM HIS EXPIRED TO HIS NEW AUSTRIAN PASSPORT. LEXKES INTENDS TO VISIT HIS NEPHEW, DR. REINHARD R. BERGEL, 1119 MITZI DRIVE, NAPA VALLEY, CALISTOGA, CA.. LEXKES WAS INTERVIEWED ON FEBRUARY 8. BASED ON WAR DUTIES (WITH WAFFEN SS-UNITS) AND INTERVIEW, CONOFF RECOMMENDS FINDING THAT LEXKES IS NOT/NOT INELIGIBLE UNDER SECTION 212(A) (33). THERE WERE DISCREPANCIES IN

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HIS PREWAR ACTIVITIES AND IN ONE OF HIS UNIT ASSIGNMENTS BETWEEN THE BDC REPORT (REFTEL A) AND MR. LEXKES' STATEMENTS. LEXKES WAS EXTREMELY FOURTHCOMING, WELL PREPARED (HAD EVEN OWN DATA SHEET PREPARED) AND AS PRECISE AS POSSIBLE. END INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY.

//PREWAR ACTIVITIES//

3. BASED ON HIS STATEMENTS LEXKES WAS NEITHER A MEMBER OF THE GERMAN NATIONAL YOUTH ORGANIZATION (THE BDC LISTS HIM AS A MEMBER OF THIS ORGANIZATION SINCE 1932) NOR OF THE HITLER YOUTH (THE BDC LISTS HIM AS A MEMBER FROM MARCH 1, 1933-NOVEMBER 9, 1940). LEXKES ADMITTED MEMBERSHIP (SINCE SEPTEMBER 1936) IN AN ORGANIZATION CALLED 'COETUS HONTERI' - AN ETHNIC GERMAN, BUT ALSO CATHOLIC ORGANIZATION. HIS HIGHEST RANK IN THIS ORGANIZATION WAS 'FUCHSMAJOR' (A YOUTH LEADERSHIP RANK, WHICH WAS REACHED AFTER COLLEGE DEGREE AT THE AGE OF 18.) HOWEVER, LEXKES STATED THAT THE HITLER YOUTH AND THE COETUS HONTERI WERE VERY SIMILAR ORGANIZATIONS.

4. ON NOVEMBER 9, 1940 LEXKES JOINED THE NATIONAL SOZIALISTISCHE ARBEITERPARTEI DER DEUTSCHEN VOLKSGRUPPE IN RUMAENIEN (NATIONAL SOCIALIST WORKERS PARTY OF GERMAN ETHNIC GROUP IN ROMANIA), WHICH, HE SAID, HAD BEEN FOUNDED SHORTLY BEFORE. HE HAD NO FUNCTION IN THE PARTY ITSELF, BUT HE WAS ASSIGNED AS THE ADJUTANT OF 'GEBIETSFUEHRER' OTTO BARSCH TO THE EINSATZSTAFFEL KRONSTADT. (HE ACTED MAINLY AS HIS DRIVER AND SERVANT).

//WARTIME ACTIVITIES//

5. ON OCTOBER 15, 1941 LEXKES JOINED VOLUNTARILY (THE ONLY OTHER POSSIBILITY, AS A ROMANIAN CITIZEN, WOULD HAVE BEEN TO BE DRAFTED INTO THE ROMANIAN ARMY) THE WAFFEN-SS IN UNNA, WESTFAHLEN, WHERE HE RECEIVED HIS BASIC MILITARY TRAINING. ON JANUARY 14, 1942 HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE 5TH SS-GEBIRGSJAEGER DIVISION 'NORD' (SS-MOUNTAIN DIVISION NORTH) IN WILDFLECKEN/RHOENE, WHERE HE RECEIVED SPECIAL TRAINING AS A PANZERJAEGER (ANTI TANK RIFLEMAN). IN MAY 1942 HE WAS ON HOME LEAVE FOR ONE MONTH. SHORTLY AFTER HIS RETURN TO HIS UNIT IN JUNE 1942 THE UNIT MOVED TO DANZIG (NOW POLAND) AND WAS SHIPPED TO FINLAND (POE: WASA). HIS UNIT PARTICIPATED IN COMBAT ACTIVITIES IN KARELIEN, SECTOR KIESTINIKI, WHERE HE WAS WOUNDED BY SHELL SPLINTERS (RIGHT ARM AND KNEE) ON OCTOBER 29, 1942.

6. LEXKES SPENT A FEW WEEKS IN A LOCAL FIELD HOSPITAL, BUT WHEN HIS CONDITION BECAME WORSE (HE COULD NOT MOVE HIS ARM ANYMORE) HE WAS FIRST TRANSFERRED TO A MILITARY HOSPITAL IN OULU (JANUARY - FEBRUARY 1943) AND THEN VIA TRAIN TO ANOTHER MILITARY HOSPITAL IN OSLO, NORWAY, WHERE HE STAYED ONE MONTH. IN MARCH 1943 HE WAS TRANSFERRED VIA TRAIN TO THE NEXT MILITARY HOSPITAL (TO UNDERGO A SPECIAL OPERATION) IN BAD HARTZBURG/RHOENE, WHERE HE REMAINED UNTIL MAY 1943. AT THAT TIME HE WAS

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AWARDED THE VERWUNDETENABZEICHEN IN SCHWARZ (WOUND BADGE IN BLACK), WHICH REMAINED HIS ONLY DECORATION.

7. IN MAY 1943, RECOVERED FROM THE OPERATION, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE SS PANZER JAEGER AUSBILDUNGS UND ERSATZABTEILUNG I/MOT. (SS ANTI TANK TRAINING AND REPLACEMENT DETACHMENT I/MOT) AT RASTENBURG. HIS ONLY DUTY WAS TO DRILL RECRUITS (ANTI TANK TRAINING). IN JULY 1943 HE WAS ON HOMELEAVE AGAIN FOR ABOUT ONE MONTH. FROM NOVEMBER TO DECEMBER 1943 LEXKES PARTICIPATED IN A VORBEREITUNGSLEHRGANG FUER DIE JUNKERSCHULE (PREPATION COURSE FOR OFFICER CANDIDATE COURSE) IN HALLEIN, SALZBURG (WHICH IS NOT LISTED IN BDC SUMMARY).

8. FROM JANUARY 24 - JUNE 24, 1944 LEXKES TOOK PART IN THE 13. KRIEGSJUNKERLEHRGANG (13TH WAR OFFICER CANDIDATE COURSE) AT THE SS JUNKERSCHULE (SS OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL) IN BRAUNSCHWEIG, GERMANY. DUE TO BOMBING THE COURSE MOVED TO BOSEN, TRESKAU IN MARCH 1944. ONLY THREE WEEKS AFTER COMPLETION OF THE JUNKERSCHULE, LEXKES WAS DETAILED TO THE 13. OBERJUNKERLEHRGANG (SENIOR OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL) AT THE SS PANZER JAEGER - STURMGESCHUETZ - SCHULE (SS ANTI TANK - ASSAULT GUN - SCHOOL) AT JANOWITZ. UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THIS COURSE LEXKES WAS PROMOTED TO SS UNTERSTURMFUEHRER DER RESERVE (2ND LIEUTENANT IN RESERVE) ON OCTOBER 1, 1944.

9. THE BDC REPORT SHOWS LEXKES COMMENCING OCTOBER 1, 1944 ASSIGNED TO THE ANTI TANK BATTALION OF THE 22ND SS VOLUNTEERS CAVALRY DIVISION, FUNCTIONING AS A PLATOON LEADER. LEXKES STATED THAT HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF THIS UNIT AND THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN ASSIGNED TO IT. SINCE LEXKES COULD GIVE VERY DETAILED INFORMATION REGARDING HIS REMAINING WAR ACTIVITIES, INTERVIEWING CONOFF BELIEVES THAT A MISTAKE (IN HIS RECORDS) APPEARS TO BE POSSIBLE. LEXKES SAID HE WAS ASSIGNED ON OCTOBER 1, 1944 TO THE TRUPPENBETREUUNGSSTELLE SUEDOST (TROOP SUPPLY UNIT SOUTH-EAST), LOCATED IN VIENNA AT GONZAGAGASSE. HIS COMMANDER WAS OBERSTURMFUEHRER NAGY. LEXKES HAD NO REAL FUNCTION AT THAT TIME. HE AND SEVERAL OTHER ROMANIAN-GERMAN OFFICERS WERE JUST 'ON HOLD' TO WAIT FOR ORDERS RE MILITARY ACTIVITIES AGAINST ROMANIA.

10. IN DECEMBER 1944 LEXKES WAS ASSIGNED TO A SPECIAL SS UNIT IN ANDAU, BURGENLAND, AUSTRIA. EXACT NAME OF UNIT UNKNOWN. THE COMMANDER WAS UNTERSTURMFUEHRER FRIEDLI. THIS UNIT WAS RATHER SMALL (ABOUT ONE HUNDRED SOLDIERS) AND CREATED OUT OF ROMANIAN-GERMAN AFFEN SS MEMBERS. THE GOAL OF THE UNIT WAS TO REMAIN IN EAST AUSTRIA AND WAIT FOR SPECIAL ORDERS AND ADDITIONAL UNITS TO INITIATE MILITARY ACTIVITIES AGAINST ROMANIA. (NEITHER EVER HAPPENED). DURING JANUARY AND FEBRUARY 1945 LEXKES SPENT SEVERAL WEEKS IN A MILITARY HOSPITAL IN PRAGUE. LEXKES WAS NOT WOUNDED, SINCE HIS UNIT DID

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NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY COMBAT ACTIVITIES. QUESTIONED ABOUT ACTIVITIES AGAINST CIVILIANS OR GYPSIES, LEXKES STATED THAT HIS UNIT NEVER PARTICIPATED IN ANY SUCH ACTIVITIES AND THAT AS FAR AS HE KNEW NO GYPSIES WERE IN THIS AREA (ANAU) BY 1945.

11. SHORTLY BEFORE APRIL 4, 1945 (THE DAY OF VIENNA'S FALL) THE UNIT (WITH A NEW COMMANDER: OBERSTURMFUEHRER GEORG KOENIG) RETREATED WITHOUT ANY COMBAT NORTH TO GOELLERSDORF (LOWER AUSTRIA - CLOSE TO CZEC BORDER) WHERE THE UNIT WAS ASSIGNED TO ANOTHER SS UNIT UNDER COMMANDER OBERGRUPPENFUEHRER SEPP DIETRICH (FORMER COMMANDER OF LEIBSTANDARTE **ADOLF HITLER**). LEXKES DID NOT KNOW THE EXACT NAME OF THIS BIGGER UNIT, HE ONLY COULD REMEMBER THAT IT WAS A PART OF THE 'THE 6TH ARMEE'. THIS UNIT RETREATED DURING THE LAST TWO WEEKS OF THE WAR (AGAIN WITHOUT ANY COMBAT) FROM GOELLERSDORF TO WILDFLECKEN IN STYRIA. LEXKES STATED THAT DIETRICH STILL BELIEVED IN THE 'ALPENFESTUNG' AND THAT HE TRIED TO REACH IT. ON MAY 8, 1945 THE UNIT 'FELL APART' AND LEXKES ACCOMPANIED BY OBERSTURMFUEHRER KOENIG WALKED (IN CIVILIAN CLOTHS) TO ST. GALLEN, UPPER AUSTRIA, WHERE THEY SURRENDERED THEMSELVES VOLUNTARILY TO THE LOCAL CIC OFFICE ON JUNE 23, 1945.

12. AS A U.S. POW LEXKES WAS FIRST HELD AT THE POW CAMP IN HALLEIN UNDER SUPERVISION OF THE 42ND U.S. DIVISION UNTIL MAY 16, 1946. FROM THAT DATE UNTIL HIS FINAL DISCHARGE ON JULY 23, 1947 HE WAS HELD AS A 'CIVILIAN PRISONER' IN CAMP GLASENBACH. AS A DISPLACED PERSON LEXKES RECEIVED AUSTRIAN CITIZENSHIP ON OCTOBER 20, 1949.

// CONCLUSION //

13. GIVEN LEXKES' APPARENT SERVICE WITHIN ONLY COMBAT UNITS, IT APPEARS THAT HE DID NOT ENGAGE IN ANY ACTIONS OR ACTIVITIES WHICH WOULD FALL WITHIN THE PURVIEW OF SECTION 212(A)(33).

14. FOR BDC: SINCE THERE ARE SIGNIFICANT DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN THE LAST PART OF THE BDC REPORT AND LEXKES' STATEMENTS RE HIS WARTIME SERVICES AFTER OCTOBER 1, 1944 (PARA 9-11), COULD YOU PLEASE DOUBLECHECK THESE STATEMENTS AND PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO DEPARTMENT FOR REVIEW (WITH INFO COPY TO VIENNA).
HUFFINGTON

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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