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DOCUMENT\_ID: 34836933  
INQNO: DOC20D 00070135  
DOCNO: TEL 001730 91  
PRODUCER: STUTTGART  
SOURCE: STATE  
DOCTYPE: IN  
DOR: 19910912  
TOR: 134122  
DOCPREC: R  
ORIGDATE: 199109121338  
MHFNO: 91 5524970  
DOCCLASS: U

HEADER  
RR RUEAIIB  
ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH  
MSI1260  
RR RUEHC  
DE RUFHSG #1730/01 2551338  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 121338Z SEP 91  
FM AMCONSUL STUTTGART  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8695  
RUCNFB/DIREFBI WASHDC  
INFO RUFHOL/AMEMBASSY BONN 7782  
RUEHBL/USOFFICE BERLIN 0591  
BT

CONTROLS  
UNCLAS STUTTGART 01730

COORDINATION WITH State

VISAS DONKEY

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E.O. 12356: N/A

TEXT  
TAGS: CVIS, PGOV, GE (NEBENDAHL, HEINZ GEORG KARL)  
COMBINE: COMPLETE

SUBJ: SAO REQUEST: POSSIBLE INELIGIBILITY  
212(A) (33)/212(A) (3) (E)

REF: A) VICTARS 151034, B) STATE 203940, C) BERLIN  
002195

1. VISAS DONKEY
2. NEBENDAHL, HEINZ GEORG KARL GERMAN  
FEBRUARY 6, 1923 BANNESDORF, GERMANY  
RETIRED SALESMAN

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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3. APPLICATION RECEIVED JULY 26, 1991

4. INTERVIEWED ON JULY 26, 1991

5. SUMMARY: APPLICANT CAME TO POST'S ATTENTION AFTER HE WAS DENIED ADMISSION AT ATLANTA'S INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ON APRIL 10, 1991. HE WAS IN THE COMPUTER SYSTEM AS AN "83 DPT" AND AFTER CONSULTATIONS WITH OSI, INS CONCLUDED THAT HE MIGHT HAVE BEEN AN SS LIEUTENANT AT A CONCENTRATION CAMP DURING WORLD WAR II. MR. NEBENDAHL DECLINED A HEARING AND WITHDREW HIS APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION. CURIOUSLY, APPLICANT CLAIMS THAT HIS WARTIME ACTIVITIES WERE INVESTIGATED BY AMCONGEN STUTTGART IN 1982 WHEN HIS LAST B2 VISA WAS ISSUED, BUT AS THE DEPARTMENT STATED IN REFTEL B, NO RECORD OF AN SAO CAN BE FOUND. BEFORE THE INTERVIEW, THE SAO PROCEDURE WAS AGAIN EXPLAINED TO MR. NEBENDAHL AND THE IMPORTANCE OF ACCURATE INFORMATION FOR A QUICK DECISION WAS STRESSED. WHENEVER POSSIBLE, HIS STORY WAS COMPARED TO THE SKETCHY BDC SUMMARY, WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION BEING PAID TO THE LARGE GAPS IN THE AVAILABLE INFORMATION AND HIS SUSPECTED INVOLVEMENT AT THE NORDHAUSEN CONCENTRATION CAMP. APPLICANT PROVIDED CONOFF WITH NUMEROUS DOCUMENTS AND AFFIDAVITS FROM THE WAR YEARS AND APPEARED AT EASE AND COOPERATIVE DURING THE INTERVIEW. A SUMMARY OF HIS WARTIME ACTIVITIES APPEARS BELOW.

6. BACKGROUND AND PRE-WAR ACTIVITIES: APPLICANT STATED THAT HE JOINED THE HITLER JUGEND IN THE SUMMER OF 1933 BUT STATED THAT THERE WERE FEW FROM HIS TOWN AND HIS GENERATION WHO WEREN'T MEMBERS OF THE HITLER YOUTH AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER. HE CLAIMED, HOWEVER, THAT THE ATTRACTION WAS MORE ECONOMIC THAN POLITICAL. HIS FATHER WAS UNEMPLOYED FROM 1928 THROUGH 1932 AND HAD FIVE CHILDREN TO SUPPORT ON 12.75 DM A WEEK; AFTER HITLER CAME TO POWER, HE QUICKLY FOUND A JOB. APPLICANT CLAIMED THAT HIS FATHER WAS NEVER A NAZI, AND WHEN ASKED TO JOIN THE PARTY, DECLINED. IN EARLY 1940, APPLICANT WAS INFORMED, THROUGH THE HITLER YOUTH, TO REPORT FOR MILITARY DUTY. HE UNDERWENT A PHYSICAL EXAM AND BECAUSE OF HIS HEIGHT (183 CM, OR 6 FT. 1 IN.) WAS PRESSURED INTO JOINING THE WAFFEN SS. HE WAS ALLOWED TO COMPLETE HIS COMMERCIAL APPRENTICESHIP AND REPORTED TO THE WAFFEN SS ON MARCH 31, 1941. IN ORDER TO CLARIFY HIS INTEREST IN POLITICS AND HIS MOTIVATIONS FOR JOINING THE WAFFEN SS, APPLICANT WAS ASKED ABOUT HIS MEMBERSHIP IN THE NAZI PARTY. HE VEHEMENTLY DENIED EVER JOINING. HE KNEW HIS MEMBERSHIP NUMBER BUT CLAIMED HE FIRST HEARD ABOUT IT FROM HIS AMERICAN CAPTORS AFTER THE WAR; HE REMEMBERED THE NUMBER BECAUSE THE MIDDLE DIGITS, 623, RESEMBLE HIS BIRTH DATE, 06 02 23. APPLICANT CLAIMED THAT HE NEVER SIGNED ANYTHING TO JOIN, AND SUSPECTED THAT THE MEMBERSHIP ROLLS FROM THE HITLER YOUTH WERE INCORPORATED INTO THE NAZI PARTY.

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7. BASIC TRAINING AND THE EARLY WAR: UPON REPORTING FOR DUTY, APPLICANT WAS ASSIGNED TO A REPLACEMENT VISAS DONKEY

BATTALION OF THE FIRST WAFEN SS DIVISION, LEIBSTANDARTE ADOLF HITLER, AND SENT TO BERLIN FOR TWO MONTHS OF BASIC TRAINING. AT THE BEGINNING OF JUNE 1941 HE WAS POSTED TO AN ARTILLERY REGIMENT AND BY MID-JUNE WAS ENGAGED IN PREPARATIONS FOR OPERATION BARBAROSSA. HIS UNIT WAS ENGAGED IN THE MIDDLE THEATER OF OPERATIONS AND PUSHED TOWARD ZHITOMIR (NEAR KIEV), SOUTH TOWARD UMAN, AND THEN EAST TOWARD BOBRINETZ, TAGANROG ON THE SEA OF AZOV, AND FINALLY ROSTOV ON THE DON, WHERE THEY WERE STOPPED IN THE WINTER OF 1941. APPLICANT REMAINED IN THE AREA UNTIL THE SPRING OF 1942, WHEN HE WAS DETAILED TO AN UNTERFUEHRERLEHRGANG (JUNIOR OFFICER SCHOOL) IN RADOLFZELL ON LAKE CONSTANCE FOR TWO MONTHS. FROM JUNE 1-30, 1942, MR. NEBENDAHL WAS SENT TO THE SS ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT IN DACHAU FOR A ONE MONTH LONG PREPARATORY TRAINING COURSE. LATER IN THE SUMMER OF 1942 HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO A STURMGESCHUETZERSATZABTEILUNG (GUNNERY REPLACEMENT UNIT) IN DEBICA, POLAND AND ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR TRAINING RECRUITS. IN FEBRUARY 1943, HE WAS TRANSFERRED TO A STURMGESCHUETZABTEILUNG OF THE 9TH SS PANZER GRENADIER DIVISION HOHENSTAUFEN, WHICH WAS REGROUPED NEAR KEMMEL, BELGIUM. APPLICANT REMAINED THERE UNTIL OCTOBER 1943 AND REPORTED NO FIGHTING DURING THIS TIME.

8. OFFICER TRAINING: FROM OCTOBER 1943 UNTIL JANUARY 1944, MR. NEBENDAHL WAS ASSIGNED TO ANOTHER VORBEREITUNGSLEHRGANG (PREP COURSE) FOR THE JUNKERSCHULE (SS OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL) IN DEBICA, POLAND, WITH EIGHT DAYS LEAVE FOR CHRISTMAS 1943. THE BDC SUMMARY STATES THAT THIS TRAINING OCCURED IN BRAUNSCHWEIG, BUT APPLICANT INSISTED HE WAS IN POLAND. APPLICANT'S SCHOOLING CONTINUED AT THE JUNKERSCHULE IN BRAUNSCHWEIG FROM FEBRUARY 1944 UNTIL JULY 1944. THE SCHOOL WAS LOCATED IN A CASTLE WHICH WAS DESTROYED BY ALLIED AIR ATTACKS IN MARCH 1944 AND FORCED TO MOVE TO POSEN-TRESKAU, POLAND. APPLICANT DESCRIBED HIS STUDIES AS A GENERAL OFFICER TRAINING COURSE. HE REMAINED IN POLAND UNTIL JULY 1944, AND WAS THEN SENT TO THE PANZERJAEGER (ANTI-TANK) SCHOOL IN JANOWITZ, CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO CONTINUE HIS OFFICER TRAINING. THIS ENDED IN SEPTEMBER 1944, AND IN OCTOBER 1944 HE WAS PROMOTED TO UNTERSTURMFUEHRER (LIEUTENANT). FROM OCTOBER 1 THROUGH THE 31ST, 1944, APPLICANT RETURNED TO HIS UNIT, SS ANTI-TANK AND REPLACEMENT BATTALION 3 IN CHLUM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA. THE BEST STUDENTS FROM THE PREVIOUS COURSES WERE THEN CHOSEN FOR A COMPANY COMMANDER COURSE WHICH TOOK PLACE IN JANOWITZ, AND TRAINING OCCURED FROM NOVEMBER 1944

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UNTIL FEBRUARY 1945. FINALLY, HIS TRAINING OVER, HE WAS SENT BACK TO FIGHT. HE WAS APPOINTED A PLATOON COMMANDER IN THE ANTI-TANK UNIT OF A NEW SS DIVISION, CALLED THE 30TH OF JANUARY, WHICH WAS ORGANIZED NEAR BERLIN AND WAS TO BE SENT TO THE EASTERN FRONT. HE WAS WITH THIS UNIT ONLY TWO OR THREE WEEKS WHEN THEY WERE INSPECTED BY AN OFFICER NAMED MULLENKAMP FROM THE PANZERJAEGERSCHULE. HE HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY MR. NEBENDAHL DURING THE OFFICER SCHOOL AND RECOMMENDED HIM TO BE A COMPANY LEADER IN AN ANTI-TANK UNIT OF THE 17TH SS DIVISION, GOETZ VON BERLICHINGEN. THIS DIVISION WAS NEAR ZWEIBRUECKEN IN THE SAARLAND, AND SUBJECT WAS TRANSFERRED TO THE WESTERN FRONT.

9. THE END OF THE WAR: BY THE TIME APPLICANT REACHED THE WESTERN FRONT AT THE END OF FEBRUARY 1945, THE GERMANS WERE IN FULL RETREAT. THE UNIT PULLED BACK FROM ZWEIBRUECKEN THROUGH THE PFALZ (RHINELAND PALATINATE), CROSSED THE RHINE AT GERMERSHEIM, AND RETREATED VIA NUREMBERG, AND BAD TOLZ TO ACHENKIRCHEN, AUSTRIA. APPLICANT ATTEMPTED TO AVOID CAPTURE BY THE ALLIES BUT WAS CAPTURED BY THE AMERICANS ON MAY 6, 1945. MR. NEBENDAHL WAS INTERRED BY THE AMERICANS FIRST IN KORNWESTHEIM NEAR STUTTGART, THEN IN DARMSTADT. IN DARMSTADT HE UNDERWENT A DENAZIFICATION PROCESS WHICH FOUND NO EVIDENCE AGAINST HIM. MR. NEBENDAHL HAS PROVIDED CONOFF WITH AN ORIGINAL DOCUMENT ISSUED BY THE COMMUNITY DIRECTOR OF VISAS DONKEY

BANNESDORF ON JUNE 16, 1947 WHICH QUOTES THE DARMSTADT COURT VERDICT OF APRIL 2, 1947. IT STATES QUOTE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE PERSON CONCERNED WILL BE QUASHED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 1 SECTION 2 OF JUVENILE AMNESTY ORDINANCE IN CONNECTION WITH ARTICLE 11/III/1 OF THE LAW OF MARCH 5, 1946 UNQUOTE. MR. NEBENDAHL WAS RELEASED FROM THE POW CAMP ON APRIL 3, 1947.

10. WOUNDS AND COMMENDATIONS - BLOOD AND IRON: APPLICANT WAS QUESTIONED ABOUT WOUNDS HE RECEIVED DURING THE WAR AND POSSIBLE RECOVERY PERIODS, AND STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN WOUNDED FOUR TIMES. HE WAS WOUNDED ON THE RIGHT HAND DURING FIGHTING IN TAGANROG, RUSSIA IN 1941 AND SPENT ONE WEEK IN A MILITARY HOSPITAL. THE SECOND WOUND CAME DURING THE AIR ATTACKS ON THE SCHOOL IN BRAUNSCHWEIG DURING MARCH/APRIL 1944 BUT HE WAS TREATED IN AN AMBULANCE, AND REQUIRED NO FURTHER HOSPITALIZATION. IN LATE MAY OR EARLY JUNE 1944, WHILE IN POSEN-TRESKAU, POLAND, APPLICANT RECEIVED AN ARM WOUND WHICH BECAME INFECTED AND REQUIRED AN OPERATION. THIS WAS DURING SS OFFICER CANDIDATE SCHOOL AND RESULTED IN A LOCAL HOSPITAL STAY OF ONLY ABOUT A WEEK. FINALLY, IN FEBRUARY 1945, JUST AFTER HE REPORTED TO THE WESTERN FRONT, HE RECEIVED A HEAD WOUND DURING AN AMERICAN ARTILLERY ATTACK AND HE SPENT FOUR OR FIVE DAYS IN THE FIELD HOSPITAL BEFORE

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RETURNING TO DUTY. IN ADDITION, AS THE BDC SUMMARY REPORTS, APPLICANT RECEIVED COMMENDATIONS DURING THE WAR FOR HIS SERVICE. HE WAS AWARDED THE OSTMEDAILLE (EASTERN FRONT MEDAL 1941/42), BUT STATED THAT IT WAS GIVEN TO ALL SOLDIERS WHO HAD SURVIVED THE WINTER OF '41-'42 IN RUSSIA. HE RECEIVED THE MEDAL SOMETIME IN EARLY 1942, AND STATED THAT IT WAS NOT FOR ANY SPECIAL FEAT. APPLICANT ALSO STATED THAT HE RECEIVED THE IRON CROSS IN THE SPRING OF 1945 NEAR BAD TOLZ FOR EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE. ACCORDING TO APPLICANT, HIS THIRD COMPANY'S RETREAT WAS BLOCKED AND THE COMPANY WAS SURROUNDED BY AMERICAN FORCES. HE MANAGED TO SCOUT AN ESCAPE ROUTE THROUGH THE MOUNTAINS AND LEAD THE UNIT TO SAFETY. OTHER THAN THESE TWO MEDALS, APPLICANT HAD NO SPECIAL COMMENDATIONS TO REPORT.

11. GENERAL COMMENTS/NORDHAUSEN: IT WAS AT THIS TIME THAT APPLICANT'S SPECIAL ACTIVITIES WHICH MIGHT MAKE HIM INELIGIBLE FOR A VISA WERE DISCUSSED IN GREAT DETAIL. HE STATED EMPHATICALLY THAT HE WAS NEVER A MEMBER OF ANY POLICE UNIT. CONCERNING GUARD DUTY, HE SWORE THAT HE NEVER SERVED AS A BODYGUARD TO ANYONE AND HE NEVER SERVED AS A GUARD IN A CONCENTRATION CAMP. HE WAS NEVER INVOLVED IN THE MANAGEMENT OR ADMINISTRATION OF A CONCENTRATION CAMP OR ANY SUBSECTION. HE WAS NEVER INVOLVED WITH SECURITY AT ANY SUCH FACILITY, AND FINALLY, HE SWORE THAT HE NEVER SENT PEOPLE TO CONCENTRATION CAMPS. ALSO, MR. NEBENDAHL DENIED EVER GUARDING PRISONERS OF WAR. HE CATEGORICALLY DENIED EVER TAKING PART IN THE PERSECUTION OF PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THEIR RACE, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, OR POLITICAL OPINION. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE LEARNED OF THE CONCENTRATION CAMPS ONLY AFTER THE WAR WHEN HE WAS SHOWN PICTURES OF THE VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS. AS IN MANY OTHER SAO INTERVIEWS, MR. NEBENDAHL CLAIMED THAT HE KNEW OF CAMPS FOR POLITICAL DISSIDENTS AND SOCIAL MIS-FITS, BUT STATED INMATES OFTEN RETURNED FROM THESE CAMPS AFTER SEVERAL MONTHS. HE HAD NO IDEA THAT THE NAZI DEATH CAMPS EXISTED. FINALLY, THE DAMNING INFORMATION CONTAINED IN REFTEL (B) WAS DISCUSSED. APPLICANT WAS ASKED DIRECTLY WHETHER HE HAD EVER BEEN IN NORDHAUSEN AND HE VEHEMENTLY DENIED SO; HE ALSO DENIED EVER BEING IN OR NEAR AUSCHWITZ. APPLICANT COULD NOT EXPLAIN HOW HIS NAME COULD APPEAR ON THE PERSONNEL RECORDS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE AT THE NORDHAUSEN ROCKET FACTORY. HE STATED THAT IF HE HAD MORE SPECIFIC DATA ON THE TIMES IN QUESTION HE COULD PROVIDE THE NAMES OF LIVING PERSONS WHO COULD ATTEST TO HIS WHEREABOUTS AND ACTIVITIES DURING THE NECESSARY TIMES.

12. TESTIMONY OF FRIENDS: MR. NEBENDAHL PROVIDED CONOFF WITH AFFIDAVITS TAKEN IN DARMSTADT BETWEEN VISAS DONKEY

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AUGUST 13, 1946 AND MARCH 6, 1947 FROM NINE FELLOW PRISONERS OF WAR, STATING WHEN AND WHERE THEY WERE STATIONED WITH HIM. HE STATED THAT AN OFFICER WITH LEGAL EXPERIENCE RECOMMENDED THAT THEY ALL PREPARE SUCH STATEMENTS FOR EACH OTHER. THE DOCUMENTS BEAR SEALS WHICH READ QUOTE CIVILIAN INTERNMENT ENCLOSURE 91, DEUTSCHE HAUPTLAGERFUEHRUNG, DARMSTADT UNQUOTE, OR QUOTE DEUTSCHES INTERNIERUNGSLAGER, DARMSTADT, LAGERSELBSTVERWALTUNG, HAUPLAGERGERICHT, UNQUOTE. THE SEALS APPEAR GENUINE. ALL OF THE STATEMENTS MENTION WHEN THE PERSON IN QUESTION WAS STATIONED TOGETHER WITH MR. NEBENDAHL, AND ADD THAT DURING THAT TIME, THEY KNEW OF NO ACTION WHICH VIOLATED THE GENEVA CONVENTION. IN ADDITION, THEY OFTEN STATE THAT MR. NEBENDAHL WAS NEVER COMMANDEERED TO ANY SPECIAL COMMAND. A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE AFFIDAVITS IS PROVIDED AS A POSSIBLE CROSS REFERENCE TO MR. NEBENDAHL'S STORY.

(A) GERHARD MAY, DPOB: OCTOBER 21, 1921, BERLIN. WITH APPLICANT IN THE REPLACEMENT BATTALION SS DIVISION LEIBSTANDARTE **ADOLF HITLER** FROM MARCH 3, 1941 THROUGH JUNE 11, 1941. SIGNED DARMSTADT, SEPTEMBER 12, 1946.

(B) HUGO DENKHAUS, DOB: OCTOBER 12, 1919. WITH APPLICANT AT THE UNTERFUEHRERLEHRGANG (JUNIOR OFFICER SCHOOL) IN RADOLFFZELL FROM APRIL 1, 1942 UNTIL MAY 20, 1942. ALSO, TOGETHER FROM JUNE 1-30, 1942 AT THE SS VERWALTUNGSDIENSTEN (ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT) IN DACHAU WHERE THEY DID A VORBEREITUNGSLEHRGANG (PREP COURSE). MR. DENKHAUS STATED QUOTE THIS COURSE OF INSTRUCTION TOOK PLACE IN THE EXERCISE CAMP AT DACHAU, AND HAD NO CONNECTION WITH THE CONCENTRATION CAMP. ALSO, AT NO TIME WERE WE COMMANDEERED FOR GUARD DUTY AND AT NO TIME DID WE ENTER THE CONCENTRATION CAMP UNQUOTE. SIGNED DARMSTADT, MARCH 7, 1947.

(C) GUENTER HENNEMEYER, DOB: OCTOBER 19, 1921. WITH APPLICANT AT THE JUNIOR OFFICER SCHOOL FROM APRIL 1, 1942 UNTIL MAY 20, 1942. ALSO WITH APPLICANT AT DACHAU, BUT HE GIVES NO DATES. HOWEVER, HE ALSO STATES THAT THEY HAD NO CONNECTION WITH THE CONCENTRATION CAMP, AND NEVER ENTERED IT. SIGNED DARMSTADT, MARCH 6, 1947.

(D) JOSEF HAMPERL, NO DPOB. WITH APPLICANT FROM FEBRUARY 1943 UNTIL MID-AUGUST 1943 IN THE SAME UNIT, THE STURMGESCHUETZABTEILUNG (GUNNERY REPLACEMENT UNIT) OF THE 9TH SS PANZER GRENADIER DIVISION HOHENSTAUFEN. SIGNED DARMSTADT, AUGUST 13, 1946.

(E) HEINZ GOLDMANN, DPOB; NOVEMBER 19, 1924, GIELDE.

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WITH APPLICANT IN THE STURMGESCHUETZABTEILUNG OF THE HOHENSTAUFEN DIVISION FROM MAY 17, 1943 UNTIL OCTOBER 18, 1943. SIGNED DARMSTADT, SEPTEMBER 16, 1946.

(F) KARL SUCHIER, DOB: AUGUST 30, 1921.  
WITH APPLICANT FROM OCTOBER 20, 1943 UNTIL JANUARY 20, 1944 AT THE VORBEREITUNGSLEHRGANG (PREP COURSE) OF THE JUNKERSCHULE. JANUARY 21, 1944 TO JULY 17, 1944, JUNKERSCHULE BRAUNSCHWEIG IN BRAUNSCHWEIG AND POSEN-TRESKAU. JULY 18, 1944 TO SEPTEMBER 30, 1944, PANZER-JAEGER SCHULE IN JANOWITZ. OCTOBER 1, 1944 TO OCTOBER 31, 1944, PANZER JAEGER ERSATZABTEILUNG 3, IN CHLUM. NOVEMBER 1, 1944 TO FEBRUARY 5, 1945, PANZER JAEGER SCHULE, JANOWITZ. SIGNED DARMSTADT, SEPTEMBER 12, 1946.

(G) WALTER WANITSCHKE, DOB: MAY 23, 1922.  
TOGETHER WITH APPLICANT FROM MARCH 1945 UNTIL THE END OF THE WAR IN AN ANTI-TANK UNIT OF THE 17TH SS DIVISION, GOETZ VON BERLICHINGEN. SIGNED DARMSTADT, SEPTEMBER 25, 1946.

(H) HELMUT RATZEL, NO DPOB:  
TOGETHER WITH APPLICANT FROM THE BEGINNING OF MARCH 1945 UNTIL MAY 1945 IN THE 17TH SS DIVISION, GOETZ VON VISAS DONKEY

BERLICHINGEN. HE STATES THAT MR. NEBENDAHL WAS COMPANY LEADER UNTIL MID-APRIL, AND AFTER THAT WAS ASSIGNED AS AN ORDERLY. SIGNED DARMSTADT, SEPTEMBER 2, 1946.

(I) HEINZ SCHITTHELM, DOB: OCTOBER 16, 1923.  
TOGETHER WITH APPLICANT FROM MID-MARCH 1945 UNTIL THE END OF THE WAR IN THE SS DIVISION GOETZ VON BERLICHINGEN. SIGNED DARMSTADT, SEPTEMBER 13, 1946.

13. OFFICER'S CONCLUSION: AFTER NUMEROUS PHONE CONVERSATIONS AND A LENGTHY INTERVIEW IN WHICH APPLICANT REPEATEDLY STRESSED HIS INNOCENCE AND THE ANGER HE FEELS AT NOT BEING ABLE TO DEFEND HIMSELF AGAINST THE VAGUE CHARGES THAT HE WAS A GUARD AT THE NORDHAUSEN ROCKET FACTORIES, CONOFF IS UNABLE TO MAKE A RECOMMENDATION AS TO HIS GUILT OR INNOCENCE. CONOFF HAS SPOKEN WITH THIS APPLICANT MORE THAN WITH ANY OTHER SAO SUBJECT, WANTS TO BELIEVE HIM, BUT IS BOTHERED BY CERTAIN POINTS IN THE STORY. MR. NEBENDAHL WAS FORTHRIGHT AND ASSURED IN HIS INTERVIEW, AND NEVER APPEARED TO HEDGE OR AVOID A QUESTION. HIS INDIGNATION AT THE TREATMENT HE RECEIVED IN ATLANTA AND HIS EAGERNESS TO CLEAR HIS NAME ARE CONSISTENT WITH WHAT CONOFF WOULD EXPECT FROM AN INNOCENT MAN. HOWEVER, THE BDC SUMMARY WITH CRUCIAL TIME PERIODS LEFT BLANK AND THE GAPS IN MR. NEBENDAHL'S STORY CAUSE CONOFF TO HAVE SOME DOUBTS. ESPECIALLY TROUBLING IS

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HOW APPLICANT'S COMPLETE NAME COULD APPEAR ON THE PERSONNEL RECORDS FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE AT THE NORDHAUSEN ROCKET FACTORIES. THE EXPLANATIONS CONCERNING NAZI PARTY MEMBERSHIP OR APPLICANT'S KNOWLEDGE OF NAZI ATROCITIES, WHILE FAR-FETCHED, COULD BE TRUE. NO EXPLANATION COULD BE GIVEN TO REFUTE APPLICANT'S TIES TO NORDHAUSEN, AND THE AFFIDAVITS SUBMITTED FAIL TO DISPEL THESE DOUBTS. ON THE CONTRARY, THEY GIVE CONOFF THE IMPRESSION OF A CONSPIRACY TO HIDE THE TRUTH. EVEN THOUGH CONOFF CANNOT MAKE A RECOMMENDATION, POST EAGERLY AWAITS THE DEPARTMENT'S EXPERT OPINION AS TO WHETHER MR. NEBENDAHL HAS OVERCOME THE PRESUMPTION OF INELIGIBILITY UNDER 212(A)(3)(E). POST WILL GLADLY FORWARD ANY DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED IN THIS CASE TO THE DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR INSPECTION.  
MOUNT

ADMIN  
END OF MESSAGE

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