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DFB 55460



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No.

105-39365

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Date: August 4, 1955

BY COURIER SERVICE

To: Mr. Dennis A. Flinn  
Director  
Office of Security  
Department of State  
515 22nd Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: (FNU) ZENZ  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2E  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2008

The information set forth below was received  
from G-2, United States Forces in Austria:

A former German prisoner of war, Alfred  
Klausnitzer, presently residing in Walzenkirchen, Upper  
Austria, was contacted on June 30, 1955. He had  
returned from a 10-year internment in the USSR on  
June 25, 1955, and volunteered the following information:

In the Winter of 1946, source was interned in  
Pechora, Komi, USSR, where he was employed in a forest  
camp. Here he met an alleged United States national,  
Zenz (fnu), Captain of the Merchant Marine; estimated  
year of birth, 1892; height approximately 5'8"; weight  
approximately 120 pounds; goatee; balding; blue eyes;  
wore glasses. Allegedly he was a captain of a  
freighter of the United States Merchant Marine. He  
told source that he was married and had two children.  
Zenz was born in Austria and had become a naturalized  
American citizen at an unknown date. He had sailed  
many times from San Francisco to Vladivostok. In the  
Fall, 1946, he had taken a number of Yugoslav  
repatriates from the United States to Trieste. One  
night, while he was visiting the city, date unknown,  
he was picked up by Russian agents and taken to

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*Letter to Mr. Dennis A. Flinn  
Director  
Office of Security  
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*Sevastopol via Belgrade. From here he was sent to the Ljubljanka Prison in Moskva where he was sentenced to 15 years for espionage, according to Para 58/6 (Russian Criminal Code). When source met him in the Winter of 1946 he was in poor physical condition. He had contracted tuberculosis and suffered from neuralgic pains. In April, 1948, Zenz sent source a postcard from Pechora for the last time in which he wrote that he had obtained some medicine for his tuberculosis and that his physical condition had slightly improved. Source stated that Zenz never complained to him about any physical mistreatment by the Russian authorities.*

*The files of this Bureau reflect no additional information identifiable with the captioned subject.*

*The recipients of this letter are requested to furnish us with any additional identifying data which may be available concerning the subject.*

*cc - 1 - Director BY COURIER SERVICE  
Central Intelligence Agency  
2430 E Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.*

*Attention: Deputy Director, Plans*