

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2002 2008

Courier

EGSA-4990

**SECRET**

Chief of Base, Pullach

8 April 1955

Chief, GLS

INFO: CCH  
EB ✓

Operational

KNOP, Fritz

MICROFILMED

JUL 16 1963

DOC. MICRO. SER.

Ref: (A) PULL-9621, 2 March 1955  
(B) PULL-9944, 2 March 1955 (not to DIR)  
(C) BERN-7541, 2 March 1955 (not to DIR)

1. In accordance with Refs, COGAL has provided the following information on Subject.

2. "Subject was formerly employed by a US intelligence organization from April 1952 until February 1954. Subject was dismissed without prejudice on 24 February 1954. Subject ceased his work for the US intelligence agency of his own volition."

3. "Information dated 24 April 1952 pertaining to the description and background of Subject is as follows:

- a. Name: KNOP, Fritz aka KNIEF, Fritz aka BLANK, Fritz
- b. DOB & POB: 18 February 1897 in Neuklens
- c. Last known address: Berlin-Friedenau, Sponhalzstr 38.
- d. Occupation: Policeman
- e. Marital Status: Married
- f. Nationality: German
- g. Identity Documents: Personal Ausweis #171/461/50
- h. Personal Description: Height: 5'10 1/2" Weight: 176 lbs  
Sex: Male Hair: white Eyes: Brown Scars: Scar on back of neck
- i. Political Affiliations: Before 1933 None  
1933-1945 NSDAP  
After 1945 None
- j. Background Information:

(1) Subject was born on 18 February 1897 in Neuklens, Pomerania, the son of Erich KNOP, a farmer, and was baptised in the evangelical church. From 1903 until 1911 he attended public school in Neuklens and then worked on his father's farm. (P-3)

(2) On 3 March 1916, during the First World War, Subject was drafted into the Wehrmacht and served as an enlisted soldier, with various Wehrmacht units until 10 August 1918 when he became a British POW. on 10 October 1919

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he was released from POW status and he returned to his parent's farm in Neuklans. (F-3)

(3) In October 1921, Subject joined the Stettin police force where he remained until 1928. During this period he was promoted from Polizei Wachtmeister to Polizeihauptwachtmeister. He also attended various professional police training schools. On 1 June 1928, Subject was transferred from the Stettin police to the Potsdam police force. (F-3)

(4) On 22 October 1928, Subject married (Fr) Elfrieda KLUETZ, and on 1 August 1929 he resigned from the police force to accept a job in Priorau as supervisor of the horse stables of (Dr) GUTENACHT where he remained until August 1930. On 1 October 1931, Subject joined the Berlin Police Force, eventually achieving the rank of Kriminal Oberssekretar. In October 1938, in connection with a general assignment of police officials to the SS reserve, Subject was put on police duty with SS police school in Berlin where he received three (3) months training and was given the SS reserve rank of Hauptscharfuhrer (M/Sgt), eventually gaining the rank of Untersturmbahnfuhrer (Captain) because of his police qualifications. In April 1940 Subject joined the NSDAP. (F-3)

(5) In May 1942, Subject was transferred from the Berlin police to the Kriminalpolizei staff of the SSD in Shitomir, Russia. While with the SSD, Subject dealt only with criminal matters involving German nationals serving with or accompanying the German armed forces. Because of illness, Subject was returned to the Berlin police force in August 1944 and he was serving in the Kriminalinspektion Fahndung (Search and Wanted Persons) at the time of the German collapse in 1945. (F-3)

(6) On 30 April 1945, Subject was arrested by Russian soldiers in Berlin. While enroute to a POW camp, Subject was able to escape and he made his way toward the East where he was again arrested at Teppen a/Oder and sent to a POW camp at Frankfurt a/Oder. At this time, fearing that he would be dealt with by the Russians because of his service with the police, with the SSD at the front in Russia, and his NSDAP membership, Subject assumed the name of Fritz BLANK.

(7) Subject was released from the POW camp in July 1945 and issued a release certificate under the name of Fritz BLANK. He then returned to Berlin where he remained for a short time and then travelled to Fuersternberg where he intended to stay with his brother-in-law Willi KLUETZ. Because of an epidemic in Fuersternberg Subject travelled to Neustrelitz where he found temporary employment as a wood cutter. Subject registered with the police in Neustrelitz in September 1945 under the alias Fritz BLANK. (F-3)

(8) Subject subsequently secured further employment in Neustrelitz with the construction firm W. NMF as a construction laborer. Subject continued to live in Neustrelitz because he and his wife were separated and he was at least employed in Neustrelitz. In August 1949, Subject's wife journeyed from Berlin to visit her brother in Fuersternberg and warned him that it would no longer be possible for him and for KNOP to remain in the Soviet Zone because of the fact that Subject was living under an assumed name. This had become known to too many people in Berlin. It came about when Subject's wife, accused an ODF member,

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Frau Elisabeth [redacted] of Berlin-Schoenberg, Wisenacherstrasse 99, of securing ID membership under false pretense and in the resulting investigation by GDR officials the circumstances surrounding Subject's residence under an assumed name in Neustrelitz were made known. Realizing that his true identity might be made known in Neustrelitz at any time with the resulting complications with the police and Soviets, Subject left Neustrelitz and returned to Berlin in August 1949. IIII ALBERTA also fled to Berlin and took up residence with his sister. (P-3)

(9) After arrival in Berlin, Subject learned from acquaintances that they had read in the newspapers that he was wanted by Allied authorities as a result of his conviction in absentia by the Allied courts in Nurnberg on charges of war crimes. Subject voluntarily reported to the British Military Police in Berlin on 8 August 1949 to ask for a clarification of the matter. He was taken into custody by the British MPs pending examination of the case. On 13 August 1949, Subject's release was ordered by British authorities who had determined that no charges were pending against Subject, that he had not been involved in any of the Nurnberg trials, and that he was not wanted by any of the Allied powers. (P-14)

(10) Subject subsequently registered with the West Berlin Magistrat's Refugee Center and was granted recognition in West Berlin as a political refugee. Subject was jobless from the time of his arrival in Berlin until 15 February 1954 when he was employed as an emergency laborer by the West Berlin Magistrat working on various construction projects in West Berlin. "

4. Official states that no derogatory information is available regarding subject.

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2-PCB(DIRECT)  
3-CC  
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