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15 FEB 1963

TO: Director
National Security Agency

FROM: Deputy Director, Plans

SUBJECT: KOVALEVSKIS, Pauls

1. Reference is made to your name check request, dated 13 November 1962, subject as above, whose name you desired checked against the files of this office. The files contain the following information concerning Subject and an individual or individuals who may be identifiable with Subject.

2. In an OSR report dated 27 March 1945, a source whose reliability cannot be judged indicated that one Pauls KOVALEVSKIS was an agent of the Sicherheitsdienst (SD) in Latvia as of the summer of 1944. The SD was a department within the Reich Security Headquarters (RSHA) and had offices in many areas occupied by the German forces during World War II. Members of these offices were often responsible for atrocities committed against Jews and other persons. The SD had an office in Riga, Latvia, and according to the above mentioned source one Pauls KOVALEVSKIS was probably of the Riga office of the SD. KOVALEVSKIS was described as the editor of the Latvian newspaper Tavis in Riga. KOVALEVSKIS was chief agent and allegedly reported to the SD about Latvian press affairs during the German occupation, 1941 - 1945.

3. Information dated 12 March 1948 from a source whose reliability cannot be judged (reliability of information evaluated as doubtful) indicated that one Pauls KOVALEVSKIS was a member of the Nazi party. According to Source, the British authorities detained KOVALEVSKIS in a jail in Heidelberg, Germany, in March 1948 because it had been alleged that during the war he was a concentration camp leader who was responsible for the extermination of 2000 or 3000 Jews.

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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4. In 1955, a very reliable source provided the following background information about Subject: KOVALSKIS' father was a refugee during World War I and had traveled to the Ukraine prior to the cessation of hostilities. Being in Kiev, USSR, where there were many Latvian refugees, the Latvian Government requested him (the father) to assume the post of Latvian Consul in Kiev. By 1938, KOVALSKIS' father had managed to be accredited to Moscow, USSR. He (KOVALSKIS' father) was subsequently killed by the Communists for having hidden a White Guardist. Paula KOVALSKIS was born in 1918 in Liepaja, Latvia, and studied jurisprudence at the University of Riga. Before completing his studies at the University, he attended the Latvian Military Academy of Riga and received the rank of Lieutenant just prior to the outbreak of hostilities in 1939. KOVALSKIS was able to claim to be of German ethnic origin and to "repatriate" to Germany. He was able to prove his German ethnic origin with the help of his former music teacher who was a Baltic German and also by getting a birth certificate or a similar document from a German pastor in Riga. The above certificate indicated that KOVALSKIS belonged to a German congregation and was accepted by both the German and Latvian authorities. In the spring of 1940, KOVALSKIS proceeded to Germany. Source learned that Subject had joined German intelligence, and that he had been dispatched overland to Latvia. In his attempt to cross the front line (at the beginning of the German advance through the Baltic states), he was apprehended by German soldiers and sent to Pilsit, USSR, where his status was clarified, and he was given another opportunity to cross the front lines. He was successful in the second attempt but arrived in Riga, Latvia, only five days prior to the entrance of the German forces. In his border crossing attempt, KOVALSKIS was accompanied by one (Ann) VOLKMAN, a pastor now living in Australia, and one Juris SPAHS. According to the above very reliable source, KOVALSKIS was a correspondent as of 1955 and wrote under the pseudonym, PAULIS BLAIS.

5. This office has reliable information that SPAHS was an agent of the French intelligence service before he immigrated to the United States in 1954.

6. In a report dated 12 June 1952 from an official American source, KOVALSKIS was said to have been working with one Waldemar ALPS and one Sergei PASKERIN in planning the clandestine dispatch to Latvia of two persons of ethnic German origin. According to Source, both ALPS and KOVALSKIS claimed to know of a feasible land route across Poland to Latvia.

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7. According to a West European intelligence service, ALPS was employed by the British intelligence service in Germany after World War II. The West European service described ALPS as "a very unscrupulous character who has offered his services to other intelligence agencies in Germany."

8. According to information dated 23 October 1961 received informally from a member of a West German service, whose reliability cannot be judged (reliability of information is probably true), HOWALDWEIN was of operational interest to the West German Intelligence Service (BND). Subsequent reports of varying reliability indicated that Subject was actively engaged by the BND; however, no further details were given regarding this association. According to an official American source, Subject's brother-in-law, Karlis VIERWIEKES, was unaware of HOWALDWEIN's association with the BND.

9. In 1961, a check with the BND, the LfV, (West German State office for the protection of the Constitution), and the Berlin Document Center revealed no derogatory information concerning HOWALDWEIN.

CSGII-3/774, 815

Encl: 1 name check NSA PSB

RID/CE: JMA/WH/rz

Based on: TX 369
CFOGV-2446
OFFA-9449
MEMA-1000
EGOV-74
EGMA-56512
REBA-70230

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Note - Information concerning Karlis VIERWIEKES from OSMA-13,204 was transmitted orally to NSA by [] (Office of Security).

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