

ALFONSE M. D'AMATO
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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

January 24, 1985

The Honorable William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2000 2008

Dear Bill:

I write today to request your assistance on a matter of deep concern to me, to the American people, and to the international community. I ask that you direct the formation of a special team to conduct an intensive search of intelligence records for any and all information directly or indirectly concerning Dr. Josef Mengele, the chief physician at the Nazi extermination camp at Auschwitz. I further ask that you personally review any information located by this search and that you exercise your authority to declassify and release it to the public, so that the "Angel of Death" of Auschwitz may be apprehended and brought to justice for his monstrous crimes.

An article published in the New York Times on January 23, 1985, entitled "Papers Indicate Mengele May Have Been Held and Freed After War," is based upon declassified intelligence records obtained by the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles. The story states that "the declassified documents include a letter dated April 26, 1947, from Ben J. M. Gorby, a special agent of the United States Counter-Intelligence Corps in Germany, to the commanding officer of the 430th C.I.C. detachment in Vienna. Mr. Gorby wrote that his office had received information that Dr. Mengele 'has been arrested in Vienna.' An informant, he went on, 'stated that to the best of his knowledge Dr. Mengele was arrested in the U.S. Zone of Germany' - an apparently erroneous reference to Vienna, where the 430th unit was stationed."

I understand that records from the post-war period are voluminous, poorly catalogued, and badly indexed. I further understand that these indices are either not cross referred or are poorly cross referred. Thus, a conventional search in response to a Freedom of Information Act request is unlikely to locate information which in fact could exist in these records.

The United States must not allow one of the worst Nazi war criminals to escape justice because of the quirks of our intelligence records filing system. Accordingly, I ask that you contact retired Army C.I.C. personnel and retired C.I.A. personnel who

worked with these records during the time periods specified in the Wiesenthal Center's documents, and recruit a team to search for Mengele information in these stored records. I further ask that you assign a member of your staff to head this team to expedite its effort and to quickly return any information it may locate to you for your prompt review.

Recall of these personnel to active duty on a voluntary and temporary basis will require funds. I am prepared to offer an amendment to the earliest available legislative vehicle to provide additional funds for salaries and overhead for this effort. I urge you to initiate this effort now, however, with confidence that I will be able secure agreement to provide any additional funds needed for its support.

I also would like to meet with you at your office at your earliest convenience to discuss this important effort. My staff will contact you shortly to arrange this meeting.

Best regards.

Sincerely,



Alfonse D'Amato
United States Senator

AD:mhr