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15 FEB 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Ambassador Herman J. Cohen  
 Deputy Assistant Secretary for  
 Intelligence and Research  
 Department of State

FROM: Deputy Director for Operations

SUBJECT: Walter RAUFF (S)

1. Reference is made to your telephonic request dated 13 February 1984. The following is in addition to that information already provided telephonically to your office. (S)

2. Rauff migrated to Chile on 24 October 1958 from an unspecified Latin American country. He was granted permanent resident status on 26 November 1959. Through the years, he has been associated with several business concerns in Chile, particularly in the livestock/fishing trades. In 1974, Rauff was described as a serious, responsible citizen and a highly respected member of the community who was living out his old age quietly while concentrating on business concerns. It has been reported that Rauff has made several trips to the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) during his residence in Chile. (S)

3. Activities:

a. Acting on an extradition request from the Federal Republic of Germany in 1962, Rauff was arrested by Chilean authorities in Punta Arenas, Chile. This extradition request was denied by the Chilean Supreme in 1963.

b. Rauff was accused in the early days of his Chilean exile of organizing vague international operations against Jews. Our files contain no further information concerning this allegation.

c. Rauff emerged on the international scene in 1974 when he was described in a "Le Monde" article as being appointed head of Chilean security (DINA). He was also identified in April 1976 by a Chilean resistance movement as working with the Chilean Ministry of Interior. Both of these allegations appear to be speculation, and one reliable source labeled the 1974 accusation as untrue. (S)

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4. Our files contain no information to substantiate that Rauff has had any connection with the Chilean Government. However, Rauff's son was sponsored for citizenship and entrance in the Chilean Naval Academy by a former Chilean Army Commander-in-Chief. Therefore, it is possible that Rauff may have served in some unspecified, unofficial capacity to the Chilean Government, though we have no information to confirm this. (S)

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