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DOCUMENT_ID: 136406701
INQNO: DOC4D 00403420
DOCNO: TEL 016971 86
PRODUCER: TEL AVIV
SOURCE: STATE
DOCTYPE: IN
DOR: 19861201
TOR: 121712
DOCPREC: O
ORIGDATE: 198612011710
MHFNO: 86 3015971
DOCCLASS: C
CAVEATS: LIMDIS

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
2000

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STU6011
OO RUEHC
DE RUFHTV #6971 3351710
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 011710Z DEC 86
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3881
BT

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EO 12958, 25X
IPS/CR/IR by DA Date: 8/30/01

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E.O. 12356: DECL:OADR

TEXT
TAGS: PHUM, PREL, IS, US, UR, SW
SUBJ: REPORT THAT WALLEMBERG IS STILL ALIVE

1. C - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. JERUSALEM TEXT BOOK PUBLISHER DAVID HERMAN ASKED TO SEE ME ALONE URGENTLY ON THE WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 30. I MET HIM BRIEFLY IN JERUSALEM AFTER HE EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO CONVEY WHICH HE THOUGHT WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT.
3. HE INDICATED THAT HE WILL BE ANNOUNCING LATER THIS WEEK AND ASKED US TO MAINTAIN CONFIDENTIALITY THAT HE HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM SOURCES IN THE SOVIET UNION THAT RAOUL WALLEMBERG IS STILL ALIVE. HE WAS SEEING ME, HE SAID, ON THE ADVICE OF GIDEON HAUSNER, THE PROSECUTOR OF **ADOLF EICHMANN**, WHO IS A PERSONAL FRIEND AND WHO THOUGHT THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT WOULD BE INTERESTED IN THIS INFORMATION.
4. I ASKED HIM IF HE COULD DESCRIBE WHAT INFORMATION HE HAD THAT LED HIM TO THIS CONCLUSION. HE SAID THAT

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HE HAS RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM THE SOVIET UNION FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE IN CONTACT WITH A "SOURCE" IN THE SOVIET INTELLIGENCE ARENA -- HE SAID THE KGB. THE INDIVIDUALS IN THE SOVIET UNION HAVE PASSED EVIDENCE VIA DOCUMENTS TO ISRAEL AND THIS INFORMATION HAS COME INTO HIS HANDS. HE EXPECTS SHORTLY TO PUBLISH A BOOK ABOUT THE SUBJECT AND THE ANNOUNCEMENT THIS WEEK IS OBVIOUSLY GEARED TO SPARK INTEREST IN HIS BOOK.

5. I ASKED IF HE HAD ANY WAY OF DEMONSTRATING TO ME THE AUTHENTICITY OF WHAT HE HAD TO SAY. HE SAID HE WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE ALL OF HIS INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO AMERICAN OFFICIALS IF THEY WOULD LIKE TO REVIEW IT. THEY WOULD BE THE FIRST TO SEE THE INFORMATION. HE SHOWED ME A LETTER IN ARABIC WRITTEN FROM BEIRUT. HE SAID THE LETTER ALSO REFERRED TO WALLEBERG. THE INDIVIDUAL WHO HAD WRITTEN IT IN BEIRUT, ACCORDING TO HIS CLAIM, WAS AN EXPERT IN AFFAIRS OF THIS KIND AND THEREFORE A RELIABLE WITNESS.

6. HE EMPHASIZED SEVERAL TIMES IN OUR CONVERSATION HE WISHES TO "HELP" PRESIDENT REAGAN. HE ASKED WHETHER PRESIDENT REAGAN WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE A SIMULTANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENT TO HIS OWN. I SAID THAT I COULDN'T SPEAK FOR THE PRESIDENT IN THIS MATTER, BUT VERY MUCH DOUBTED, GIVEN THE KIND OF INFORMATION HE WAS ABLE TO PROVIDE ME, THAT THAT WOULD BE OF INTEREST TO THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. I COULD NOT SAY THAT THE US WOULD NOT BE INTERESTED IN FOLLOWING UP ON THE INFORMATION HE HAD SINCE WALLEBERG WAS A PERSON OF SOME EMINENCE IN MY OWN COUNTRY AND VERY WELL THOUGHT OF. HE SAID HE WOULD BE INFORMING THE FAMILY IN ADVANCE OF HIS ANNOUNCEMENT AND SAID HE BELIEVED THE FAMILY WOULD STRONGLY SUPPORT THE PUBLICATION OF ANY INFORMATION ON WALLEBERG.

7. I LEFT WITH MY INFORMANT THE THOUGHT THAT IF WE HAD ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS FOR HIM OR WISHED TO FOLLOW UP ON HIS OFFER OF MAKING INFORMATION AVAILABLE, WE WOULD DO SO. I TOLD HIM I WOULD ENDEAVOR TO TRY TO GET SOME INDICATION FROM THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT OF INTEREST IN FOLLOWING UP OR OTHERWISE BEFORE HIS ANNOUNCEMENT TAKES PLACE ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: I WOULD BE GRATEFUL FOR SOME EARLY REACTION AS TO WHETHER THERE IS INTEREST IN SEEING THE INFORMATION OR DATA THAT MAY HAVE BEEN COLLECTED OR WHETHER THERE ARE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS YOU WOULD LIKE US TO POSE TO OUR SOURCE ON BEHALF OF THE US GOVERNMENT. ANY OTHER ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS WHICH ARE POSED IN THE ABOVE CABLE WOULD ALSO BE VERY WELCOME.

PICKERING

ADMIN
END OF MESSAGE

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