

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CGEN CFED PFOR PL UR US

SUBJECT: REQUESTS FOR SOVIET EVIDENCE OF WAR CRIMES

REF: (A) MOSCOW 16002; (B) STATE 206431

1. FYI, INS ANNOUNCED OCTOBER 13 THAT IT HAS OPENED DEPORTATION PROCEEDINGS AGAINST BOLES LAVS MAIKOVSKIS, BRONIUS KAMINSKAS AND KARLIS DETLAVS. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE WE HAVE ASKED SOVIETS FOR EVIDENCE IN MAIKOVSKIS AND KAMINSKAS CASES, AND RECEIVED SOVIET EVIDENCE AGAINST KAMINSKAS. REQUEST FOR SOVIET EVIDENCE AGAINST DETLAVS FOLLOWS.INS OCT 13 ACTION WAS BASED ENTIRELY ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EVIDENCE FROM WESTERN SOURCES, BUT SOVIET EVIDENCE IS

BEING FURNISHED TO PROSECUTION AS IT IS TRANSLATED. WE EXPECT IN NEAR FUTURE TO SEND YOU INSTRUCTIONS FOR FURTHER REQUESTS FOR SOVIET COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE IN EITHER PERMITTING WITNESSES TO COME TO US OR PERMITTING TAKING OF TESTIMONY IN USSR WITH DEFENSE CROSS-EXAMINATION IN SOME OF THE CASES IN WHICH MFA HAS ALREADY FURNISHED EVIDENCE, SPECIFICALLY KAMINSKAS AND SERGEY KOVALCHUK. END FYI.

2. INS ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT OPENING OF PROCEEDINGS AGAINST MAIKOVSKIS, KAMINSKAS AND DETLAVS WAS REPORTED IN

AMERICAN PRESS OCTOBER 14, BUT WITH NO MENTION OF DEPT REQUESTS FOR SOVIET EVIDENCE. IN ANSWERING ANY PRESS INQUIRIES YOU MAY DRAW ON REF (B) AND PREVIOUS, AND ACKNOWLEDGE THAT EMBASSY HAS NOW RECEIVED EVIDENCE IN FOUR CASES IN RESPONSE TO 17 REQUESTS(20 AFTER FOLLOWING X ARE SUBMITTED), BUT FOR PRIVACY AND DUE PROCESS CONSIDERATIONS YOU SHOULD CONTINUE NOT RPT NOT TO DIVULGE ANY NAMES.

3. EMBASSY IS NOW REQUESTED TO ASK MFA BY NOTE, AS IN PREVIOUS CASES, FOR EVIDENCE AGAINST THE FOLLOWING:

A) KARLIS DETLAVS BORN JUNE 27, 1911 AT STAMERIENE, LATVIA, ALLEGEDLY TOOK PART IN EXECUTIONS IN BIKERNIEKI FOREST AND SERVED AS GUARD AT SALASPILS DEATH CAMP.

B) VILLIS ARVEDS HAZNERS BORN JULY 23, 1905 IN VIRGACA, LATVIA, ALLEGEDLY RESPONSIBLE FOR EXECUTION OF 300 CIVILIANS WHILE POLICE CHIEF IN ABRENE DISTRICT.

C) SERGIS HUTYRCZYK AKA SERGEI GUTIRCHIK, BORN MARCH 3, 1922 AT NEVA MYS, BARANAVICY, BYELORUSSIA, USSR, ALLEGEDLY A GUARD AT KOLDICHEV CONCENTRATION CAMP AND A MEMBER OF A SPECIAL EXECUTION UNIT.

4. PLEASE ADVISE WHEN NOTE DELIVERED AND TRANSMIT TEXT OF SAME.
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5. IF YOU WISH YOU MAY INFORM MFA ORALLY THAT INS HAS ANNOUNCED OPENING OF PROCEEDINGS AGAINST MAIKOVSKIS, KAMINSKAS AND DETLAVS. FYI, HAZNERS AND HUTYRCZYK ARE NATURALIZED US CITIZENS, AND DENATURALIZATION PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THEM MUST BE CONDUCTED BY US ATTORNEY FOR DISTRICT WHEREIN THEY RESIDE. EMBASSY SHOULD OF COURSE CONTINUE TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO GIVE MFA IMPRESSION

THAT EMBASSY IS LEADING THEM TO BELIEVE THAT ANY OF
THESE INDIVIDUALS WOULD BE PHYSICALLY REMOVED TO THE
USSR IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. HABIB

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