

#### United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

Case No. F-2019-08724 FBI Case No: 1421743-000

John Greenewald 27305 W. Live Oak Rd. Castaic, CA 91384

Dear Mr. Greenewald:

I refer to your November 8, 2018 request to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the release of certain material under the Freedom of Information Act (Title 5 USC Section 552). Of the relevant documents retrieved in response to your request, seven were considered to be of primary interest to the Department of State and were referred to us for appropriate action.

After careful review, we have determined that they may be released in part, with excisions requested by the FBI. Information was exempt from release pursuant to the following exemptions:

- 5 U.S.C. Section 552(b)(6), which concerns material, if released, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of an individual's personal privacy.
- 5 U.S.C. Section 552(b)(7)(c), which concerns records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes, which if released, could reasonably be expected to constitute an unwarranted invasion of an individual's personal privacy.

For further assistance or to discuss any aspect of your request, you may contact our FOIA Requester Service Center or our FOIA Public Liaison via email to <u>FOIAstatus@state.gov</u> or telephone at (202) 261-8484.

If you are not satisfied with DOS's determination in response to your FOIA request, you may appeal by writing to: Appeals Officer, Appeals Review Panel, Office of Information Programs and Services, U.S. Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/PP/LA, Room 5420, 2201 C Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20520, or by faxing to (202) 485-1718. Appeals must be postmarked within 90 calendar days and include a copy of this letter, clearly stating why you disagree with the determination set forth in this response.

Additionally, if you are not satisfied with DOS's determination in response to your request, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA Mediation Services they offer.

The contact information is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National
Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland
20740-6001, email address: ogis@nara.gov; telephone: (202) 741-5770; toll free number: 1-877-
684-6448; fax: (202) 741-5769.

Sincerely,

Keri Lewis, Branch Chief Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

This document is made available through the declassification efforts and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

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TELEGRAM

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R 2215402 OCT 70 FM USMISSION BERLIN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6462 AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 1576

SUBJECT: PRISONERS: IN EAST GERMANY

BERLIN 1542, 1556, 1550 1572 REFI

AKA I 116 TELEPHONED FROM LONDON TOBAY TO SAY I . MAXWELLT RABB THAT HE HAD NOT REPEAT NOT YET HEARD FROM EAST GERMANS ABOUT THE PRISONER CASES. HE THEREFORE PLANNED TO SEND THEM FOLLOWING MESSAGE "I AM STILL IN LONDON FOR SOLE PURPOSE OF AWAITING WORD WHEN I CAN HAVE DEFINITIVE MEETING WITH YOU. I AM PREPARED TO FLY TO VISIT WITH YOU TODAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY OR EVEN MONDAY IF NECESSARY. I REALIZE IT IS NOT EASY FOR YOU TO ARRANGE MATTERS OF SUCH IMPORTANCE QUICK Y. BUT I HOPE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT I AM MARKING TIME DOING NOTHING WHILE WORK IS PILING UP FOR ME IN NEW YORK AND AN ELECTION IS COMING UP SOON IN WHICH I SHOULD BE PARTICIPATING. NEWS: OF FOURTH TRIAL SET FOR END OF MONTH I RECOGNIZE AS ENCOURAGING. I WOULD BE GLAD TO STAY FEW BAYS LONGER OR RETURN IN WEEK IF MATTERS WE DISCUSSED CAN SHORTLY REACH HAPPY CONCLUSION. IF I DO NOT HEAR FROM YOU I WILL RELUCTANTLY WITHDRAW FROM ANYTHING FURTHER TO DO WITH GDR. I WOULD REGRET THIS BECAUSE I WOULD LIKE TO GET VISA RESTRICTIONS REMOVED AND GET MATTERS AFFECTING OUR COUNTRIES BACK TO WHERE THEY WERE . " 110742

2. RABB PROMISED TO LET US KNOW AS SOON AS HE RECEIVES OF 22 1070 REPLY . EXEM

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DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY FROM:
FBI AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION GUIDE
DATE 07-08-2019 BY:
FBI INFORMATION ONLY

Department of State

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 110

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 SCS-04 SCA-01 L-04 SY-03: CIAE-00 INR-08

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R 231057Z OCT 70 FM USMISSION BERLIN TO SECSTATE WA\$HDC 6469 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 1584

SUBJECT: US PRISONERS IN EAST GERMANY

REF BERLIN 1576

RABB TELEPHONED FROM LONDON LATE OCTOBER 22 TO SAY HE HAD RECEIVED REPLY FROM EAST GERMAN CONTACTS "IMPLORING" HIM TO "HAVE UNDERSTANDING" FOR FACT THEY COULD NOT TAKE DECISION BY THEMSELVES BUT ONLY WITH "THEIR PARTNERS" WHO PRESENTLY IN CSSR.

2. RABB SAID ME AGREED NOT TO DO ANYTHING PRECIPITATE AND TO-WAIT ONE MORE DAY IN LONDON THEN RETURN NEW YORK WITH IDEA OF RETURNING TO BERLIN ON SHORT NOTICE WHEN CONTACTED. HE HOPED THAT WOULD BE IN ONE OR TWO WEEKS. EXEMPT.

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INFO OCT-01 SS-20 NSC-10 LH04 HH02 SCA-01 SCSHOA CCAE-00

INR-08 NSAE+00 RSC-01 /076 R

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DRAFTED BY: EUR/GER: KNSKOUG
APPROVED BY: EUR/GER: MR. SUTTERLINE

R 101418Z OCT 70 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO USMISSION BERLIN

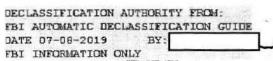
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SUBJ. AMERICANS DETAINED IN EAST GERMANY

MAXHELL RABB WILL ARRIVE IN BERLIN OCTOBER 11 TO ATTEMPT TO SECURE RELEASE OF FOUR DETAINED AMERICANS. RABB HAS:
APPOINTMENT WITH EAST GERMAN OFFICIALS SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 13 AND IS TO BE AT CHECKPOINT CHARLIE AT 11.00 A.M. WE HAVE SUGGESTED THAT HE CALL KLEIN ON OCTOBER 12: IN ORDER TO OBTAIN ANY GUIDANCE MISSION MAY BE ABLE TO PROVIDE. RABE WILL BE STAYING AT HOTEL KEMPINSKI.

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SCS-04 SCA-01 /110 R

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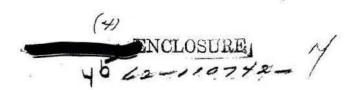
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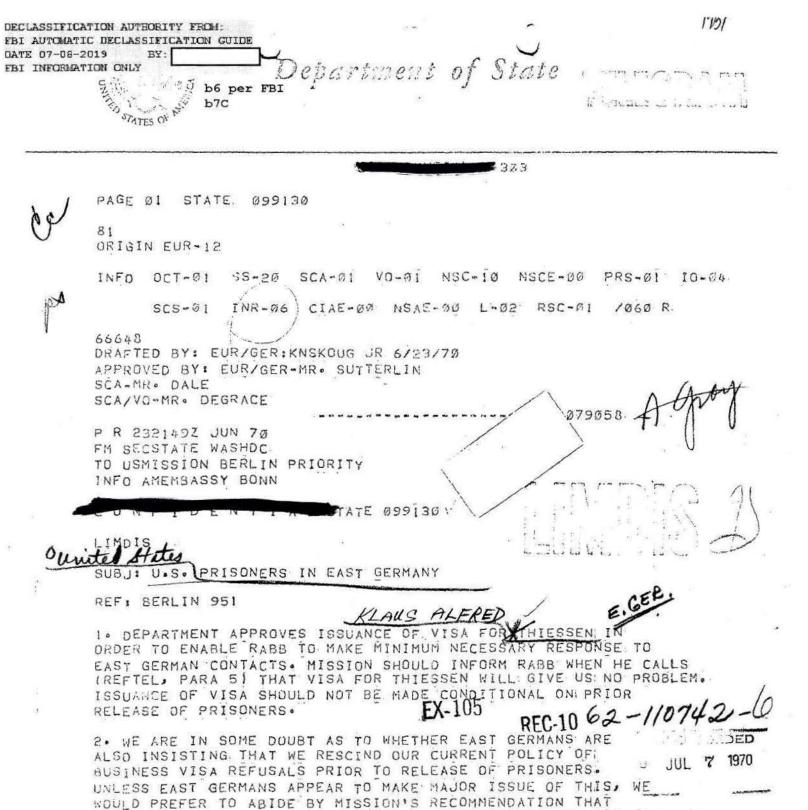
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SUBU! US PRISONERS IN EAST GERMANY

MAX. RABB, HAS JUST INFORMED DEPARTMENT OFFICER THAT HE
RECEIVED TODAY FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM HIS CONTACT IN EAST
GERMAN MINISTRY OF SECURITY: QTE THE RIGHT MAN SAYS
THEY WILL STICK BY THE DEAL MADE WITH YOU. UNGTE. RABB
INSISTED THAT THIS MESSAGE IS WRITTEN CONFIRMATION THAT
EAST GERMANS WILL CARRY OUT UNDERTAKING TO RELEASE FIRST
THREE U.S. PRISONERS. DEPARTMENT OFFICER URGED RABB TO
TRY TO SEEK SPECIFIC SCENARIO SOONEST. IN REPLY. RABB
SAID HE WOULD INFORM EAST GERMANS AT ONCE THAT HE PLANS TO COME TO
BERLIN WITHIN NEXT TWO WEEKS. RABB REMAINS CONFIDENT
THAT HE IS AT POINT OF ACHIEVING RELEASE OF PRISONERS.

5- That is





WE INFORM EAST GERMANS THROUGH RABB THAT CURRENT POLICY WILL BE'
RESCINDED AS SOON AS PRISONERS ARE RELEASED. MISSION SHOULD ASK
RABB TO REMIND HIS CONTACTS THAT WE EARLIER AGREED TO RESCIND,

THIS POLICY IN EXPECTATION OF RELEASE OF PRISONERS, BUT

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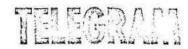
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PAGE 02 STATE 099130

PROMISED RESULTS DID NOT OCCUR. WE NOW BELIEVE IT IS UP: TO THEN TO SHOW GOOD FAITH.

3. DEPARTMENT AGREES MISSION SHOULD IGNORE EAST GERMAN REQUEST FOR GUARANTEE THAT WE WILL NOT IMPOSE VISA RESTRICTIONS IN ANY FUTURE DETENTION OF AMERICANS IN EAST GERMANY.

ROGERS





FBI INFORMATION ONLY

BERLIN: 00972 2514242

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ACTION EUR-12

STATES OF BTC

SS-20 NSC-10 NSCE-00 INR-06 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 INFO OCT-Ø1

PRS-01 L-02: VO-01 RSR-01 RSC-01 /057 W SCA-01 SCS-01 091966

R 251350Z JUN 70 FM USMISSION BERLIN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5955 AMEMBASSY BONN

NELL DE FINITAL BERLIN 0972:

Quited States

SUBJECT: US PRISONERS IN EAST GERMANY

REFS: A. STATE 099130 B. BERLIN 0951

1. RABB PHONED JUNE 24 EVENING. WAS: INFORMED OF REF. A. HE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AND SAID WOULD ADVISE CONTACTS IMMEDIATELY.

2. ALTHOUGH RABB REAFFIRMED HIS BELIEF IN RELEASE OF ALL THREE "END THIS MONTH OR IN JULY," HE SUGGESTED RELEASES MIGHT BE "SOMEWHAT STAGGERED" NOT ALL THREE AT ONE TIME." IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS, RABB SAID HE HAD NOT BEEN TOLD THIS BUT MERELY BELIEVED POSSIBLE ON GROUNDS RECOLLECTIONS OF TECHNIQUES IN PAST CASES AS WELLI AS HIS AWARENESS OF "BUREAUCRATIC DIFFICULTIES" HE DEFINED LATTER AS "JUSTICE MINISTRY PEOPLE PUSHING HARD! AGAINST RABB CONTACTS: RABBI STRESSED BELIEF THAT "EVEN IF CASES STAGGERED, NOT MORE

THAN A WEEKI OR SO" HOULD ELAPSE BETWEEN RELEASES.

E. GER. EX-105 GERHARD REC-10 6 REC-10 3. RABB REITERATED POINT MADE IN PARA B ALTHOUGH EMPHASIZED "NO RUSH . " STRESSING THAT BEILI CASE WAS: Commercial CD "MORE IMPORTANT" OF THE TWO, HE NOTED ALSO THAT COAL PURCHASE ALONE "MIGHT INVOLVE SOMETHING LIKE FIVE MILLION UL 7 1970 DOLLARS . HE SAID THAT ACCORDING TO HIS "OWN READING" OF CURRENT POLICY, "THESE TWO PERSONS WILL BE ADMITTED" PROVIDED THEY "DO SOMETHING OF SUBSTANTIAL BENEFIT TO

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PAGE: 02 BERLIN: 00972 2514242

US." MISSION OFFICER DID NOT REPEAT NOT COMMENT.

4. RABB SAID HE WOULD PHONE AGAIN IF THERE WERE FURTHER! EAST GERMAN REACTION WHILE HE STILL IN EUROPE (ANOTHER) WEEK OR SO). IF LATER, HE WOULD CONTACT DEPT. GP 3: KLEIN

ON TOPS

## OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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ACTION: USBER BERLIN

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INFO: Amembassy BONN

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States reisoners in the

Maxwell Read advised Dept Merch 7 he has been asked by

CDR authorities to go to Leipzig. Read received cryptic GDR

message which he interprets to mean GDR still interested in

exchange of US prisoners for visas for GDR commercial mag entrance

Read proposes advise GDR, if above turns out to be GDR position,

that no commitments can be made but that if GDR will release at

(he will again suggest van Altena)

that no commitments can be made but that if GDR will release at
) (he will again suggest van Altena)
lesst one American prisoner as evidence of good faith, he hopeful
US will issue three visas.

Dept officer indicated we adhere to our earlier position

(Deptel 340 sent Bonn 1570) but that we not confident GDR

seriously interested. We also pointed out that GDR effort to get
into UN could be complicating factor in any US consideration of

visas for East Germans at this time. Raab said he would get in

touch with Calhoun on his arrival in Berlin probably March 9

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classification approved by:

EUR - Walter J. Stoessel

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