



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 FOIAstatus@state.gov 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:

The Black Vault

The image shows a close-up of a heavy, metallic vault door. The door is partially open, revealing a complex internal mechanism with multiple locking bolts and a central handle. A bright blue light emanates from the gap between the door and the frame, creating a strong glow and casting shadows on the surrounding metal. The overall aesthetic is industrial and mysterious.

The Black Vault is the largest online Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)
document clearinghouse in the world. The research efforts here are
responsible for the declassification of hundreds of thousands of pages
released by the U.S. Government & Military.

Discover the Truth at: **<http://www.theblackvault.com>**



Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: 638

PAGE 01 BERLIN 01576 221612Z

43.

ACTION: EUR-25

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

NSAE-00 RSC-01 FBI-01 H-02 RSR-01 /051 W
126597

R 221540Z OCT 70
FM USMISSION BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6462
AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 1576

SUBJECT: U.S. PRISONERS IN EAST GERMANY

REF: BERLIN 1542, 1556, 1550 1572

1. MAXWELL RABB AKA MAX TELEPHONED FROM LONDON TODAY TO SAY 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 QUICKLY. 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 DAYS 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."

2. RABB PROMISED TO LET US KNOW AS SOON AS HE RECEIVES REPLY. EXEMPT

MORRIS

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EX-103

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b6 per FBI
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Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 110

PAGE 01 BERLIN 01584 231251Z

58
ACTION EUR-25

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

NSAE-00 RSC-01 FBI-01 RSR-01 /049 W

002360

R 231057Z OCT 70
FM USMISSION BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6469
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERLIN 1584

SUBJECT: US PRISONERS IN EAST GERMANY

REF: BERLIN 1576

MAXWELL

1. 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 HE 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.
MORRIS

162-110742-11

ENCLOSURE

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NOT RECORDED
9 OCT 23 1970

SINO-SATELLITE
Thomas



b6 per FBI
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Department of State

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TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE: 446

PAGE 01 STATE 167535

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ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 SS-20 NSC-10 L-04 H-02 SCA-01 SCB-04 CIAE-00

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

66605

DRAFTED BY: EUR/GER: KNSKUG

APPROVED BY: EUR/GER: MR. SUTTERLIN

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R 101418Z OCT 70
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION BERLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 167535

SUBJ: AMERICANS DETAINED IN EAST GERMANY

MAXWELL 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.
RABB WILL BE STAYING AT HOTEL KEMPINSKI.
ROGERS

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 STATE 132918

85

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00

NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 USIA-12 IO-13 NIC-01

SCS-04 SCA-01 /110 R

66603

DRAFTED BY: EUR/GER:KNSKOUG JR.

APPROVED BY: EUR/GER-MR. SKOUG

031599

R 142344Z AUG 70
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION BERLIN

[REDACTED] STATE 132918 ✓

SUBJ: 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.
ROGERS

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[REDACTED] ENCLOSURE
46 62-110742-7



b6 per FBI
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Department of State

[REDACTED] 323

PAGE 01 STATE 099130

81
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 SS-20 SCA-01 VO-01 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PRS-01 IO-04
SCS-01 INR-06 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 L-02 RSC-01 /060 R.

66648
DRAFTED BY: EUR/GER:KNSKOUJ JR 6/23/70
APPROVED BY: EUR/GER-MR. SUTTERLIN
SCA-MR. DALE
SCA/VO-MR. DEGRACE

P R 232140Z JUN 70
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION BERLIN PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

079058

A. Gray

[REDACTED] STATE 099130

LIMDIS

United States

SUBJ: U.S. PRISONERS IN EAST GERMANY

REF: BERLIN 951

KLAUS ALFRED

E.GER.

1. DEPARTMENT APPROVES ISSUANCE OF VISA FOR THIESSEN IN ORDER TO ENABLE RABB TO MAKE MINIMUM NECESSARY RESPONSE TO EAST GERMAN CONTACTS. MISSION SHOULD INFORM RABB WHEN HE CALLS (REFTEL, PARA 5) THAT VISA FOR THIESSEN WILL GIVE US NO PROBLEM. ISSUANCE OF VISA SHOULD NOT BE MADE CONDITIONAL ON PRIOR RELEASE OF PRISONERS.

EX-105

REC-10 62-110742-6

2. WE ARE IN SOME DOUBT AS TO WHETHER EAST GERMANS ARE ALSO INSISTING THAT WE RESCIND OUR CURRENT POLICY OF BUSINESS VISA REFUSALS PRIOR TO RELEASE OF PRISONERS. UNLESS EAST GERMANS APPEAR TO MAKE MAJOR ISSUE OF THIS, WE WOULD PREFER TO ABIDE BY MISSION'S RECOMMENDATION THAT 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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JUN 22 1970

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Department of State

PAGE 02 STATE 099130

PROMISED RESULTS DID NOT OCCUR. WE NOW BELIEVE IT IS UP
TO THEM 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



b6 per FBI
b7C

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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CONFIDENTIAL #41

PAGE: 01 BERLIN 00972 251424Z

53-42
ACTION EUR-12

LIMDIS

INFO OCT-01 SS-20 NSC-10 NSCE-00 INR-06 CIAE-00 NSAE-00
SCA-01 SCS-01 PRS-01 L-02 VO-01 RSR-01 RSC-01 /057 W
091966

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

CONFIDENTIAL BERLIN 0972

LIMDIS

United 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 WELL AS HIS AWARENESS OF
"BUREAUCRATIC DIFFICULTIES." HE DEFINED LATTER AS "JUSTICE
MINISTRY PEOPLE PUSHING HARD" AGAINST RABB CONTACTS. RABB
STRESSED BELIEF THAT "EVEN IF CASES STAGGERED, NOT MORE
THAN A WEEK OR SO" WOULD ELAPSE BETWEEN RELEASES.

E. GER. EX-105 GERHARD

REC-10

62-110742-5

3. RABB REITERATED POINT MADE IN PARA 3, REF B, ALTHOUGH
EMPHASIZED "NO RUSH," STRESSING THAT BEIL CASE WAS
"MORE IMPORTANT" OF THE TWO, HE NOTED ALSO THAT COAL
PURCHASE ALONE "MIGHT INVOLVE SOMETHING LIKE FIVE MILLION
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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US." MISSION OFFICER DID NOT REPEAT NOT COMMENT.

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

CONFIDENTIAL

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

FBI

b3 per FBI
b7E

84
Origin
SS
Info

ACTION: **USBER BERLIN** 461

Mar 7 8 24 PM '66

INFO: **Amembassy BONN** 2226

LINDIS

*United States Prisoners in the
German Democratic Republic*
Maxwell Raab advised Dept March 7 he has been asked by

GDR authorities to go to Leipzig. Raab received cryptic GDR message which he interprets to mean GDR still interested in exchange of US prisoners for visas for GDR commercial and entrance. Raab proposes advise GDR, if above turns out to be GDR position, that no commitments can be made but that if GDR will release at least 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.

MAR 9 1966

*File copies in files 62-110742-
77-55251 (Maxwell Raab)*

RUSK

b3 per FBI
b6
b7C
b7E

Drafted by: **EUR/GER:REPin:df** 3/7/66 5738

classification approved by: **EUR - Walter J. Stoessel**

8 1966

RESEARCH SATELLITE

57 MAR 11 1966

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