

CIA SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
RELEASE AS SANITIZED

2000

EICHMANN, A.

AIR POUCH
478

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6 June 1960

TO: []

FROM: []

SUBJECT: Capture of Adolf EICHMANN, []

REF: []

DECLASSIFIED

NSA DOC 10-17

EXEMPTIONS Section 3(b)
 (2)(A) Privacy
 (2)(B) Methods/Sources
 (2)(G) Foreign Relations

1. On 31 May 1960 [] gave [] a few more bits of information on the case. He obviously was much relieved to be rid of the prisoner whom he had finally turned over to the police. [] mentioned that, when EICHMANN was taken out of his prison to be given to the police, he thought he was enroute to his execution. He was obviously much reassured by the sight of the vehicles and the uniformed police. EICHMANN did tell [] (as reported in the press) that he was being much better treated than he deserved. [] believes that he will plead that he had no personal guilt, since he only did what he was told, and under the circumstances he was without choice. (See Jerusalem Post, 27 May 1960.)

2. [] mentioned that he had a bet with [] who felt there might be some truth in a story Vladimir I. BELTCHENKO was telling to the effect that there had been a deal between the Government of Israel and EICHMANN - EICHMANN was tired of running, and the GOI needed something to off-set the serious blow to its pretige at home and abroad occasioned by the sale of arms to Germany. Moreover, the "capture" would allow an increased budget for the security services. [] had pointed out to [] that it would do the Government irreparable harm if EICHMANN were tried, and not executed. [] noted that BELTCHENKO, like others from totalitarian countries, never would understand that democracies couldn't work that way - that there couldn't be any conspiracy involving the courts. [] added that he would bet IL 100 to IL 20 that EICHMANN would be executed, but he felt that the trial, and particularly the various written court decisions, would be viewed as of such historical importance that the trial would be conducted with extreme care and restraint. He doubted that the execution would occur before a year.

3. [] stated that there had been all sorts of checks made to insure that the prisoner was EICHMANN. He was known to have certain identifying marks on his body, and these were present. His SS tatoo was there. His handwriting was compared

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and found identical. Even so [] wanted to be certain himself, so a man was brought in from a kibbutz who had worked with EICHMANN before World War II. He then discussed their past meetings with EICHMANN, making - at [] suggestion - a number of minor mistakes. EICHMANN corrected every mistake.

4. On 29 May [] mentioned, on the drive to Haifa, that there might be no effort by EICHMANN to contest the legality of his abduction, if, by remaining silent on that point, he could protect his family, and allow it to continue its life under its assumed name.

5. The Jerusalem Post of 30 May 1960 contained the following item:

...the country in question has taken no official cognisance to his disappearance, since all these years Eichmann lived there under an assumed name.

Unless members of his family, or his friends, officially complain of his disappearance - thus identifying Eichmann with a person known by another name who may have been reported missing - the government of that country is not expected to take any action over the arrest.

Such a move is unlikely, however, because it is believed that Eichmann's immediate family, living under another name, would not wish their real identity revealed, particularly as this could not help him in any way.

In this connection it is learned that the Argentine Ministry of Interior has officially denied press reports to the effect that a man by the name of Eichmann had resided in Argentina and had recently disappeared from Argentine territory.

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