

EICHMANN

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26 January 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, WE []

SUBJECT: Simon WIESENTHAL

REFERENCE: [] 1 December 1961

The following article, which appeared in the Jerusalem Post on 23 October 1960, may be of interest to you:

"Man Said to be 'Key Figure' In EICHMANN Search Here for Talks

"A man who devoted 15 years of careful detective work and furnished clues which eventually put EICHMANN's captors on his trail, Mr. Simon WIESENTHAL of Linz, Austria, is now in Israel for consultations with Yad Vashem in connection with the forthcoming trial.

"In the opinion of Dr. Arye KUBOVY, Director of Yad Vashem, Mr. WIESENTHAL was 'a key figure in the search for the former S. S. Colonel. He is a most reliable, sincere, self-effacing person', Dr. KUBOVY added.

"(Mr. WIESENTHAL is giving a press conference this morning at Yad Vashem on evidence of resurgent Nazism in Germany and Austria, as well as on his part in the search for EICHMANN.)

"In an exclusive interview on Friday with United Press-International, the 52-year old architect-turned-journalist and sleuth emphasized that

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the EICHMANN operation was the result of 'just good teamwork'."

"After his liberation from a Nazi concentration camp -- the 13th in which he spent the War years -- WIESENTHAL said he was asked by the Jewish Agency to undertake the search for EICHMANN. Working in cooperation with the OSS and the Austrian Secret Service, WIESENTHAL found evidence that EICHMANN was alive, that he had hidden 22 kgs. of gold in the Austrian Alps and that in 1945 he masqueraded as a Luftwaffe officer in an American POW camp.

"Discredited Death Story

"It was Mr. WIESENTHAL who in 1947 scuttled the attempt of Mrs. Vera EICHMANN to have her husband declared dead on the basis of a German soldier's affidavit. Mr. WIESENTHAL contested the statement and proved that it had been sworn by a member of Mrs. EICHMANN's family.

"Her application was dismissed.

"Mr. WIESENTHAL ultimately learned the details of EICHMANN's escape from Europe through various post-war clandestine Nazi organizations.

"On the exact nature of the evidence which Mr. WIESENTHAL uncovered, he stubbornly refuses to talk."

SP

Source: JP Article dtd 23 Oct 60

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