

United States of America
Department of Justice
Criminal Division
Office of Special Investigations

Subpoena

TO: Konrads Kalejs

Date: February 23, 1984

You are hereby commanded to appear before Jeffrey N. Mausner, Trial Attorney, Office of Special Investigations at the offices of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Robert Timberlake Bldg., Rm. 539, 500 Zack Street, Tampa, Florida, 33602 on the 1st day of March 19 84, at 10 o'clock A.M. to give testimony in connection with an investigation being conducted under authority of the Immigration and Nationality Act, relating to your activities during the period 1940 to 1945.

You are further commanded to bring with you the following documents: Any documents you have relating to your activities during the period 1940 to 1945, and any documents relating to your application for immigration to the United States or any other country.

Neal M. Sher

Neal M. Sher
Director, Office of Special Investigations

RETURN

I hereby certify that on the 23rd day of February, 19 84,

I served the above subpoena on the witness named above by express mail, return receipt requested, addressed to Mr. Konrads Kalejs, c/o Kalnins, 5821 41st St., North, St. Petersburg, Florida, 35709.

Jeffrey N. Mausner
(Name)

Trial Attorney
(Title)





U.S. Department of Justice

JNMAusner:sda
146-2-47-554

EXPRESS MAIL -- RETURN
RECEIPT REQUESTED

February 23, 1984

Mr. Konrads Kalejs
c/o Kalnins
5821 41st St., North
St. Petersburg, FL 35709

Dear Mr. Kalejs:

I called your residence in Winnetka, Illinois and was informed that you are temporarily staying in St. Petersburg, Florida. I have therefore scheduled your interview to take place at the Immigration and Naturalization Service office in Tampa. If you would prefer that the interview take place in Chicago, or cannot make the interview scheduled for March 1st in Tampa, please call me by February 27 at (202) 633-2240.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey N. Mausner

Jeffrey N. Mausner
Trial Attorney
Office of Special Investigations
Criminal Division
1377 K St., N.W., Suite 195
Washington, D.C. 20005



ORIGINAL

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
CRIMINAL DIVISION

In the matter of:)
) CASE NO.: All 655 361
)
Konrads Kalejs.)
)
_____)

DEPOSITION OF KONRADS KALEJS

Counsel for Government:

MR. JEFFREY N. MAUSNER
Trial Attorney
Department of Justice
Office of Special Investigations
Criminal Division
1377 K St. N.W.
Washington, D.C., 20005

Also Present:

HERMAN S. REDINS, Translator

Reported by:

Lori M. Judd
March 1, 1984



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Lakeland Phone: (813) 688-5000 Tampa Phone: (813) 223-7321

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
OFFICE OF SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS
CRIMINAL DIVISION

In the matter of:)
) CASE NO.: All 655 361
)
Konrads Kalejs,)
)

DEPOSITION OF KONRADS KALEJS

PURSUANT TO NOTICE for the taking of the
deposition of Konrads Kalejs, upon oral examination
in the above-styled cause, at the instance of the
Government, proceedings therefor were held before
Lori M. Judd, Notary Public in and for the State of
Florida at large, at 500 Zack Street, Tampa,
Florida, on March 1, 1984, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

The Government was represented by Mr.
Jeffrey N. Mausner, Trial Attorney, Department of
Justice, Office of Special Investigations, Criminal
Division, 1377 K. St. N.W., Washinton, D.C. 20005.

Thereupon, the following proceedings were had
and taken.

MR. MAUSNER: We're on the record.

Mr. Kalejs, my name is Jeffrey Mausner.
I'm a trial attorney for the Department of Justice.

You've already been introduced to Mr. Herman



1 Redins, who is a translator. He's fluent in
2 Latvian and English languages.

3 If you don't understand anything, or if
4 you would just like to hear it in Latvian, or if
5 you'd like to give your answer in Latvian, he's
6 here to assist you with translation.

7 Have you understood everything I've said
8 so far?

9 THE WITNESS: Yeah. Understanding, I don't
10 have much trouble just speaking.

11 MR. MAUSNER: Okay, if there's anything you
12 don't understand, or if you want to give your
13 answer in Latvian, please feel free to do so, okay?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes.

15 MR. MAUSNER: Could the court reporter
16 please swear in Mr. Redins as an interpreter?

17
18 HERMAN S. REDINS, called as an interpreter
19 by the Government was first duly sworn
20 to translate from English to Latvian and
21 from Latvian to English.

22
23 MR. MAUSNER: And just since this is an
24 immigration proceeding, let me swear you, also,
25 since I'm an immigration officer.

1
2 (The interpreter was sworn by the Immigration
3 Officer.)

4
5 MR. MAUSNER: Mr. Kalejs, the court
6 reporter today is Lori Judd. She will be writing
7 down what you say and she will also be tape
8 recording it on an audio tape.

9 I am here to ask you questions concerning
10 your activities during World War II. Okay, do you
11 understand that?

12 You'll have to answer yes or no, because
13 she's writing down your answers and she can't write
14 down if you nod.

15 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

16 MR. MAUSNER: Okay. Do you understand the
17 interview concerns your activities during World War
18 II?

19 THE WITNESS: I do.

20 MR. MAUSNER: You understand that?

21 THE WITNESS: Yes.

22 MR. MAUSNER: Okay, you understand that?
23 And have you understood everything so far? Do you
24 need anything translated?

25 THE WITNESS: I understand.

1 MR. MAUSNER: Could the court reporter
2 please swear in Mr. Kalejs?

3
4 KONRADS KALEJS called as a witness
5 by the Government having been first
6 duly sworn, testified as follows:

7
8 MR. MAUSNER: Mr. Kalejs, let me swear you
9 in also, since this is an immigration proceeding,
10 and could you translate this for me?

11
12 (The witness was sworn by the Immigration
13 Official)

14
15 MR. MAUSNER: Now, once again, I just want
16 to say if you don't understand anything, just ask
17 Mr. Redin, okay?

18
19 DIRECT EXAMINATION
20 By Jeffrey N. Mausner, Esq.

21 Q. Could you please state your name.

22 A. Konrads Kalejs.

23 Q. And when were you born?

24 A. 6-26, 1913.

25 Q. That's June 26, 1913?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. Where were you born?

3 A. In Riga. The place, you mean, place?

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. Riga.

6 Q. That's in Latvia?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. I sent you a letter and a subpoena. Do
9 you have that with you?

10 A. Yes.

11 MR. MAUSNER: Could I have the court
12 reporter please mark these as Exhibits 1 and 2?

13
14 (Government's Exhibits Number 1 and 2 were
15 marked for Identification.)

16
17 A. (through the interpreter) What is this
18 commission? What is the purpose of this? What is
19 the purpose of the commission?

20 Q. Okay, as I said, I'm a lawyer from the
21 Justice Department.

22 The questions I would like to ask you
23 concern your activities during World War II and how
24 those relate to your immigration status in the
25 United States, okay?

1 A. Uh-huh.

2 Q. In other words, whether you're entitled to
3 remain in the United States.

4 A. (through the interpreter) Does that mean
5 that there might be some questions about status?

6 Q. About your immigration status?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Yes.

9 A. (through the interpreter) From whom?
10 From where, and what is the basis for this?

11 Q. The basis is the immigration laws of the
12 United States. The Immigration and Nationality Act
13 of 1952 provides for the questioning of aliens who
14 are in the United States concerning their
15 immigration status.

16 A. (through the interpreter) The question is:
17 Why me?

18 Q. Well, as we go through the questions,
19 you'll realize what it is that we're concerning
20 with. There has been some things that have been
21 brought to our attention concerning your activities
22 during the war which we would like to clarify.

23 A. I understand.

24 Q. You understand?

25 A. Yes, now. Yes sir.

1 (through the interpreter) So, somebody
2 complained?

3 Q. Well, as we go through, I'll show some of
4 the things that we would like to ask you to clarify.

5 MR. MAUSNER: Have those documents been
6 marked?

7 Q. A letter dated February 23rd, 1984,
8 addressed to Mr. Konrads Kalejs from Jeffrey N.
9 Mausner has been marked as Government's Exhibit 1.

10 Mr. Kalejs, is this the letter that I sent
11 to you concerning this interview?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And marked as Governments Exhibit 2 is a
14 subpoena signed by Neal M. Sher, director of the
15 Office of Special Investigations. That's S-h-e-r.

16 Is Government's Exhibit 2 the subpoena
17 which was sent to you?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you brought those with you to the
20 interview today?

21 A. Yes.

22 (through the interpreter) Should you
23 speak slower?

24 (the witness) It's all right.

25 Q. If I'm speaking too fast, please let me

1 know.

2 A. It's not the speed, but some words, the
3 meaning, I don't understand.

4 Q. Yes, if you don't understand the meaning
5 of one word or something, ask Mr. Redins, okay?

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. Mr. Kalejs, do you recall when you came to
8 the United States?

9 A. When?

10 Q. Yes.

11 A. '59, 1959, yeah.

12 Q. 1959?

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. And prior to coming to the United States
15 you lived in Victoria, Australia?

16 A. Right. Yeah.

17 Q. You're an Australian citizen now, right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You never became a United States citizen?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Prior to the time that you came to the
22 United States, did you ever apply to come to the
23 United States earlier?

24 A. No.

25 Q. For example, did you apply to come to the

1 United States under the Displaced Persons Act after
2 the war?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Did you live in a displaced persons camp
5 after the war?

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. What was the name of the camp that you
8 lived in?

9 A. I don't remember the names.

10 Q. Do you remember which country the camp was
11 in?

12 A. Germany.

13 Q. And at that time you applied to go to
14 Australia; is that right?

15 A. Yeah.

16 Q. But you didn't apply --

17 A. (through the interpreter) I have never
18 asked for permission to the United States, but to
19 Australia.

20 Q. Do you recall at that time whether you
21 applied to the International Refugee Organization
22 for help?

23 A. (through the interpreter) In immigration
24 cases to the United States?

25 Q. No. To the IRO to help you with food and



1 so on and then with immigration. Do you recall
2 applying to the IRO?

3 A. Yeah, Australia.

4 Q. And did the IRO help you to go to
5 Australia?

6 A. I don't know.

7 (through the interpreter) I think it was
8 Australian Immigration.

9 All the organization for this type of
10 activity was done by the IRO, and Australians were
11 responsible for immigration to Australia.

12 Yeah, the Australian Immigration Office.

13 Q. At the time that you came to the United
14 States in 1959, you were going to live with your
15 sister; is that right?

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. And her name is Olga Putnins?

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. Where is she living now?

20 A. She passed away.

21 Q. Do you recall when that was?

22 A. Last year.

23 Q. Are you currently married?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Were you ever married?



1 A. Yeah, for a couple years after the war.

2 Q. What was your wife's name?

3 A. That's a long time here.

4 Q. You can't remember your wife's name?

5 A. It was forty years ago. Bet something.

6 Q. Was it Beatrice?

7 A. Beatrice.

8 Q. Beatrice?

9 A. I can't tell you.

10 Q. Do you know where your former wife is now?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Do you remember when it was that you were
13 married to her?

14 A. After war, before I immigrated. We were
15 separated a long time just before I immigrated and --
16 (through the interpreter) I got the
17 divorce before I immigrated.

18 THE INTERPRETER: Is that correct?

19 A. Because I had to be --

20 (through the interpreter) I had to be
21 legally divorced in order to immigrate.

22 Q. Were you married to her at all during the
23 war or was it only after the war?

24 A. After war.

25 Q. Where do you reside now? Do you live here

1 in Tampa or do you live in --

2 A. My residence not Tampa, Petersburg.

3 Q. What is your address in St. Petersburg?

4 A. 5821 41st Avenue North.

5 Q. I'd like to show you several documents
6 that relate to your immigration to the United
7 States.

8 MR. MAUSNER: Exhibit 3, this will be
9 Exhibit 4.

10
11 (Government's Exhibits 3 and 4 were marked for
12 Identification.)

13
14 Q. Exhibit 3 is a document entitled The
15 Foreign Service of the United States of America,
16 dated December 3rd, 1958.

17 I'm now handing Exhibit 3 to Mr. Kalejs.

18 THE INTERPRETER: Due to circumstances
19 beyond his control, he is unable to obtain a copy
20 of his birth certificate from Communist-controlled
21 Latvia.

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. Is that your signature that appears on
24 this document?

25 A. Yeah, it looks like it. Yeah, could be.

1 I wouldn't say. It could be.

2 Q. It looks like your signature?

3 A. I wouldn't swear. Today I sign it
4 differently, so, you know, it's too many years.

5 Q. Do you remember signing a document like
6 this?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Does that look like your signature used to
9 look; do you recall?

10 You can't say?

11 A. It could be, you know, but I wouldn't --
12 (through the interpreter) It could be,
13 but I can't swear to it.

14 Q. I'm now handing Mr. Kalejs Exhibit 4,
15 which is a document entitled Department of Health,
16 General Health Branch and it's dated November 25,
17 1958.

18 A. (through the interpreter) Blood analysis,
19 this pertains to blood analysis.

20 Q. Does that look like your signature over
21 here in the margin?

22 A. It could be, I don't swear it.

23 (through the interpreter) I can't swear to
24 it.

25 MR. MAUSNER: Could you mark that?

1
2 (Government's Exhibit Number 5 was marked
3 for identification.)
4

5 Q. Exhibit 5 is a document in the Latvian
6 language. It's four pages long, and the heading on
7 it is Dienesta, D-i-e-n-e-s-t-a, Gaitas, Sararsts.
8 My pronunciation probably isn't very good, but I'll
9 show it to you in a minute.

10 A. (through the interpreter) From where?

11 Q. I'll show it to you. What I have here,
12 Mr. Kalejs, is the original document, which may be
13 easier to read, and then I've marked a photocopy of
14 it and I'll show them both to you so you can see it
15 more clearly.

16 A. This must be from --

17 (through the interpreter) It's the Russian
18 language.

19 That means somebody --

20 (through the interpreter) Now I see the
21 light. The Russians. I forgot this, but in the
22 Latvian Army we had this service record, military
23 service record.

24 1983, yeah, that means that somebody
25 collaborating with the Russians. Now I see the

1 light. All the time I could not understand why I
2 was being searched for.

3 Q. On the second page of Exhibit 5 there is a
4 photograph.

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. Is that a photograph of you?

7 A. Could be, I don't know.

8 Q. Well, I'd like you to look at it and tell
9 me whether that's a photograph of you.

10 A. What's the date here? Anyway, that's over
11 forty years ago. I don't know dates, forty years
12 ago, I don't have any pictures, you know.

13 (through the interpreter) 45 years ago,
14 all of us looked differently.

15 Q. Do you remember a picture like that ever
16 being taken of you?

17 A. (through the interpreter) Yes, something
18 like this, but can't remember over forty years ago.

19 Q. You don't remember what you looked like
20 back then?

21 A. I remember I looked much younger, much
22 younger, hundred percent --

23 Q. I'm sorry?

24 A. I can say 100 percent, I looked 45, 50
25 years younger --

1 (through the interpreter) But how I
2 looked.

3 Q. Okay, in other words, you're telling me
4 that you can't tell whether that's a picture of you
5 or not?

6 A. Could be, could be, but you know, but I
7 can't tell. Again, that's at least, you know, I'm
8 reading my name, Kalejs.

9 (through the interpreter) I don't
10 remember whether they had military service record
11 in the army.

12 Q. Let me ask you some of the things that are
13 on here and see if this accurately reflects your
14 military service.

15 Did you graduate in 1932 from high school?

16 A. Let me figure out.

17 (through the interpreter) I would like to
18 mention one thing. At the end of the war in East
19 Russia or in Danzig, concussion, as a result of
20 bombing, I got a concussion and I have -- this
21 damaged, has damaged my memory to some extent.

22 Q. When did that take place?

23 A. By the end of year, by the end of war.

24 Q. 1945 or 1944?

25 A. 4, 5, something, but by the end of war.

1 Q. You attended the military academy in
2 Latvia; right?

3 A. That's right.

4 Q. Do you remember when you graduated?

5 A. '37.

6 Q. 1937?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. And did you graduate with distinction?

9 A. (through the interpreter) I can't say
10 that, but I graduated with good grades.

11 Q. Did you serve in the Eighth Infantry
12 Regiment of Daugavspils in about 1934?

13 A. Yeah, yeah, I did.

14 Q. And in 1937 did you become a lieutenant in
15 the Latvian military?

16 A. Right, yeah.

17 Q. In February 1939 you were serving with the
18 Fifth Infantry Regiment of Cesis; is that right?

19 A. That's where I was serving all the time,
20 yeah. '39, must be, yeah.

21 Q. That's correct?

22 A. Uh-huh.

23 Q. And you became a platoon leader in 1939?

24 A. I don't remember, if you say so, I believe
25 you.