

PEANUTS By Schulz



War Crimes Suspect's Deportation Halted

By ROBERT GILLETTE, *Times Staff Writer*

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall temporarily blocked the deportation Monday of Karl Linnas, a Nazi war crimes suspect, until the full court decides whether Linnas should be sent to the Soviet Union to face a pending death sentence.

The delay, as Linnas faced a 5 p.m. deadline for deportation to the Soviet Union, the only country that has agreed to accept him, marked the third time the Supreme Court has considered his appeals since last December, when three justices—one fewer than necessary—voted to accept the case for full review.

In a brief order, Marshall, who was not among those voting to hear the case in December, extended an emergency stay of deportation granted by the federal appeals court in New York, "pending further order of the court." The full Supreme Court is scheduled to meet next on April 17, when it could allow Linnas time to file a petition for review or could vacate the order.

The 67-year-old Linnas, a retired land surveyor who lived on Long Island in New York after emigrating from his native Estonia, which the Soviet Union annexed during World War II, has been held in a New York jail since last April on the ground that he might at-

tempt to flee the country.

According to his daughter, Anu Linnas, requests to accept him are still pending with 17 Western countries. Last Thursday, she said, federal officers came within half an hour of deporting her father to the Soviet Union by way of Yugoslavia.

The Soviet Union has accused Linnas of running a concentration camp during the Nazi occupation of Estonia and supplied the bulk of the evidence against him, in the form of videotaped testimony and documents. The Justice Department submitted that evidence to federal courts in civil proceedings that began in 1979.

Linnas and his current attorney, former Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, contend that Soviet evidence in such cases is inherently untrustworthy and, in this instance, shows clear signs of falsification and coercion.

The Soviet witnesses whose testimony was videotaped in the Linnas case had also appeared in his 1962 trial in absentia in the Soviet Union, which resulted in a death sentence. A Soviet law journal reported the verdict three weeks before the trial took place.

Earlier Monday, Atty. Gen. Edwin Meese III said that "there is obviously concern about the Soviet system of justice" but that the Justice Department nevertheless would act on the deportation order issued and affirmed by lower courts if the Supreme Court again rejects Linnas' appeal.

Last Thursday, between the hours when the appeals court in New York vacated one stay of deportation and granted another, federal marshals sped a handcuffed Linnas to John F. Kennedy Airport in New York, where they apparently intended to put him aboard a Yugoslav airliner. His daughter said that federal officials notified television and newspaper reporters of the impending deportation but

failed to tell the family or his attorneys.

If his appeals fail, Linnas would be the first war crimes suspect whom the United States has deported to the Soviet Union against his will. In December, 1984, the government deported Fyodor Fedorenko, a Treblinka death camp guard, but Fedorenko voluntarily chose the Soviet Union, where members of his family remain, in the belief that he would not be prosecuted. He was tried last June and sentenced to death for treason.

Offer of Asylum to Accused Nazi Is Withdrawn

By ROBERT GILLETTE,
Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—Amid bitter criticism from U.S. Jewish leaders, the government of Panama Wednesday withdrew an offer of asylum to Karl Linnas, an American emigre accused of Nazi war crimes who faces deportation to the Soviet Union and execution under a pending death sentence.

Some Justice Department officials said Wednesday that Atty. Gen. Edwin Meese III had agreed that Linnas could be deported to Panama, which had decided on Friday to grant Linnas asylum "on humanitarian grounds." Others, however, said later that Meese had learned of the asylum offer only on Wednesday morning and had decided only to order a study of its legality.

Conflicting Statements

As word of the offer leaked out, however, Linnas' fate was plunged into confusion as Panamanian diplomats in Washington and New York issued conflicting statements, one saying the grant of asylum had been suspended for further study and another saying categorically that it had been denied.

Linnas, a 67-year-old retired surveyor from Greenlawn, N.Y., has been accused by the Soviet Union of running a Nazi concentration camp in his native Estonia. The Soviet Union annexed the Baltic country during World War II under the terms of a 1939 pact with Nazi Germany. Linnas' family contends that he is innocent and has been

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ASYLUM: Panama Withdraws Its Offer

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framed by evidence the Soviet authorities manufactured in retribution for his activities as an anti-communist partisan in the war.

In Washington, the minister of the Panamanian embassy, Adolfo Arrocha, said his government initially had decided last Friday to grant Linnas asylum "on humanitarian grounds," but that on Wednesday afternoon it "suspended action pending a more profound study of the case." Arrocha emphasized that Linnas' request had not been denied.

In New York, however, Panamanian Consul General Jose Blandon issued a statement saying his government had "decided to deny [the] request for political asylum of Karl Linnas" and "condemns the crimes committed by fascism."

"In this way, the government of the Republic of Panama echoes the concern of important sectors of the Jewish community and the rest of the world as well as of our country," Blandon said, according to United Press International. Panamanian officials were not available to resolve the conflict.

Jews Urge Deportation

The World Jewish Congress, among other groups, has strongly urged the Justice Department to deport Linnas to the Soviet Union. A variety of much smaller East European and Baltic emigre groups, joined by former White House communications director Patrick J. Buchanan and other conservative commentators, have opposed such action and argue instead for changes in American law that would permit criminal trials of suspected Nazis in this country.

In a February memorandum to Meese, Buchanan said President Reagan also favored holding criminal trials in the United States for suspected Nazi collaborators, but was leaving the disposition of the Linnas case to the Justice Department.

Linnas—who faces the prospect of becoming the first American emigre deported to the Soviet Union to face a death sentence—has been waging a federal court campaign from week to week to delay his deportation while his attorney, former Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark, searches for an alternative country.

Meese initially gave Linnas until March 15 to find another country,



United Press International

Karl Linnas

but a series of court actions has extended the deadline. The Supreme Court is due on Friday to hear Linnas' third appeal since last December for a full review of his case, which has been in the federal courts since 1979.

Earlier Wednesday, Linnas' daughter Anu issued a statement praising Panama for accepting her father. She said: "We are very happy that there is one country courageous and independent enough to accept a man who has been cheated out of justice in his adopted homeland."

On Wednesday afternoon, however, the World Jewish Congress in New York asserted that the attorney general had decided to deport

Linnas to Panama, and condemned the reported decision as a "subversion of justice of monumental proportions." The group accused Panama of offering itself as a "haven for Nazi murderers."

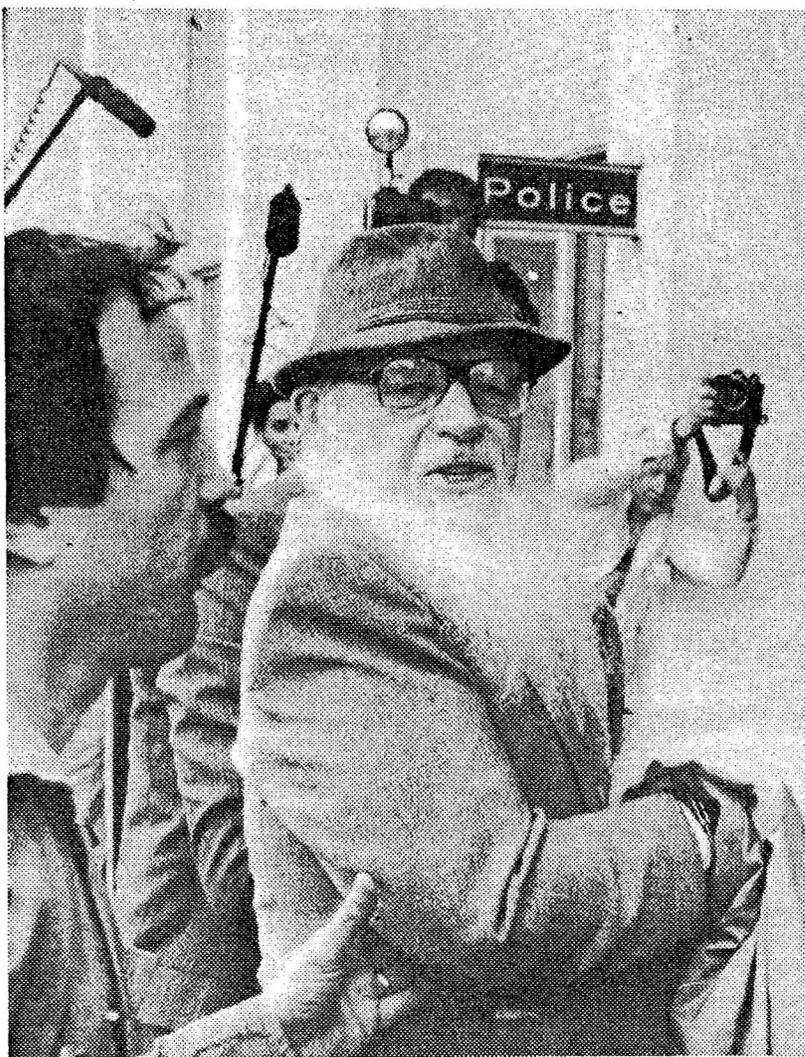
In a statement to the Associated Press, Eli M. Rosenbaum, the organization's general counsel and a former attorney in the Justice Department's war crimes unit, said Linnas "has been ordered deported to the only country in the world [the Soviet Union] that has asserted criminal jurisdiction in this case and is willing to take it."

'A Comfortable Retirement'

"Instead, Mr. Meese is going to send him to a comfortable retirement under the Panamanian palm trees," Rosenbaum said. He was scheduled to meet Wednesday afternoon with Panamanian officials in Washington.

All of the evidence linking Linnas to wartime atrocities, and describing him as the commandant of a concentration camp in his native Estonia, has been supplied by the Soviet Union, where Linnas was tried in absentia in 1962 and condemned to death.

In a federal District Court decision in 1981 revoking Linnas' citizenship, Judge Jacob Mishler in New York ruled that the evidence "overwhelmingly supported" the Soviet charges. His attorneys, however, in arguing that the Soviet evidence is inherently untrustworthy, have noted that the Soviets inadvertently published the verdict of his 1962 trial three weeks before the trial was held.



The New York Times/Vic DeLucia

Karl Linnas, right, being escorted yesterday by an immigration official into police station at Kennedy International Airport.

U.S. DEPORTS MAN CONDEMNED TO DIE IN SOVIET UNION

COURT REJECTS HIS PLEA

L.I. Man Accused of Heading Nazi Concentration Camp — First Case of Type

By KENNETH B. NOBLE

Thirty-six years after he arrived in the United States from Germany, a Long Island man was deported last night to the Soviet Union, where he faces a death sentence as a Nazi criminal who commanded an Estonian concentration camp in World War II and supervised the mass execution of Jews.

The deported man, Karl Linnas, was the first person accused of Nazi war crimes to be sent by the United States against his will to the Soviet Union. He was tried, convicted and sentenced to death in absentia in the Soviet Union in 1962.

Hours after the Supreme Court and the Justice Department rejected the final appeals in his eight-year legal battle against deportation, Mr. Linnas was taken by Federal agents from the Metropolitan Correctional Center in Manhattan to Kennedy International Airport and placed aboard a Czechoslovak airliner to Prague, en route to the Soviet Union.

"What they are doing right now is murder and kidnapping," the white-bearded, 67-year-old native of Estonia shouted angrily to reporters as he was led from a car — hands cuffed under a coat draped over his arms — and into a Port Authority police office at the airport about 5 P.M.

Final Bid Fails

At 7:20 P.M., as darkness fell over the airfield, Mr. Linnas, clad in a gray suit, blue sweater and soft hat and escorted by immigration agents and police officers, was driven out onto the tarmac behind the Pan American World Airways terminal, led up a ramp and placed on board a white and orange, four-engine Ilyushin 62-M jetliner of the Czechoslovak Airlines.

Even as the aircraft was taxiing out onto the runway, a final bid to prevent his deportation — a request by one of his daughters, Anu Linnas — was being filed with Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist at the Supreme Court. It was denied shortly before 8 P.M.

The aircraft, Flight 601, a regularly scheduled commercial flight, took off at 8:06 P.M.

"I came here tonight as a witness to see with my own eyes that we have done as much as we can to see that Linnas is brought to justice for the crimes he committed," said Menahem Z. Rosensaft, an official of the World Jewish Congress.

Nearby, Rein Olvet, who described himself as a friend of Mr. Linnas and his family, also watched the departure. "I just wanted to see that he was treated well," Mr. Olvet said. "I couldn't see his eyes that well. He just looked resigned to it."

Ivan Horak, 36, of Silver Spring, Md., saw his mother off on the same flight.

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Man Accused as a Nazi War Criminal Is Deported by U.S. to Soviet Union

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His mother, Priska Horak, 60, spent one year in a Nazi concentration camp. She did not know Mr. Linnas was on the flight, her son said.

"I hope she won't find out," he said. "She was just discussing his case at the Passover Seder."

Mr. Linnas's plane was scheduled to arrive in Prague at 9:50 A.M. today and, after a brief stopover, Mr. Linnas was to be flown on to Moscow, according to Justice Department officials.

The deportation of Mr. Linnas, which had become the focus of a bitter fight among members of his family, government officials, Jewish groups and other opponents and supporters, came five days after the collapse of an effort to send him to Panama and eight years after authorities first charged that he had entered this country illegally.

Mr. Linnas, who came to the United States from Germany in 1951, calling himself a displaced person, became a United States citizen in 1959 and lived quietly as a land surveyor in Greenlawn, L.I., for many years until 1979, when immigration officials charged

that he was a war criminal and had entered the United States under false pretenses.

Yesterday, the long deportation fight ended when the Supreme Court, by a 6-to-3 vote, refused to extend an order that had blocked his forced departure. It came despite last-minute legal maneuvers by his lawyers and family. After the Supreme Court's decision, the lawyers immediately sought a temporary restraining order from a Federal District Court judge in Washington, and then through a Federal appeals court panel. All the appeals were rejected.

"All he did was protect his children, his family, his mother and his father," said Anu Linnas, his daughter. "He did not join forces with the Nazis and kill people."

Officials Sharply Divided

Mr. Linnas's longstanding deportation order has sharply divided Reagan Administration officials. Prosecutors in the Office of Special Investigations strongly urged that he be sent to the Soviet Union, citing what they called overwhelming evidence of his role in the persecution of Jews and others during World War II.

A land surveyor from Long Island is facing a death sentence in Russia.

But other Administration officials, including Patrick J. Buchanan, the former White House communications director, resisted Mr. Linnas's deportation because the bulk of the evidence against him came from Soviet bloc countries, where Mr. Linnas and most of the war-crimes suspects are believed to have lived during the Nazi occupation, and was, therefore, suspect, they assert.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Justice Department charged — and many appeals courts have agreed — that Mr. Linnas fraudulently entered the United States in 1951 and obtained citizenship in 1959 by concealing his role as commander of the Tartu concentration camp, where 12,000 people died during World War II.

Mr. Linnas told immigration officials that he had been a university student during the years 1940 to 1943, according to court papers. The United States cannot try suspects on war-crimes charges but seeks to establish that they

entered the country under false pretenses.

In a news conference yesterday on the front steps of the United States Court House at Foley Square in Manhattan, District Attorney Elizabeth Holtzman of Brooklyn supported the immediate deportation of Mr. Linnas to the Soviet Union. She accused Attorney General Edwin Meese 3d of an attempt to "pervert justice" last week by trying to "sneak Linnas into Panama."

'Outrageous and Obscene'

Joining her at the news conference was Mr. Rosensaft, an official of the World Jewish Congress and chairman of the International Network of Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors. Mr. Rosensaft issued a statement that said efforts by Mr. Meese, Mr. Buchanan and others "to help and protect Linnas" were "outrageous and obscene."

The Linnas case has attracted wide attention. Many Jewish groups, such as the New York-based World Jewish

Congress, pressed to have him deported to the Soviet Union.

But organizations representing Baltic and Ukrainian émigrés, along with some Reagan Administration figures, lobbied to block the deportation. It was also opposed by a range of others, including William F. Buckley, the conservative columnist. They argued that the evidence used to convict Mr. Linnas, provided largely from Soviet sources, was tainted.

'Overwhelming' Evidence

In a 1986 Federal appeals court decision upholding the deportation order, a three-judge panel concluded that the evidence against Mr. Linnas was "overwhelming and largely uncontroverted."

"Linnas's duties as a concentration camp chief were such as to offend the decency of any civilized society," the court wrote.

"Eyewitnesses testified that Linnas supervised the transportation of prisoners from his camp to a nearby anti-tank ditch. On such occasions innocent Jewish women and children were tied by their hands and brought in their underwear to the edge of the ditch, where they were forced to kneel. The guards

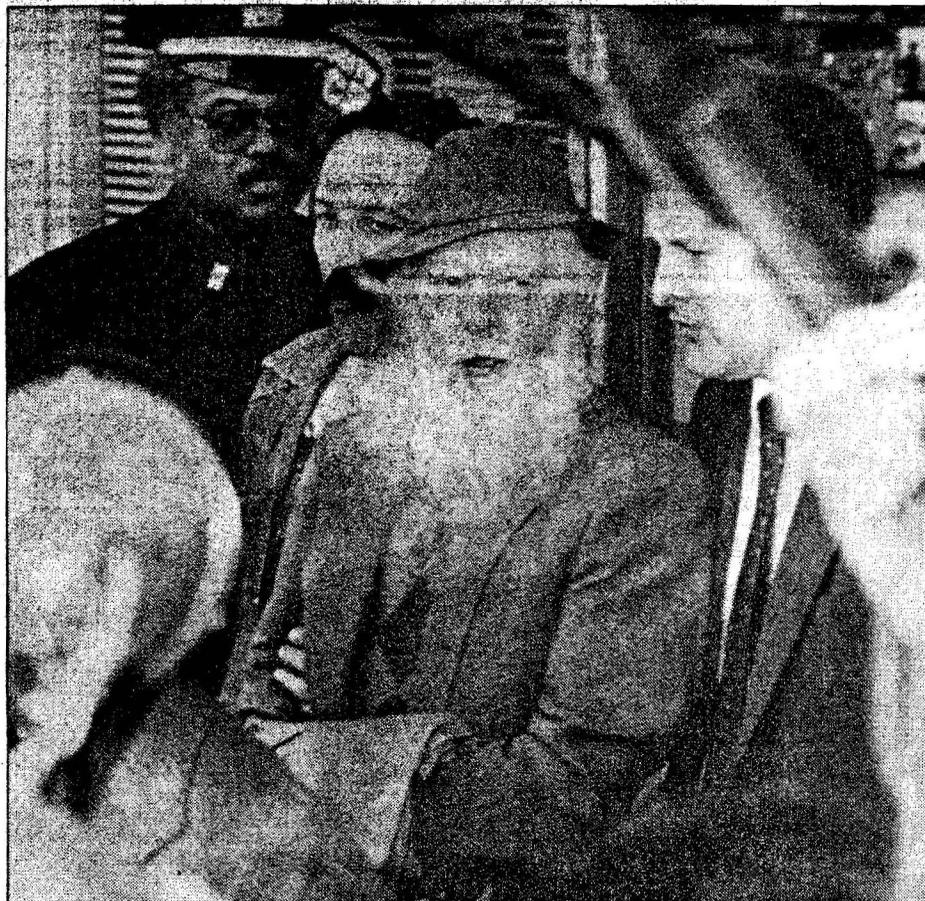
then opened fire. The ditch became a mass grave."

In December 1984, a former Nazi death camp guard, Fyodor Federenko, was deported to the Soviet Union, a destination he himself selected. Last June, a Soviet court sentenced Mr. Federenko to death by firing squad, and he is now appealing that decision.

'A Great Relief'

Eli Rosenbaum, general counsel of the World Jewish Congress, said: "Obviously, the deportation doesn't bring back the victims, so it's nothing one can be happy about. But it is a great relief that the promise that President Roosevelt made in 1943, that Nazi war criminals would be 'pursued to the uttermost ends of the earth,' has finally been kept in the Linnas case."

The Simon Wiesenthal Center, an organization that monitors developments relating to the Holocaust, issued a statement, saying that "it is ironic that Linnas's legal maneuvers were finally exhausted on April 20, the birthday of Adolf Hitler." The Supreme Court's decision yesterday, the center said, "puts thousands of other Nazi war criminals in the United States on notice that their days in freedom are numbered."



Karl Linnas as he was escorted to a plane at New York's John F. Kennedy International Airport.

Appeal Fails; Nazi Suspect Deported

Accused War Criminal Linnas Forced to Face Death Penalty in Soviet Union

By DAVID G. SAVAGE and JOHN J. GOLDMAN, Times Staff Writers

NEW YORK—Only hours after the Supreme Court rejected the last of his many appeals, the U.S. government deported accused Nazi war criminal Karl Linnas on Monday, the first American to be forcibly returned to face a death sentence in the Soviet Union.

Shouting "God bless America!" the 67-year-old Linnas, under tight security, was shoved into a police car and placed aboard Czechoslovak Airline Flight 601 bound for Prague. Soviet authorities were expected to take custody of Linnas when the plane landed this morning.

"What they're doing right now is just a murder and kidnaping," Linnas shouted while being rushed by five officers to the police station at John F. Kennedy International Airport.

Ends Eight-Year Battle

The expulsion of Linnas ends an eight-year court battle in which the legacy of Nazi horrors was posed against American distrust of the Soviet judicial system. In 1962, he was convicted in a Soviet court *in absentia* of commanding a concentration camp in Estonia in 1941 and 1942 where more than 2,000 Jews, many of them small children, were put to death.

For the last two weeks, his deportation had been delayed pending a final appeal to the Supreme Court. Attorneys for Linnas, calling his conviction 25 years ago the result of a "show trial," said that evidence from Soviet prosecutors was trumped up and should not be relied upon in American courts.

But on a 6-3 vote Monday, the high court justices refused to reopen his case and vacated the stay of deportation. A stocky man with a long white beard, Linnas appeared enraged as reporters shouted ques-

tions at him while he was taken from a New York City jail cell, where he had been held for the last year, to be put aboard the Czech airliner.

Anu Linnas, one of his daughters, said in a statement at the Supreme Court Monday that her father, a retired land surveyor from Long Island, N.Y., was being "wrongly deported to die."

"If my father isn't shot immediately, the Soviets will stage one of the flashiest show trials the world has ever seen," she said. "Hitler's and Stalin's ghosts are probably having a nice toast right now," she said.

Test for Justice Department

For U.S. officials, the case has been a key test of the Justice Department's stepped-up campaign to ferret out former Nazis who slipped into this country after World War II and have lived here quietly since.

Linnas clearly lied about his past when he applied for immigration to America in 1951 and was granted citizenship, U.S. officials say, and these false statements provide ample grounds for deporting him.

In May, the U.S. 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals said that the evidence was "overwhelming and largely uncontroverted" that Linnas was "chief of the Nazi concentration camp in Tartu, Estonia, during the time that he later claimed [on his immigration application] to have been a university student."

Witnesses called by Soviet officials to testify told U.S. prosecutors that they had seen Linnas shoot innocent Jews and push them into an open pit outside the concentration camp. Estonia is now part of the Soviet Union.

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DEPORT: Justices Reject Linnas Appeal

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The appeals court said that Linnas' actions as a concentration camp chief "were such to offend the decency of any civilized society." Under his direction, according to court records, "innocent Jewish women and children were tied by their hands and brought in their underwear to the edge of the ditch where they were forced to kneel. The guard then opened fire."

The government also introduced documents signed by "Karl Linnas, chief of Tartu concentration camp." After Soviet armies pushed the Germans out of Estonia, Linnas fought with the German army and was wounded in 1944, government prosecutors said.

Calls Action Welcome

Eli Rosenbaum, counsel for the World Jewish Congress, said that the Supreme Court action was "very welcome indeed."

Neal Sher, head of the Justice Department's Office of Special Prosecution, also praised the high court for clearing the way for the deportation of Linnas, saying that it "sends the right message that the United States is not going to be a haven for Nazi war criminals."

Justice Department officials, in a statement released after the Czech plane took off, said that they had undertaken a "wide search" to find another nation willing to take Linnas, but that "there was no other country willing to accept [him] as a deportee."

Last week, Justice Department officials had word that Panama would accept him, but this arrangement was dropped after bitter protests by the World Jewish Congress, which disclosed the plan.

His attorneys also scrambled in recent days to find another country that would accept Linnas but were unsuccessful in attempts to further delay the deportation.

Even as the Czechoslovakian plane was taking off, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist rejected a bid from Linnas' daughter for a temporary stay blocking the deportation.

Attorneys for Linnas and his family steadfastly maintained that Linnas played no part in Nazi atrocities and instead was merely an Estonian nationalist who fought the Soviet annexation of the Baltic nation.

His attorneys said that the Soviet Union convicted Linnas and sentenced him to death at a trial in which witnesses against him were coached. They said he had no right to seek defense witnesses.

The verdict in the Soviet trial was reported, apparently inadvertently, in the Dec. 7, 1961, issue of the official Soviet journal *Socialist Legality*—several weeks before the proceeding took place, in January, 1962.

Linnas Tells Family He's a 'Sacrifice'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Karl Linnas portrayed himself in a letter to his children released Monday as "a sacrifice on the altar of tyranny and oppression."

"Americans will eventually realize that my sacrifice was wrong, for I am innocent," Linnas said in the letter, which was released by the family.

The letter was written Dec. 1, when the Supreme Court first rejected arguments that deportation would violate Linnas' rights. He was deported Monday after the high court refused to order a delay.

"I will be with all of the rest of the people that have perished as a result of the communist slaughterings. I will have been made a sacrifice on the altar of tyranny and oppression," Linnas told his children.

Linnas thanked his children for their campaign to stave off deportation.

"I know dear children that you were doing your very best to prove your father's innocence," he wrote. "God bless you all for your effort and perseverance."

In his long fight to avoid deportation, Linnas gained the support of former White House Communications Director Patrick J. Buchanan, who contended in several recent articles that Soviet officials had manufactured evidence against Linnas and other escapees from Soviet territory.

Only Justices William J. Brennan Jr., Harry A. Blackmun and Sandra Day O'Connor voted to hear Linnas' final appeal (*Linnas vs. Immigration and Naturalization Service, A-732*).

In 1984, Fyodor Fedorenko, accused of being a guard at the Nazi death camp at Treblinka, Poland, was returned to the Soviet Union, but Fedorenko had not fought

deportation in U.S. courts. Fedorenko was sentenced to death in 1984, but the sentence has not been carried out.

Linnas is the 14th person to be deported from the United States after a special Justice Department probe.

The others included Andrija Artukovic, a Seal Beach resident who was sent back for trial in Yugoslavia; and John Demjanjuk, a retired Cleveland auto worker who is on trial in Israel accused of being the notorious Treblinka camp guard known as "Ivan the Terrible."

David G. Savage reported from Washington and John J. Goldman from New York. Staff writer Robert Gillette in Washington contributed to this story.

'Murder,' deported Nazi cries

By Maureen McDonald
USA TODAY

Convicted Nazi death camp commander Karl Linnas accused the U.S. of "murder" Monday as he was deported to face a death penalty in the Soviet Union.

Linnas, 67, a retired land surveyor from Greenlawn, N.Y., was whisked from a New York jail onto a flight to Czechoslovakia after the Supreme Court and Justice Department refused to block an 8-year-old deportation order.

The Soviets have not announced their plans for Linnas.

Said daughter Anu Linnas: "If my father isn't shot immediately, the Soviets will stage one of the flashiest show trials the world has ever seen."

She vowed to prove her father's innocence: "Hitler's and Stalin's ghosts are probably having a nice toast right now."

The Soviets convicted Linnas in absentia in 1962 for operating an Estonia death camp from 1941-1942; 2,000 died there during that time.

Linnas came to the USA from Germany in 1951, claiming to be a displaced person. He became a citizen in 1959, but was stripped of his status in 1982 when officials learned he had lied about his past.

His family appealed for time to find a country willing to accept him. More than a dozen have turned him down.

Linnas is the second accused Nazi war criminal to be deported to the Soviet Union from the USA. Fyodor Fedorenko, 78, was sentenced last June to death by firing squad. No execution date has been set.

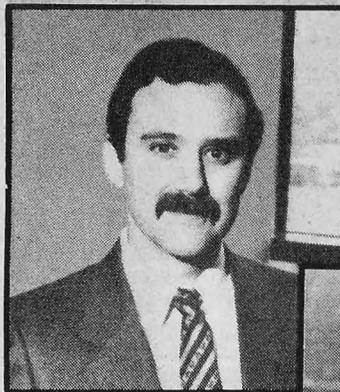
CENTURY NEWS

Lawrence Kohn— Century City Lawyer

Before he joined the Century City firm this year, attorney Jeffrey N. Mausner devoted six and a half years to a fascinating and unusual legal pursuit—the tracking down and prosecution of suspected Nazi war criminals living in the U.S. Mausner did this as a trial attorney for the Office of Special Investigations, a special unit established in 1979 in the U.S. Justice Department's Criminal Division.

Mausner says he applied for the job because he "always has had very strong feelings about the Holocaust and a belief that the people who perpetrated it should be brought to justice." During his stint with the agency, proceedings were initiated against about 45 alleged Nazi war criminals. Of those, about 20 now have been stripped of their U.S. citizenship and about 11 have been deported. Mausner worked on many of the cases, interviewing defendants and witnesses here and abroad, and seeing the time-consuming cases through the courts.

U.S. law does not allow for criminal prosecution of alleged Nazi war criminals in this country so OSI attorneys proceed against them in civil court under the immigration laws. First they seek to strip the alleged criminals of their citizenship and then to have them deported. Occasionally, another country requests extradition of a suspected Nazi. Mausner thinks it is a shame that the Germans do not seek more extraditions, since they are much speedier and since Germany is "the country responsible for



*Jeffrey
N. Mausner*



*Lawrence
M. Kohn*

munism, and the public had not grasped the magnitude of Nazi atrocities during World War II.

Mausner says the cross-examination skills he developed during his years at the Justice Department serve him well in his new position as head of litigation for the firm of Berman and Blanchard. The firm has several attorneys and specializes in litigation in the areas of securities, tax, copyright and trademark, wrongful termination, unfair competition and entertainment.

"At the Justice Department," Mausner says, "I did a great deal of trial work in federal courts. In most of our cases, it was important to get the defendant to admit certain facts—that he had served in a certain position during the war, that

served as a concentration camp guard and that he had guarded Jews who were to be murdered. There were several cases I tried against Nazis where the most crucial evidence against them were admissions that they made at their deposition or at the trial. In comparison, cross-examining a business person in a civil case to get him to admit certain facts is relatively easy."

The Justice Department's effort to locate and deport Nazi war criminals is continuing, Mausner says, but is "getting harder all the time." Most of the suspects and witnesses still alive are in their seventies or eighties, and the civil procedures can take years.

Another problem Mausner faced as a Nazi hunter was the effort of some groups in this country to discredit evidence (documents and videotaped testimony) obtained from the Soviets. "I have seen many witnesses in the Soviet Union testify and I believe that most of them are telling the truth," Mausner says. He thinks the Soviets are willing to cooperate honestly with U.S. efforts to prosecute Nazis because the Soviets "suffered very greatly when the Nazis controlled parts of the Soviet Union, and they want to bring the Nazis who murdered their people—whether Jewish or not Jews—to justice."

Mausner continued his anti-Nazi work by providing legal assistance to scholars associated with the Simon Wiesenthal Center in L.A. The center works closely with the Justice Department to track down war criminals and maintains a Holocaust Museum.

Mausner says he enjoyed working with Washington, D.C. but prefers L.A. He graduated from Cornell Law School. As an undergraduate at Brown University, he majored in political science and minored in physics. The physics, he says, provided "a good rigorous training for the mind." **CCN**