

## End OSI witchhunt against scientists

On June 1, Maj.-Gen. John Bruce Medaris (USA-ret.), who served from 1956 to 1960 as head of the U.S. Army Ballistic Missile Agency at the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Ala., released to the public the text of a letter he had written to President Ronald Reagan on May 24, 1985. The letter urged White House action against the Department of Justice's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), for its witchhunt against German-American rocket scientist Arthur Rudolph.

Dr. Rudolph was recently forced, under intensive black-mail pressure from the OSI, to renounce his U.S. citizenship and flee to the Federal Republic of Germany, despite the fact that he served for nearly 40 years as a leading U.S. scientist and received three government awards—including from the President—for his patriotic contributions to U.S. military and scientific advances.

The Medaris letter was co-signed by 108 members of the Old Timers of the U.S. Rocket and Space Program, attending a recent conference in Huntsville.

Dr. Arthur Rudolph was among a group of leading Peenemünde German scientists who survived the Hitler holocaust and defended the continuity of 19th-century German physics, forming the scientific core of the postwar U.S. rocket and space program—without which the development in the area of rocketry, supersonic transport, nuclear energy, and strategic defense would not have been possible in the required time frame.

After having passed the most rigorous security clearance checks of any postwar German emigré to the United States, Dr. Rudolph was granted U.S. citizenship in the mid-1950s. Following the Carter administration's creation of the Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations—the ostensible "Nazi hunting" unit which in fact was a vehicle for penetration of U.S. judicial agencies by the Soviet KGB and the Israeli Mossad—Dr. Rudolph, the inventor of the Pershing missile during his tenure at Huntsville, was targeted by Soviet forged documents and perjured witnesses, and blackmailed by OSI officials, to the point that he was driven out of the United States.

Suffering from a serious heart condition, threatened with the loss of 40 years of accrued pension benefits for his wife and children, Rudolph was blackmailed by OSI officials into silently leaving his adopted land, renouncing his U.S. citizenship, and returning, amid vicious international media lies, to the Federal Republic.

As Dr. Rudolph's commanding officer during several critical years at the Huntsville Army Ballistic Missile Agency facility, Maj. Gen. Medaris's personal communication to the President called for a reversal of the Rudolph "Star Chamber" ruling.

During a long career with the U.S. Army, including service as an ordnance officer in both world wars, Gen. Medaris directed the Army Ballistic Missile Agency facility during the time that the first U.S. earth orbital satellite, the first U.S. ballistic missile defense system, and numerous other groundbreaking advances were accomplished. Gen. Medaris was an outspoken, courageous critic of the introduction of systems analysis and civilian bureaucratic structures into the general staff responsibilities of the uniformed officers making up the core staff of the Pentagon.

The text of Gen. Medaris's letter follows:

May 24, 1985

The President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Your resolute dedication to protecting American citizens against willful excesses by their government prompts me to invite your attention to an outrageous violation of the most rudimentary of human rights and of due process perpetrated by the Office of Special Investigations of the Department of Justice.

Following procedures reminiscent of immoral, unjust tyranny, officials of the Office of Special Investigations intimidated and harassed Mr. Arthur Rudolph, a naturalized citizen for nearly 40 years, until he was persuaded to relinquish his United States Citizenship and return to his former country. For 25 of those years, he and his colleagues served their adopted nation with great dedication, talent and skill. They helped create three ballistic missile systems for our defense and that of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, as well as the mighty Saturn rocket which propelled American astronauts to the Moon. Mr. Rudolph received the nation's highest civilian awards.

As Commanding General, I directed the endeavors of this group during their most productive period. Their joint achievements were of incalculable value to our nation's security and progress. They were and are loyal, patriotic and trustworthy citizens.

I urge you to revise the secretive, deceptive and totally unjust process by which Mr. Rudolph was literally forced to abandon his friends and deny his oath. He deserves nothing less than immediate restoration of citizenship and invitation to return in honor to his country of choice.

Sincerely,  
John B. Medaris  
Maj. General U.S.