

Argentina to Declassify Documents on Nazis Who Fled After WWII

Argentina's Interior Minister, Guillermo Alberto Francos, announced plans to declassify all government-held files related to Nazi fugitives who escaped to Argentina following World War II.

These documents are expected to reveal details about Nazi-linked bank accounts and the "ratlines," the covert escape routes used by Nazis to flee Europe.

It is estimated that up to 10,000 Nazis and other war criminals evaded justice by relocating to Argentina and other Latin American countries.

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Notable figures such as Adolf Eichmann, a key architect of the Holocaust, and Josef Mengele, infamously known as the "Angel of Death" for his inhumane medical experiments, found refuge in Argentina. Eichmann was captured by Israeli agents in 1960, tried, and executed in Israel. Mengele evaded capture and died in Brazil in 1979.

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The declassification initiative follows a request from U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley, who sought the release of these records to investigate historical Nazi-linked accounts and escape routes.

President Javier Milei has pledged full cooperation, granting access to the documents to the Simon Wiesenthal Center, renowned for its efforts in tracking down Nazi war criminals.

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In 2020, documents surfaced identifying over 12,000 Nazis who resided in Argentina during the 1930s and held bank accounts at what is now Credit Suisse. These files were discovered in a former Nazi headquarters in Buenos Aires.

Argentina's decision to open these archives represents a significant step toward transparency and accountability regarding its historical role in providing sanctuary to Nazi fugitives.

The forthcoming documents are anticipated to shed light on the extent of Nazi infiltration in Argentina and the mechanisms that facilitated their escape from Europe.□

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