FOREIGN OFFICE

(CLAIMS)

FILE NO. HNP|1196

Name of File :—

J. J. GILLINGHAM.

Sent to :—	Date	Returned	Sent to :—	Date	Returned	Sent to :—	Date	Returned
H	2/11	4/1						
Type	4/1	7/1						
H	7/1	8/1						
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H	22/1	27/1						
H	27/1	29/1						

HNP/1196

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

SERVICE INTERNATIONAL DE RECHERCHES

3548 Arolsen (Waldeck) Allemagne

INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE | **INTERNATIONALER SUCHDIENST**

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15 DEC 1964

HNP/1196 FA

Arolsen, 4th December 1964

Our Ref.: TD-932 254
Your Ref.: HNP/763 (HG 11811/18)

The Foreign Office
L O N D O N, S.W. 1
England

Re: H. GILLINGHAM

Dear Sirs,

With reference to your letter dated 4th November 1964, please be advised that the following information is contained in our records:

GILLINGHAM, Josef (Joseph John), born 12 September 1901 or 12 September 1906 in Guernsey, Nationality: British, was in the "Strafanstalt Frankfurt/Main-Preungesheim" in the year 1944 (exact date unknown).
Document 330/44 issued by the "Strafanstalt Frankfurt/M.-Preungesheim and Document 2 VLs 618/44 issued by the "Oberstaatsanwalt Frankfurt/Main".
He entered the prison in Naumburg/Saale by order of the military police on 7 June 1944, and was released there on 2 February 1945. (Destination unknown).

Documents consulted: Nominal list established by the "Oberstaatsanwalt Frankfurt/Main"; Report of the "Polizeiamt Naumburg/Saale".

Yours sincerely,

H. Burckhardt

N. Burckhardt
Director of the I.T.S.

Go

Statement by Mrs. Henrietta Gillingham (nee Legg), 42 Bordage Street, St. Peter Port, Guernsey, C.I. October 1964.

It was at tn beginning of 1943 that my husband, Joseph John Gillingham, decided to listen to the English news-bulletins put out by the B.B.C. on our radio which we kept hidden, though the Germans had forbidden anyone to keep their wireless-sets. Bewteen us we used to write out the 9 p.m. news and the 8 a.m. headlines and when Charles Machon had had it typed under the heading G.U.N.S. we used to distribute the news-sheets to friends and neighbours who had surrendered their radios but desperately needed news from the B. B. C. to keep uo their spirits. At the end of 1943 we stopped circulating the news as I was expecting our first baby,

Then in March my husband was arrested by the German Police and taken to their headquarters for questioning, but as in most of the other cases of the men concerned with G.U.N.S. it was merely a matter of filling in the dates on the statements they had already, as to when he had supplied the news to Charles Machon (decd). He was not held prisoner then, but left to go home and await the call to attend his trial in the Magistrate's Court in the Royal Court buildings with the others, Charles Machon, Cyril Duquemin, my brother, Ernest Legg, and Frank Falla. My husband was sentenced to ten months' imprisonment, but was allowed to come home after being told the Germans would come to fethc him when they wanted him.

On the morning of June 3rd, 1944 they came and told him to report at 7 o'clock that evening at Birnam Court Hotel in The Queen's Road, as he and three of the others, my brother, Frank Falla, and Cyril Duquemin, were to leave for the Continent that night by boat. But when he arrived that the headquarters he was told it was too foggy for the vessel to sail, but he would have to report again on the Sunday night. This he did and he, my brother, Cyril Duquemin and Frank Falla left Guernsey late that Sunday night. That was the last I saw of him---and my daughter has never seen him. From that day onwards my husband's story was exactly as that told by my brother and Frank Falla for, first they were in prison at Frankfurt-on-Main and then at Naumburg-on-Saale. Like them he was ill-treated, starved and denied all the rights one would expect even from an enemy for I received not a single letter from him nor did I know whether he was alive or dead or where he was. I have since found out from my brother and Frank Falla, that my husband did his full term of imprisonment and was promised by the Germans that he would be sent on to an internment camp at Laufen where a lot of English and Channel Islands people were. He left Naumburg prison on February 2nd, 1945, when he was seen for only a moment by my brother and Frank Falla---but he was never seen after this. From the treatment given to other Channel Islanders who had done their time, Canon Cohu and Josppph Tierney of Jersey, who were also wireless offenders, he was either put into a concentraion camp; taken on a forced march against the Americans quick advance into the town, or killed by them for not even to this day have I heard where he is buried or when he died, and this in spite of constant search by the British Red Cross and the War Office whom I notified. One of the documents which I attach tells how in the Guernsey Royal Court I was allowed to presume him dead. I have since been paid a small widows pension but because this was inadequate I did have, at one time to seek public assistance to help me bring up our only child.

October 1964. (signed) H. Gillingham
(Henrietta Gillingham, nee Legg.)

THIS IS A COPY
THE ORIGINAL HAS BEEN
CLOSED FOR
78 YEARS UNDER FOI
EXEMPTION No. 40(2)

FORM B for use in respect of a deceased British victim of Nazi persecution

AR 29 HNP/1196.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF A DECEASED BRITISH VICTIM OF NAZI PERSECUTION

N.B.—1. Before completing this form it is important to read carefully the attached Notes for Guidance and then to answer all questions fully.

2. Please attach all documentary evidence to the form. All documents sent will be returned.

3. All applications must be received before the 31st of July, 1965.

4. Acceptance of an application for registration does not constitute a right to participate in the distribution.

SECTION ONE—IDENTITY

A. 1. Surname of victim GILLINGHAM

2. Other names JOSEPH JOHN

3. Place of death

(Please send the death certificate or, if there is no death certificate, please say whether leave to presume death was obtained)

B. 1. Surname of applicant GILLINGHAM

2. Other names HENRIETTA

3. Address 42 BORDAGE ST.

ST PETER PORT GUERNSEY. C.I.

4. What was your relationship to deceased?

(*a*) Spouse? YES (If so, please send marriage certificate)

(*b*) Child? ONE. (If so, please send birth certificate)

Are there any other surviving children of the deceased? (If so, please give full names and addresses of each)

(*c*) Parent? (If so, please send deceased's birth certificate)

(*d*) Brother or sister? (If so, please send your own and deceased's birth certificate)

Have you any surviving brothers or sisters? (If so, please give full name and address of each)

SECTION TWO—NATIONALITY OF VICTIM

1. How did the deceased acquire British nationality?
(Please write YES opposite the method that applies and delete the others)

(*a*) By birth? YES (If so, please send his/her birth certificate)

(*b*) By marriage? (If so, please send marriage certificate)

(*c*) By naturalisation? (If so, please attach naturalisation certificate)

(*d*) By some other method? (If so, please give full details)

2. If the deceased was not British by birth what was the previous nationality?

Was it retained at the time of death?

If not, when and how was it lost?

(Please attach all documentary evidence)

3. If deceased was a dual national—

(*a*) Where was he/she ordinarily resident at the date of his/her death?

(Please attach any available evidence, *e.g.*, receipts for rent or rates)

(*b*) Had he/she been in Crown Service under Her Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom? (If so, please give full details)

(*c*) Was he/she the holder of a British passport? (If so, please give full details)

SECTION THREE—PERSECUTION

1. Please give, on a separate sheet, the following details of the deceased's imprisonment:
   (*a*) Name of camp or other place of detention; its situation; its general conditions and régime;
   (*b*) Dates of imprisonment and (where relevant) release; prison number; reasons for imprisonment and circumstances in which it arose.
   (*c*) Any further information you consider useful and relevant.
   (Please attach all documentary evidence)

2. Has any payment been made at any time in respect of the imprisonment of the deceased?..... NO.
   (If, so please give full details)

I HEREBY DECLARE that to the best of my knowledge, belief and recollection all the information here given is true and accurate in all particulars.

Signature H. Gillingham

Date 6-9-64.