

Nazi Hunter Is Indifferent To Bormann

Associated Press

Israel's top Nazi hunter indicated yesterday that if Adolf Hitler's chief deputy is still alive no attempt will be made to bring him to Israel for trial.

"For me Martin Bormann is dead. He is nowhere," said Tuvia Friedman, who runs Haifa's documentation center on Nazi crimes.

"Don't forget he is 70 now. And if they catch him punishment should be meted out on the spot. Any trial should be under supervision of the wartime allies," he added.

The London Daily Express reported that Bormann escaped from the rubble of post-war Germany and is now a prosperous businessman in South America.

Bormann, Hitler's top deputy, was sentenced in absentia to death by the Nuernberg war crimes tribunal. The newspaper said that he is leading the life of a prosperous 72-year-old businessman, but is kept under constant surveillance by Latin American secret service agents. The paper did not disclose the country where Bormann has been living.

The newspaper said Bormann reached Latin America "thanks to the protection of the Vatican, former Argentine President Juan Peron and some of the most powerful politicians and financiers in South America."

The Vatican has no knowledge of any assistance reportedly given to Bormann, according to a spokesman.

But the spokesman, Federico Alessandrini, said that Bormann under a different name might have received the same ecclesiastic aid that the Church gave to many other refugees.

"The Church cannot control whether Bormann may have been among the many who received ecclesiastic aid as refugees."

