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Julius Epstein, Author, 74, Dies; Wrote of Forced Repatriations

JULY 5, 1975



PALO ALTO, Calif., July 4 (UPI)—Julius Epstein, a journalist who wrote hooks about the forced repatriation of antiCommunist to the Soviet Union after World War II, died Thursday at the age of 74.

Mr. Epstein was for 10 years a research associate at Hoover Institution, Stanford University, and was also a professor of international affairs at Lincoln University in San Francisco.

His latest work dealing with the return of anti-Communists was entitled “Operation Keelhaul.” In it Mr. Epstein maintained that the United States had secretly agreed to the forcible return of more than a million Russians and East Europeans to the Soviet Union after the war. He said those returned had been prisoners of war, refugees and displaced persons.

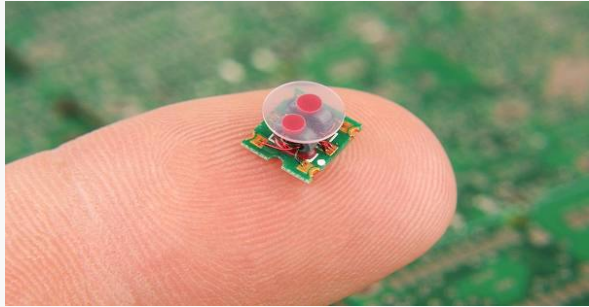
Mr. Epstein discovered early in 1954 in the Army's Historical Records Branch at Alexandria, Va., an Index card marked, “Forcible Repatriation of Displaced Soviet

Citizens—Operation Keelhaul.” Told it was “top secret,” he went to court to have the documents declassified, without success.

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be released, and this concurrence has not been received.”

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Mr. Epstein wrote in The New York Times Op-Ed Page in 1970, “Through my study I became convinced that forced repatriation, as carried out by the American and British military authorities, was a violation of the Geneva Convention of 1929.”

Mr. Epstein was born in Vienna, came to the United States in 1939 and worked during the war for the Office of War Information. He was later a correspondent for several European newspapers. He joined the Hoover Institution in 1963.

Survivors include his widow, Vally, and a son, Peter Stevens.



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



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