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OFFICE OF U. S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL
FOR THE PROSECUTION OF AXIS CRIMINALITY

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of ERNST KALFENBRUNNER

By: Lt. Col. Burkhardt, 5 October 1945, a.m. Nuremberg

PERSONS IMPLICATED? AND SUBJECTS

1. ERNST KALFENBRUNNER
 - a. Jewish Persecution (13-19)
 - (1) By Gestapo on orders from Himmler or Mueller (19)
 - b. Concentration camps. (20-22)
 - (1) Classification (20)
 - (2) Relationship of Kaltenbrunner - with Himmler, and Goebbels (22)
 - c. As Chief of RSHA (22-24).
 - d. Relationship with Dr. Bost (14); Hitler (16,22); Mildner (14,18-19); Mueller (18); Ribbentrop (16); Scheidler (5).
2. SD, SS, GESTAPO, KRIPO.
 - a. SD founded by agreement of Bormann, Himmler, and probably Hess (8)
 - (1) section of Party under Himmler (8)
 - b. Relation of SD to SS (7-8)
 - c. Relation of SS to Gestapo (6)
 - d. SD personnel paid by FohI from Reich Treasury (9)
 - e. GESTAPO and KRIPO paid by the Finance Ministry (9).

KALFENBRUNNER'S ADJUTANTS:

Kaltenbrunner had several adjutants, all of equal rank. One Scheidler was Kaltenbrunner's "leader of administrative work". (p5)

RELATIONSHIP OF THE SD AND GESTAPO TO THE SS:

He had no information as to what percentage of Gestapo personnel were members of the SS. He believed that some of the Gestapo personnel were taken over by the SS in 1933 under an arrangement with Heydrich thereby increasing their pay--the pay of the latter organization being higher than that of an ordinary governmental employee. (p6)

Kaltenbrunner, 5 October 1945 a.m.

As for the SD Kaltenbrunner stated that it was not actually founded by the SS. It was founded upon an agreement between Bormann and Himmler (Hess probably also participated). The SD was known as a "section of the Party", under the leadership of Himmler. Its formative years were 1935-1937. (p8) Kaltenbrunner stated that it was not true that in order to be a member of the SD one had to be a member of the SS. Such might have been the original intention however later certain governmental officials were taken over by the SD irrespective of their affiliation with the SS. (pp 7-8)

SD personnel were paid by Pohl. The money was obtained through the Reich Treasury. The Reich Treasury at the same time was the Treasury of the Party. Gestapo and Kripo, on the other hand, were paid by the Government, the Finance Ministry. (p9)

ATTITUDE TOWARD THE JEWISH QUESTION:

Kaltenbrunner disclaims any connection with the program for the deportation of the Jews in Denmark. He stated that he had little or no connection with Dr. Best, Ribbentrop's representative in Denmark.

He knew Dr. Rudolph Mildner, commander of Sipo and SD in Denmark in September 1943, but denies ever having discussed with him the disposition of the Denmark Jews; denies that he demanded that the anti-Jewish program be carried through in spite of the protests of Dr. Mildner. Kaltenbrunner disclaims any knowledge of Document No. A 164 which is a copy of an order by Mueller to Dr. Mildner demanding an explanation as to why the Jewish purge in Denmark had been unsuccessful, netting only 400 arrests. Kaltenbrunner again reiterates his insistence that matters pertaining to the police function never passed through his hands--that Mueller "was Himmler's tool", Kaltenbrunner, never. (pp 13-19)

CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Concentration camps were classified 1, 2 and 3; on the basis of the type of work which was done in the camp and not on the basis of racial or political lines. He never had anything to do with such matters; that he merely "heard" about them. (20) Himmler was in charge of choosing the location of the camps. As for the gas chambers, Kaltenbrunner first learned of them through the foreign press; immediately dispatched a letter of protest to Hitler and Goebbels. (pp. 20-22)

AS CHIEF OF RSHA:

Kaltenbrunner again reiterates his defense that he, in fact, never assumed the powers exercised by Heydrich, -- especially in connection with the horrors and atrocities of the concentration camps. However, if it is determined that he was the successor to Heydrich, that he assumed all the requisite powers, "... naturally then that would be my (his) office". (pp 22-24)