

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of: ERNST KALTENBRUNNER

By: Lt. Col Brookhart, 11 October 1945 A.M.

PERSONS, ORGANIZATIONS IMPLICATED AND SUBJECTS

1. KALTENBRUNNER

a. RSHA

- (1) Amt IV (p4)
- (2) Special Cases handled by (pp2-3)
- (3) IV A 1; IV A 2; IV A 3; IV A 4; IV A 5; (pp 4-6)
- (4) IV B 1; IV B 2; IV B 3; IV B 4; (pp 6-10)
- (5) IV C 2; (pp 10-14)
- (6) IV D 4; (pp 19-21)
- (7) Exercise of Executive Police Power (pp 14-15)
- (a) Document: Letter of 9 June 1943 (pp 12-13)

b. Church Question

- (1) Catholicism (pp 6-7)
- (2) Political Protestantism Sects (pp 7-8)
- (3) "Other Churches and Free Masonry" (pp 8-9)

c. Persecution of Jews

- (1) Section IV B 4 of RSHA (p 10)

d. Police Function

- (1) Arrest Procedure (p 11-13)

e. Race Destruction

- (1) Pregnancy Interruptions (pp 15-19)

f. External Measures

- (1) Counter-sabotage measures in Belgium and Denmark (pp 19-21)

g. Discussion of Documents: L219 (pp 1-14); Letter of 9 June 1943, Subject; Pregnancy Interruptions (pp 12-19)

h. Relationship with: Himmler, (p2-3, 5-6, 9-10, 13, 16); (Mueller p2, 14); Heydrich (p 13-14); Huppenkothen (p2); Panzinger (p5); Hoettl (p10); Alfred Naujocks (p10); Karl Ebner (p 2-3); Eichmann (pp 9-10); Best (p 19); Ottmar Trenker (pp 3-4); Reich Commissioner for Labor (p 15); Gestapo (15); Kripo (p15).

ORGANIZATION OF AMT IV OF RSHA

Re Office of the Chief, Amt 4; Kaltenbrunner admitted knowing Mueller and Huppenkothen. He stated that Mueller was ~~directly~~ under the command of Himmler, not Kaltenbrunner. Not all arrests and internments were under Amt 4--some were by direct order of Himmler ~~others~~ by the Criminal Police. (p2)

Special Cases: (1) In the matter of Dr. Karl Ebner: Official of Gestapo in Vienna. Arrested under direct order of Himmler. He was arrested for political unreliability. Kaltenbrunner had no other information. (pp 2-3) (2) In the matter of Dr. Ottmar Trenker: Official of Gestapo in Vienna. Apparently Trenker was connected with Austrian Resistance movement, although Kaltenbrunner states that he did not know of Trenker's connection with any resistance movement. (p3)

Ernst Kaltenbrunner, 11 October 1945
A.M.

IV A 1: Kaltenbrunner denied the statement of Lindow (Chief of Section) that orders were given by this section under Kaltenbrunner's name. (p4)

IV A 2: Kaltenbrunner stated he had no connections with Kopkow Chief of Section or with any of the operations of this section. Kaltenbrunner stated that the section was charged with equipping allied agents who had come into German territory with material for broadcasts to Allied sectors. (p5)

IV A 3: Kaltenbrunner knew nothing of this section (p5).

IV A 4: Kaltenbrunner stated he had no direct contacts with Schulz (Chief of Section) nor his unit. (p5)

IV A 5: Kaltenbrunner stated that Panzinger, listed as Chief of Section, was known to him (Kaltenbrunner) as having been in the Criminal Police (Amt 5). Kaltenbrunner stated he had no contacts with the Section only knew Panzinger as Nebe's successor when the latter was arrested in connection with the 20 July incident. (pp 5-6)

IV B 1: Kaltenbrunner stated he knew nothing of Roth nor the Section's subject, "political Catholicism". Although a Catholic himself, Kaltenbrunner stated he maintained no connection with the church. Insists nevertheless he remained devout. (pp 6-7)

IV B 2: Kaltenbrunner stated that he had to report on the matters of this section headed by Hahnenbruch: "Political Protestantism Sects". Kaltenbrunner denied ever knowing the Section Chief, however. Stated that though he reported on the subject he never made recommendations regarding the religious question. Parenthetically stated that Himmler had ordered all SS personnel to leave the church. Kaltenbrunner, of course, refused to abide by the order. (pp 7-8)

IV B 3: Section Chief Wandesleben, "Other Churches and Freemasonry". Kaltenbrunner stated that he knew neither the Section Chief nor the agency. Admitted that he had made reports regarding Freemasonry on the basis of information from his own sources. Stated that the repressive measures against Freemasonry were carried out before he, Kaltenbrunner, came to office. (pp 8-9)

IV B 4: Eichmann, Section Chief, "Jewish question". Kaltenbrunner steadfastly denied having anything more than "casual acquaintance" or dealings with Eichmann; that the principal portion of Eichmann's program was completed before Kaltenbrunner assumed his position in Berlin (pp 9-10). Kaltenbrunner denied any knowledge of the argument between Himmler and Eichmann over the latter's claim that 6 million Jews had been exterminated. (p10)

IV C 2: Kaltenbrunner stated that he knew nothing of the section. (p11). It was pointed out that this office dealt with matters of protective custody. Kaltenbrunner stated that a local authority was permitted to make an arrest and order detention for a period not to exceed 21 days. For a longer period the local agency had to look to higher authority. Kaltenbrunner denied that he had ever authorized an arrest to be made in his name. (p 11) As an example of the procedure Kaltenbrunner was shown Exhibit 377 B, a photostatic copy of an arrest order which bore Kaltenbrunner's name typed on the arrest order. (p12) Kaltenbrunner stated that he had never authorized his name to be used in such connection; undoubtedly this subordinate office had assumed that Kaltenbrunner was possessed of Heydrich's executive police powers--which he (Kaltenbrunner) in fact was not--he merely assumed Heydrich's title not his authority. (pp 10-14)

Ernst Kaltenbrunner, 11 October 1945
A.M.

EXECUTIVE POLICE POWERS UNDER AMT IV:

Kaltenbrunner, throughout his interrogation has held to the position that when he was appointed Chief of the RSHA, Himmler retained all executive police powers and gave Kaltenbrunner the minor function of controlling the Internal Information Service-- "All I had undertaken was to supply Intelligence". (pp 14-15) To illustrate that Kaltenbrunner actually exercised executive police power Kaltenbrunner was questioned regarding two incidents:

(1) Re Letter of 9 June 1943, To: State and Criminal Police, Higher SS and Police Leaders, Subject: Pregnancy Interruptions. (See Interrogation of Kaltenbrunner, 7 October 1945, 1400 hrs.) Kaltenbrunner steadfastly denied having anything to do with the matter. He stated that although it was indicated that the letter had been prepared by Amt IV D (Foreign Workers) he knew nothing of it. The letter called for virtual legalization of abortions--Kaltenbrunner insisted that he could never have proposed a measure which would look toward the establishment or abrogation of an existing law. Likewise Kaltenbrunner stated that he could never have "...put(my) his name under an order to the SS or Police Chiefs. They would have laughed at me." (pp 15-19)

(2) Re Gruppe IV --IV D 4: Kaltenbrunner was asked what connection he had with the operations of Alfred Naujocks in Belgium and Denmark. Kaltenbrunner admitted that he had transmitted certain instructions to Naujocks on counter sabotage measures to be taken in those areas. He stated that in so doing he was merely acting as an agent for Himmler; that he had been present at the end of a meeting held by Hitler re the problems of Denmark; that Himmler took the occasion to order Kaltenbrunner to transmit these orders to Naujock. Kaltenbrunner denied that he exercised any "Executive Power" in this matter. He was merely acting as Himmler's "arm". Kaltenbrunner denied that he had later received any reports from Naujock re the Danish situation. (pp 19-21)