

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of Ernst KALTENBRUNNER and Gabor VAJNA
By: Lt. Col. S. W. Brookhart, 12 October 1945, P.M., Nuremberg

PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS IMPLICATED AND SUBJECTS

1. KALTENBRUNNER

- a. As head of RSHA (p. 1)
- b. Evacuation of Hungarian Jews (p. 2-7)
 - (1) Relationship with Winkelmann and Eichmann (p. 5-7)
- c. Police Function
 - (1) Organization of Hungarian Police Divisions (p. 3-5)
 - (2) Relationship with Vajna (p. 3-5)
- d. Austria
 - (1) Murder of Political Figures (p. 7-8)
- e. Lublin Incident (p. 9-12)
- f. Medical Experiments (p. 13-16)

2. HIMMLER, POHL

- a. Knowledge of Lublin Incident (p. 9-10)

REICH SECURITY COMMISSIONER

Kaltenbrunner denied that he had ever held the title of Reich Security Commissioner; denied that such title had been held by Heydrich (p. 1).

EVACUATION OF HUNGARIAN JEWS

Kaltenbrunner identified Winkelmann as Himmler's representative in Hungary. Kaltenbrunner admitted having visited Winkelmann in March 1944; insisted that his meeting concerned the creation of a "democratic regime" in Hungary under Horthy; denied that he had even discussed the matter of coordinating German and Hungarian Police agencies (p. 2-3). Denied that at that time there had been a program for "rounding up Jews in Hungary" (p. 2).

Regarding a meeting between Kaltenbrunner and Vajna, Hungarian Minister of the Interior, in December 1944, Kaltenbrunner stated that the discussion related to the matter of "...my assisting him to accomodate parts of the Hungarian police in Germany, because they sought refuge in Germany". Insisted that the meeting was a mere courtesy call; that the matter of setting up some five commands of Hungarian Gendarmerie in Germany was never discussed. Such would have been the responsibility of Berger and the Order Police (p. 3-5). Kaltenbrunner stated that the Hungarian front at that time had completely collapsed. Vajna's only concern was to find refuge for some of his people - not with the details of organizing police divisions. Kaltenbrunner denied that the subject of discussion had been the creation of police divisions to screen the Hungarian refugees. Kaltenbrunner vehemently denied that he had discussed the problem of transportation of the Jews or that he had referred to Winkelmann and "my man Eichmann" as the individuals who would carry out the details (p. 5-7).

Kaltenbrunner and Vajna, 12 October 1945, P.M.

MURDER OF AUSTRIAN POLITICAL FIGURES

Kaltenbrunner even more vehemently denied his connection with the murder of certain political figures in Austria (at the time of the Anschluss) assisted by Hauptscharfuhrer Blank (p. 7-8).

THE LUBLIN INCIDENT

Kaltenbrunner steadfastly denied any connection with or knowledge of the Lublin exterminations. He stated that the fact that some 20,000 persons were killed was never embodied in a report either to him or from his office; that such matters would not have been handled by his office but would have gone to Himmler through Pohl (p. 9-107). Kaltenbrunner denied that the incident had occurred under order of Himmler after having received a report from Kaltenbrunner (p. 11-12).

MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS

Kaltenbrunner stated that his only knowledge of the Hochenlychen Hospital relates to the visit which he made there to meet with Wolff and Himmler re negotiations then in progress in Italy. Kaltenbrunner stated that he knew of Dr. Gebhardt the owner and chief physician. Denied knowing Dr. Karl Brunner (p. 13-14). Kaltenbrunner stated that so far as he knew the hospital was devoted to the care of SS. personnel; denied emphatically that he had had any knowledge of medical experiments conducted at that institution in connection with the concentration camp Ravensbruck. Kaltenbrunner insisted that all matters pertaining to concentration camps were handled through Pohl - these matters were never reported to Kaltenbrunner (p. 14-16).