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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of:
By:

KONSTANTIN VON NEURATH

Major John J. Monigan, Jr.

DATE: 8 October 1945 1445 ·· 1545

FLACE: Nurenberg

PERSONS IMPLICATED AND SUBJECTS

1. VON NEURATH

a. Assurances to British regarding Versailles Treaty (p. 2 - 3)

b. Anschluss negotiations with Schuschnigg (p.4, 5, 6 - 7).
(1) Attitude toward Anschluss (p.8, 9).

2. HITLER

a. Attitude toward Versailles Treaty (p. 2 - 3)

3. VON PAPEN

a. Relationship to Hitler (p. 8 - 9).

HITLER'S ATTITUDE TOWARD VERSAILLES TREATY

Is unable to recall the details of an interview between himself and Gir Eric Phipps, British ambassador, 31 May 1935. It was merely an explanation of the meaning of Hitler's speech of 21 May, that Germany considered herself bound by the territorial provisions of the Versailles Treaty (p.2 - 3).

ANSCHLUSS WITH AUSTRIA

Admits that Hitler showed him the memorandum called "Schulung" or something like it (p.4). Admits having discussed, in February 1937, the Anschluss question with Schuschnigg and having said to Schuschnigg that all neighboring states which had occupied former Austrian territories were hostile to the restoration of the Habsburgs — Benes, the Hungarian and Yugoslavian ministers and Mussolini. Mussolini said he would occupy Austria if the Habsburgs were restored. Von Neurath then said that Germany would also march in that event (p.5).

Remembered that he might have told Schuschnigg it would be a good idea to grant representation in the cabinet to the Nazis (p.6-7). He thought that Seyss-Inquart, who "was a Nazi" became a cabinet member later (p.6-7).

Reiterated his opposition to Austria's Anschluss, which Hitler desired (p.8). Witness was not informed about von Papen's activities in Austria. Papen represented Hitler himself.

Mentions two other men, one called Kopier (p.8).

Another man was Habicht, Nazi agent without office, involved in the Dollfuss murder (p.8).

Von Papen did not report to Von Neurath but directly to Hitler. Von Papen did not agree with the terrorist activities carried on by Austrian Nazis (p.9).

Was opposed to the Anschluss because this would increase the influence of the Catholic Party in the Reichstag, which was undesirable (p.9).