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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Ingerrogation of Alfred ROSENBERG

By: Lt. Col. J.S. Hinkel, 28 September 1945 P.M. Nuremberg

PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS IMPLICATED, AND SUBJECTS

1. ROSENBERG

- a. Confiscation of property by Einsatzstab Rosenberg (p. 2,11)
 - (1) Church property (p. 22 - 23)
 - (2) Legal aspects under 1940 Franco-German armistice (p. 4)
- b. Discussion of documents, 175 - PS (p.10); 321 - PS (p.15); 014 - PS (p.19); 015 - PS (p.20); 071 - PS (p.24)

2. GOERING

- a. Art collections (p.15,17)

Alfred Rosenberg, 28 September 1945 P.M.

This interrogation is devoted to the methods of the Einsatzstab and to the legality of the seizure of property.

It is to be noted that in the light of the documents produced to him, Rosenberg change his testimony. After having identified 9 documents, mentioned in the foregoing session, he is forced to admit that Einsatzstab Rosenberg had confiscated property without intention of returning it (p.2).

As to the legality of the seizure, Rosenberg admits that no paragraph of the Franco-German armistice in 1940 had given such powers (p.4).

As to receipts given for confiscated property, Rosenberg replies: "I am speaking under oath, I presume it was not given but I can't say definitely." (p.11)

Documents 175-PS, dated January 21, and 10 January 42, signed by Utikal are identified by Rosenberg, however, he does not recall having received them. Wherein objections were made by Rinke and Gerigk against the seizure of Jewish property. (p. 9,12); memorandum written by Gerigk that Rinke thinks that the confiscations were illegal and objected particularly to the method of not giving any receipts for confiscated articles (p.10). He also does not recall the name of Rinke.

Letter dated August 28, 44, 321-PS, written by Rosenberg to Party Treasurer Schwarz is produced, in which Rosenberg suggested that Goering did not have to pay for objects of art selected for himself. Rosenberg has to admit as having written this letter and explains that Goering did not have to pay for the treasures, as they were meant for an art gallery. (p.15). However, he is unable to answer the question how the owners of the objects of art were to be paid (p.17).

Reports regarding the collections in France were sent from time to time to Bormann who in turn sent them to the Fuehrer.

A photostatic copy of a report 014-PS sent to the Fuehrer by Rosenberg, dated March 20, 41 is identified by Rosenberg, in which Rosenberg informs the Fuehrer regarding the masterpieces of art collected in France, mentioning especially the Rothschild collection (p.19).

Another photostatic copy of a document dated Berlin 16 April 1943, 015-PS concerning ownerless Jewish art pieces is identified by him as being sent to the Fuehrer (p.20).

Asked whether Jewish property and that of the Masonic lodges was the only property confiscated, Rosenberg admits that also Church property was confiscated abroad and in Germany (p.22). He claims that he had nothing to do with the confiscation of Church property, he admitted, however, saying: "When Germany, for some political reasons, confiscated certain works, it was my interest to have a survey of those works for scientific research" (p.23).

Alfred Rosenberg, 28 September 1945, P.M.

Identifies document 071-PS, dated April 23, 41 addressed to Reichsleiter Bormann in which he asked to be given disposition of material, already taken by the state, for scientific research (p.24).