

OFFICE OF US CHIEF OF COUNSEL
FOR THE PROSECUTION OF AXIS CRIMINALITY
APO 403, US ARMY
OPERATIONS SECTION
INTERROGATION DIVISION

13 November, 1945.

SUBJECT : Austrian Anschluss

TO : Major General William B. Donovan.

1 In compliance with your oral request to me that I prepare a summary and questions for you concerning Goering's activities in regard to 10 and 11 March 1938, and, in view of the foregoing facts, I am of the opinion that Goering ought to be asked the following questions:

a. Were you present in the Reich Chancery at 2:00 a.m. on the morning of 10 March 1938?

b. What conversation had you had with Hitler before Glaise-Horstenau arrived in Berlin on 10 March 1938, concerning the action that Germany would take toward Austria and Schuschnigg?

c. Had Hitler previously discussed with you his intentions to complete the Anschluss by the use of military force, if necessary?

d. Did Hitler inform Glaise-Horstenau at 2:00 a.m., 10 March 1938, what action he intended taking against Schuschnigg and Austria?

e. You attended the conference held in the Reich Chancery at 8:00 p.m. on 10 March 1938, whereat you and Hitler demanded that the Austrian Minister, Glaise-Horstenau, take with him three documents to Vienna to be delivered to the persons named therein.

f. What were the three documents you and Hitler asked Glaise-Horstenau to deliver in Vienna?

g. After Glaise Horstenau departed for Vienna, why did you subsequently call Seyss-Inquart by telephone and renew the German demand that Schuschnigg call off the plebiscite or face invasion?

h. Then you again called Seyss-Inquart, placing a time limit on Schuschnigg's resignation, didn't you?

i. You also informed Seyss-Inquart that if you did not hear from him by the termination of the time limit set by you, you would assume that Schuschnigg had prevented an answer?

j. Now in the afternoon of the 11th of March 1938, you were not yet convinced that you had done all you could toward effecting a proper conclusion of the Austrian Anschluss, and you sent Keppler to Vienna by special plane. Why?

k. Why did you require that the "Call for Help" telegram be sent to you after Schuschnigg resigned?

l. Well, it was agreed in Berlin among you, Hitler, and Goebbels, that such a telegram would serve as an excuse for the invasion of Austria by Germany?

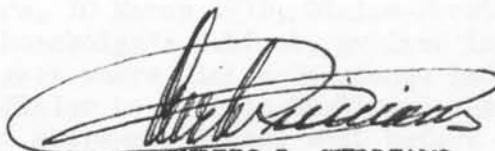
m. You subsequently did make use of that "Call for Help" telegram as a justification for your entering Austria with German troops, didn't you?

n. What was your real reason for the hurry and speed that you used in occupying Austria?

21.05
Contd.

o. Isn't it a fact that you were afraid that when Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, and Italy heard of your intentions to occupy Austria, that they too would attempt to share the occupation?

p. Why didn't you accompany Hitler into Austria on the 12th of March 1938?



CURTIS L. WILLIAMS
COLONEL, IGD
Chief, Operations Section.