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INTERROGATION OF GUENTHER PANCKE, THE FORMER GERMAN GENERAL OF THE POLICE
IN DENMARK IN THE CASTLE. COPENHAGEN, AUGUST 31, 1945.

When the defendant was asked whether he knew the name of the Danish confidential persons who were in the service of the German police, he answers that he does not know any. Asked again about his knowledge of the Peter-Group, he answers that he knew the leader Peter Schaeffer only, and did not know that Schaeffer had an alias. However he knows that Peter was returned and replaced by another person whose name he does not remember. When the defendant was asked whether he knew the name of "Waldenburg", he answers with "No", but at the mention of the name Issel, he answers he was the successor.

The defendant does not know how much knowledge Dr. Best had of the Peter-Group and in compliance with an order from Berlin, Bovensiepen tried to keep the names of the participants of the group in secrecy. However, the defendant believes that it is unlikely that Best should not know who were the leaders, but he has no proof that Best knew it. The defendant does not know why and when Peter was replaced by Issel; he has not participated in the discussions about the change in leadership of the Peter-Group.

Asked again about his meeting with Himmler on about the 9th December 1943, the defendant declares that he had received from Himmler the order to carry out the counterterror. After his return to Denmark he had of course immediately notified Best and Mildner on the new line as directed by Himmler. He does not remember on which day he did return. However, the defendant, Best and Mildner agreed upon a new request for a meeting with Himmler, Kaltenbrunner, and von Ribbentrop and decided not to start anything until then. Such a meeting did not take place since on December 30 1943 he was summoned before Hitler together with Best, and von Hanneken. In the period between his return from Himmler and this meeting, the defendant has not given any order to Mildner to carry out the counterterror. On the contrary, he said, to wait. After having spent the New Year in Braunschweig, the defendant may have returned from his meeting with Hitler on January 3, 1944 and he would then have told Mildner to start the counterterror movement. The defendant does not remember how long Mildner remained in Denmark, however, he learned from English Officers who have interrogated him that, after the arrival of Bovensiepen, Mildner stayed here for about another week.

When the defendant was asked whether he knew about the murder of Pastor Kaj Munk, he answers "Yes". In his opinion this murder was committed at the end of December 1943. When the defendant was told that Kaj Munk was murdered on January 5, 1944, he believes that it must have been a result of the new general order he gave to Mildner, without his having previous knowledge of Pastor Kaj Munk. He did not even know the name of Kaj Munk before the murder.

The defendant asked Bovensiepen several times whether this murder was committed by German circles; but Bovensiepen said "No", and maybe he did not know himself that the murder was done by the Germans.