

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of: HERMANN GOERING
By: Col. J.H. Amen, 20 October 1945, PM. Nuremberg

PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS IMPLICATED AND SUBJECTS

1. GOERING:

- a. Annexation of Austria (pp 1-3)
- b. Persecution of Jews (pp 3-5)
(1) Meeting of 12 November 1938 (pp 17-19)
- c. Roehm Purge
(1) Schleicher Affair (pp 6-7, 12-15; 17)
- d. The Fritsch Affair (p 8)
- e. The Blomberg Affair (pp 7-9)
- f. Hindenburgs Last Will (p 10)
- g. Relationship with: Peter Jacob Vossen (p 18); Dr. Fritz Doerr (p 18-19); Stolberg (p 11); Schleicher (pp 6, 9-16); Strasser (p 15); Roehm (p 13); Joachim Bussak (p 6); Alfred Bussak (p 7); Hans Halm (p 7, 15); General Fritsch (p 8); Blomberg (p 9); Hindenburg (p 10); Eckert (p 13); Alvensleben (p 13); Bredow (p 15); Papen (p 16); Frick (17);
- h. Discussion of Documents: ~~1816~~ 1816 FS (p 18)

ANNEXATION OF AUSTRIA

Goering acknowledged that German troops were concentrated in Southern Bavaria about the 14th February 1938. The purpose was to impress Austria's neighbors not to interfere, nor attempt to occupy certain territories, in the event of German invasion. It was intended to "sober" Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Italy. It was not for the purpose of intimidating Schuschnigg for the latter knew all too well the strength of Germany and the fact that Hitler could at any time order his troops to march into Austria (pp 1-3)

PERSECUTION OF JEWS

Goering acknowledged having very probably made a speech on 26 March 1938 (which was recorded by the American Legation-- Dispatch No 152) in which he demanded that the Jewish population of Vienna leave the city at once. (p 3) Goering acknowledged that the speech was likely pre-arranged with the Party organization in Austria. (pp 4-5) Goering insisted that the Austrian frontiers were open for Jewish emigration until the Paris Incident in November 1938. (p 5)

Goering recalled a meeting which was held on 12 November 1938 at which the Jewish problem was discussed. Document 1816 FS was presented for his consideration--the document referring to this meeting. Goering was to establish their authenticity for report at a later date. (pp 18-19)

Hermann Goering, 20 October 1945 PM.

THE SCHLEICHER AFFAIR

Goering acknowledged knowing Erich von Schleicher. Regarding Joachim Bussak, Goering stated that this man was not Schleicher's Secretary, but rather the Superintendent of the Office Staff in the Chancellory whom Hitler dismissed for "unreliability". (p 6) Goering denied knowing Alfred Bussak nor did he have any knowledge of General Hans Halm's connection with the Bussak matter. (pp 6-7)

Goering recalled that Schleicher died on 30 June 1934. According to reports received by Hitler and Hindenburg, Schleicher was shot by members of the Gestapo who entered his house to arrest him. The arrest of Schleicher had been ordered by Hitler because of the former's connection with plans for the commission of high treason. Goering stated that strict orders had been issued not to shoot Schleicher. Nevertheless, on that day (in the course of the Roehm-Putsch) many people were shot--probably most of them connected with the Roehm affair. Goering stated that neither Papen nor Frick had anything to do with the Schleicher affair. Frick's name was probably brought into question by reason of the fact that Strasser had a list of members of the Reichstag who had been committed to support Strasser's plan to make Hitler vice-Chancellor (which, of course, was unthinkable). Frick was among those members listed. (pp 12-17)

THE FRITSCH AFFAIR

Goering stated that he is acquainted with the difficulties encountered by Fritsch. Goering learned of these matters by reason of his position as President of the Court Martial which handled the Fritsch case. (p 8)

THE BLOMBERG AFFAIR

Goering stated that he was acquainted with the details of Blomberg's resignation. The resignation took place prior to the official announcement on 8 February 1938. His resignation was somehow connected with his marriage which occurred at that time. Goering stated that he would discuss the details with the Interrogator in privacy.