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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of Robert LEY

By: Major J. J. Honigan, Jr. 6 October 1945, A.M., Nuremberg

PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS IMPLICATED, AND SUBJECTS

1. LEY

- a. Responsibility for internal organization of NSDAP (p. 1-14).
 - (1) Early influence in the Party (p. 1-6).
 - (2) Education and organization of the Politischer Leiter (p. 6-7, 13-14)

2. NSDAP

- a. Internal control of Germany through the Politischer Leiter (p. 6-9).

LEADERSHIP CORPS OF THE NAZI PARTY

The entire interrogation was a discussion of the selection of the personnel and functions of the Nazi Leadership Corps (p. 1-15). Before the NSDAP came into power in 1933, political leadership was furnished by the early Party members themselves. After the regime was established, organized penetration was necessary and only those Party members were elected whose leadership and activities made them worthy of being "bearers of the Party sovereignty".

In the first step of Party organization, Ley established "the official heads of the Party" and also the Party "personnel office", the functions of which were to educate the Politische Leiter (p. 6). He also was responsible for the organization of the Party with the Reichs Leiter at the top, down through the respective Gauleiters, Kreisleiters, Ortsgruppenleiters, Cell Leiters and lastly, Block Leiters (p. 5).

The early intentions of the Party were to keep the State and Party strictly separated (p. 6). Consequently a task of the Politischer Leiter was to keep in constant contact with the people preparing legislative principals in labor, education, economics, agriculture, etc. (p. 7). All these functions had to be carried on in each section of the Hierarchy (p. 7). In order to have a supervision of the organization, Ley founded the "Organizational Department" (p. 8).

Ley discusses the complicated distinction between the members of the Politischer Leiter who were not "bearers of sovereignty" (p. 13-14).

Ley organized the Party schools, particularly being responsible for the school at the Ordenburgen (p. 13). Was also partly responsible for the Hitler schools (p. 14). The program of training in these institutions was established by Ley's School Department. He denied that the curriculum was in any way influenced by the relation with the SS or SA (p. 14).