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HEADQUARTERS
6850TH INTERNAL SECURITY DETACHMENT
INTERNATIONAL MILITARY TRIBUNAL
APO 403, U.S. ARMY

2 November 1945.

MEMORANDUM:

TO : Major General DONOVAN, Office, U. S. Chief of Counsel,
APO 403, U. S. Army.

The following are the announcements made on Dr. Robert Ley's death:

At 1530 hours 26 October 1945 the following announcement through an interpreter was made to the male prisoners in the "W" Wing and at 1600 hours to the prisoners of war laborers in the "C" Wing:

"Dr. Ley, one of those indicted for trial before the International Military Tribunal committed suicide in his cell last night. Despite our efforts he managed to kill himself by strangulation on the toilet seat, his mouth stuffed with rags torn from his own drawers."

The following announcement was made at 1340 to the women in the "W" Wing:

"You may be seated. I have an announcement to make which is very upsetting and may be shock to some of you. When unpleasant news needs to be published as in this case, I, myself, will do it. I cannot allow any feelings in a matter to alter my position of presenting information impersonally and briefly. Therefore you will bear with any appearance of bluntness or appearance of harshness, as my announcement will be simple. It concerns Dr. Ley.

"Dr. Ley, one of those indicted for trial by the International Military Tribunal, committed suicide in his cell last night.

"I don't think it is necessary for all of you to be informed of any further details and if any desire to be excused, they may do so."

Hildegard Bruninghoff lost her composure and turned her face to the wall in an effort to stifel her tears. I announced that Dr. Kelley was present to take care of anyone who felt they may leave at this time. Bruninghoff hurried to her cell followed by Major D. M. Kelley and 1st Lt. Dorothy Mears, Assistant Prison Officer and Nurse.

NOTE: H. Bruninghoff was Dr. Ley's secretary, took care of his children, and is alleged to have borne one by him.

Continuing the announcement, I informed them that: "Despite our effort to keep constant observation he managed to kill himself in the alcove where the toilet is. He gained time to do this by giving appearance of being there because of a call of nature and thus delayed the entry of the sentinel to investigate long enough to accomplish his purpose."

MEMORANDUM, To; Major General DONOVAN, Office, U. S. Chief of Counsel, 2 Nov 45.

"All of you here in the past have experienced sorrow and shock. You therefore will be the ones who know best how to help your fellow prisoner to whom this has been a shock."

NOTE: Upon leaving the cell block, Johanna Wolf was seen hurrying to Bruninghoff's cell with tight-lipped determination.



B. C. ANDRUS
Colonel, Cav
Colonel.