

SCHELLENBERG'S statement regarding DANISH REPRISALS

Owing to complaints by DOENITZ concerning the continual increase of Resistance activities in Denmark, and sabotage which was directed mainly against the German Kriegsmarine, HITLER ordered a conference to discuss measures to be taken, and the following were present: -

HIMMLER

KALTENBRUNNER

Dr. BEST, the Reichs Plenipotentiary for Denmark  
Bovensiepen, The Wehrmacht's C. in C. for Denmark  
PANKE, HSSPF.

A number of officers, possibly RIBBENTROP.

HITLER's orders to HIMMLER were that sharper police measures were to be instituted, and reprisals made for every sabotage incident perpetrated. If Germans lost their lives, executions were to take place. HIMMLER in turn gave directions to PANKE and KALTENBRUNNER on these lines. KALTENBRUNNER in turn ordered MUELLER and SKORZENY to talk the matter over with BOVENSIEPEN. SKORZENY intended to send a few of his trained sabotage experts to Denmark but SCHELLENBERG is unaware whether he actually did so. SCHELLENBERG recalls that SKORZENY made one trip only to Denmark, with the object possibly of entering into discussions with his chief colleague in Copenhagen, SCHWEDT. This latter individual was later replaced by one ISSEL. SCHELLENBERG claims that he last saw KALTENBRUNNER in Berlin about 16th or 17th April, 1945. On that occasion KALTENBRUNNER was accompanied by SCHWEDT and SCHELLENBERG therefore assumes that KALTENBRUNNER must have discussed matters affecting Denmark with this man. SCHELLENBERG believes that it was DOENITZ who demanded the shooting of hostages for every sabotage incident which took place in Denmark against wharves and ships. At any rate BEST, the Reichs Plenipotentiary for Denmark, was very averse to these measures. KALTENBRUNNER evidently spoke at length with HITLER concerning Resistance in Denmark and BEST's uncompromising attitude. On one occasion KALTENBRUNNER told SCHELLENBERG that HITLER had "seen through" Dr. BEST, and had referred to him in a derogatory manner, saying that his name ought to be Dr. BEAST, not BEST. In April 1945 Dr. BEST complained bitterly to SCHELLENBERG about the attitude adopted towards him by KALTENBRUNNER and MUELLER of Amt IV. SCHELLENBERG also assumes that KALTENBRUNNER must have been responsible for counter-measures in Denmark, since he told SCHELLENBERG that he was about to send NAJOCKS to Denmark on a mission. Both SKORZENY and NAJOCKS co-operated closely with BOVENSIEPEN. Individual reports were passed to MUELLER by the latter. On one occasion HITLER demanded a report on the situation in Denmark and this was drawn up by SKORZENY. SCHELLENBERG believes that KALTENBRUNNER must have discussed the contents of this report with FEGELEIN to the effect that HITLER was not satisfied with the report and required photographs depicting the various incidents. SKORZENY was ordered by SCHELLENBERG to discuss the matter with KALTENBRUNNER and in due course the same report, with photographs, was submitted to KALTENBRUNNER, who is believed by SCHELLENBERG to have laid it before HITLER.

SCHELLENBERG recalls a detail concerning a shooting incident in which a Lane was involved. ROVENSIEPEN had apparently placed a police car, bearing a police number, at the disposal of one of his henchmen. During the course of the shooting incident the number of the car was noted by the Danish Criminal Police and a report was submitted to ROVENSIEPEN complaining that one of his cars had been used in the incident. SCHELLENBERG does not know the outcome of the affair. SCHELLENBERG definitely recalls that NAUJOCKS reported to him personally to say that he was being sent by KALTENBRUNNER on a mission to Denmark. SCHELLENBERG referred him to SKORZENY who he said was handling the matter.