

46.04

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of ROSENBERG, Alfred  
By: Lt. Colonel Hinkel, 22 September 1945, p.m.

---

Persons and organizations implicated, and subjects

1. ROSENBERG

- a. Foreign Political Office (p. 2)
- b. Reich Minister for eastern occupied territories (p. 7)
- c. Volkischer (p. 8)
- d. Labor front support (p. 1-7)
- e. Anschluss (p. 17)
- f. Jewish question (p. 17, 19, 20)

2. GOERING

- a. Four Year Plan
  - (1) Economic developments in eastern occupied territories (p. 7).
  - (2) Police in occupied territory (p. 7)

Rosenberg Alfred, 22 September 1945, p.m.

In his capacity as Head of the Foreign Political Office, witness refers to two trips made to London, by the order of the Führer, first in November 31, and second in May 33. He had been asked by some of his English friends to acquaint political persons in England with the aims of the Nazi movement. Trip to Rome made in November 32, was to attend meeting of Congress of scientists and politicians. (2)

Asked as to his duties as Reichsminister for Eastern Occupied Territories, witness reveals his task to check up laws of those countries with that of the Reich. The result was a formation of autonomous governments in Latvia, Esthonia, and Lithuania, the German administration. In connection with the Eastern territories two separate missions were taken out of Rosenbergs hands. The one was the four-year plan, economic development in charge Goering, the police was entrusted to Himmler, Poland was under the jurisdiction of the General Government. Two special commissars had been appointed by Hitler, Gauleiter Lohse, Commissar for Ostland, and Gauleiter Koche, for the Ukraine. They were in legislative matters under Rosenberg's supervision. (7)

Questioned further as to when he became connected with the Volkischer "Beobachter", witness admits having started to work for this paper as early as 1921. (8), and became Editor-in-Chief in 1923, the Volkische Beobachter, being the official paper of the Nazi Party.

Witness reveals that he continued writing for the paper, after 1934. Asked as to the topics of the articles during the period of struggle, the witness reveals that the main topic was the idea that the party should become the government.

After the party came to power, Rosenberg's articles supported the idea of a labor front, German "Ordnungsstaat", witness does not recall having written any articles in favor of "Anschluss", admits, however, having written articles advocating a revision of the Versailles treaty and asking for more "Lebensraum". Asked about his attitude towards the Jewish question, the witness answers that he was convinced that Antisemitism in Germany was a defensive movement. Admits having endorsed the Anti Jewish policy. Admits having said in his speech made March 28, 1941, at The Frankfurt Institute of Research, that the Jewish problem will be solved when the last Jew has left Germany. Admits having voted for laws discriminating against Jews. (17)

Rosenberg's attention is drawn to the fact that he contradicts himself by having advocated the same rights for Jews before the law, while he was actually voting for discrimination. The witness explains that he had changed his point of view in the course of years. (19/20)

Witness admits having had knowledge about the treatment of Jews in the Eastern Occupied Territories but claimsthat decrees to this effect had been issued by the police and not by him. Witness admits that he knew about the shooting of Jews in concentration camps but did not go into the matter further.

Rosenberg Alfred, 22 September 1945, p.m.

The interrogator requests witness to think about the information he could give as to the treatment accorded to Jews in the Eastern Occupied Territory and give this information in the next session.