

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

DOCUMENT ROOM INTERROGATION ANALYSIS

WITNESS: Hermann Goering
BY: Col. Amen

DATE: 3 October 1945

PLACE: Nurnberg

NAME HEADINGS : Goering. Seyss-Inquart. Von Papen

INDEX HEADINGS: Aggressive War - Austria

Goering is asked whether he paid 5,000,000 Reichsmarks to Major Loehr of the Austrian Air Force prior to the Anschluss, through the Aero Club, for military information. Goering replies that his information as to the Austrian Air Force, at this time, was most complete, that he would not have needed to pay any such sum, that the Austrian Air Force at that time consisted only of one squadron, and that he knew all about it anyway. He says that he does not recall paying 5,000,000 RM for any purpose. If von Papen says the sum was paid, he will not deny it, but believes it was paid for some other purpose than to secure information. He suggests it could have been for the benefit of officers forced to resign because of Anschluss propaganda (1-12). In July 1937, German and Austrian Governments agreed to exchange visits of economic representatives. At that time Goering admits he made a speech to the Austrian representatives making it clear to them that the Anschluss was to be effected soon, one way or the other, and that they were traitors to the German cause and should be ashamed of themselves for not making Austria part of Germany (13). He agreed that the Austrian representatives got very frightened. He says he never made an apology or retraction of this speech, but possibly von Papen did so on his behalf (15). The remainder of this interrogation deals with Goering's part in effecting the Anschluss on 11 March 1938 (15-25). Goering admits he "possibly was the most active man in Berlin on that day" (16).