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

INTERROGATION OF BDLUR VON SCHIRCH

By: Lt. Col. Hinkel, 11, September 1945, p.m., Nuremberg

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3. Miss Greifwelden, Miss Jutte Ruediger, Arthur Axmann and Hermann-Leutner. Schirch's assistants (p.9-10)

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A. PERSONAL HISTORY AND STATUS OF SCHIRCH

Schirch describes his early days with the Party and points out that he became Youth Leader of the Party in 1931. (8) He joined the Party in 1928. His task was to create and organize youth organizations and coordinate existing ones. He states further that he became Jugend Reichsleiter in 1933 (8) although he remarked on page 2 that he obtained this position in December 1936. (9) The Hitler Youth Movement had been under Kurt Gruber with the Pupil's Bund under Dr. von Renteln (6), before Schirch. He belonged also to the S".
B. YOUTH INDOCTRINATION

The HJ comprised all youth from 10 to 18 years after which they would become a member either of the S or the Party, most entering the Party. (p.7) He believes that Hitler's idea in founding the organization S was to have storm troopers. (p.8)

The HJ Movement consists of four (p.4) groups; namely

MALES
1. The Jung Volk, age group 10 to 14 (Pimpfe)
2. Hitler Youth, age group 14 to 18

FEMALES
3. B.D.W. (girls), age group 10 to 14
4. Hitler Youth (girls), age group 14 to 18

In charge of the female youth movement was first Miss Greifwelden, and later Miss Juttr Buediger, who was an assistant of Schirrch. (p.8) "The most important of the assistants Schirrch names Arthur Kempe and Hermann - Leutenbacher. (p.10)

Up to 1933 Schirrch reported to Hitler weekly in educational matters. Later on he reported very seldom because Hitler left it entirely up to him. (p.11) The main topic when he conferred with Hitler was money needed for camps, equipment, tents and hikes. (p.11) Hitler never vetoed any of his plans concerning the Youth Organization. (p.11) Hitler's idea was that the H.J. be the reservoir from which the Party would draw its members. (p.13)

He describes his responsibility for the Youth Organization in the following words:

"I went to report here again what I have already said several times to the American gentlemen who interrogated me. I am responsible for the HJ now as I have been before." (p.13)

Schirrch admits that in his agency there was an office established concerned with the indoctrination of the Youth "Reichsschulungsamt."

Schirrch wrote two books. One was entitled "Form and Revolution of Education" comprising a collection of his speeches which possibly was used as indoctrination material. (p.14)

Schirrch stated that his task was to take care of the youth activities outside of School. (p.15)

Concerning pre-military education he points out that within the HJ there were several different groups such as the "Air HJ preening for pilots, the Marine HJ preening for the Navy, and special Signal Corps HJ. He claims these groups originated in an organic manner and out of the desire of the youth itself but he admits he encouraged the formation of these groups and helped them morally and financially but was hindered mostly by lack of financial funds. (p.16)"
v. Schirch, 11. September 19'5 P.M.

Regarding the Marine HJ, he admits that the Navy gave them cutters for training and racing purposes, and later on instruction in fundamentals of navigation. He admits it could be considered of pre-military value. (p.17) His purpose in encouraging this pre-military training was to shorten the period of military service, but he admits that the period of conscription was never reduced. (p.18)

Schirch admits that a large part of the time of the HJ was devoted to outdoor activities, and especially to body-building sports such as mass gymnastics. He admits further that discipline training was given to the participants of the HJ. (p.19) Schirch declares that it was important after the conscription was reintroduced to have youth in the 'smy which had an all-round physical development. (p.20)