

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of HAUSHOFER, Karl
By: Col. H. A. Brundage, 5 October 1945

PERSONS IMPLICATED, AND SUBJECTS

- 1. HAUSHOFER
 - a. Relationship with HESS (p.2)
 - b. As President of German Academy from 1934 - 1937 (p.17 - 18, 20 - 21)
 - c. Views on Lebensraum (p. 22 - 23)
- 2. HESS
 - a. Relationship with Hitler (p. 4)
 - (1) Collaboration in writing Mein Kampf (p.6 -9)

CHARACTERIZATION OF HESS

Professor Doctor Karl Haushofer was a teacher in geopolitics, no member of any Nazi organization. He had a very intimate acquaintanceship with Hess. He was in close contact with him since the time Hess was his student until he flew to England. He describes him as follows: His strong side was not intelligence but heart and character (p. 2 - 3). He had a blind devotion to Hitler, and Hitler discussed with him subjects of philosophy, such as geopolitics. Hess was far more educated in the field of geopolitics than Hitler (p. 4). Haushofer thinks that Hitler got his ideas on the subject "Lebensraum" from Hess, but that Hitler never understood them really (p.5). As far as the witness knows, Hess actually dictated many chapters of the book "Mein Kampf". In the main principles, he states, Hitler's ideas never reflected his teachings (pp. 6 to 9). He thinks that Ribbentrop inspired Hitler more in regard to geopolitics than Hess (p. 10).

In the opinion of the witness, the reason for Hess' flight to England was his own sense of honor and perhaps in connection with initiating peace feelers. However, Hess did not talk with him about this matter (p. 15).

AS PRESIDENT OF GERMAN ACADEMY

The witness explains the difference of his opinions and his teachings contrary to Hitler's and the contents of his book "Mein Kampf" (p.11 to 14).

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The relations of the witness to Bohle were very unfriendly (p.16). The witness was President of the German Academy and he states that this organization, as long as he was President, from 1934 to 1937, had no part of the propaganda machine (p. 17 - 18) and no connection with the German High Command (p. 20,21).

The witness gives a detailed picture of the activities of the Academy (p. 19 - 20). He does not have exact knowledge of the secret armament (p.21). He also hoped for a peaceful settlement. He thought that there would be enough Lebensraum for the Germans for 100 years if the Nazis would have been satisfied with what was given to them in Munich (p. 22 - 23).