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Report of Interrogation #5509 of
P/W von RINTELEN, Emil
Ambassador at large
Unit: Foreign Office, Berlin
Capt'd: 7 May 1945, Garmish-Partenkirchen

16 July 1945
IO: Lt Best

Veracity: The following is believed reliable.

Personality: P/W is cooperative and intelligent. He had responsible positions in the Foreign Office for over 20 years and should be able to answer many questions on Foreign Office activities and plans.

Civilian History:

- 10 January 1887 : Born in Stettin. Took his Abitur in Berlin in 1915.
- 1915 - 1919 : Fought in World War I - Fought on all fronts and was discharged in Feb 1919 as a Lt. in the reserve.
- 1919 - 1921 : Studied law and political science at the universities of Berlin and Kiel.
- 1 July 1921 : Was appointed attache in the Foreign Office and remained in Berlin for two years.
- June 1923 : Was appointed Legation secretary and attached to the German Embassy in Paris.
- December 1928 : Appointed Legation Counselor at the German Legation in Warsaw, Poland.
- September 1932 : Recalled to Berlin and was appointed head of the Western European section. In his early activity in this department, the countries that came under this section were France, Belgium, Holland and Switzerland. In 1936, Great Britain and Ireland were also included.
- June 1940 : Was appointed Assistant Chief of the Political Section of the Foreign Office which included all countries. At the same time, he was appointed Gesandter 1st class (Envoy, 1st class).
- March 1943 : Was appointed "Botschafter zur besonderen Verwendung" (Ambassador at large).
- April 1943
to January 1944 : Because ill with a liver ailment, was not active in any Foreign Office work. P/W describes his ailment as largely due to working with Ribbentrop who apparently was a very difficult man to get along with.

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- January 1944 : Published a secret weekly report that was distributed to various Government agencies. The material for this report was obtained from radio monitoring, foreign press notices and reports coming into the Foreign Office. At the same time, P/W acted as a sort of coordinator between the different departments seeing to it that the various departments of the Foreign Office did not duplicate each others work. Was in Berlin until
- 14 April 1944 : at which time he was ordered to go to Garmisch-Partenkirchen where about 50 members of the Foreign Office were to be sent in order that the Foreign Office could continue to function even if Berlin were taken by the Russians. The plan was never carried out as it was started too late. Only a very few department heads reached this destination.
- 7 May 1945 : P/W was captured in Garmisch-Partenkirchen.

Political History:

P/W is a Catholic and, according to himself, tried to stay out of the Party. However, in late 1939 he was told that unless he became a Party member, he would not be advanced in the Foreign Office and furthermore that he would be suspected of being a member of the opposition. P/W became a member of the Party in 1940.

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