

TRANSLATION BY
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See Dossier B

TO: General Donovan

FROM: Dr. von Schlabrendorff

SUBJECT: Conversation with State Secretary von Bismarck.

Yesterday I had a talk with my father-in-law, State Secretary Herbert von BISMARCK, who is at present administrative head of the two counties of Lichtenfels and Staffelstein. In 1932, when SCHLEICHER was Chancellor, my father-in-law became Secretary in the Prussian Ministry of the Interior. In this position he saw HITLER's seizure of power and saw how GOERING became Minister of the Interior. My father-in-law remembers three things:

1. The burning of the Reichstag
2. GOERING's recognition of injustice
3. The atrocities of the SA

My father-in-law believes to point 1, on the basis of his personal impression, that the Reichstag was burned with the knowledge and wish of GOERING.

Re point 2, my father-in-law was present when GOERING said literally at the first meeting of Superior and Government Presidents in Prussia: "I am proud of the fact that I do not know what justice is."

Re point 3, my father-in-law reported to GOERING concerning the atrocities of the SA and demanded that steps be immediately undertaken against them. When GOERING refused to do anything, my father-in-law resigned in May 1933. GOERING wanted to pacify my father-in-law and proposed to him (a) appointment as Government President and (b) appointment as Prussian State Councillor. My father-in-law refused both appointments.

He is ready at any time to talk to you. He lives at Lichtenfels (100 kilometers from ~~B~~urnberg) and has a car.

/s/ von Schlabrendorff

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