

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of: Schirach

DATE: 6 October 1945 AM
Nuremberg

BY: Lt. Col. Hinkel

A. YOUTH INDOCTRINATION: § p. 2-8, 10-14, 16, 20, 23-26, 28, 36

B. PERSECUTION OF JEWS: p. 18-19, 31, 33, 37

C. SLAVE LABOR: p.39

In 1933 there existed:

- a. A Catholic youth movement
- b. A Protestant youth movement, and
- c. The Buendische Jugend, besides a few more unimportant organizations,

Resulting from an agreement between Schirach and Reichsbishop Mueller, the Protestant youth movement was consolidated into H.J. In 1934 Schirach made a proposal to Catholic Bishop Berning and Archbishop Grober for an agreement concerning the field of action of the Catholic youth organization, and the H.J., which proposal was accepted, (p.2)

Schirach concedes that his intention was elimination of the Catholic youth movement and that in 1933 or 1934 he issued an order against simultaneous membership in the Catholic movement and H.J. (p.3) He believes if the Roehm affair, in which neither he nor his organization participated, had not taken place, he would have been able to come to a final agreement with the Church youth organization. (p.4 -5)

Schirach's discussions about the confessional youth movement took place in the Ministry of Interior with Frick, Stuckart and Rust, while Himmler and Heydrich were only interested as far as criminal activities of youth were concerned.

Schirach admits the possibility of being the spiritual originator of or at least of having participated personally or through his staff in initiating Himmler's Order of 25 July 1935 forbidding confessional youth organizations to engage in any activities except those of purely religious nature. The aim and policy of these orders and implicitly Schirach's was, by eliminating all other youth movements, to have only one large youth movement, the H.J., which was then established by law on 1 September 1936 (Compulsory H.J. p.6 - 8).

Schirach concedes that the order of the Ministry of Education from 1935 that only H.J. members could enter the teaching profession was in accordance with his policy. (p.10). The same applies to the order of the Minister of the Interior whereby only members of H.J., S.A., and S.S. could be admitted as apprentices and pupils in public works or offices (11).

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He concedes an opposition in the part of the head of the Buendische Jugend, Admiral Trotha, who later became his friend. Schirach knows only of the arrest of one Communist youth leader, Tusk, but does not know about his final fate. (12)

The leader of the Reichs Committee of German Youth Associations, General Vogt, became Schirach's collaborator. Schirach concedes that, in 1933 or 1934, he ordered the dissolution of this organization and sent an order to Berlin to take over in his name all their records and offices. His measures concerning the forcible dissolution of other youth movements were only afterward legalized. The same applies to the Reich Union of German Youth Hostels, the only difference being that the Union remained intact but under Schirach's control. (p.13 & 14) The Marxist youth movement was forbidden by law in 1933 (p.16)

All members of the H.J. who had joined this organization between 1930 and 1936 became the "Stamm H.J.", and those joining after that date became the "Allgemeine H.J.", from which certain people were selected and transferred to the Stamm. (p.20) Axmann knows more about Stamm H.J. and Allgemeine H.J. because it was introduced in his time.

Schirach collaborated with Ley in regard to the establishing of Adolf Hitler Schools, whose purpose was the establishment of some sort of academy for politics (Political leadership).

In 1938 Schirach created an academy for youth leadership called "Academy for Youth Education in Brunswick"

Schirach arranged exchange of youth leaders between France and Germany in 1936 and 1937. (p.23)

"Streifendienst" was a sort of police unit of the H.J. in which Himmler and Heydrich were especially interested. (p.24) Schirach remembered that the Sicherheitshauptamt wanted to take the leaders of the coming generation from the Streifendienst. (p.25) Streifendienst participated in some S.S. activities.

Schirach remembered an agreement with Himmler of 6 December 1935 in which one provision stated that the "Farm service" of H.J. is an aim particularly well suited as a recruiting organization for the S.S. (p.26) Schirach does not know if he initiated negotiations with Himmler leading to this agreement; Says possibly it was Darre. (p.28) The largest part of the H.J. went into the political party S.A., and Schirach admits that the largest part of the S.S. was recruited from the H.J. (p.28)

When Schirach went to Vienna he did not interest himself with the Austrian youth movement.

He recalls the founding of the "European Youth League", and the assumption of his protectorship of the "South-East European Society", which was founded by Minister Funk to promote economic relations with the Balkans. Schirach denies that the Society (meaning the Southeast European Society) had the task of spreading Nazi ideology.

He was personally against the idea of Lebensraum, but officially, of course, he had to support it, for Lebensraum was one of the tenets of HJ doctrine. (24) He admits never having published anything about his personal opinion of Lebensraum. (36)

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B. JEWS, PERSECUTION OF

Schirach claims to have issued orders forbidding the H.J. to use force or violence against Jews, (18) and denies any H.J. participation in the riots of 10 November 1938, since it was ordered by the S.A. (p 19)

To transplant the Jews from Vienna was part of the Nazi program, and an order from Hitler with which Schirach agreed. Schirach believed the living together of German and Jewish business men was impossible. (31)

He denies any responsibility for deportation of Jews, and any cooperation with the S.S. in this matter; he further denies any knowledge of the living conditions of Jews.

He agrees, in substance, with a speech of 15 September 1942 attributed to him and published in the Voelkische Beobachter where in the removal of the Jews from Vienna was hailed as a substantial contribution to European culture. (33) Referring to this speech, Schirach claims to have had frequent violent rows with newspaper people, but admits that he never denied or corrected his statements in newspapers publications, so that the public could assume that they were correct. (37)

C. SLAVE LABOR

Schirach admits that a large number of foreign workers were brought to Vienna from the East, France, Greece and Bulgaria, but he had nothing to do with them, and the responsibility for their treatment rests with Sauckel. Schirach claims, furthermore, that in all the factories and barracks that he inspected, living and working conditions were good. He knew Eichgruber who was Gauleiter of Upper Austria, but not under his supervision. (39)