

(28)

TOP SECRET

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

G. N. REPORT

G.R.G.N. No. 2

Report on information obtained from German notabilities on 19th to 22nd April, 1945:

The following are the names of the personages referred to in this report:

Herr Franz von Papen	- ex-Chancellor Germany, Captured at Stockhausen, 10 April, 1945.
Hauptmann Max von Papen (son of Herr von Papen)	- Captured at Stockhausen, 9 April, 1945.
Baron von Stockhausen (son-in-law of Herr von Papen)	- Captured at Stockhausen, 10 April, 1945.

I. DIPLOMATIC

1. Dr. Schusnigg.

Herr von Papen stated to a British army officer that he had made every endeavour to have Dr. Schusnigg and the other Austrian personalities, arrested at the same time as he, released from imprisonment. In one case he was successful and about a year ago the son of the Archduke Rudolph was set free.

An Under Secretary of the Austrian Foreign Office, who was eventually released from a concentration camp, had told Herr von Papen that the camp in itself was not too bad, but that the Austrian Communists who were imprisoned there with him had given him a great deal of trouble.

II. POLITICAL

1. San Francisco Conference.

Herr von Papen awaits the outcome of the San Francisco Conference with great interest. He considers that it will show just how genuine the desire for cooperation between the United Nations really is. He, himself, is very dubious of a successful outcome.

2. The Future of Germany.

(a) Herr von Stockhausen does not think that the re-education of German youth should present any great difficulty. He considers that the majority of young people under sixteen are not Nazis. In any case, he hopes that, on the overthrow of the Nazi regime, the monastic orders will be allowed to return and re-open their schools.

(b) Herr von Papen, in a statement to a British army officer, said that he hopes that the Allied Military Government in Germany will make use of prominent anti-Nazi Germans in an advisory capacity. The task of the A.M.G. will be practically insuperable unless it is agreed to work with the Germans who know the country and the people.

TOP-SECRET

TOP SECRET

In Herr von Papen's opinion it will be no use employing German refugees in this connection. Even Brueing, who was regarded at one time so highly in Germany, is now looked on as an outsider and practically a foreigner.

(c) Herr von Stockhausen has stated that he would be only too glad to cooperate with the Allies in maintaining order and suppressing any resistance in the Arensberg region, of which he was at one time Regierungsprasident.

He has suggested that the Allies should utilise a certain Schmidt to help them with the rebuilding of German utilities, factories, etc. This Schmidt was Regierungsprasident in Dusseldorf and had been a member of the Social Democrat party. He was sacked by the Nazis in 1936 because his wife was not completely aryan and went to live with his brother in Hamburg, where the brother ran a shipping line to Finland. Herr Schmidt was also a successful President of the Siedlungsverband (Worker's Settlement Committee) in the Ruhr, and in the last war was in the German Food Ministry.

Herr von Stockhausen told a British army officer that an Inspector of Police told him that on the approach of Allied troops the Nazi authorities issued a "Black List" of people to be liquidated before their arrival.

3. Russia.

Herr von Papen stated that nothing annoyed the Russians more than the idea that the Germans did not attribute their eventual defeat to Stalingrad, but to the British powers of endurance and subsequently to the Anglo-American successes in the West, (compare Hauptmann von Papen's statement during his interrogation by Russian Generals on the 16th April 1945, a report on which has been published separately).

III. PERSONAL

1. Herr von Stockhausen was a Regierungsprasident in Arensberg, Westphalia, until 1935, when he was sacked by the Nazis as a Roman Catholic reactionary. He stated that he had, of course, been suspected all along as he had been a high civil servant in the Weimar Republic.

2. Herr Krupp von Bohle.

Hauptmann von Papen knows Krupp very well and stated he is by no means a Nazi.

3. Herr von Milowski.

This man's wife was a Krupp. He was hanged because of his part in the 20th of July 1944 attempt on Hitler.

Distribution:

2-War Office (MI 19)
2-War Department (G-2)
2-Political Officer (US) SHAEF
2-Political Officer (BR) SHAEF
1-Lt-General W. B. Smith
1-Mr. V. Cavendish-Bentinck
File