

File

OFFICE OF U.S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL
APO 403 U.S. ARMY

21 September 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel Storey

Subject : Possibility of Establishing at
the International Trial what the
Nazis did or intended to do to
Principal Opposition Leaders.

1. When I procured the SS volume "Erfassung
Fuehrender Maenner der Systemzeit" (Compilation of
Leading men of the "System Era") from OSS Mission
to Germany, it occurred to me that this volume in
itself went a long way to establishing Nazi crim-
inality in treatment of the Nazi opposition in
Germany. It includes a list of 533 persons, with
biographies, who were considered oppositionists as
of 1939. Those listed are broken down as follows:

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. Marxists-Communists . . . | 192 |
| 2. Liberals-Pacifists . . . | 82 |
| 3. Confessional Parties . . . | 76 |
| 4. Legal opposition
and reaction | 73 |
| 5. Austrians | 48 |
| 6. Scientists | 17 |
| 7. Artists | 18 |
| 8. Writers-Journalists . . . | 47 |

It shows how many were Jews and Freemasons, how many
were in "temporary custody, prison or reformatory",
how many had committed suicide during the preceding
year (?), how many were refugees and how many of
these were considered active politically among the
refugees, etc.

2. The list is incomplete, not listing many
leading oppositionists known to have been murdered be-
fore 1939, and not including some refugees from the
Nazis who were very important.

3. Request is being made of the Field Section
to get copies for other years than 1939. It is
being recommended that the volume be treated as a
document and processed as such, through Screening
Department, etc.



MALE OPPOSITION IN
GERMANY

Doc. Room
Doc. No. - ?
Has been
checked

4. It seems to me that the trial objective of showing "our reasons and motives" for convicting the war criminals would be tremendously enhanced if a special project were directed to showing what did happen to leading oppositionists of the Nazis insofar as we can do this in a relatively simple way. This publication and any similar ones we can manage to find might suffice as a simple, yet substantial, means of accomplishing this end.

D. A. Sprecher
Capt., AUS

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