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 "Erinnerungen Führer Der Kamerader im Kampf" (Compilation of Leading men of the "System Era") from OCS Mission to Germany, it occurred to me that this volume in itself went a long way toward establishing Nazi criminality in treatment of the Nazi opposition in Germany. It includes a list of 655 persons, with biographies, who were considered oppositionists as of 1939. These listed are broken down as follows:

- 1. Marxists-Communists . . . 192
- 2. Liberals-Pacifists . . . . 82
- 3. Confessional Parties . . . 78
- 4. Legal opposition and reaction . . . . 75
- 5. Austrians . . . . . . . . 48
- 6. Scientists . . . . . . . . 47
- 7. Artists . . . . . . . . 47
- 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 oppositions known to have been murdered before 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 Division, etc.
It seems to me that the trial objective of showing "our reasons and motives" for convicting war criminals would be tremendously enhanced if a special project were directed to showing what did happen to leading oppositionists of the Nazi 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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