

XLIII

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SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

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MATERIAL RELATING TO SS-OBERSTURMFÜHRER
ADOLF EICHMANN, (ALIAS ADOLF EICHMAN,
ALIAS KARL EICHMANN, ALIAS HUGO EICHMANN,
ALIAS WILHELM EICHMANN, ALIAS WILLI
EICHMANN)

A report communicated by the P.I.D. (38 D Source not mentioned) stated:

"The man who is the most responsible for persecuting Hungarian Jews is Obergruppenführer EICHMANN, Chief of the Jewish Section of the Gestapo. Eichmann entered Budapest in this capacity with the original occupying forces in March and assumed the direction of the anti-Semitic programme. Eichmann, who is Himmler's brother-in-law, is said to have been born in Saron, a German colony in Palestine; he speaks Arabic, Hebrew and Yiddish fluently and is known as "Willi" among the Jews of Budapest."

(199/G/7/4)

The Foreign Office Research Department's Memorandum (No. 111) on Danish affairs stated under the heading: "Persecution of the Jews" :-

"A private report from Berlin stated that the persecution had been organized by Sturmbannführer Eichmann."

A set of accusations forwarded by the Anglo-Jewish Association to the British War Crimes Executive includes the following:-

"11. Eichmann whose last rank in the SS is unknown, was one of the chief promoters of deportation. Eichmann, who was born in Saron in Palestine, was known for his sadistic hatred of Jews, cf. New York Times, of 8th October 1945. He started his activities as a Gestapo official in Berlin in 1937, where he was in charge of the Judenabteilung of the Geheime Staatspolizei, Prinz Albrechtstr. After the occupation of Austria, Eichmann was sent to Vienna, and appointed chief of the Judenabteilung of the Gestapo in Vienna. He then organised the first measures of deportation of Jews. He forced the Jewish Community Vienna to hand over to him every day a certain number of Jews for evacuation from Austria. The number of from 5 to 400 Jews a day, demanded by Eichmann, had to be produced under all circumstances, whether the persons affected by the order were ready to go or not.

"In one case the President of the Jewish Community asked Eichmann to permit one family, registered on the evacuation list, to stay behind for a short while, because a child was severely ill in hospital. Eichmann insisted on the departure of the family and made the following remark: 'You will regard my attitude as inhuman. It may be inhuman, but relations between Jews and myself have nothing to do with humanity.' (This incident will be confirmed by Dr. Desider Friedmann or Dr. Lowenherz, Presidents of the Jewish Community Vienna, if they are still alive).

"Eichmann is also responsible for the cruel expulsion of 400 Jewish families from Burgenland, Austria, where the Jews had been living for from 5 to 6 centuries. Deported without their belongings and without means of subsistence, some of the Burgenland Jews escaped to Vienna and others to Bratislava. But a group of about 70 remained stranded for more than four months in No Man's Land between Germany, Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

"Eichmann took part in the burning-down of the Synagogue Seitenstetter-Gasse in Vienna on November 10th 1938. After the occupation of Czechoslovakia proper in March 1939, Eichmann superseded the Gestapo official Fuchs, who had been in charge of the Jewish department and had behaved fairly decently, during the early summer of this year. Eichmann introduced here the same scheme of deportation that he had carried out in Vienna. The following report on Eichmann's activities in Prag, given by the former President of the Jewish Community Prag, illustrates his methods:-

'In July 1939, after having had several most unpleasant conversations with Eichmann, I was summoned by him to his office in Delostrelecha Ulice. By that time, the Gestapo had driven out hundreds of Jews from the small towns, without granting them any reasonable time for winding up their affairs. At shortest notice these poor people had had to leave their home towns and villages and came to Prag, utterly destitute. As the accounts of the Jewish Community were blocked and our welfare institutions closed down by the Gestapo, we faced a situation with which we could hardly cope.

'I therefore asked Eichmann to give orders to the Gestapo in the Provinces to the effect that the Jews should be granted reasonable time for winding up their affairs. Eichmann answered: "I'll show these Jews, I will. I have cleared two concentration camps, Dachau and Mauthausen I'll send the Jews there, and in a very short time they will become extremely keen on leaving the country. I can assure you, very keen indeed. (Ich werde sie schon auswanderungslustig machen)".

'He then ordered me to produce 300 Jews a day, ready for immediate emigration. It was not his business, he said, how I would manage to get these 300. The main thing was that I would hand over 300 a day, ready to leave the country.

'I declined to do this and emphasised that we realised we would have to leave our mother country but must have at least some time to prepare our departure.

'Eichmann instead of answering my request, ordered me to give him lists of Jews with their addresses. He would clear one street after the other by taking the Jews to concentration camps. I refused again and pointed out that, although I had not the power to prevent him from doing so, I was not able to oblige him. Eichmann's reply was - I am giving the exact words: "In the camps the Jews will become very keen on emigration. Should, however, war break out you will be the first to be put against the wall." I answered that it was beyond my power to hinder this. - The President of the Jewish Community Prag in 1939, Dr. Emil Kafka, will give evidence of this conversation. Cf. also "Two Years of German Oppression in Czechoslovakia", published by the Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 1941. Umwin Brothers, Woking, p. 86, cf. also p. 87 for the following paragraph.

"After the outbreak of war, Eichmann organised the first mass deportation from Moravska Ostrava. On the 12th October 1939, 1850 odd persons were taken from Moravska Ostrava, among them 70 year-old men. They were assured that they could take with them 3,000 Crowns (Czech currency) and a certain quantity of necessary articles, warm clothing etc. On the station, however, they were robbed of everything they had, by the Gestapo. Even their travelling rugs were taken from them. They were loaded into goods waggons and transported to the Lublin area. Eichmann accompanied the transport, together with two Gestapo-men. The train stopped in the open country, where the Jews had immediately to start building huts. Many died from exposure, pneumonia, dysentery, typhus, etc.

"Eichmann's name was again mentioned in connection with the deportation of the Danish Jews, in 1943. The New York Times of 8th October, 1943, writes:

'The power behind the Nazi persecution of Danish Jews is the so-called 'Jew-dictator', Storm-Trooper Eichmann. . . He engineered all the extermination actions in Germany and the occupied countries.' "

In another part of the same document it is stated that:-

"Lischka and Eichmann were heads of the Judenabteilungen of the Gestapo Berlin and Vienna. They are responsible for executing the orders of the Reichsicherheitshauptamt. Eichmann himself took a leading part in the burning down of the synagogue Seitenstettergasse in Vienna."

(R/G/27/8B)

A letter from Jacob Robinson, Institute of Jewish Affairs, 1834 Broadway New York addressed to Justice Robert Jackson dated July 27th 1945, stated that Eichmann was a Gruppenleiter in the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (RSHA) Section IV-B, as a Referent (expert) in Jewish questions. The letter continues:-

"Eichmann was born on April 22, 1901, in Saron, a German colony in Palestine. His Party No. is 309,548; his SS. No. 310,196. He has a perfect command of Hebrew, Yiddish and Arabic. "

"His activities covered the whole of Europe, wherever Jewish problems had to be "solved." He first reported for duty at Vienna; after the occupation of Bohemia-Moravia, he was sent to Prague; from there he went to Slovakia. He spent 1941-1943 in Berlin as Chief of Amt IV-B of RSHA, with numerous trips to occupied countries wherever the question of the liquidation of Jews arose. In the fall of 1943 he went to Denmark to organize the deportation of Danish Jews and it is definitely known that he was in Hungary liquidating the Jews there under the regime of Szalassi. There is hardly a single geographical section of Europe where the Jews were liquidated, that did not benefit from the direct guidance of Eichmann.

"There are very strong indications to the effect that he was very closely co-operating with the so-called Grand Mufti of Jerusalem whose full name is Haj Amin el-Husseini, now in the custody of the French. As a born Palestinian, Eichmann had close relations with the so-called Grand Mufti. "

(R/G/30/8)

An article by Joseph KALNER from the Central European Observer (Volume XXII No. 3 of February 9th 1945, Page 48) which was enclosed in the above mentioned letter from Mr. Jacob Robinson to Justice Jackson, referred to the part played by the Grand Mufti in the extermination of the Jews, and then went on to say:-

"His executive organ in this campaign of extermination is a German, Karl Eichmann. This Karl Eichmann was born in the Templar Settlement in the Sharon Valley, near Tel Aviv. He speaks both Arabic and Hebrew fluently and probably was one of the earliest links between the Mufti and the Nazis and one of the principal agents of Nazism in Palestine. He is a small, dark man whom nobody in the East would suspect of being a German. In any case he does not correspond in any way to Hitler's ideas of Nordic man."

"I heard Karl Eichmann's name for the second time some two years later, after the Nazis' entry into Austria. There he turned up as a "liquidator of Jewish property." He not only knew every Jew who had ever been in Palestine; he also knew which of them had bank accounts in Palestine. He was responsible for the imposition of an exit tax on all those wishing to leave the Reich. He sent persons who were not prepared to part with their possessions for a song to the Dachau concentration camp. In a word, he expropriated the Jews. It was at his instigation, too, that the frozen accounts of Jews who had fled abroad were confiscated at the beginning of the war on the ground that the money was the property of traitors to their country.

"I came across Karl Eichmann's name for the third time after the Nazis' invasion of Czechoslovakia. He went to Prague and there played the same part as in Austria.

"Now news has come through that he, the great exterminator of Jews, is one of Himmler's chief executioners. He is said to have been at one time in command of the notorious concentration camp at Oswiecim. He is reputed to be the inventor of the monstrous crematoria, the gas chambers and other instruments of devilish brutality against the Jews."

(R/G/30/8)