

Copy of info memo to Capt SCHARDT on Gunter d'Alquen.

After having requested and received Mr STORY's permission, I have had a lengthy conversation with d'Alquen. In the course of this conversation he suggested that you ask CCG at HERFORD to send you the last screening report that was made on him: PoW Gunter d'Alquen, #210699, last PoW Camp #165, WATTEN-CAITHES, SCOTL. Screening was done by chief (V) of CCG Interrogation Unit at HERFORD, Mr O. RAMM, who was expressly sent up to that camp to screen the inmates. Gunter d'Alquen is of the opinion that it would not be fair to you to omit notifying you that such a report exists which you are in a position to avail yourself of.

For your information: There also exists a "Fuehrungszeugnis" made out by a British Captain who is a Jew. d'Alquen received this while at NUERNBERG with an enclosed letter to the effect that said Capt. was sending this of his own free will, and that he hoped that at one time or another it might be of help to the recipient. I think that d'Alquen was deeply moved, which may account for the fact that he does not intend to make use of it. Rather, he treasures it as a sign of good will amongst men and as a proof of actual mutual understanding.

You touched upon the subject of nationalism yesterday, and my answer was very inadequate. Our conversation this evening has outlined some ideas on the subject. That nationalism as conceived at the end of the 19 Century is in its death throes. But that d'Alquen proved with his unit that there is a possibility of understanding and co-operation amongst Europeans. This SS Standarte was decidedly international.

In our conversation yesterday I made a mistake. I said that d'Alquen was outspoken Anti-Russian. This is not correct. I should have said: Anti-Bolshevik. Had he been anti-Russian he would not have been able or willing to do effectual work with WASSOW. Nor would WASSOW or any of his officers be willing to co-operate under such auspices.

The foreigners in the Standarte could never have worked well had they looked upon themselves, and had the Standarte looked upon them as traitors. The underlying idea was internationalism, or, should one say, pan-Europeanism? The expression "Weltbuerger" might be applied to this group. A fact that was bitterly opposed by most of the German authorities. For this reason too, the foreign members of the Standarte would never have consented to fight in the German Army.

d'Alquen, high strung and temperamental, appears personally upright and manly. I think he could be of use to you, and I am sure that his personal pride alone would ensure you of his loyalty.

May I point out that I do not want to plead the case of a "fellow German"? There are enough decent fine men who are at loose ends without my having to pick out a representative of the SS. This case would seem to me to have to be looked upon from an utterly different point of view. Without any sentiments. A man whose ability could prove of the utmost use to you. A man who not only knows what he is capable of, but who is probably clever enough to realize his own limitations.

*Will send d'Alquen in his own handwriting to the case against the US. Also in a letter, as per page 5, to the effect that he is willing to be sent to the front. The Standarte unit appears as an officer, but is not to be sent to the front.*

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