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28 January 1946

MEMORANDUM

FOR : Office of Naval Intelligence
LT. Comdr. W. H. Coleman

VIA : Captain H. W. Baltazzi

SUBJECT : Martin Bormann

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2001 2008

1. The attached report on Bormann's death is taken from an account by an eye-witness, a German soldier attached to Hitler's Headquarters at the Chancellory building in Berlin during the last days before the Russian entry. This soldier later fled to Switzerland and was imprisoned there by the Swiss Police. He wrote his report on the last days in the Chancellory while in prison and, therefore, presumably out of touch with the outer world and all the various reports and rumors which circulated after the German collapse on the subject of the final fate of the top Nazis in Berlin.

2. Since all reports on the melodramatic finale of the occupants of the Fuehrer's air raid shelter have varied a good deal, it cannot be determined whether the soldier's report is reliable in its details and, therefore, possibly in its major facts as well. Although the soldier was of extremely low rank with no real entree into the inner group, it is still thought that his information is essentially trustworthy.

3. It should nevertheless be stated here that a rumor was circulating in Switzerland in late 1945 that Bormann, or someone resembling him, was among a group of Germans in Northern Italy, all of whom were attempting to enter Switzerland. Our representative in Switzerland thought enough of this rumor to inform the Swiss Border Police of it.

Thomas W. Dunn
Lieutenant, USNR
Chief, Liaison Section
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TWD/me

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