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Paul Dickopf, President of the BUNDESKRIMINALAMT (BKA)

Paul Dickopf was born 9 June 1910 in Muschenbach, Germany. He is currently Chief of the West German Criminal Police (BKA). Prior to that he held the position of Vice President of the BKA.

Dickopf attended the Frieher vom Stein School in Wiesbaden/Biebrich from 1916-19, then the Riehl School in Wiesbaden/Biebrich and received his diploma in 1928. He studied biology and Administrative law at the University of Frankfurt/Main in 1928; in Vienna the summer of 1929; at the University of Berlin 1929; and again at Frankfurt/Main from 1930-32. He studied law at the University of Frankfurt/Main from 1932-34 and in the fall of 1934, in order to avoid joining the NSDAP, voluntarily enlisted in the German army for a year. He was discharged from the Amberg Infantry Regiment as a corporal in October 1935. He then continued the study of law, concentrating on criminal and public law until 1936. In February 1936 he joined the Student League (NSDstB), and also took the reserve army training refresher and was promoted to sergeant. In the fall of 1936 he practiced law with other law candidates in the city and county of Wiesbaden. In early 1937 he was called to the Police Institute in Berlin for an aptitude test and in July he enlisted as a candidate for higher criminal law courses at the University of Frankfurt and left the Student League. From June 1937 to October 1938 he was in training with the criminal police at Frankfurt/Main and then took further courses in police work in Berlin, through 1939. As a result of exams he was made Criminal Commissar on probation and was named 2nd Lt. in the SD, although he was not a member of the Nazi party or its affiliates. In 1939 he was a Criminal Commissar in Frankfurt and then Karlsruhe and in 1942 with the Abwehr in Stuttgart. In 1941 he married Margot Stuebiger in Hamburg/Harburg. Later in 1942 he was assigned to work abroad, returning to Germany in 1945 where he continued in police work. Dickopf was denazified in a Wiesbaden court in 1948, the only charge made against him was his membership in the Student League. He joined the Federal Criminal Police in the late 1940's and as of 1952 was the Vice President of that organization. He is the German representative to INTERPOL and has made frequent trips to foreign countries, primarily on INTERPOL business, and has made many contacts in police and security services throughout the world.

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