

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Biographic Information
GLOBKE, Hans

STATE CASE 1150 / CONSUL PERSON
BIO INFO

Dr. Hans Globke was born in the Pror district September 1, 1877, now lives in Krefeld, British Zone, married; has three children. Studied law at Bonn and Cologne Universities, and received the degree of Dr. Jur. Served as Reforant in courts in Mochweiler, Cologne, and Berlin, 1921-1924. Was Registrationsassessor and Assistant to the Polizeipräsident at Aachen, 1925-1929. Joined the Prussian and later the Reich Ministry of the Interior and was assigned to Division I, Verfassung, and Abt. (Constitution and Law). From 1935 on this division also handled foreign nationality. Globke was highly regarded in civil service circles. He became an Oberregierungsrat in 1935 and Ministerialrat in 1938. While working in the Section in charge of Western Border Districts he became a specialist in the Saar problem. He was largely responsible for contact with the liaison officer between the government on the one hand and the political parties, trade unions, and cultural organizations in the Saar on the other. In March, 1938 he was sent to Austria for duties in connection with the Anschluss. In 1943 he was head of the "Subdivision I West (New Order in the West)" within Division I (Verfassung). This section was concerned with Luxembourg, Alsace-Lorraine, and the occupied territories in the West.

Globke collaborated with Wilhelm Stuckart, State Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior, in the writing of the official commentary on the Nuremberg Laws (Normen über deutsche Abstammungsfrage, published by J.H. Jock & Co., Munich and Berlin, 1936). Globke also wrote commentaries on the German interpretation of the nationality and citizenship of residents of eastern territories occupied by Germany. 1/

Globke applied for membership in the NSDAP October, 1940, but membership was refused in November, 1941 on grounds that he was not politically reliable. He had been a member of the Zentrum Party 1922-1933, was considered an ardent Catholic, and was personally acquainted with Cardinal Preysing. Globke joined the Reichsbund der Deutschen, the NSRB (National Socialist Lawyers' League), and was a contributing member of the NSKK. It is known that he enjoyed the confidence of several of the high ranking officers who took part in the July 20th (1944) plot. 1/

Immediately after the war Globke was interviewed by General William Donovan of OSS. As a result of this interview he was summoned to Nuremberg and heard as a witness at the war crimes trials on seven different occasions. Globke apparently did not choose to give any information the Prosecutor was likely to find useful. He told an interviewer, "I was a great disappointment to him, and he wasn't pleased at all!" 2/

A former resident of Aachen, Globke was considered for the position of Bürgermeister of that city in July-August, 1945, but was not accepted. Before going to Bonn he was Vice-President of the Accounting Office (Rechnungshof) for North Rhine-Westphalia. It is understood that in July, 1947 Jakob Kaiser recommended Globke to Minister President Arnold for the post of Ministerialdirektor of the Ministry of the Interior for North Rhine-Westphalia. Dr. Heinrich Weitz, formerly Minister of Finance in North Rhine-Westphalia and now a member of the Bundesrat, supported the recommendation. The matter was postponed until June 21, 1943 when Arnold proposed Globke as a Ministerialrat. The appointment was opposed.

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by Dr. Walter Lanzol, Minister of the Interior, and Vice President Richter of the CDU in Cologne. British authorities did not object to Globke's appointment and suggested that the controversy might have arisen out of conflicting party interests rather than from any definite political or security factor connected with Globke's past. It must be noted, however, that the British officials had not read the memoranda on which Globke had collaborated, as they were not available at the time, and assumed that they were specialized studies of a technical nature rather than propaganda material.

At the time he was being considered for the post in the Land Ministry of the Interior, Globke produced a collection of testimonials purporting to prove that he had stayed in the Land Ministry of the Interior against his will in order to serve the Chancellor group and to give what assistance he could to persons persecuted by the Nazis. Among these testimonials are notes from Cardinal Preylich, Bishop of Berlin, Polish Kaiser, CDU leader, Georg Dertinger, CDU leader and Minister of Foreign Affairs in the German Democratic Republic, and Dr. Heinrich Heits. Globke's name is not listed in the document on the July 20th plot personalities published by the British Foreign Office. This list contains the names on record in the Foreign Office of all personalities (over 300) considered to have been directly or indirectly associated with the conspiracy. Of the four people named above, only Kaiser is included in the British list. Kaiser, however, is described as having been one of the most active and determined conspirators.

As personnel and civil service advisor to Adenauer Globke played an important role in the drafting of the 1950 Civil Service Law. It is reported that he and two persons from the Finance Ministry prepared the original draft which later was adopted as the Cabinet's draft for this legislation. In the fall of 1949 Globke served as chairman of a committee of three which had the function of advising on the transfer and equipment of personnel from the Bizonal departments to the federal agencies. Also it is alleged that he is playing some part in the selection of personnel for the Consulate.

Globke is responsible for reviewing draft bills and reporting on them to the Federal Chancellor, and sometimes for drawing them up if they are initiated by the Federal Government. Therefore, all laws enacted by the Government go over his desk at one point or another. He is also responsible for the functions of the Executive Secretary, including the preparation of agenda for cabinet meetings, briefing the Chancellor, and supervising the drafting of supporting documents required at cabinet sessions. Within the Federal Government, he is regarded by many as one of the main powers behind the throne. He has many visitors, and even members of Parliament, wanting special favors from the Chancellor, find it more effective to apply to Globke.

In a recent interview Globke gave evidence of being familiar with every detail of the project to set up a federal agency for the protection of the constitution, but he volunteered very little information. He did state, however, that the need for such an agency was being itself felt increasingly.

Since his appointment as Secretary of State in the Chancellor's office, Globke has been the target of considerable criticism. On November 7, 1949, the Frankfurt Journal commented:

"Strange things happen in Bonn ... leading positions in the Adenauer government are given to individuals whose names appear in a truly macabre light and who have every reason not to seek the glare of publicity."

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With reference to Globke's collaboration in the writing of the commentary on racial laws, the paper commented that this book was the one which "initiated the catastrophe of our country, the Reichsergengesetze and the Nurnberger Gesetze". This was followed by a number of quotations from the book itself. To cite a few:

Page 12

"The realization of the importance of blood and race for people and state is one of the most essential cornerstones of National Socialist ideology."

Page 13

"The racial concept of National Socialism rejects the liberal principle that all men are equal The leadership principle is a necessary consequence of racial concept. The people's state must be a leader's state."

Page 25

"Only Volksgenossen can be citizens of the state. Only one who is of German blood, regardless of his religion, can be a Volksgenosse. Therefore no Jew can be a Volksgenosse. Thus, anyone who is not a citizen of the state can live in Germany only as a guest and must be subject to laws governing foreigners."

In conclusion, the editorial stated,

"This fabrication - possibly the laws themselves - are the spiritual product of Dr. Globke, who at present (one can hardly believe it) is one of the closest and most trusted assistants of the Federal Chancellor."

More recently (April 12, 1950) Globke has again been discussed in the columns of the Frankfurter Rundschau. In connection with proposals for the creation of a federal office for foreign affairs under the jurisdiction of a state secretary the paper observed, under the heading "The Man in the Background":

"The appointment of a state secretary would dethrone the most powerful man in the Federal Chancellor's office, the man who has his fingers on all the strings leading to the Federal Chancellor ... Although public attention was called to Globke's political past, today he is the most influential man close to the Federal Chancellor. Globke, commentator of the so-called Nuremberg Laws, is practically speaking, the State Secretary of the Federal Chancellery. He advises the Federal Chancellor on all matters. Above all there is not a single personnel problem which is resolved without his influence making itself felt. After the public attacks against Globke, Dr. Adenauer must have decided against appointing him state secretary, but the Federal Chancellor apparently does not wish to dispense with this co-worker, and Globke, for his part, is not willing to give up his influence on the foreign service."

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Not only the press, but political leaders as well, have attacked Globke. At the March 30 meeting of the Bundestag, Deputy Luthens, on behalf of the SPD, asked Adenauer for an explanation as to why Globke had been employed. Adenauer replied that Globke's case had been examined minutely by the Occupation Authorities and that he, Adenauer, felt that the Germans should not examine questions of this sort even more minutely than the Occupation Authorities had. ✓

Wilhelm Haas, Personnel Chief of the Consular-Commercial Service, informed a Political Staff member on April 15 that he has received instructions from Adenauer to discuss all personnel questions with Globke. He stated that he had had considerable difficulties with Globke, and suspected that Globke might try to get rid of him by securing him a consular post in the field. Haas objects strongly to Globke because of Globke's history as author of the commentary on the Nuremberg racial laws. Haas stated that at times his conscience was bothered by working with a person of what he termed such unsavory reputation. He hastened to point out that he in no way suspected the Chancellor of pro-Nazi proclivities. He ascribed Adenauer's loyalty to old friendships, and said that Globke was the only man in Adenauer's office who enjoyed full confidence of the Chancellor. ✓

Despite the number of criticisms that have been directed against Globke there is nothing to indicate that his position has been weakened in responsible federal circles. ✓

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Harvey

CONFIDENTIAL

Prepared
April 1950

GLOBKE, Hans

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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