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REF: Department's A-484, April 6, 1950

SUBJECT: Appointment of Dr. Hans Globke to Federal Chancery

TO: DEPT OF STATE
FROM: FRANKFURT
SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT OF DR. HANS GLOBKE TO FEDERAL CHANCERY
CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

In response to the request contained in the Department's reference communication, there are enclosed copies of two documents which were procured from British authorities in Land North Rhein-westphalia by the U.S. HICOG Liaison Office in Bonn.

It will be noted from enclosure 1, which is a report prepared by the British in the late summer of 1948, that Dr. Globke was investigated at that time for a position in the North Rhein-westphalian Government, and that no grounds were found "to justify his exclusion" from office. As far as we have been able to determine, Dr. Globke was not investigated by any other element of the High Commission at any time, and specifically not in connection with his appointment to the position which he now holds within the Federal Chancery. In the absence of any evidence to the contrary, it is assumed that Dr. Adenauer's rather ambiguous statement during the March 30 Bundestag session that Dr. Globke "had been carefully investigated by the Occupation Powers" referred to this original approval by the British military Government for Globke to assume public office in North Rhein-westphalia in 1948.

Enclosure 2 is a translation of an editorial from the November 9, 1949 issue of the Frankfurter Rundschau. This editorial, also made available from British files, criticized Dr. Globke for his alleged participation in the drafting of the Nazi race laws. It should be noted in this connection that the Frankfurter Rundschau, which is an independent paper sympathetic to the SPD, has on a number of occasions been critical of the Federal Government, and particularly of the Government's personnel policy.

Supplementing the above information, the following impressions of Globke are quoted from an office memorandum received in this division from the U.S. HICOG Liaison Office in Bonn:

"The impression gained by the U.S. Liaison Office in contacts with Globke has been that he is a very efficient, competent and intelligent civil servant, something rather unusual in Bonn. This fact has also been confirmed by Globke's staff in the Chancery, who think he is the best department chief in the Federal Government."

Any further information which may become available in connection

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P.S. FR 45123 770

with Dr. Globke's background and with his appointment to the Federal Chancery will be promptly forwarded to the Department.

Handwritten signature
Bernard Guller, Chief
Foreign Relations Division
Office of Political Affairs

2 Encls:

1. "Dr. Hans Globke - City Treasurer of Aachen" from British Authorities in Land North Rhein-Westphalia.
2. "Who is Dr. Globke?", Frankfurt Rundschau, 11/2/49

Copy to Mr. Leukhuff

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Encl 1, Frankfurt 778

Source: British Authorities in Land North Rhein-westphalia.

DR. HANS GLOBKE - City Treasurer of AACHEN

Dr. Globke is a professional-civil servant who from 1929 to 1947 was in the Ministry of the Interior of Prussia and ultimately reached the rank of Ministerialrat. He fled from Berlin in March 1948 as he found that his personal position had become so dangerous that he could no longer remain.

Globke has published a number of technical works on various legislative measures taken by the Nazis including laws regarding racial purity and mixed marriages. He also wrote commentaries on agreements regarding nationality and citizenship made between the German Government and the Czechs, Slovaks, Rumanians and other occupied territories in the East. As these writings are not available, it is difficult to assess their character but the very small editions and the technical nature of the publication in which they appeared suggest that they were probably specialised studies, rather than propaganda material.

Globke is a strong Roman Catholic and was not a member of the Party despite his relatively high position in the Prussian Ministry. His party associations are confined to The Transport Corps (NSKK), the Officials and Lawyers Associations and one or two minor organisations.

Globke has produced a collection of testimonials to prove that he stayed in the Ministry of the Interior against his will in order to serve the Overdieser Group and to give what assistance he could to persons persecuted by the Nazis. Amongst these testimonials are notes from Cardinal Freysing, Bishop of Berlin; Jakob Meiser, the CDU leader; Dertinger, also of the CDU; and Dr. Weitz, Finance Minister for this Region. Judging from the variety of these documents and the standing of the personalities concerned, it seems unlikely that there could be any question of collusive evidence despite the fact that the accounts of Globke's activity on behalf of the Resistance Movement coincide fairly exactly.

It is understood that Globke was first proposed as Ministerial Director of the Innenministerium in this Land in July 1947 by Arnold to whom he had been recommended by Meiser. Weitz supported the recommendation but the matter appears to have remained in abeyance until the Cabinet sitting on 21st June this year, when Arnold put Globke forward as Ministerialrat. It is understood that the CDU has no permanent official in the Innenministerium and feels that Globke would be a suitable representative.

Dr. Wenzel is opposed to the appointment because of Globke's association with the Prussian Ministry of the Interior, and his feeling is shared by Vice-President Richter (CDU of BB Aachen). Their feeling apparently is that whatever Globke did secretly to damage the Nazi cause, his long open association with the ministry during the Nazi Regime makes it desirable for him to remain in the background meantime.

Landrat Ernst, the CDU Trade Unionist of Aachen, on the other hand supports Globke's candidature.

Globke himself is not ambitious and does not look as he is interested in his work in Aachen and is prepared to leave the decision of

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P.2, Encl. , Frankfurt 776

his appointment to others. On the other hand Giebke is perfectly willing to accept the new post if it be offered to him.

However supine Giebke may have been during the early part of the Nazi period, and there is nothing to prove it either way, he appears to have been of value during the latter years to the only significant resistance group in Germany. The alleged objections to his appointment when considered alongside the foregoing facts would hardly seem to justify his exclusion from the vacant office. It is the opinion of this Staff that the controversy probably arises out of conflicting party interests rather than from any old solid political or security factor connected with Giebke's past.

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Wuppertal: 1949

Encl. 2 Frankfurt 776

Source: Frankfurter Rundschau, Wednesday, November 9, 1949

"Who is Dr. Globke?"

Commentator of the Nuremberg Laws - Today a High Official
of the Bundesgovernment.

Peculiar things happen at Bonn, quite apart from the main problem concerning the seat of the government which under the given circumstances has been solved as democratically as possible - even if unreasonably, several developments are becoming apparent on the personnel side which require the utmost attention of all people who are interested in the final renunciation of the methods of the odious Fuehrer principle and who are interested in the founding of a true democracy.

While the problem of the seat of the government is only a financial matter, the personnel question to which we turn now is risking the reputation, if not the existence of our second Republic which we have founded under such great difficulties. It is like being transferred back into the era of the Papen-Government, to a time when one began to think about the constitution and the basic privileges of the people, thereby giving the initial signal for raising the curtain over these horrible twelve years for which Germany will have to suffer for generations to come. At Bonn, however, there appear for some time personages in Government key positions whose names have a macabre, sordid sound. Names, the bearer of which are personages who, themselves, have all reason for an utmost effort not to step anymore into the limelight of publicity.

Let us deal today only with Herr Dr. Globke. He has been appointed presumptive Secretary of State to Bundeschancellor Adenauer lately. All previous hints with regard to his political role during the Nazi-period could not prevent that he has been appointed by Adenauer with a Chairmanship of a commission reinvestigating the problem of the Government seat and he has already paid a visit of inspection to Frankfurt in this capacity.

Who now is that Dr. Hans Globke, who obviously has been promoted by the Adenauer Government?

In front of us we have a book, published in 1935 by the Beckste-Verlagsbuchhandlung Muenchen and Berlin titled: "Commentary concerning the German Racial Legislation". - Authors: Secretary of State Dr. Stuckart and Oberregierungsrat Dr. Hans Globke of the Reichs- and Prussian Ministry of the Interior. Let us turn the pages in this infernal book, which signifies the starting point of our national catastrophe, the Reichsbuerger Laws and the Nuremberg Laws which were introduction to the mass murder of millions of innocent people and let us read, just changing the odd page:-

From the Introduction: Page 12:

"The realization of the importance of Blood and Race for people and state belongs to the most essential corner-stones of the national socialist ideology. Blood and Race finally are forming the national

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socialist picture of World and History".

Page 13: "The racial mortality of National Socialism means furthermore the renunciation of the liberalistic principle that all men are equal. People and State can only prosper if the best forces are leading, and if they are strong enough to be able to lead and to maintain their leadership The idea of the leader is necessarily the consequence of the racial thought. The People's State, therefore, has to be necessarily a Leader's State"

Page 26: "No law issued after the National Socialist Revolution has been such complete a renunciation of the spiritual attitude and the perception of the idea of the state as the Reichsbürgergesetz. It makes, therefore, a distinction between state-citizens and Reich-citizens It follows from the National Socialist perception of the State that the National Socialist State, as a People's State is bound to make the execution of the rights of a citizen of that State dependent on the individual's belonging to the People. Citizens of the State can only be Volksgenossen. Volksgenosse can only be who is of German blood regardless of his religion. No Jew, therefore, can be a Volksgenosse. Therefore: Anybody who is not a citizen of the State can only live in Germany as a guest and has to be under legislative regard regarding the foreigners."

On Page 116 it is said within the explanations concerning the Law concerning the "Protection of German Blood and German Honour" of 15.9.35, of Para. 4: - "As the Jews do not belong to the German people according to National Socialist perception, but form a people of their own (even, if they have no state of their own) the symbols of Germany are out of question for them. Members of the Jewish People, however, may make use of their own symbols to advertise further that they belong to a people of their own."

This product and - apparently also the Laws themselves - are the "Brain Child" of Herr Globke, who at present - one should not think it possible - is one of the closest and most trusted collaborators of the Bundes Chancellor. Certainly, Herr Globke has been de-nazified by the North Rhine-Westphalian Panels but that does not speak in Herr Globke's favour but merely against the panels, who worked this tight rope act. We do not know the reasons which led to this inexplicable rehabilitation, in any case this is evidently not a case where a commentary has been produced to "prevent a still greater disaster" and he, who experienced Herr Globke during the war in his capacity in a Senior appointment concerned with racial persecution, when he turned away colleagues who came to him, seeking help and advice, with the comment, "You should have chosen some different persons for yourself," will not find any understanding, at all for this result of de-nazification procedure.

A further comment concerning this comment appears to be unnecessary. Today, we only wish to express our hope not to hear his name anymore in any connection with the Bundes Government, regardless of appointment or investigation concerning the Seat of Government.

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