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Translation

EGH-186

25 Jun 1954

Subject: Proposal of former SRP-functionaries to General Remer of the establishment of an oppositional party in Austria, and political disagreements between General Remer and Dr. Dorls in Cairo.

On 8 Jun and on the evening of 11 Jun 1954, until the late hours of the night, a detailed political debate took place between Dr. Dorls and General Remer. The cause of the debate had been a letter which Werner Koerper of Gernersheim/Pfalz (former Land chairman of the SRP in Rhineland/Pfalz) had sent to Remer by request of Dr. Binder of Osterode and of various other SRP-functionaries whose names were not mentioned. The letter conveyed the offer to provide general Remer immediately with the means which would enable him to come to Austria in the course of Jun/Jul for a meeting and visit of several weeks duration.

During this meeting the possibility of the establishment of an oppositional party or if necessary of an oppositional underground movement should be discussed. Basically General Remer agreed with this proposition, only the date did not suit him because of pending negotiations with the Saudi-Arabian minister of foreign affairs. Remer suggested the month of August, however, he was awaiting another letter from Koerper, as a result of which he might yet come to Austria at an earlier date.

The political plans of Remer in connection with the suggestions which were contained in the letter of Koerper and his comrades reveal that an attempt will at all events be made to prevent the incorporation of the Federal Republic into the American sphere of influence.

Dr. Dorls counter-arguments were the following:

In his opinion the foreign politics of the Federal Republic in 1950 and 1951 had been so strongly concentrated on the idea of an incorporation of the Federal Republic into the West European community, that the West as a whole had been able at least on paper to realize its military plans irrespective of the vital interests of the German people, and therefore he saw no other possibility for German foreign politicians but "to back the American card" regardless of the consequences.

The course of French foreign politics and to an extent also the course of British foreign politics provided a unique opportunity to the Federal Republic to point out to the USA the necessity in a case of war to defend the Federal Republic with all available means as their sole reliable regional base in Europe.

He believed that a direct military agreement between Washington and Bonn had come within the limits of the possible.

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For this reason he believed it in the interest of the German people to be foolish and irresponsible to interfere at this point with the foreign politics of the Federal Republic. It was imperative, he said, in particular in foreign countries to pursue not an egotistical party policy but German politics.

Remer countered with the following argument:

There is no doubt that in the case of war West Germany will within a short time be occupied by the Soviets. For the purpose of preserving the national forces during the period of occupation we have no choice but to offer the Russians the national elements as auxiliary troops.

Dr. Dorls counterarguments were the following:

The characteristic and regular feature of Soviet-Russian politics from 1945 to this date was at all times and within all overrun countries the early liquidation by the Soviet-Russians of all national elements.

The contacts which various SRP-functionaries had recently and at an earlier time established with the Soviet-Russians, had proved beyond doubt that the Soviets were only too pleased to make use of the national elements temporarily in order to exploit them or if necessary to liquidate them after a short time. Remer reproached Dorls of giving a biased account to the detriment of the Russians of the contacts which had been established in order to prevent the leading members of the SRP from supporting his endeavors to establish pro-Soviet cadres at this juncture. Dorls said that he engaged in pro-German politics and that he did not care whether the man in charge of such politics was called Adenauer or Kunze. He had proved that he was willing to oppose a policy which he believed to be wrong, however, he also had the courage to accept politics which he believed to be right no matter by whom they were conducted.

Remer accused Dorls of thus admitting that he engaged in pro-Jewish and pro-Jesuit politics. Dr. Dorls answered that after all the Jews as well as the Catholic church were world powers and that the German people could not afford again to provoke their antagonism in Hitler's fashion.

The conversation was then interrupted by the entry of a man of the name of Fischer. Fischer, who is now living in Cairo as an emigrant, acted during the war as deputy to Standartenfuhrer Eichmann who was responsible for the deportation of Jews to Auschwitz from all parts of Europe. Remer wished to continue the conversation which Dr. Dorls refused because he did not believe Fischer to be able to take in the political situation objectively and further because he thought that on account of an understandable resentment he would probably support Remer despite the impracticability of his political ideas.