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COMBINED INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES
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REICHFORSCHUNGSRAT

German Research Organisation

Report by

Dr. W. F. Colby, Expert Consultant
Dr. S. A. Goudsmit, Scientific Chief

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H.Q. Documents and Personnel

COMBINED INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVES SUB-COMMITTEE
G-2 DIVISION, SHAETF (Rear) APO 413

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SUBJECT

PAGE NO

Report 3

Personnel of Inspection
Team

Dr. W. F. Colby, Expert Consultant
Dr. S. A. Goudsmit, Scientific Chief

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S E C R E T

EUROPEAN THEATER OF OPERATIONS
UNITED STATES ARMY
ALSOS MISSION

12 March 1945

SUBJECT: German Research Organization - Reichsforschungsrat.

In January 1943 the Reichsforschungsrat, RFR, National Research Council was formed. According to a circular letter dated about a year later, this RFR is directly under the Reichsmarshal, Goring. It acts as a central agency for the research work of military importance at the various universities and other research institutions. It assigns research projects to universities and individuals, allocates funds, establishes priorities, handles personnel and deferments.

Up to January 1943 an RFR had existed under the Minister of Education, Rust, but it had little power. By order of the Fuhrer the new RFR was created in which the old one was to be incorporated or practically abolished.

The new RFR has as its task to coordinate all research projects which previously had been assigned to the universities by the German Air Force, Army, Navy, Postal Department, or other agencies. It is not known as to how far the other agencies were able to adhere to their independent administration of research problems. A circular letter from the Director of Research of the Air-minister and Chief of the Air Force of March 1943 states that the roster cards for the RFR have to be filled out in a special way when referring to Air Force projects "for security reasons."

It may be significant that a section of the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute for Chemistry was evacuated to Southern Germany in the summer of 1944 and, according to its letterhead, is now directly under the RFR. Also, a research group working at the Sorbonne in Paris was designated as an "Arbeitsgruppe" under the RFR.

S E C R E T

The number of members of the RFR is not known to the authors of this report. Their title is "Bevollmächtigter des Reichsmarschalls", Representative with power of the Reichsmarshal. Representatives' names encountered so far are:

- for Organic Chemistry - R. Kuhn, KWI, Heidelberg.
- " Nuclear Physics - W. Gerlach, University, Munich.
- " Medicine - F. Sauerbruch, University, Gf
- " Military Medicine - W. Richter, University, Greifswald
until summer 1944.

Within the RFR is the Kriegswirtschaftsstelle, Berlin/Steglitz, Grunewald Str. 35, to which applications are made for materials and to which apparatus is reported for repair. A communication from here is signed "Becker" in 1943, or later. Menzel was then President - he is key man in the Ministry of Education.

The "Planungsamt" is a special office under the RFR dealing with assignment and deferment of personnel. Its director is Prof. W. Osenberg, of the Technische Hochschule in Hannover; mail address: P. O. Box 148, Northeim, near Hannover, which also seems to be the latest address of the Planungsamt in August 1944. The Berlin address is the same as that of the Kriegswirtschaftsstelle given above. In August 1943, this same address was also used by Dr. Breuer as head of the Medical Section of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, of which Menzel is also President (1942).

A communication to the Planungsamt was addressed to the attention of a Dr. Baer, Berlin/Dahlem, Gazy(?) Str. 9 (January 1944).

In May 1942, Osenberg headed a committee to review the availability of research personnel at German universities, engineering schools and other research institutes for work on pressing problems of the German Navy.

W.F. COLBY
Expert Consultant.

S.A. GOUDSMIT,
Scientific Chief.

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