

Title: Office of Chief of Counsel for War Crimes, APO 696-A, U.S Army

Staff Evidence analysis

By: Olga Lang

Date: 29 January 1947

Title and/or general nature: Letter from the Kattowitz local office of RKFDV to the RKFDV staff main office in Berlin concerning compulsory Germanization of Catholic priests of alleged German origin.

Date: 9 June 1943

Source (location of original, etc.): 7771 Document Center, Berlin, Folder M 14, SS-2411

PERSONS? FIRMS OR ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED: RKFDV, Kattowitz local office of RKFDV, NSDAP, Gauleiter Upper Silesia of NSDAP, SD, SD local office in Kattowitz

TO BE FILED UNDER THESE REFERENCE (HANDLINGS): NO-FORCED LABOR, NO-CHURCHES, PERSECUTION OF Persons and organizations as above.

Summary (indicate page nos.)

This is an one page carbon copy of a letter by the Kattowitz local office of Reich Commissioner for the Strengthening of Germanism (RKFDV) to the RKFDV Staff Main Office in Berlin and signed (by order) by an Ostubaf. And Stabsfuchrer with his initials (BREHM?).

The letter deals with the Catholic priests who wore register-rod in Group 4 of the German People's list *and are now being transferred to the Reich proper (Altriech). With reference to the Fuehrer's decree dated 16 February 1942 (p.3 paragraph B) the Ostubaf asks to see to it that those people are not used as priests.

The problem was cleared with the local party office (Gauleitung) and the local SD office of Upper Silesia. Both of them will report to their central office to the same effect.

The letter ends with a statement that when coming to the Reich the Catholic priests mentioned can live only in a protestant environment. The best plan would be to employ them in the armament industry.

*) Analyst's note: The order on group 4 of the German People's list is dealt with in SEA No-3091

TRANSLATION OF DOCUMENT No. NO-3082, OFFICE OF CHIEF OF COUNSEL FOR WAR CRIMES

Subject: Treatment of persons in group 4 of the German People's List. In this instance: Catholic clergymen

To the

Reich commissioner for the strengthening of Germanism

Main Staff Office

Berlin – Halensee

140 Kurfuerstendamm

In connection with the transfer of Catholic clergymen, classified in group 4 of the German People's List, into the Altreich (Germany proper), your attention is called to the fact that in keeping with the Reichfuehrer Decree of 16 February 1942 page 3, item B, they are not to be used as clergymen.

Today I was approached on this point by the expert with Gau Leadership Office Upper Silesia, Party member Vogel. After conferring with the SD Operation Office (Leitstelle) at Kattowitz it was unanimously determined that the decision will be communicated in analogous terms by the Gau Leadership Office to the Party Chancellery and by the SD Operation Office to the Reich Main Security Office.

The Catholic clergymen in question who are being expelled and transferred to the Altreich can be used in Protestant surroundings only and best of all in suitable sectors of the armaments industry.

By Order

(initial) B

SS-Obersturmbannfuehrer and

Stabsfuehrer

Translation of Document No. NO-3082

Continued

Certificate of Translation of Document No. NO-3082

7 August 1947

I, George H. GRANT, No. A 442694, hereby certify that I am thoroughly conversant with the English and German Language, and that the above is a true and correct translation of Document NO. NO-3082.

George H. GRANT

No. A 442694

-2-

End