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Germany, Govt of Miscellaneous  
1945

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JAN. 16, 1945

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Graz (Styria). - January 1- The Mayor of Graz announces that the transport of coal and coke is made difficult by transport situation, and therefore every household, irrespective of its size, can in future only be allowed fuel for cooking and for heating one room.

January 1. - Bruck (Styria)- Two German members of the rural guard from Kreis Bruck on the Leitha have been awarded diplomas of appreciation and 100 Reichsmark for excellent service performed during the large scale combing out of the underground of the district in spring.

January 2. - Wien- In Taxenbach, Salzburg, the Germans discovered three days ago a secret printing plant of the Catholic-Legitimist Front, which was hidden in the cellars of the City-hall. Two persons were arrested, but while they were shipped under Police escort to Zell am See by train, both they and their escort disappeared without leaving a trace. The Germans are making extensive efforts to find the fugitives.

January 5. - Bern- A report of an interview on Austrian conditions with a person with good contacts says: Evacuation started at the beginning of December. The Reich Germans were the first to disappear and they were followed by many party officials. The population of Vienna, primarily children, women and old people is being evacuated according to a fixed plan. All the refugees are dominated by the same deep resignation and a despair which seems to make them indifferent to what happens to them. The authorities, particularly the SS, treat them roughly.

January 1. - Wien- New Year appeal by Baldur von Schirach in the Vienna edition of the Voelkischer Beobachter: "As long as there is a German Army and SS nobody in Vienna need worry about the events in the Hungarian area. The fortifications build at the frontier as a precaution also protect our city. ... The bomb which hit the Belvedere has had its effect. We know our enemies"

January 6. - Graz (Styria)- A railway accident occurred at Mureck on November 4th 1944 resulting in two death. Four people were badly and one slightly injured. The Graz Landesgericht has sentenced the engine driver to four month imprisonment. The driver said he had been working for 23 hours without a break.

January 9. - Graz (Styria)- An air attack on Graz on January 8 caused 15 deaths and the same number of people were wounded.

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January 12.- Wien- The Vienna edition of the Voelkischer Beobachter stated that Kriminalobersekretar SS Hauptscharfuhrer Alois Fasching, aged 46, who was killed in a mysterious accident on December 30th has been buried at Marburg a.d.Drau. (Note: At an earlier date underground reports informed that they had liquidated Alois Fasching).

January 14.- Wien- The Vienna edition of the Voelkischer Beobachter said that SS Gruppenfuhrer and Generalleutnant Josef Filtzhum was killed in an accident on January 10th. Inquiries are being made. (Note: Same as above).

January 16.- DNB- DNB reports that: Ferdinand Lang, from Salzburg constantly listened to the enemy radio from 1940 to 1943. He spreads the enemy's inciting and mendacious reports among his fellow-workers and tried to undermine their faith in final victory by remarks hostile to the State. Although his indignant comrades reproached him, Lang continued in his activities. Before a People's Court he was sentenced to death.

January 29.- Linz- A letter from Scharfuhrer Johann Kelser in the SS, formerly stationed in Lower Austria, now on the western front, to Gauleiter Jury says: " I have been billeted in a private house. All the men of the house have been called up. The women bravely do the work. I certainly wish the attitude of the population in Austria was the same as that of the people here. The H.J. (Hitler Youth) and B:D.M. (Association of German girls) are seen everywhere in uniform. Everybody wears the party badge and war decoration at any time with pride".

Linz (upper Austria) January 15, 1945. Here is part of a speech by Gauleiter Eigruber of Upper Austria made on January 15 to a party officials rally in Linz. It is interesting to note the propaganda of desperate fear, keynote of most political speeches in Germany now :

"The National Socialist Movement and Nation today too are just as determined as before to wage this war until victory is won, no matter how dark things look at the present time. The past year has revealed our enemies' aims to us. Today we can tell every German from authentic documents what our enemies intend to do with us. THE TEHERAN CONFERENCE TOOK THE CONCRETE DECISION TO 'PUNISH' THE GERMAN NATION ONCE AND FOR ALL. THE PUNISHMENT WAS INTENDED TO BE THE COMPLETE ERADICATION OF GERMANY. The border areas were to be separated and distributed among the neighboring powers. Industry was to be completely paralysed, all machines available in Germany

were to be transported to the Soviet Union and possibly to France England and America. The German Nation is to be completely disarmed. All of the German armed forces are to surrender, all of the Army, Navy, Luftwaffe, SS, SA, Police, RAD, and 20 million German men in the ages between 14 and 60 are to go as slaves to the Soviet Union. German children including babies are to be "internationalized". The men and women remaining in the homeland are to be partly annihilated by artificially caused starvation, girls and women are to become the victims of a 50 years occupation. The plan is to garrison several millions of Senegal Negroes, Maroccans, Chinese, Mongols and American gangsters in Germany and thus eradicate the German nation for good.... After this war capitalist America and bolshevik Russia want to share the world among themselves..."

"And regardless of this threat one finds today tens of thousands of people in this country (Austria) who are most actively participating to bring this devilish plan about. Some of these people, corrupted by Communist or Monarchist ideas have taken up arms against the German Nation. I can assure them that they will be dealt with. Our Fuehrer was right when he called some of the Austrians "das Alpen-Kretinen-Volk" ("the half-witted people of the Alps"- quotation from "mein Kampf") as we fail to see what they are fighting for. None of our enemies have recognized an Austrian Government in Exile and therefore it is apparent that the Austrians are going to be treated just like the Germans. These people who listen to Otto or Stalin are trying to dig their own graves."

Surveying the agricultural output of Upper Austria the Gauleiter said "the cultivation of potatoes and vegetables must be further increased. We need more food as we have many more people to feed. We are receiving daily thousands of people from bombed areas. SO FAR THIS GAU (Upper Austria) HAS RECEIVED MORE THAN 160,000 REFUGEES BUT THIS IS ONLY A BEGINNING. MORE THAN 100,000 PEOPLE HAVE STILL TO BE ACCOMODATED." (This is the first mention of the Germans of the extent of damage done by bombings.)

Then the Gauleiter calls on the people for the "People's Sacrifice" urging them to give up their extra clothes and shoes for the Landsturm (defense Unit) All textiles will have to be given up by the Theatres to make more uniforms. After a lengthy outburst against the "cruelty" of the "enemy hordes" he concludes by promising a people's State after "victory is achieved".

(Note: quotations are translation from German text)

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x Fork Union, Virginia

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

LT.-COL. FRANK A. CRUICKETT, Commandant  
LT.-COL. GEO. E. ABBAMS, M. S. A., P. M. S. & T.  
WILLIAM J. SMITH, JR., Treasurer and Business Manager

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April 10, 1945

President Franklin D. Roosevelt  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

If one-half of the inhuman, brutal acts of Germany reported have actually occurred, then that nation deserves to be read out of civilized nations and I have no doubt that more than half of these reports of brutality are correct.

This nation, Mr. President, will back you wholeheartedly in a demand that Germany repair every ounce of physical damage she has done to Allied lands and that they be made to work under Allied direction at the point of Allied bayonets as many years as may be required to rebuild completely German devastation.

This gold having been found will certainly help to pay off indemnity for damages which German hands cannot reconstruct and I only hope without revenge or ill feelings a sense of justice will demand complete reparation.

Mercy to the guilty will be very merciful to the innocent.

Yours very truly,

*John J. Wicker*  
John J. Wicker,  
President. x

JJW:BK

deBRUYN, Adriana,  
Bethesda, Md.  
Oct. 5, 1943

Sends the President a book of photographs of etchings made by an Austrian of the torture inflicted by the Nazis; says he and others who rebelled against Nazism have since paid for their convictions with their lives. The inscriptions under each photograph are in German. The sender thanks the President for the help he is giving her suppressed people. Believes the President will like to have this book to lay away with his souvenirs and she knows of only one other copy.

Referred to Hon. George T. Summerlin 1022-43, for acknowledgment and return of letter and portfolio to this office when they have served their purpose.

On 10-26-43 Mr. Summerlin returned portfolio, together with letter to Miss Tully, advising her that an appropriate expression of the President's thanks has been addressed to Miss de Bruyn.

(Original correspondence and portfolio sent to Hyde Park Library, Series "B".)

See P.P.F.9-B

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