

E x c e r p t

from the Minutes (Records) of the

MILITARY COURT No. IV, NUERNBERG

Session of 6 August 1947,

between 13:30 p.m. and 16:30 p.m.

(Continuation of the direct examination of the defendant Otto STEIN-
BRINCK by Dr. FLAETSCHNER).

(PP.4980 - 4983)

Q: Could you now tell the Tribunal -- give them an approximate indication how high these donations were which at your instigation were paid before the seizure of power by the Party -- those funds which were given to the Party before the Party took over power.

A.: In order not to have any misunderstanding I would like to leave out the large amounts which Herr FLICK has mentioned for HINDENBURG, PAPEN, HUGENBERG and HINDENBURG-Fund. All those large donations I would like to leave out of consideration. The HINDENBURG donation is very well known to me and in my first interrogation, after I had not seen Herr FLICK for many years, as far as I remember, he testified here that the HINDENBURG donation amounted to 450 or 500 thousand marks, but he also said that it quite probably might have been one million marks.

I mention this only in order to make quite clear that I am not considering these large figures here, these large sums, and I shall concentrate only on the small monies which were paid on various occasions on my instigation. I don't remember these figures in detail;

I can only guess them; but I had already mentioned them to the interrogator before I had seen Mr. FLICK again and they quite covered each other. Now, after considerable consideration, as far as I remember, we paid to the Party, that is to the NSDAP and to the party press, until they took over power (maybe within 1 or 2 month, that doesn't make any difference) a maximum of about 40,000 marks. In that sum is included, as far as I remember, one sum which was paid to Mr. FUNK after he had traveled to the Ruhr district, which had been a great disappointment for him, so I think that must have been in the late fall of 1932. This sum, which was paid to FUNK I think was about 30,600 marks but it is quite possible that it was only 20,000 marks. The whole group, SELDTE, Stahlhelm, SA and SS at the maximum, from the time we took up contact, which may have been ^{at} the beginning of 1932 or perhaps even late 1931, until they took over power, according to the best of my knowledge, received definitely not more than 25,000 or 30,000 marks; so the maximum figure I can arrive at is 75,000 or 80,000 marks. Now, of course, such figures do not mean much if one has not got parallel with the amounts which were paid to other parties or to other offices in which we were politically interested. I now mean the press. Here again I have had to rely on my guess work, because I have no documents, but I think my guess is right here. According to my memory, in 1931-32 we paid the Communists, Independent Party, and the Social Democrats, including their press, because they were cheap, we paid them approximately 25,000 to 30,000 marks. The Democrats and Central Party, if I remember rightly, had expressly asked us not to make them any payments in 1932 so that they should not

come under the suspicion to have been corrupted in connection with the Reichstag Scheme. At that time those payments were made to those offices through Freiherr von RICHTHOFEN, but I think, I remember rightly that they received 50,000 marks in this period. The press, however, the whole left-wing press, the Central and the Democratic press, received at least 75,000 to 80,000 marks, because I know that our Press Buero, which we had together with WOLFF cost us rather more than 100,000 marks; at least 100,000 marks was our share, where/as WOLFF's share was much higher. These figures do not include, which Mr. FLICK has mentioned, Payments which were made to the election party, the election union -- that was the NSDAP and the right Wing Parties. That was in February 1933. Neither are included approximately 40,000 or 50,000 marks, which from these payments were paid to HIMMLER, namely on the instigation of Dr. SCHACHT. I remember this situation rather clearly because FLICK called me and said we were to pay, I don't quite remember the figure but it was 40,000 or 50,000 marks, to HIMMLER. HIMMLER would come and see me. He did come and on this occasion I again called Herr FLICK. I told him "Herr HIMMLER is here. Wouldn't you like to come in for moment?". Now, just in the open door, I introduced HIMMLER to FLICK. Of course, this payment was also in full agreement with Herr FLICK.

Q.: After 30 January 1933, in connection with your becoming a member of the Party, were there any larger donations payments made to the Party?

A: As far as I remember, in the course of the year 1933 and from then onwards in the following years, no considerable payments were made to the Party and its organizations. I exclude, of course, those donations to the Small Circle and I also exclude the Winterhilfswerk, and the Adolf HITLER Spende, and I would also like to exclude such little payments which were made and collected during the first few months. There were lots of little payments, little collections for NSKK, the NSDV, and the 'War Victims' collections -- all those little things -- but toward the late summer of 1933 all these little collections came to an end.

(end of the document)