

OFFICE OF SECURITY & LIAISON
FOR LANDKREIS MEMMINGEN G-295
APO 170

LO-MWT/vc
7 June 46

SUBJECT: Military Government Historical report
for the month of May 1946.

TO : CG 5, Central Govt Regiment,
APO 170, US Army.

The following historical report for the month of
May 1946 is submitted for Landkreis Memmingen.

First Section

Problems and Events of Outstanding Significance.

During the month of May a much needed "Youth Com-
mittee" was formed. The German and American authorities, af-
ter much prodding, have finally taken active steps to overcome
the problem of "what is to be done with the youth of Germany".
The committee is cumbersome and tied down by procedure poli-
cy but it is a stride in the right direction and any results
they are able to attain may eventually benefit the entire
world by creating a healthy outlook in the future citizens of
Germany.

The youth problem is far from being solved. There is
so much to be done and the question has been neglected for so
long that the creation of a committee to supervise and aid in
the sports activity of the German youth is simply scratching
the surface.

Second Section.

Most important problem of the month.

The most important problem of the past month has again
been housing. The refugees, evacuees, and displaced persons

continue to arrive in ever increasing numbers and finding houses or rooms for them is almost impossible.

The refugees arriving from Czechoslovakia are predominately older persons or women and children and if they do not become charges on the community they are at least incapable of prolonged constructive work. The refugees bring only a few personal belongings and a small amount of cash and they must be supplied with almost everything necessary to sustain life.

We have attempted to solve the housing problem by consolidating the new arrivals into the existing houses but consolidation and compression can be carried only so far and then something must burst. The bursting point is near.

THIRD SECTION.

Public safety.

A slight increase in the crime rate must be reported for the month of May, though in general law and order were maintained by the population of this Landkreis. For the last month a total of 133 crimes and serious offenses was reported. This month the total of 185 reported crimes and serious incidents occurred, out of which 140 cases were cleared by arrest. Striking is the increase in burglaries, most of which were committed in the rural districts during the first two weeks of the month. Bicycles remain a valued object, the thefts of which have increased. City Police announced a remarkable decrease in burglaries for the last half of May. The larger portion of perpetrators were arrested.

The following crimes and serious offenses are reported for the month of May 1946:

- 2 aggravated assaults
- 1 robbery
- 20 burglaries
- 46 larcenies
- 14 thefts of bicycles
- 4 embezzlements
- 1 fraud
- 1 stolen property
- 1 negligent arson
- 1 sex offense
- 11 black marketings
- 1 suicide
- 82 all other offenses.

This month 76 persons have been arrested and 47 have been released from the Landgerichtsgefängnis of Memmingen. One prisoner, held for the German Court, attempted a break. His preparations for an escape through the chimney were discovered and stopped. An inspection of the prison proved that the building is kept clean, the prisoners are free of disease and employed in orderly manual work.

An officer was trained as public safety officer this month. The civilian police agencies were inspected in order to give this officer an understanding of the organization, function and authority of the German police, with which he has to seek good co-operation so that crimes and serious incidents efficiently are controlled and can be reported. Rural police sub-station Ottobeuren was inspected and found to be in order. The large area this station was under its jurisdiction makes an allotment of more officials and transportation necessary. City police which also were inspected proved to be in order. A distribution of American pistols, pocket-lamps and batteries is considered urgent.

Traffic police reports that traffic signs in the town have been improved. The enforcing of traffic-rules constantly is carried out by checking the speed, stop-points and running meter-patrols in the city of Memmingen.

Border Police report that the main task still is to refuse travellers with improper papers. During this month 1037 persons entered the American Zone, 1145 persons left our zone and 3131 persons were rejected to cross the border. This high number is on account of many travellers having been misinformed or insufficiently informed, unnecessarily increase the number of passengers in the already overcrowded trains, or if riding in trucks, waste fuel, which is tightly rationed.

Special Branch.

During the current period we received 158 Fragebogen and processed 99. 114 Fragebogen were carried over to the next month. 96 outstanding action sheets represent the number of action sheets sent to Munich to functional officers for final action.

During the current month we started to process Fragebogen concerning the release of PW's which are supposed to be filled out and submitted by the relatives of the farmers who are in the French, English, Italian, and Jugoslavian captivity. An investigation is conducted on each case.

Numerous work sheets have been received from Regimentsbezirk Detachment and from other Detachments which we have been processing through our Special Branch.

There were not automatic arrests during the current period. A Fragebogen violation case has been tried and the accused was convicted and sentenced to 3 months in prison and fined 2500.- RM.

One Officer was trained in our Special Branch Office during the month.

During the current period we continued work on party records which have been filed in our office and information from them has been put on the information cards in the investigators office. Information-cards have been made out for about 11000 persons.

Construction.

The repair work on bomb-damaged houses is still going on. During the month of May 1946, 23 requests for building-authorizations were approved. Great difficulties are experienced in procuring the necessary building-material. The two barracks built for housing 28 families (refugees) cannot be used because it is impossible to procure roofing material and tar paper. In another case people cannot move into a newly built house because of lack of material for installation of water and electricity.

Repair and maintenance of highways.

Because of inadequate supply of tar it is to be expected that the condition of highways No. 12 and 19 will be getting worse. The 1000 barrels of tar promised, represent only about 10% of the actual need. Gravel is therefore being used for the necessary repairs.

Sewerage.

The sewerage is in good order. The repair of the filter-pens is nearly completed.

Gas.

In the course of next week Memmingen will be supplied with gas again, which has not been provided for over a year now.

Labor.

A total of 1,334 expellees were received this month in the Landkreis Memmingen, consisting of 435 men, 876 women and 223 children under 14 years of age. 251 men and 227 women were in that category where they had to be registered by the Labor office and jobs were found for them.

Food and Agriculture.

Aside from the critical shortage of supplies, such as seed, fertilizer and repair parts for machinery, the agricultural economy in the Landkreis of Memmingen is returning to a normal operating basis.

There are now 35815 cows in the Landkreis which produce 6,124,368 kg of milk of which the farmers delivered 5,784,545 kg to the control points which is 85,61%. The different control points were checked on their milk deliveries with the following results:

| | <u>Month of April 1945</u> | <u>1946</u> |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------|
| Bemmingen | 104 172 kg | 93 581 kg |
| Bgg a.u. Gunz | 78 725 " | 81 705 " |
| Bisenburg | 22 706 " | 23 721 " |
| Brechenrieden | 106 349 " | 104 118 " |
| Dawangen | 104 706 " | 114 546 " |
| Kardorf | 60 508 " | 51 086 " |
| Lauben | 73 046 " | 75 604 " |
| Mkt. Rottenbach | 63 283 " | 62 804 " |
| Memmingerberg | 68 044 " | 72 144 " |
| Ollarzried | 70 106 " | 64 624 " |
| Sonwaighausen | 37 890 " | 37 523 " |
| Trunkelsberg | 6 846 " | 12 067 " |
| Wineden | 30 891 " | 26 423 " |

A total of 473 388 eggs were delivered to the egg gathering point.

The following cattle were delivered to the slaughter house this month:

974 cattle
2841 calves
64 pigs.

Food office A was able to secure 15 working horses from the upper part in Bavaria which were distributed to the most needed farms.

There is still need of 300 laborers and some farmers refuse to take in a whole family of expellees as they claim they have only room for one, but the manager of the food office was able to find room and work for a 100 expellees arrived during May.

Public Health.

The immunization program against smallpox has successfully been finished this month. Infant mortality rates continued to be high but were reduced generally from those reported previously. The gonorrhoea cases have dropped to a new low to an average of 8 patients a week.

The remaining units of penicillin were turned over to the German Public Health Doctor Brener by the Public Health Officer, Augsburg, after checking over our records which were found to be correct.

Records of street weighing carried out by the Germans themselves showed a sharp decline in the weights of both sexes and an increase in undernourishment.

Forestry

Woodcut in the month of May

| | |
|-----------|--------|
| Pine wood | 500 fm |
| Sit " | 500 " |
| Fuel " | 200 " |

Many laborers are still being used to remove the bark from all cut lumber to control the bark beetle which has increased very much.

The shortage of wood cutters is still great and there

are very few people out of the expellees who are suited for this kind of work and almost everybody is complaining about the present low food rationing scale.

The hauling of lumber is quite satisfactory as there was a large allocation of gasoline this month.

Communication.

Post: During the month of May there was a slight increase in postal activities:

| | May | April |
|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Letters handled | 715 400 | 710 200 |
| Parcels handled | 8 200 | 7 150 |
| Postcheque (money orders etc) | Deposits 902 000.- Withdrawals 477 500.- | Deposits 895 000.- Withdrawals 470 538.- |
| Postal savings | 42 100.- 112 000.- | 40 430.- 110 290.- |

Telephone: 110 telephones were installed during May 1946.

Telegraph: During the month of May 6 700 telegrams were handled by the local telegraph office, which means about 740 telegrams more than during the preceding month.

Property Control.

Firm Goedecke A.G., Berlin-Grönewald, owned by Warner Co., Inc., American property, was taken under control.

Thorough investigations were made concerning former Jewish properties, which are in process of being taken under formal control.

Property of Deutsches Rotes Kreuz (German Red Cross) as well as the firm Bilgram & Kayser, cloth factory, Memmingen,

and Juliane Brändly-Drexel, - Swiss National - (small dwelling house), was taken under formal control.

Various investigations regarding Nazi-property are being made.



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