

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

LO-MWT/vc
14 May 46

SUBJECT: Military Government Historical Report
for the month of April 1946.

TO : Office of Military Government for Regie-
rungsbezirk Schwaben, APO 170, U.S.Army.

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

FIRST SECTION

Problems and Events of Outstanding Significance.

During the month of April the Kreis-elections were held. In comparison with the Gemeinde-elections held in January 1946 the election was run very well by the German officials. The interest in the issues and the votes cast were in direct proportion to the "nearness" of the election issues. At the Gemeinde-elections the people were voting for people and policies that were close to them and the percentage of votes cast was 89%. At the Kreis elections the issues and candidates were a little farther from home and the percentage of votes cast was 60%. A very small portion of the people of this Kreis have any interest in any long range political policy - their interest is in day's events and conditions as it concerns them - let tomorrow take care of itself.

SECOND SECTION

Most important problem of the month.

The most important problem of the past month has been the vetting of the Board of Appeal which is to operate under

the German Law for Liberation from National Socialism and Militarism. The standards and qualifications for members of this board are so severe and the importance of getting the right men for the job is so urgent that Special Branch has had its entire staff of investigators concentrating its efforts on this task. The Landrat submitted the names of the candidates for the board and this list was given to each investigator with instructions to investigate each name on the list. The investigators were also told to work without comparing results with each other. In this way we obtained four complete and unrelated investigations on each candidate. We then consolidated the four investigations into a "master investigation" and based our decision upon an analysis of this document.

THIRD SECTION

Public Safety.

In the month of April 1946 a slight change in the crime rate was observed, due to the lifting of curfew hours, although in general law and order were maintained by the population of the Landkreis Memmingen. While for the previous month City Police reported 18 crimes and Rural Police 90 + 63, this month 31 crimes and serious offenses were reported by City and 133 by Rural Police. This slight increase showed up in larcenies mostly. These offenses usually were committed in the late evening hours; that is the former curfew restriction. There was no increase in burglaries this period; only four black-market offenses were reported by Rural Police while none occurred in the City. This is due to the efficiency of the civil police forces of this Landkreis.

The following crimes and serious offenses occurred during the month of April in the Landkreis Memmingen:

- 1 Child slaying
- 1 Aggravated assault
- 7 Burglaries
- 48 Larcenies
- 5 Thefts of bicycles
- 3 Embezzlements
- 1 Fraud
- 4 Black-market offenses
- 57 All other offenses of German Law.

This month 94 persons have been arrested and 75 have been released from the Landgerichtsgefängnis of Memmingen.

This Landkreis can report that the uniforming of rural police has been accomplished. Their Headquarters has furnished them two jeeps which they consider very suitable as police vehicles, because they are small and handy and can be taken every place.

The uniforming is also considered an improvement as now, rural police appears as police force and not as club of civilians.

City Police also expects the distributing of jeeps and pistols. An allotment of pocket-lamps and batteries is urgently needed by all police forces.

Traffic Police reports a progress as to the discipline of vehicular traffic. Due to the checking with stop-watches findings have been given for offending against the speed regulations. Pedestrians still do not show much interest in street rules, due to the fact that in a small town like Memmingen there is not much vehicular traffic and the pavements are narrow. A special campaign is being carried out for enforcing the traffic-regulations.

Border Police reports a slackening in the traffic across the zone border. This is on account of the work by this police force which until now mostly consists of refusing persons with improper papers, checking of cargoes whereby this month brandy and smaller quantities of smoking goods were confiscated. In the opinion of Public Safety Office border police could be more effective if they had the necessary transportation at their disposal. Signs, indicating the prohibition of crossing of blocked bridges and roads were put up at the various crossing-points of the border.

Special Branch.

During the current period we received 42 Fragebogen and processed 168. 54 Fragebogen were carried over to the next period because the investigations on these persons were not yet completed.

Numerous work sheets have been received from Regierungsbezirk Detachment and from other Detachments which we have

been processing through our Special Branch.

There was only one automatic arrest case during the current period because of false statements on Fragebogen and CIC-card. This case has not yet been tried.

During the last period the Denazification of more than 90 candidates for voting (Kreistagswahlen) were carried out. All candidates had been investigated by our investigators.

The 15 candidates for the Board of Decision for Law for liberation from National Socialism and Militarism have been cleared by our Detachment during the current period. A close investigation and a personal interrogation was conducted. They had to answer 35 questions indicating their anti-national-socialistic, anti-militaristic and pro-democratic attitude.

During the current month we continued work on the party-records which have been filed in our office and information from them has been put on information cards. Information cards have been made out for about 10,000 persons.

Public Utilities.

Building construction. The department for building construction is engaged in procuring dwellings for refugees and bombed out people. For this purpose the material at hand was used to re-erect destroyed dwelling houses. The first barrack for refugees will be finished as soon as roofing felt can be obtained. The second barrack is being erected.

Construction of streets. Tarred streets can only be repaired with gravel as tar was at present cannot be obtained.

Canalization. The canalization is working without objection. The clearance of a filter-spring will soon start. The filter bed can only slowly be repaired for lack of skilled laborers. Since one week the manure car is not working for lack of gasoline.

Gaswork. The repairs of the gas oven were finished last week and the fire was started on 29 April 1946. The gas will be distributed to the communities 4 weeks later.

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Agriculture: The delivery of agricultural products from the farmers to the control points has been as follows up to 30 April 46:

	<u>Debit</u>		<u>Credit</u>	<u>in %</u>
Bread grain	4 600 tons		4 406 tons	96
Barley	1 200 "		1 141 "	95
Oats	700 "		472 "	67
Hay	1 000 "		1 881 "	186
Straw	150 "		126 "	84
Potatoes	20 000 "		17 641 "	89

The following cattle were delivered to the slaughter house in the month of April:

717 cattle
2 274 calves
77 pigs.

There is a great need of working horses and it has been impossible up to now to secure the 220 horses needed.

Public Health.

The general health condition in the Landkreis remains unchanged except that there were an alarming number (20) of new Gonorrhoea cases in the week from April 12 - 19th. This was attributed to the fact that the patients could be treated on an ambulatory basis by their own doctors. To keep a closer check the Kreisarzt has directed all doctors that the patients receiving penicillin treatments on an ambulatory basis must have a smear and Wassermann taken by the physician in charge of the Infection Disease Hospital (Penicillin treatment station) prior to Penicillin treatment, also that the prescribed control smears after completion of the Penicillin treatment must be done at the Infection Disease Hospital. 50 units of Penicillin were issued to this Detachment to be used by the Infectious Disease Hospital for Gonorrhoea treatment.

The head doctor of the municipal hospital of Memmingen was released from his position on April 21st 1946.

Labor.

A total of 1693 expellees were received in the Landkreis of Memmingen, consisting of 482 men, 801 women, and 410 children.

400 men and 335 women were in a category which had to be registered by the Labor office and jobs were found for 662 persons.

Forestry.

Woodcut of the month of April:

Pine wood	approximately	5000 fm
Pit	"	1200 fm
Fuel	"	2500 fm.

The city of Munich has an allocation of 4,500 ster of fuel wood of which 3,400 ster are picked up.

The 9,500 fm of fuel wood for the 29th Corps are cut and ready for delivery for quite some time and there is great danger that some is being stolen as it is stored on the main road and nearly everybody has access to it.

The Landrat and Bürgermeister of this Landkreis were notified to take immediate measure to remove the bark from all cut lumber to control the bark beetle.

An appeal to the Labor office was issued to secure forest labor as quite a few left their jobs to work on farms. The complaint was that it is impossible to do such labor under the present food rationing scale.

Property Control.

Property of Standard Oil Company, located in Landkreis Memmingen has been taken under control. Furthermore Property Control Questionnaires are being processed during the month of April. First meeting of Civilian Property Controllers of Property Control Sub-District No.21 took place at Weimpen on 17 April 1946. Property Control affairs of Landkreis Memmingen are now handled under the jurisdiction of Sub-District Property Control by German civilians.

Finance.

On 1 April 1946 the director of the Finance Office Memmingen, Mr. Otto Meier, was transferred to Munich, and Mr. Josef Leonhard appointed as new director.

The assessing of income-, trade-, and sale-tax for 1946 is now completed.

The so-called "Amtstage" held in Ottobeuren once a month which were established to facilitate the collecting of taxes have shown good results. For instance taxes totalling RM 12,000.-- were collected at the Amtstag held on 12 April 46.

By order of the Bavarian Ministry of Finance the following customs offices along the Bavarian-Austrian border (as far as it is under the jurisdiction of the Hauptzollamt Memmingen) were established on main-road and railway crossing-points effective 1 March 46:

Landkreis Memmingen: A fronted-steinach Landstrasse
A fronted-steinach Bahnhof
A fronted-steinach

Landkreis Ottobeuren: Aach
Balderschwang
Oberjoch.

A further customs office was established at Mittelberg (near Memmingen) in the French occupation zone. It is the task of all these Customs Offices to prevent export and import of goods and money without consent of Military Government and to collect the duties and taxes for goods imported.

Communication.

Posts: The volume of parcel and letter traffic remained practically the same as in the preceding month. The figures are:

Letters handled	about 710,200
parcels handled	" 7,150

The telegraph and postal savings traffic shows only a slight increase in comparison with March. The sums handled are:

	<u>Deposits</u>	<u>Withdrawals</u>
Telegraph	RM 335,000.--	RM 470,533.--
Postal savings	RM 40,400.--	RM 110,200.--

Telephone: 104 new telephone connections were installed during April.

Telegraph: In the course of April about 5962 telegrams were handled by the local telegraph office.

MARVIN W. TOEPPER
1st Lt INF
Director.