

ZCZC
LNMDAN 2494 BJBAN 0919
CONFIDENTIAL
OO FCOLN
FM BMGBE TO BONNN
191940Z AUG
GRS 290

CONFIDENTIAL
FM BMG BERLIN
TO IMMEDIATE BONN
TELNO 165

OF 191940Z AUGUST 87
INFO IMMEDIATE FCO, CICC GERMANY, MODUK, WASHINGTON, PARIS, MOSCOW

SIC MODUK FOR DEFENCE COMMITMENTS

FCO PLEASE ADVANCE TO NO. 10 DOWNING STREET

MY TELNO 163: HESS: THE NOTE

1. THE NOTE WHICH WAS FOUND IN HESS'S POCKET IS DIFFICULT TO DECIPHER. THE FOLLOWING IS A TRANSCRIPTION MADE BY THE AMERICANS, FOLLOWED BY OUR TRANSLATION.

2. THE TRANSCRIPTION OF THE GERMAN TEXT READS:

BEGINS

BITTE AN DIE DIREKTOREN DIES HEIMZUSCHICKEN.
GESCHRIEBEN EIN PAAR MINUTEN VOR MEINEM TODE.
ICH DANKE EUCH ALLEN, MEINE LIEBEN, FUER ALLES, WAS IHR MIR LIEBES ANGETAN. FREIBURG SAGT, ES HAT MIR MASSLOS LEID GETAN, DASS ICH SO TUN MUSSTE SEIT DEM NEURNBERGER PROZESS, ALS KENNE ICH SIE NICHT. ES BLEIB MIR NICHTS ANDERES UEBRIG, SONST WAEREN VERSUCHE UNMOEGLICH GEWESEN, IN DIE FREIHEIT ZU KOMMEN. ICH HATTE MICH SO DARAUF GEFREUT, SIE WEIDERZUSEHEN, ICH BEKAM JA BILDE VON IHR WIE VON EUCH ALLEN.

EUER GROSSER

ENDS

3. THIS IS OUR ENGLISH TRANSLATION.

BEGINS

PLEASE WOULD THE GOVERNORS SEND THIS HOME.
WRITTEN A FEW MINUTES BEFORE MY DEATH.
I THANK YOU ALL, MY DEAR ONES, FOR ALL THE DEAR THINGS YOU HAVE

IMMEDIATE

ADVANCE COPY

two/WLSD
two/NAD
two/SWIFT
two/NEWS D
two/RSD
PS/MUSCHALLER
MURATERO
No 10
ASSESSMENT STAFF,
CABINET OFFICE

PLEASE WOULD THE GOVERNORS SEND THIS HOME.
WRITTEN A FEW MINUTES BEFORE MY DEATH.

I THANK YOU ALL, MY DEAR ONES, FOR ALL THE DEAR THINGS YOU HAVE
DONE FOR ME. FREIBURG SAYS THAT I HAVE BEEN DREADFULLY HURT BY
HAVING TO ACT SINCE THE NUREMBURG TRIAL AS THOUGH I DID NOT KNOW
HER. I HAD NO OTHER ALTERNATIVE, OTHERWISE ALL THE ATTEMPTS TO
ACHEIVE FREEDOM WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE.

I HAD LOOKED FORWARD TO SEEING HER AGAIN. I RECEIVED PICTURES OF
HER AS OF ALL OF YOU.

YOUR BIG ONE.

ENDS

4. THE TEXT IS NOT FULLY INTELLIGIBLE TO US, BUT WE BELIEVE
THAT AT NUREMBURG HESS FEIGNED AMNESIA AND PRETENDED NOT TO
RECOGNISE PEOPLE WHO SHOULD HAVE BEEN WELL KNOWN TO HIM.

BROOKING

YYYY

BJBPAN 0919

NNNN

GRS 268

UNCLASSIFIED

FM BMG BERLIN

TO IMMEDIATE FCO

TELNO RETRACT 12

OF 191800Z AUG 87

BERLIN NO: 0430 200 19/08/87 TH1: 1800

FROM: INFORMATION DEPARTMENT, PURDON
BRITISH MILITARY GOVERNMENT, BERLIN

BERMILGOV/30 PRESS RELEASE 19 AUGUST 1987

H E S S

ON AUGUST 19, AN AUTOPSY WAS PERFORMED ON THE BODY OF RUDOLF HESS IN THE BRITISH MILITARY HOSPITAL BY DR. J. MALCOLM CAMERON, M.D., PHD., FRCS, FRC, PATH., PROFESSOR OF FORENSIC MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON. THE AUTOPSY WAS CONDUCTED IN THE PRESENCE OF MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FOUR POWERS. WHILE SOME LABORATORY TESTS ARE STILL TO BE COMPLETED, THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF DEATH HAS BEEN DETERMINED TO BE ASPHYXIATION. THE NOTE WHICH WAS FOUND ON THE BODY — THE CONTENTS OF WHICH HAVE BEEN RELEASED TO THE HESS FAMILY — CLEARLY IMPLIES THAT HESS PLANNED TO TAKE HIS OWN LIFE. INVESTIGATIONS ARE CONTINUING INTO THE PRECISE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE DEATH.

TRANSLATION/UEBERSETZUNG

HESS

AM 19. AUGUST WURDE EINE AUTOPSIE DER LEICHE VON RUDOLF HESS IM BRITISCHEN MILITAERKRANKENHAUS VON DR. J. MALCOLM CAMERON, M.D., PHD., FRCS, FRC, PATH. PROFESSOR DER GERICHTSMEDIZIN AN DER LONDONER UNIVERSITAET, VORGENOMMEN. DIE AUTOPSIE WURDE IN ANWESENHEIT VON MEDIZINISCHEN VERTRETERN DER VIER MAECHTE DURCHGEFUEHRT. WAEHREND NOCH EINIGE LABORTTESTS ANGESTELLT WERDEN, IST ALS HAUPTTODESURSACHE ERSTICKUNG ERMITTELT WORDEN. DER BRIEF, DEN MAN BEI HESS FAND UND DESSEN INHALT SEINER FAMILIE UEBERLASSEN WURDE, ZEIGT DEUTLICH, DASS HESS PLANTE, SICH DAS LEBEN ZU NEHMEN. DIE ERMITTLUNGEN BEZUEGLICH DER GENAUEN UMSTAENDE, DIE ZUM TODE FUEHRTEN, DAUERN AN.

ENDE

ENDS

YYYY

BJLNAN 0430

LIMITED

WED

EED

NAD

SOV D

DEF D

SEC POL D

NEWS D

INFO D

RES D

PUSD

PS

PS/PUS

PS/MR EGGAR
PS/MRS CHALKER
PS/LORD GLENARTHUR
PS/MR MELLOR
MR FBETWELL
MR RATFORD
MR FALL
MR GILLMORE
MR FEARN
MR BOYD
MISS PESTELL

COPIES TO:
SEC (O) (C) MOD

ASSESSMENT STAFF
CABINET OFFICE

NO 10 DOWNING ST

ZCZC
LNMDAN 2403 BJBPA 0913 ADVANCE COPY
CONFIDENTIAL
DD 191400Z FCOLN
FM BMGBE TO BONNN
191140Z AUG
GRS 318

FILE

WED

New 1 D

No 10 Downing St

CONFIDENTIAL
FM BMG BERLIN
TO IMMEDIATE BONN
TELNO 162
OF 191140Z AUGUST 87
AND TO DESKBY 191400Z FCO
INFO IMMEDIATE CICC GERMANY, MODUK, WASHINGTON, PARIS, MOSCOW



SIC

MODUK FOR DEFENCE COMMITMENTS

FCO PLEASE ADVANCE TO NO 10 DOWNING STREET

MY TELNO 160 : DEATH OF HESS : SITREP AT 191200Z

1. THE AUTOPSY WAS CONDUCTED AT THE BRITISH MILITARY HOSPITAL (BMH) BY PROFESSOR CAMERON THIS MORNING, AND IN THE PRESENCE OF DOCTORS FROM ALL FOUR POWERS AND WITH THE FOUR GOVERNORS WATCHING ON CLOSE CIRCUIT TELEVISION. THE ESSENTIAL CONCLUSION WAS THAT DEATH RESULTED FROM ASPHYXIA CAUSED BY THE PRESSURE OF LIGATURES ON THE NECK.

2. WITH QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT AND IN THE PRESENCE OF ALL FOUR GOVERNORS THE BODY HAS BEEN SEALED IN THE COFFIN.

3. THE US WERE UNABLE TO CONTACT WOLF-RUDIGER HESS LAST NIGHT TO HAND OVER THE NOTE (MY TUR REFERS) BECUASE HE HAD RETURNED TO MUNICH. THEY SPOKE TO HIM ON THE TELEPHONE AT ABOUT 1300 LOCAL TIME AND GAVE HIM THE TEXT OF THE NOTE AT DICTATION SPEED. WE ARE NOW STATING TO THE PRESS THAT A NOTE WAS FOUND, AND ADDING THAT THE CONTENTS HAVE BEEN PASSED TO THE FAMILY. THE ACTUAL NOTE WILL NOW PROBABLY HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO THE FAMILY WHEN THE BODY IS HANDED OVER.

4. AS YOU KNOW, THE BAVARIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE RAISED DOUBTS ABOUT THE ADEQUACY OF THE DOCUMENTATION IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THIS DEATH AND HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THEY MIGHT BE FORCED TO CONDUCT A SECOND AUTOPSY WHEN THE BODY ARRIVES IN THE FRG. THEY HAVE BEEN IN TOUCH WITH THE BERLIN SENAT TO ENQUIRE WHETHER A GERMAN DOCTOR WAS INVOLVED IN THE AUTOPSY IN BERLIN, BUT HAVE OF COURSE BEEN TOLD THAT NONE WAS. THE SENAT HAVE TOLD US THAT THEY WISH TO BE LEFT COMPLETELY OUT OF THIS ISSUE. DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEM IS CONTINUING.

5. SUBJECT TO SATISFACTORY RESOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM OF DOCUMENTATION, WE ARE AT PRESENT STILL PLANNING THAT THE BODY SHOULD BE FLOWN TO BAVARIA TOMORROW MORNING ACCOMPANIED BY THE FOUR GOVERNORS.

BROOKING

YYYY