

Translation: Excerpt from the Memorandum of the Higher SS and Police Leader

7. Special police

a) Questioned on the progress made in setting up a special police, Bousquet explained that things aren't "going so well". The laws against the Jews are generally being implemented, but a control office needs to be formed and its staff have to be thoroughly screened.

For this purpose he is placing everything at Pellepoix's disposal. Pellepoix has however expressed to him the wish to be able to carry out house searches. He cannot permit this because he wants to have a unified police force without splitting it into departments under various leaders.

He is willing to establish a "Section spéciale" within the framework of the overall police and under his direction.

SS Colonel Dr Knochen (SS-Standartenführer) stresses that this solution is very much in line with our intention. This section needs to be set up straight away so as to ensure that there is no slackening of the successes gained in the preventive combating of opponents. It is therefore necessary to begin in the field of combating communism, Jewry and Freemasonry.

The Commander of Security Police and Security Service (BdS: Befehlshaber der Sicherheitspolizei und des Sicherheitsdienstes) stresses that both he and the Higher SS and Police Leader were under the impression that the stagnation in this field stems from the French government not forming a unified front in combating these opponents. This is the only possible explanation for why Pellepoix has yet to be allocated a budget.

In response, Bousquet stressed that this is down to Pellepoix. He declares that he is willing to intercede on Pellepoix's behalf with the finance minister.

Bousquet doubts that the finance minister, as the Commander (BdS) says based on information passed on by P., would have refused to authorise money for the Commissioner for Jewish Affairs. Instead, he believes that Pellepoix has yet to present an organisation plan for allocating the money he has demanded. Finally, in response to the reproach of the Commander (BdS), Bousquet concedes to Pellepoix the right to propose the measures to be carried out against the Jews. Bousquet also places his police at the disposal of Pellepoix in full knowledge of the purpose. To settle the question, it was agreed that the Commander (BdS), Pellepoix and Bousquet hold a meeting.

b) The question on the current state of deportations of Jews from the unoccupied territory, based on the agreement reached on 16.6, was answered as follows:

Bousquet informs that SS Captain Dannecker (SS-Hauptsturmführer) had sent for Bousquet's secretary in Paris, Leguay, and demanded from him the immediate arrest of

10,000 Jews in the unoccupied and 20,000 Jews in the occupied territory, and namely on the basis of the agreement reached between Laval and the Commander (BdS) on the one hand, and the Higher SS and Police Leader and Bousquet on the other.

He has presented the proposal as worked out by Leguay to Laval, who for his part has declared that he is not up to date regarding developments in this question.

Due to the Marshal's intervention Laval proposed that the French police should not carry out the arrests in the occupied territory. Rather, the arrests must be left to the occupation troops.

For the unoccupied territory Laval has proposed on the basis of the Marshal's intervention that initially only foreign national Jews are to be detained and transferred.

In response to this statement, the Commander (BdS) declared that while the French side seem to have recognised the need to enforce the wearing of the Jewish badge in the occupied territory, it is obvious that the Jewish question has yet to be understood to the extent that arrests of Jews are to be carried out without any further ado. The Commander (BdS) emphasised that the only conclusion to be drawn is that one has yet to fully understand the problem in Vichy.

Bousquet explained in reply that the French side is not against arrests but only that the carrying out of arrests by the French police in Paris is "embarrassing" ("gênant"). This is the expressed wish of the Marshal.

The Commander (BdS) responded by pointing out that in all his recent speeches the Führer has very clearly underlined the absolute necessity of a definitive solution to the Jewish question. For this reason, only this attitude is of importance for our measures, not that of the French government. The Führer will certainly show no understanding should the French government refuse to carry out the arrests.

The following arrangement was thus agreed to:

While, due to the intervention of the Marshal, for the moment no Jews of French nationality are to be arrested, Bousquet declares himself ready to launch a concerted operation throughout France to arrest foreign national Jews in accordance with the numbers we wish. Bousquet emphasises that this is a course of action the French government is carrying out for the first time, whereby one is very much aware of the resulting difficulties.

In this connection Bousquet pointed out the difficulties encountered in dealing with the Jewish question in Africa. While operations are undertaken against Jews of French nationality, it is forbidden to take action against Jews of Italian nationality.

Asked once more about his relationship with Pellepoix, Bousquet declares his willingness to impose any restrictions on Jews, whereby it is necessary however that Pellepoix makes the proposals. On inquiry, he stated that it is simply impossible that Pellepoix had not been granted permission to broadcast a speech on radio for trivial reasons. The reason is rather a general directive issued by Laval that no member of the government is to broadcast a speech on radio without his permission.

For the purpose of coordinating the arrest of the Jews as agreed, a meeting with Laval was announced for Saturday, 4.6. As the reason for why our side refuses to arrest Jews, the Commander (BdS) stated that we wish to make as little use as possible of the power we have

as an occupying force. In response to this, Bousquet explained that the real reason for the Marshal's objection is the question of the Jews of Alsatian nationality. The Marshal has so many ties to the Alsace that he does not want any action to be taken against them.

Signed Hagen
SS Captain (SS-Sturmbannführer)