Statement

Re: Meeting with Ministerial Councilor Dr. Huhnhäuser on 9/15/1942

The goal of the meeting was to seek clarification

1) Of the goals of the Department “Science and Education” in the Reichskommissariat
2) Of the plans already discussed in prior meetings for the establishment of a Research Association in Norway
3) Of the activity of Ministerial Councilor Dr. Huhnhäuser in the area of literature propaganda
4) Whether Ministerial Councilor Dr. Huhnhäuser should be informed of the goals and methods of our work.

On 1.), Ministerial Councilor Dr. Huhnhäuser has committed to himself as his main objective to influencing and promoting the necessary reshaping and coordination in the areas of Science and Education so that unnecessary breaking up can be avoided by all means. This objective applies both to nonsensical abuses of the NS as well as the Reich-German Agencies. H. concurs with us that we can only lead to the goal setting of our greater Germanic politics through directed education that is as invisible as possible. This fundamental agreement provides from the outset a guarantee of practical cooperation with H.’s department. The collaboration with the SD is very close and secured through overlap of individuals in the SD offices and H.’s department. The admission of H. in the SS is already taking place following the approval of SS-Obergruppenführer Redieß. The SD would like for H. to be incorporated into its ranks.

On 2.) Huhnhäuser’s proposal for the establishment of a research association in Norway was not completely accurately depicted in the meeting with Dr. Vollberg and Dr. Rietz on 9/1/1942. It does not deal with an umbrella organization covering existing Norwegian research facilities outside of the universities, but is rather a proposal for the new construction of an institute which would cover all sectors of scientific work and would be organized in the style of the German Kaiser-Wilhelm-Society with the dissolution of all existing associations and transfer of all capital of these institutions to the assets of the new research association. As the formation of an institutional apparatus would be rejected without the prior availability of practically educated and objective scholars, it is planned to gradually build up the individual sectors of scientific work to an extent that experts will be made available. A close German-Norwegian collaboration, which German leadership of this establishment guarantees from the outset, is an absolute prerequisite and should be secured organizationally through the incorporation of a German Vice President. Under no circumstances should a fragmentation of scientific endeavors occur; rather, it is the goal through the new foundation to ensure from the outset unified guidance, leadership and reliably functioning collaboration. For that reason, those scientists who are active in the various sectors of the research association must also take academic leadership positions at the university and other higher education institutions, so that the unity of research and teaching can be ensured. A transcript of the white paper by H. is attached for your information.

It must therefore be noted that Huhnhäuser’s plans are completely in accord with our own, they just cover a broader range of activity, as they are meant to include all areas of scientific work.

The following can be said about the development of this plan: Consideration of the idea goes back already one and a half years, but took a more concrete form during the visit of SS-Gruppenführer
Hoffman at the end of July. At this meeting, organized by Dr. Riechert, H. was asked to clarify his position in writing and to propose, as one of the first to be established divisions of this research association, the formation of a racial biology professional association. In the white paper from H. completed on 8/11/42 it is argued that the submission should be first forwarded to the Reichsführer-SS for a basic decision, and then submitted to the Reichskommissar. The SD maintains for this purpose several copies of this white paper, from which a copy will be sent to Dr. Riechert.

I was able to ascertain that H. was unaware that Dr. Riechert in the meantime has fleshed out the plan for foundation of a Germanic Research Institute and submitted it to the Obergruppenführer.

It must therefore be noted that currently there exist 3 plans for the development of Norwegian scientific work in the areas of Germanic studies and Germanic ethnic research. In objective and methods, our plan falls in line with that of H. The plan of Dr. Riechert, which is not known in detail, seems to provide for starting with the foundation of a larger institute, for which it is doubtful the resources currently exist. Riechert is also doubtless thinking more of a German than a Norwegian facility.

On 3.), H. has started immediately to provide for the translation of newer German authors in Norway and the release of a publication series which can act as a counterpoint to the currently widely distributed translated literature of German emigrants. Additionally, H. has compiled and published a bibliography of the Norwegian translations of German great literature, which is expected to be followed by a similar bibliography of German translations of Norwegian great literature. H. presented several copies of translations of novels he arranged for, there were about 5-6, with others already in print. H. carried out these duties at the behest of and in association with the Reich Propaganda Ministry. This coordination arises from the fact that, strangely enough, the department “Science and Education” falls under the oversight of the main department “propaganda” within the Reich Kommissariat.

On 4.) The far-reaching consensus between our detailed partial plans and the comprehensive aims of Huhnnhäuser makes complete synchronization a complete necessity. The attitude of H. toward SS-work guarantees that this will be achieved. It is generally agreed that we will continue to work closely together and will keep one another updated on all occurrences.

Oslo, on 9/17/1942

Schwalm

SS H’Stuf.
Proposal for the Establishment of a Research Association in Norway

In the area of scientific research, the following institutions have been active in Norway:

- Den Norske Videnskape Akademi, Oslo;
- Instituttet for sammenligenende kulturforskning, Oslo;
- Chr. Michelsens Institutt for videnskap og assandsfrihet, Bergen;
- Forening til den norske fortide minnesmerke-bevaring, Oslo;
- Norges Geologiske undersøkelse, Oslo;
- Norges Geografiske Opmaaling, Oslo;
- Sjökartverket, Oslo;
- Det norske institutt for kosmik fysikk, Oslo;
- Riksantikvariatet, Oslo;
- Biologiske station paa Herdla;
- Trondheim biologiske station;
- Det norske metereologiske institutt, Oslo;
- Norsk historisk kjeldeskriftinstitutt, Oslo;
- Forsøksstasjon for tilvirkning av fiskeriprodukter, Bergen;
- Hermetikkindustriens forskningsinstitutt, Stavanger;
- Papirindustriens forskningsinstitutt.

It became clear in the course of the collaboration with the Education Department that the multiplicity of these scientific institutions is unsustainable in the long run, as it constitutes not only a fragmentation of forces but also a division of funds. Both the human resources leadership and the staffing of the individual institutions has shown clearly that in their current form, any kind of collaboration in the sense of a reorganization is absolutely impossible and as a result the existing institutions can be collaborated with under no circumstances. Furthermore, in many cases these institutions have derived their goals from ideologies which cannot be reconciled with the ideological foundations of our research and issues. As an example, consider the work of the institute for comparative culture research, which engages in research work explicitly tied to the humanitarian principles of a past political outlook on life and the state. All of these considerations have led to the conclusion a new institution in Norway must be created in the interest of collaboration between Germany and Norway, which has already been envisioned and partially implemented in other fields. The Department for Schools and Education under the Reichskommissar for the occupied Norwegian regions has consequently in February 1941
commenced exploratory work for the establishment of a new research association in Norway and submitted their proposals to the responsible minister of the Education Department. This work was done in close collaboration with the Commander of the Sicherheitspolizei, who through his intelligence work came to similar conclusions and as a result was deeply interested in changing the existing situation. In the multiple preliminary conversations which have taken place in the last 1 ½ years with the Department, the result became clear that the new association would have to borrow heavily from the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Society in Germany in its conceptual design, and as a result close contact has already been established with the Science Office in the Reich Ministry for Science, Education and National Culture. It was clearly understood on both the German and Norwegian sides that this new institution must cover the entire realm of research, not just one branch and that neither a completely Norwegian-state orientation nor a Norwegian party orientation could be considered. As it was known from experience that strong organizational ties could impair the efficacy of such research and in order to avoid duplicating research and to provide all positively disposed research with the opportunity for the most advantageous working conditions possible, it was determined from the outset that, similarly to the Kaiser Wilhelm Society in Berlin, this association would take the form of a scientific club. In order to at the same time create a connection between the association and the existing scientific University and College institutes, it was envisaged that this association would be loosely affiliated with the existing Department and would work within its scope. A president was envisioned for the leadership of this institute and the president in mind based on seniority and reputation is an international law professor who is also renowned in Germany, Hermann Harris Aal. In order to clearly demonstrate the close German-Norwegian collaboration, a German vice-president must stand by his side.

After careful consideration, it was decided that individual institutions, for example a humanities or natural science sector, should not be created, but rather these individual branches of science should be built up within this association based on the existing needs and available persons. For example, the establishment of a racial biology sector is particularly urgent, as the tasks require revision and only a few scientists are on hand. It became absolutely clear to all in the course of the individual discussions that exactly this important area of scientific work cannot under any circumstances be broken up in pieces, in the interest of the coherence of scientific work and the unified ideological penetration of the Norwegian populace. The following were considered as suitable people:

1) Rector Saxlund from Arendal, who for years already in his thoughts has grappled with racial biology questions and who has close connections with German scholars (Günther)
2) The geneticist Quelpurd, docent of the Oslo University and student of the prominent German racial scientists and geneticists Professor Eugen Fischer and Professor Verschuer;
3) The medical doctor Dr. Rian, Inspector for mental institutions in the Norwegian Medical Directorate, who in his own scientific work undertook a genetic inventory of the Norwegian folk using materials available in the hospitals.

All three are members of Nasjonal Samling. In addition to this most pressing task, work could also be done in the area of polar sea research under the leadership of the important and well-recognized in the scientific world polar research Professor Adolf Hoel, currently prorector of Oslo University as well as in the area of recent and modern history, which has commenced under the leadership of university professor Schnittler.
To make the results of the research available to the Norwegian public as quickly as possible, it must be ensured that the individual researchers have the possibility to teach at Norwegian colleges.

As far as Norwegian researches are not available for the urgent tasks, it would be desirable to pull in suitable German scholars or scholars from friendly Germanic states and to grant them special research and teaching assignments within the new research association. It is likewise envisioned that Norwegian scholars will be active at German institutions. Obviously, the area of responsibility will not be restricted to country and culture, but rather in the determination of themes and goals will follow, along with the teaching, a broader consensus of the greater scientific goals and tasks of Germanic Europe.

A fragmentation of forces and thereby of results must be avoided, where individual branches of the industry establish their special research institutes (e.g. fish industry, research laboratory of the Norwegian Hermeticism industry). It must also not be allowed for individual agencies seize the initiative to establish special facilities to pursue their particular science and research activities. Naturally, special attention will be paid to the task of ensuring that the important tasks of all agencies are taken into account within the research association.

The basic principles for the establishment of the research association which have been outlined here were discussed in a meeting held with SS-Sturmbannführer Richert on Thursday, 7/30 in the presence of SS-Gruppenführer Hoffman. At this gathering it was agreed that, after the German offices have voiced their agreement, a proposal should be submitted to the Reichsführer-SS. Following his statement of position, a proposal should be submitted to the Reichskommissar, which at the same time should include the position statement of the Norwegian Departement.

For the establishment of the research association it is absolutely necessary that all of the previously divided funds, for example the Norsk Varekrisforsikringsfond, must be pooled.

Signed Dr. Huhnhäuser

Oslo, 8/11/1942.