

Confidential!

Statement

Re: Meeting with SS-Obersturmführer Dr. Vollberg (SD) on 10/23/42

1.) Situation at the University

The situation at the university has not improved in any way in the last few weeks, rather, it has worsened. The stubbornness in refusing admission of NS students, which also included the case of a Waffen-SS member (with 1 ½ years of front line duty) will sooner or later necessitate retaliatory actions. The patience shown on the German side has apparently been misinterpreted.

2.) Leading Scientists in the Area of Archaeology and Prehistory

- a) All so-called leading men in this field today are decidedly anti-German. In the file given to me concerning prehistoric discoveries in Norway, I found a note in which Prof. Sprockhoff asked why Prof. A.W. Brögger (born 10/11/84, Professor of Archaeology) had been incarcerated. "Such a man of Norwegian Prehistory should not be held hostage". SS-Obersturmführer Vollberg sees in this inquiry confirmation of the complete lack of understanding of German scientists regarding the intellectual-political situation in Norway. In nearly all cases, where the SD get hold of Norwegian scientists who have been known to work with England's assistance services, one can see in the most recent letters of German scientists a show of support, even if only of a scientific nature. Brögger is a member of the German Archaeological Institute. Probably this is the reason for the inquiry from Sprockhoff, as he is leader of the Roman—Germanic Commission of the German Archeological Institute.

(Question for the "Ahnenerbe": Can it be ascertained, whether the German Archaeological Institute now as before treats Brögger as a member and employs him accordingly?)

Brögger was arrested 1 ½ years ago because he belonged to the Worm-Müller and Paasche circle and was suspected of intending to flee to England. Two days before the invasion, Brögger gave a speech in which he spoke in the sharpest possible tone of the barbarism and deprivation of liberty resulting from national socialism. It was one of the sharpest speeches given against us, especially due to its skillful form of investiture. Brögger then refused to make available to German scientists the archaeological discoveries. He explained that during the war he did not want to allow any enemy to make a visit. – Incidentally, Brögger should be released from jail on the day of the meeting due to a request filed by SS-O'Stuf. Dr. Vollberg. The request was approved by the Reichskommissar as well as the Higher SS and Police Leader. All that is needed now is a final deal with Brögger. Dr. Vollberg has spoken often in the past 1 ½ years with Brögger, who wrote him a letter recently in which he stressed that he has had plenty of time to think things over in the last 1 ½ years and that he

has come to the conclusion that the world for which he had fought up to now (Brögger was a member of the Venstre Party, therefore Left Democrat) had been lost for all time and could never be rebuilt. He therefore did not intend to continue to fight for this ideology.

- b) Sigurd Grieg (born 8/22/1894, Underbestyrer of the Oldsak Collection and the Bygdøy Museum) manages the Oldsak collection and the prehistory department of the Bygdøy Museum. He has remained unchecked, even though he is one of the harshest opponents of Germany. He had the audacity to declare right to the face of Ministerial Councilor Dr. Huhnhäuser during a tour of the Bygdøy collection that rather than show around an enemy, his time would be much better spent finishing his big book against Germany, which he wants to publish only after the war is over, as he otherwise has nothing good to expect from the Germans. Nobody has intervened, as he should first be allowed to finish his book and one should not give him the opportunity to play the martyr, as he apparently wished to do through this remark to the representative of the Reichskommissariat. Subsequently, he did not refuse to issue the photographic material that was requested from the Oldsak collection, even if he was doing nothing more than what was asked of him.
  - c) The most eminent expert in the area of prehistoric stone carvings, Professor Carl Marstrander (born 11/26/1883, Professor of Celtic language at the University of Oslo since 1913, Celtic scholar, comparative language research, Rune expert) has evidentially been working so actively for England (details cannot be provided for reasons of military security) that he spent several months in jail and was only recently released. Any kind of collaboration with him should be strictly avoided.
  - d) Particularly characteristic of the entire scientific-political situation is the case of Professor Bøe, Johannes (born 10/17/1891, until now Curator of the Bergen Museum, Prehistorian), who now has been appointed successor of the extremely anti-German outgoing Director of the Bergen Museum Shetelig. This appointment through the Ministry of Skancke took place due to an international (!) advisory opinion under the guidance of Danish and Swedish experts, in the same way the University statutes have up to this point been planned and realized. Consultation of German experts, which was undoubtedly required in the provision of the Swedish and Danish advisory opinion, was not pushed through despite intervention by the German agencies of the Reichskommissariat. Skancke's Ministry also did not dare to reject the appointment, as they currently fear offending the scientific circles during the current college crisis. We must therefore recognize that after 2 ½ years of German occupation the appointment of a prehistorian can occur without any German participation and what's more, the appointment of a man who has for years demonstrably sought to counter by all available means the opinions of the German prehistory community regarding the unity and superiority of the proto-Germanic culture. The pressure put on Skancke's ministry from the German side against the appointment of Bøe was unsuccessful.
- 3.) The details and facts provided above, particularly the case of Bøe, prompted me to request that I be regularly informed by the SD on developments of this nature. SS-Obersturmführer Dr. Vollberg declared himself unauthorized and asked that I arrange this matter with the leader of the SD, SS-Sturmbannführer Noot. I would need a good deal of time to come to grips with all of

these issues. Until then, the greatest possible restraint and caution are needed in any steps concerning Norwegians.

#### 4.) Leader of the local Language School Kern

I reported on my long discussion with Kern. Kern should be addressed as a typical “Kurbler”, with an excessive desire for admiration and who considers himself a crucial central point of German-Norwegian cultural life. His skill as a language teacher cannot be doubted. One can only regret that he has such a pathological need for admiration, to the point that he claims a political and societal position far beyond his abilities, which he does not actually have. He first became a party member long after 1933. Even the German envoy Sahm considered him harmful for the German reputation, as he interfered in everything as 200% Nazi and consequently damaged the reputation of the movement. Many false perceptions among the local intelligentsia regarding national socialism can be traced back to the behavior of Kern. That is not to say that Kern somehow falsely portrays the essence and ideas of national socialism, but rather this criticism references his personal behavior. Kern mounts every horse that rides by. He has for years now held every view.

Extreme caution is highly advisable in any collaboration with him. On the other hand, it cannot be denied that he has countless connections to Norwegians. There is however always the danger that a mediation he provides regarding his Norwegian friends will be depicted as his own initiative.

Kern’s assumption that the German Academy wants to boot him and his language school out was more or less pulled out of thin air. Huhnhäuser is quite willing to communicate with him, as long as he would be able to hold to their agreements and not always suddenly arrange representative events with large amounts of money (it is unknown, where he gets it), which cannot possibly fit with his duties and which he cannot reliably enough arrange on his own.

#### 5.) Securing prehistorical discoveries:

Upon questioning, SS-O’Stuf. Dr. Vollberg informed me that he regularly receives reports that valuable prehistorical discoveries in the thousands (!!!) were being carelessly by the Wehrmacht, in particular through ignorance and lack of care. That was particularly true for the area of Lista, one of the most important departure points for the Norwegian Vikings. It also appears that the activities of Prof. Sprockhoff in this area have not sufficed. I requested that SS-O’Stuf. Dr. Vollberg send me all news of this sort, but fear that he will not keep his promise, as he simply does not have enough staff to fulfill such a request. SS-O’Stuf. Dr. Vollberg would greatly appreciate it if the question of securing these discoveries would finally be properly organized and absolutely believes that, considering the colossal extent of the fortification work and the abundance of prehistorical discoveries, this task could only be managed with a larger staff of German scientists. The use of Norwegians would certainly be absolutely rejected by the Wehrmacht. He had recently had to reject a case where a Norwegian prehistorian (the name was not mentioned) made a request to carry out excavations in the Wehrmacht area of Vest-Agder, as the fortifications of archaeological sites there had been destroyed.

SS-O'Stuf. Dr. Vollberg ask that it be considered whether the way through the Higher SS and Police Leader would lead to the achievement of the objective in this matter. The Higher SS and Police leader and the Wehrmacht are not on good terms, and so it is not certain that such a far-reaching agreement as is necessary here would lead to the readiness of the B.d.W., if the wishes of the Higher SS and Police Leader are to be carried out. The relationship of the Reichskommissar with the Wehrmacht is significantly better. SS-O'Stuf. Dr. Vollberg also asked me to clarify whether or not the Reichskommissar is in fact responsible for these matters, perhaps this could be immediately determined through a talk with Ministerial Councilor Dr. Huhnhäuser.

Oslo, on 10/25/42.

Schwalm

SS-Hauptsturmführer