

CRR/F21/29

Confidential Report submitted to Dr. Payne  
as President An Record. It has not been  
submitted to the Board or to other individuals.  
JTC.

REPORT ON DR. RICKMAN'S VISIT TO BERLIN TO INTERVIEW PSYCHO-ANALYST  
14th and 15th October, 1946.

GPRB = German Personnel Research Branch of the  
Control Commission

1. Reason for visit.

- (a) To find out whether among the leading members of the German Psycho-Analytical Society there were any who might be suitable as assistants to the personnel of G.P.R.B.
- (b) To discover what influence, if any, twelve years of the Nazi regime had on the personnel working in a special branch of the psychological field, both in respect of the development and enrichment of theoretical concepts and in respect of the capacity of co-operating with others in the same field but using different methods.
- (c) To establish contact again with German citizens engaged in the same line of scientific research, in order to ascertain whether there were ideas which might be usefully imported into England.

2. Technique employed during the investigation.

- (a) By personal interview on the basis of a friendly colleguely conversation.
- (b) To use the opportunity, at a scientific meeting of the German Psycho-Analytical Society, to observe what tensions, if any existed among the members, and how those tensions were dealt with.

3. (This method of investigation, if indeed it merits the grand name of 'method, arises out of the experience of War Office Selection Boards in England: though of course no tests were employed, the atmosphere was sustained of a friendly, colleguely visit, so that whatever embarrassment arose during these visits and discussions should be so far as possible the spontaneous generation in those visited.)