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Special Assistant for
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Subject: Germany and Korea: U.S. Occupation Experience and Post-Occupation Status

To: DSD Military Assistant (b)(6)
SD Military Assistant (b)(6)

From: (b)(6)

Sirs,

I've attached the information as collected by (b)(6) OSD Historian, and his staff in response to the DSD Tasking.

Attached is a compilation of information relating to the above subject. Special attention has been given to the U.S. diplomatic-military relationship in the post-war transition period for both countries. In the main, this information has been drawn from primary source materials by (b)(6) and his staff. Please let me know if you have any further questions about the subject.

Respectfully,

(b)(6)

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Germany and Korea: U.S. Occupation Experience and Post-Occupation Status

Germany



Establishment of U.S. Diplomatic Relations

5 May 1955 - End of Allied Occupation Authority in West Germany

5 May 1955 – U.S. Embassy reestablished in West Germany (Bonn).
James B. Conant (High Commissioner up to that date) Ambassador-
Designate. The position of United States High Commissioner for
Germany abolished.

9 May 1955 - Conant appointed Ambassador

19 February 1957 – Conant left post

U.S. Diplomatic/Military Relationship

According to President Eisenhower's Executive Order 10608, 5 May 1955, when the Federal Republic of Germany became a sovereign state:

The Chief of the United States Diplomatic Mission to the Federal Republic of Germany, hereinafter referred to as the Chief of Mission, shall have supreme authority, except as otherwise provided herein, with respect to all responsibilities, duties, and governmental functions of the United States in all Germany. The Chief of Mission shall exercise his authority under the supervision of the Secretary of State and subject to ultimate direction by the President.

The United States Military Commander having area responsibility in Germany, hereinafter referred to as the Commander, shall have authority with respect to all military responsibilities, duties, and functions of the United States in all Germany, including the command, security, and stationing of United States forces in Germany, the assertion and exercise of their rights and discharge of their obligations therein, and emergency measures which he may consider essential for their or the accomplishment of his mission. The commander may delegate the authority conferred upon him. If action by the Commander or any representative of the Commander, pursuant to the authority herein conferred, affects the foreign policy of the United States or involves relations or negotiations with non-military German authorities, such action shall be taken only after consultation with and agreement by the Chief of Mission or pursuant to procedures previously agreed to between the Chief of Mission and the Commander or his representative. Either the Chief of Mission or the Commander may raise with the other any question which he believes requires such consultation. If agreement is not reached between them, any differences may be referred to the Department of State and the Department of Defense for resolution.

The Chief of Mission and the Commander or his designated representatives shall, to the fullest extent consistent with their respective missions, render assistance and support to each other in carrying out the agreements and policies of the United States. . .

[Discussion of war criminals convicted by military tribunals.]

... If major differences arise over matters affecting the United States Forces in Germany, such differences may be referred to the Department of State and the Department of Defense for resolution.

This executive order also revoked the executive orders concerning the establishment of the position of U.S. High Commissioner for Germany.

The U.S. military continued to have occupation responsibilities in Berlin, not a part of the Federal Republic.

28 December 1955 – Military Assistance Advisory Group (MAAG) established in Germany under direction of the U.S. Ambassador.

U.S. Forces

Nazi Germany surrendered unconditionally on 8 May 1945, when hostilities ceased. U.S. combat troops became occupation troops charged with establishing an occupation designed to control the population and stifle opposition. Their duties included guarding of military installations, railway transports, displaced persons camps, refugee camps and internment camps for captured enemy soldiers, suspected war criminals and blacklisted Nazi activists.

At the time of the German surrender in May 1945, the U.S. Army had over 1,600,000 soldiers in Germany. This number was rapidly reduced, and by 1946 the Army authorized a force of 277,584 men to garrison in the American occupation zone. By 1947, the occupation force had fallen to 119,367. After Germany regained much—though not all—of its sovereignty in 1949, the U.S. garrison reached a low of 79,370 men in 1950.

In 1946, a U.S. Constabulary force of three brigades made up of three regiments or 30,000 men was established and remained active until November 1950, when it merged into the Seventh Army. The Constabulary force was a light, mobile police presence.

All U.S. forces in Europe came under the European Command (EUCOM), headed by General Alfred M. Gruenther, 1953-1956.

Lt.Gen. Henry I. Hodes was the Seventh Army commander at Heidelberg in May 1955, when the military occupation of West Germany ended and sovereignty was re-established.

In 1955 the number of American troops in Germany numbered 220,428.

Political Background

1 July 1945 - The four Allied armies withdrew to their zones in Germany.

July/August 1945 - At the Postdam Conference the basic purposes of the occupation were declared:

1. Complete disarmament and demilitarization and elimination or control of all industry that could be used for military purposes;

2. To convince the German people that they had suffered total defeat and had only themselves to blame for their condition;

3. Destruction of the National Socialist Party, dissolution of all Nazi institutions, and prevention of any Nazi or militarist activity or propaganda;

4. Preparation for the eventual reconstruction of German political life on a democratic basis and for eventual peaceful cooperation in international life by Germany.

1946 – Elections held for local governmental bodies.

1947 – The British and U.S. zones merged economically as Bizonia, effective 1 January.

The Germans were given a major role in the administration of this entity.

1947 – Elections held for state legislatures.

1948 – The 3 Western zones made eligible for aid through the Marshall Plan.

1948 – The Allies agreed to permit the Western zones to unite as a semi-independent country. The representatives from the USSR walked out of the Allied Control Council. The Berlin Blockade began.

1948 – Currency reform was a turning point in restoring the German economy. It destroyed the black market. The absence of expenditures for a military establishment helped the recovery.

8 May 1949 – State assemblies approved the Basic Law (constitution), written by a German council. The Basic Law promulgated 23 May 1949.

14 August 1949 – Parliamentary elections held, subsequently leading to the election of Theodor Heuss as president and Konrad Adenauer, aged 73, as chancellor in September 1949.

2 September 1949 – The military government was terminated. John J. McCloy became the first U.S. High Commissioner.

21 September 1949 – The Western zones officially combined as the Federal Republic of Germany. The civilian administration of the Allied High Commission replaced the Allied Military Government for West Germany. The Allied High Commission proclaimed the Occupation Statute, superceding all military government legislation and granting the new Federal Government a considerable degree of autonomy.

7 October 1949 – Soviet authorities announced that their zone had become the German Democratic Republic.

1952 – West Germany regained most of its sovereignty with the ratification of the Convention on Relations between the three powers and the Federal Republic.

23 October 1954 – The Paris Agreements were signed which would lead to the restoration of sovereignty. In one of the agreements, the Federal Republic pledged not to produce biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons, guided missiles, and war vessels above a certain tonnage.

5 May 1955 – The Federal Republic gained full sovereignty; the Allied High Commission was dissolved; military occupation ended in the Federal Republic but continued in Berlin; Federal Republic admitted to NATO.

Korea

Establishment of Diplomatic Relations

15 August 1948 - Republic of Korea proclaimed. John J. Muccio appointed U.S. Special Representative to Korea

7 April 1949 - John J. Muccio appointed Ambassador

1 July 1949 - Establishment of U.S. Military Advisory Group to the Republic of Korea (KMAG) as integral part of the American Mission in Korea (KMAG) under Ambassador Muccio.

8 September 1952- Muccio left post

25 August 1952 – Ellis O. Briggs appointed Ambassador.

12 April 1955 – Briggs left post.

U.S. Force Structure before and during the Korean War

The U.S. military occupation lasted from 1945 to 29 June 1949 when the last American combat troops left Korea.

In 1945 General MacArthur selected Lt. Gen. John R. Hodge as the Commanding General, U.S. Army Forces in Korea (USAFIK), and assigned the U.S. XXIV Corps, composed of the 6th, 7th, and 40th Infantry Divisions, as the occupation force.

On 4 January 1946 General Hodge activated Headquarters, U.S. Army Military Government in Korea. USAMGIK essentially took over the Japanese colonial government's organization, placing American officers in senior positions and some mid-level positions.

In February 1947 USAFIK's strength reached 60,982.

On 30 June 1949 when Headquarters, USAFIK, was deactivated, the interim military agreement signed by President Rhee and General Hodge lapsed, and the Koreans assumed complete and full control of their armed forces.

On 1 July 1949, with the final withdrawal of U.S. forces, KMAG was established, consisting of 500 officers and men. Initially it was intended only to provide advice and assistance in the development of internal security forces for the ROK government. The goal was to train an army of 50,000 men.

Before the North Koreans invaded South Korea, the KMAG worked in an atmosphere of domestic unrest, with the government facing urban political opposition while fighting continuously against guerrillas and brigands scattered throughout the rural areas.

