

Postwar Plans For Germany Are Being Shaped By Allies

With Allied troops driving into Germany and the war drawing closer to its end, the question of how to deal with Germany to prevent it from rearming, and yet not cripple it too severely as a key producer for Europe, pressed Allied statesmen.

As U. S. and British troops drove the Nazis back to their frontier on the west, and Russian successes placing them nearer to Berlin on the east, Allied planning for postwar control of Germany received a jolt with Secretary Morgenthau's proposals for a crushing peace.

Opposed as they were by Secretary Hull and Secretary of War Stimson, Morgenthau's proposals provoked a lively discussion in U. S. circles over the broad policies to be

followed in treating with postwar Germany, with the President reportedly deciding against Morgenthau's proposal after earlier favoring it.

Morgenthau's plan for crushing Germany included seven points:

1. Removal from Germany of all industrial machinery that liberated countries may desire and destruction of the rest of such facilities.

2. Permanent closing of whatever mines remain in the territory of the postwar German state.

3. Cession of the Saar and western German industrial areas to France, and cession to Poland of eastern German territory as suggested by Russia.

4. Breaking up of large German land holdings into small farms for the 45,000,000 people remaining in the country.

5. Withholding of any economic aid to the German people, with no food, clothing or other relief supplies to be furnished, nor any reconstruction of railroads or factories permitted.

6. Extended occupation of Germany by American, British and Russian troops for perhaps a generation.

7. No assessment of reparations, since Germany would have no money to pay them with, nor would be allowed to earn any.

The plan favored in opposition to Morgenthau's recognized that for years Germany has been the key to middle European economy, furnishing other countries with necessary products while in turn obtaining the exchange for becoming a big

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Under the plan, therefore, industry would be permitted to function in Germany, but only under strict Allied supervision to prevent the development of any capacity for war-making potential.

As finally worked out, with a view toward compromise with the Morgenthau viewpoint, an economic control commission embracing representatives of the U. S., Britain and Russia would have broad powers over the whole postwar German economic program, with smaller groups under it.

One of these groups would supervise industrial operations within Germany in the immediate postwar period to prevent a complete restoration and maintain control until such a time as the Allied powers formulated a final economic policy for the country.

Other commissions would be set up to control communications, supervise operations of financial institutions, and establish educational reforms to reshape the ideals of German youth.

By the development of such a plan, it was felt, the basic structure of European economy could be maintained without an immediate collapse that might easily lead to chaos on the continent.

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