

# Guide to the Kurt von Schuschnigg Papers

MS 436



compiled by Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 436

**CREATOR:** Schuschnigg, Kurt, 1897-1977

**TITLE:** Kurt von Schuschnigg papers

**DATES:** 1938-1947

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.5 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Typescript of von Schuschnigg's prison memoir, Requiem in Rot-Weiss-Rot, with notes for changes for the English translation, Austrian Requiem.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0436>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0436>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Edwin J. Beinecke in 1958 and 1964.

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### Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

Copyright status for collection materials is unknown. Transmission or reproduction of materials protected by U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) beyond that allowed by fair use requires the written permission of the copyright owners. Works not in the public domain cannot be commercially exploited without permission of the copyright owners. Responsibility for any use rests exclusively with the user.

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## Preferred Citation

Kurt von Schuschnigg Papers (MS 436). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

Kurt von Schuschnigg was born December 14, 1897, at Riva (Gardasso). He was a lawyer and was elected to the Austrian national parliament as a Christian Socialist in 1927. He became Minister of Justice in 1932, and in May 1933 also became Minister of Education. After the assassination of Chancellor Dollfuss, he became Chancellor in July 1934. In the struggle against the German and Austrian Nazis he sought to maintain the existing authoritarian form of government of Dollfuss and the independence of Austria. He suppressed one major attempt by the Nazis to take over the country. Although his international allies deserted him, he sought to face Hitler alone and met with him at Berchtesgoden February 12, 1938. An ultimatum was presented by Hitler, but von Schuschnigg sought to forestall his move by declaring a plebiscite to decide the Austrian-German question. He was frustrated in this attempt by the arrival of the German Army the day preceding the proposed plebiscite.

Von Schuschnigg spent the war in prison waiting for a trial on charges by the Nazis. He came to the United States in 1945 and has been a professor of law in St. Louis since 1948.[1]

Among his works are: *Dreimal Österreich* (Vienna, 1937) [there are two translations of this under the title *Farewell Austria* and *My Austria*], *Requiem in Rot-Weiss-Rot* (Zurich, 1947) [the English translation of this is *Austrian Requiem*], and *International Law: An Introduction to the law of peace*(Milwaukee, 1959).

He died in 1977

[1] Der Grose Brockhaus, Vol. X, Wiesbaden, Germany (1956), p. 513.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection consists of the over 819 page typescript of Kurt von Schuschnigg's *Requiem in Rot-Weiss-Rot* (Zurich, 1947) which was published in an English translation by Trung von Hildebrand in the United States under the title, *Austrian Requiem*(New York, 1946). Of this book von Schuschnigg writes:

Most of this book was written between the summer of 1938 and the summer of 1945. During this time I was cut off from the world and knew little about world events- nor did I know what was to become of me. The book, therefore, cannot claim to be anything but a personal account and a human confession.

Parts of these writings were submitted chapter by chapter to the censorship of the Gestapo, or some of them were written... in order to avoid confiscation of everything I had written during my detention... I also wished to put my personal views on record, since neither the Gestapo nor the German government showed any interest in finding out the truth about my views or my activities... The greater part of the manuscript, however, was kept secret; not without difficulty, as my scant belongings were rigidly examined every time I was moved from one camp to another...

Later, during 1943, I was tempted more than once to destroy the entire work, or at least to revise what I had written so far. But finally most of it remained exactly as I had written it down during my detention...

[Kurt von Schuschnigg, *Austrian Requiem*, translated by Trung von Hildebrand, New York (1946), pp. viii-ix.]

The typescript is arranged in the box as von Schuschnigg originally numbered it. Massive changes were made, especially for the English edition. His list of changes is translated in the Description of the Series.

The papers were the gift of Edwin J. Beinecke in 1958 and 1964.

## Collection Contents

### DESCRIPTION OF SERIES

b. 1, f. 1 Note from von Schuschnigg, Rome, 26 Feb. 1946, listing material sent for English translation, table of contents, list of changes, new titles.

Table of contents (the worn table of contents with the changes made listed made below)

List of changes (here translated)

#### I. Reductions

##### A. Completely removed.

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. I, Chapter 7 (Der autaritaere christliche Staat.)

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. I, Chapter 9 (Der versuchte, berufstaendische Aufbau)

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. I, Chapter 10 (Bilanz)

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. II, Chapter 16 (Préces meae non...) [the whole first section: Zur Psychologie eines Haeftlings]

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. II, Chapter 19 (Oro supplex...) [the section entitled "Palmsonntag,1939"]

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. II, Chapter 23 ("Dionysus und der...")

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. II, Chapter 24 ("Vox clamantis")

##### B. Further Reductions.

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. I, Chapter 3 ("Altoesterr. Suenden"): page 257, first 10 lines, from "Nicht weil er etwa..." to "Zeitrechnung begonnen hat."

b. 1, f. 1 page 262, last 8 lines, from "Wiederum suchten..."

b. 1, f. 1 page 263, from "und tschechen setrenn hat." (next to last part) with the first three paragraphs of this page.

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. I, Chapter 5 ("Vorboten des Umberuchs")

b. 1, f. 1 page 297: paragraphs 2,3,4.

b. 1, f. 1 page 298: Paragraph 1

b. 1, f. 1 page 300: paragraphs 2,3.

b. 1, f. 1 pages 310-304: completely removed.

b. 1, f. 1 page 305: the first two lines and in the third line the number "4"/so that the text begins with "Natürlich war die lage..."

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. I, Chapter 6 ("Die oesterreichische Wunden")

b. 1, f. 1 page 318: Paragraphs 2, 3 (from "Dass wir den Friedens. Vertrag..." to "...Nutzen ziehlen konnte.")

b. 1, f. 1 Vol. I, Chapter 8 (Der selbstaendige und freie Staat.)

## List of changes (here translated) &gt; I. Reductions &gt; B. Further Reductions. (continued)

b. 1, f. 1	page 347 paragraphs 1,2
b. 1, f. 1	page 351 in the 8th sentence, 1 line from the top, the part: "...internationale anerkannte Autoritaet war" change for internationale anerkannte Autoritaet ist."
b. 1, f. 1	page 352: Remove 2nd paragraph (from "Beé dergegebenen..." to "...zu denhen gewaehnt gewaehnt was.")
b. 1, f. 1	page 357: Remove the two last words of the last line ("Es seè")
b. 1, f. 1	page 358: Remove the first three paragraphs (from "...an seine Stelle getreben."
b. 1, f. 1	Vol. II, Chapter 12 (Zeitenwende)
b. 1, f. 1	page 542: 7 lines from the top should really read: "Wer aber-wie <i>meine Freinde undich</i> -den gegenteiligen..."

## II. Insertions and Supplements

## In the First Volume:

b. 1, f. 1	After the chapter "Auslandsreisen" and before the closing chapter of the first volume "Zeitenwende"-insert the new chapter (Die Beilage A) "Wenn und Abers, Eventualitaeten"
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## In the second volume:

b. 1, f. 1	In the former chapter 21: "Land in Sicht" insert as page 676a (161a)* the diary entries from 9 December 1941.
b. 1, f. 1	In the former chapter 15 "Mihi quoque opein dediste..." a part of the earlier text add the section marked Beilage B.
In the former chapter 22: Oranienburgs Tagebuch	
b. 1, f. 1	a) insert as 785a (269a) Diary entries from 9 February 1945 (all entries from 8 Feb-12 Feb.)
b. 1, f. 1	b) insert new pages 788a (273) and 789a(274) (he then gives a list of things on these pages)
b. 1, f. 1	c) insert new pages 792a-792h (277-277g) these are the diary entries from 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, and 17 April.
b. 1, f. 1	d) insert new pages 798a to 804 (284-290)
b. 1, f. 1	e) A part of the earlier removed closing chapter should be inserted: "Lux aeterna... Ausklang." pp. 802-804 (288-290)
b. 1, f. 1	*N.B.: The higher numbers refer to the case if the book is numbered consecutively in both volumes. In case the second volume is numbered starting again, the lower numbers apply. English

## List of number of pages for various sections of the book.

b. 1, f. 2	Chapter I. Introduction. "Das ö sterreichische Drama.(Eine kulturhistorische Betrachtung.)" pp. 1-76.
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## List of number of pages for various sections of the book. (continued)

b. 1, f. 3	Chapter II. "Ein Gang durch die Dämmerung." pp. 77-253.
b. 1, f. 4	Note for part II; Chapter III. "Alt-österreichische Süden?" pp. 255-275
b. 1, f. 5	Chapter IV. "Die erbliche Belastung." pp. 276-287.
b. 1, f. 6	Chapter V. "Verboten des Umbruchs." pp. 288-314.
b. 1, f. 7	Chapter VI. "Die österreichischen Wunden." pp. 315-331.
b. 1, f. 8	Chapter VII. "Der autoritäre, christliche Staat?" pp.332-346.
b. 1, f. 9	Chapter VIII. "Der selbständige und freie Staat?" pp. 347-360
b. 1, f. 10	Chapter IX. "Der versuchte beruf-ständige Aufbau." pp.361-380
b. 1, f. 11	Chapter X. "Eine Bilanz." pp. 381-394.
b. 1, f. 12	Chapter XI. "Auslandreisen." pp. 395-535.
b. 1, f. 12	1. Ungarn. pp 395-408
b. 1, f. 12	2. Italien, Florenz-Rom,-Ravenna-pp. 409-421.
b. 1, f. 12	3. Geschichte und Gegenwart: Impressionen und Gespräche pp. 422-461.
b. 1, f. 12	4. Genf. pp. 462-472.
b. 1, f. 12	5. Paris-London. pp. 473-522.
b. 1, f. 12	6. Prag. pp. 523-535.
b. 1, f. 13	Beilage "A" "Wenn und Aber, Eventualitäten."
b. 1, f. 14	Chapter XII. "Zeitenwende." pp. 536-544
b. 1, f. 15	Forward to parts III and IV; (here begins Vo1.2 with a slightly different numbering system) Chapter XIV. "Quantus tremor est futurus..." pp. 522-534; Chapter XV. "Culpa rubet vultus mens..." pp.535-542.
b. 1, f. 16	Chapter XVI. "Mihi quoque opem dedisti." pp. 543-554.
b. 1, f. 17	Chapter XVII. "Preces meae non sunt lignae..." pp.555-566.
b. 1, f. 18	Chapter XVIII: "Inter oves locum praesta..." pp.567-577; Chapter XIX."Confutatis.maledictis..." pp. 577-599.
b. 1, f. 19	Chapter XX. "Oro supplex et acclines." pp. 600-617.
b. 1, f. 20	Chapter XXI. "Haec ergo parce Deus." pp. 618-628.
b. 1, f. 21	Part IV. Diary. 30 October 1939 to Christmas 1942, pp. 629-698.
b. 1, f. 22	Part IV. Diary. January 1943 to Christmas 1944, pp. 699-777.
b. 1, f. 23	Part.IV. Diary. January 1945 to 30 April 1949, pp.778-798. Conclusion. pp. 798a-819.



## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Fascism -- Austria

### **Geographic Names**

Austria -- Politics and government -- 20th  
Century  
Europe

### **Occupations**

Politicians  
Public officers

### **Names**

Schuschnigg, Kurt, 1897-1977  
Schuschnigg, Kurt, 1897-1977 (Austrian  
Requiem)  
Schuschnigg, Kurt, 1897-1977 (Requiem in Rot-  
Weiss-Rot)