

Abstrakt

The beginning of the occupation of the Czech Lands was closely linked to a variety of political, economic, and social problems. It was necessary to gain control over all respective administrative structures in order to ensure the smooth function of the state.

In the first phases of the occupation, the temporary military administration was established and the basis for the future development of occupational structures was thus laid. An autonomous administration continued to work alongside the two-levelled German administration. Although the German administration was to take care of German citizens' affairs and to watch over the Protectorate authorities, the autonomous one soon began to succumb under the German influence.

After some time, it became obvious that the German administration was overgrown and inefficient; that a reform had to be made. A man behind the reform was Reinhard Heydrich, sent to the Protectorate with a special mission to restore order. The number of occupational authorities was supposed to be diminished together with the number of staff, the redundant employees to be commanded to the frontline. This situation was made easier by the fact that the autonomous bodies had already been infiltrated by German officials; therefore there were not many difficulties while taking over them.

The goals to abolish most of the first-level authorities for German population, to shift their competence onto the autonomous bodies and to reform the police force were not achieved due to the assassination and the subsequent death of Heydrich. It was not clear who would be his successor. Despite ambition of Karl Hermann Frank, Kurt Daluge was appointed as a next acting Protector. In spite of the rivalry between them, they both managed to bring the reforms to their end.

The East front situation in 1942 and 1943, in particular the defeat of German army and its allies at the battle of Stalingrad caused a turnover in an occupying policy of the Reich. There was an immediate need of all available human and material resources while keeping the important territory under control. At the same time, Frank raised again the question of a new organisation at the top Protectorate level. After numerous proposals and delays, Hitler alone agreed to the creation of the German State Ministry for Bohemia and Moravia with Frank as its head. In reality, the newly appointed Protector Wilhelm Frick was left with a mere representative role, while the German State Minister exercised control over Protectorate. In 1943, Frank achieved the position of power which he had struggled to get since the beginning of the occupation.