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SUMMARY OF INTERROGATION OF

Vice Admiral Leopold Buerkner

9 November 1945 AM

By: Colonel Amen

PERSONS CONCERNED: Keitel, Jodl, OKW

SUBJECT: Violations of International Law in  
Connection with Treatment of Russian  
Prisoners of War

DOCUMENTS: None

GENERAL

Admiral Buerkner, Chief of the Foreign Section of OKW in charge of liaison with the Foreign Office, testified, with respect to the orders for mistreatment of Russian prisoners of war, for the branding of Russian prisoners of war, for the shackling of British prisoners of war, and other orders, that the International Law Group of his section advised Admiral Canaris, who in turn advised his superiors (Keitel and Jodl), that these and other proposed orders were clear violations of international law and should not be put into effect.

He further testified that late in 1944 or early in 1945 a proposal was made by Hitler to abandon the Geneva Convention and that he and his staff prepared an extensive memorandum which was submitted to Hitler to the effect that this was legally impossible.

Buerkner also confirmed the testimony of General Lahousen with respect to the "affairs Giraud and Weygand".