

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

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INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

1945 AUG 31 PM 4 45

DC/L
LIAISON

PLAIN

London

Dated August 30, 1945

Rec'd 11 p.m.

PW10 VIA PREWI

PW61 LONDON 593/591 31 0100

PRESS SECSTATE WASHINGTON

884 THIRTIETH PUBLISHED LIST OF GERMAN WAR CRIMINALS IS GIVEN

PROMINENCE IN BRITISH PRESS TODAY PERIOD FOUR NEWSPAPERS CARRY

EDITORIALS PERIOD MANCHESTER GUARDIAN DECLARES COLON QUOTE JUST

AS THE COMMON GERMAN SOLDIER WHO TOOK PART IN VIOLENCE AND

ATROCITY WILL BE TRIED AS DIRECT PERPETRATOR IN THE LAND WHERE

HIS CRIME WAS COMMITTED COMMA SO WILL THE HIGH NAZI LEADERS BE

TRIED FOR THESE SAME ACTS OF THEIR SUBORDINATES COMMA WHICH IT

WILL BE ARGUED THEY SANCTIONED AND ENCOURAGED BY THEIR POLICIES

PERIOD SO MUCH CRUELTY HAS BEEN LOOSED UPON EUROPE BY THE NAZI

LEADERS THAT ANY PUNISHMENT THEY ARE LIKELY TO RECEIVE MUST SEEM

TOO LIGHT PERIOD YET IT IS A SOLEMN MOMENT IN HISTORY AND GRAVE

PRECEDENTS ARE BEING SET PERIOD FOR THE FIRST TIME THE LEAD-

ERS OF A STATE ARE BEING TRIED FOR STARTING A WAR AND FOR BREAK-

ING TREATIES PERIOD WE MAY EXPECT AFTER THIS THAT AT END OF ANY

FUTURE WAR THE VICTORS DASH WHETHER OR NOT THEY HAVE JUSTICE ON THE

Wanted

-2- #8884, August 30, from London

SIDE COMMA AS THIS TIME WE FIRMLY BELIEVE WE HAVE DASH WILL TRY
THE VANQUISHED PERIOD JUST AS THE NEW WEAPONS MAKE THE PRACT-
ICE OF WAR MORE HORRIBLE COMMA SO DO THESE TRIALS REVEAL HOW
FAR COMMA EVEN ON THE LEGAL SIDE COMMA WE HAVE LEFT BEHIND US
THE ATMOSPHERE OF EIGHTEENTH CENTURY WAR UNQUOTE PERIOD

DAILY HERALD ASSERTS THAT LIST SHOULD ALLAY FEAR EXPRESSED
IN MANY QUARTERS THAT ALLIES ARE BEING TOO LENIENT IN TREATMENT
OF NAZI LEADERS PERIOD IT WELCOMES AGREEMENT WHICH HAS BEEN REACH-
ED BY MAJOR POWERS ON THIS FIRST LIST PERIOD NEWS CHRONICLE
STATES THAT NEARLY ALL THE NAMES WHICH BRITISH PEOPLE WOULD
EXPECT TO FIND APPEAR ON LIST COMMA AND ECLARES THAT QUOTE
PUBLIC OPINION WILL EXPECT THE TRIALS TO BE RUTHLESS COMMA
EXPEDITIONS AND OF SUCH A NATURE AS TO ROB THE CRIMINALS OF ANY
ROMANTIC GLAMOR WHICH MIGHT POISON THE MINDS OF THE GERMANS OF
THE NEXT GENERATION UNQUOTE PERIOD COMMUNIST DAILY WORKER
ASSERTS THAT LIST WILL CAUSE GENERAL SATISFACTION COMMA
REPRESENTING A TRIUMPH FOR SENS OF JUSTICE OF ORDINARY MEN AND
WOMEN THROUGHOUT UNITED NATIONS OVER LEGALISM AND OBSTRUCTION
OF REACTIONARIES PARAGRAPH DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT OF GUARD-
IAN WRITES COLON QUOTE FAR MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE NAMES OF THE
CRIMINALS ARE THE REASONS FOR WHICH THEY WILL BE TRIED PERIOD
THEIR CRIMES ARE CATALOGUED AS WAR CRIMES COMMA CRIMES AGAINST
THE PEACE COMMA CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY COMMA AND CRIMES COMM-
ITTED IN DEFIANCE OF THE KELLOGG PACT PERIOD THIS GIVES A FAIR-

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LY CLEAR PICTURE OF WHAT IS CONTEMPLATED COMMA BUT THERE IS STILL
THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THESE BROAD DEFINITIONS CAN BE BROUGHT
WITHIN THE METICULOUS RANGE OF LEGAL STANDARDS COMMA AT LEAST
AS THE WESTERN DEMOCRACIES KNOW THEM PERIOD ASTERISKS THIS LIST
IS MADE UP OF NATIONAL SOCIALIST MILITARISTS AND CONSERVATIVES
PERIOD NOBODY WILL DISPUTE THAT PARTY LEADERS LIKE GOERING COMMA
HESS AND RIBBENTROP SHOULD BE TRIED PERIOD THE JOB OF A
TOTALITARIAN GENERAL HAS ALWAYS BEEN NOT ONLY TO PREPARE WAR
BUT TO ASSAULT A PEACEFUL WORLD WITH WAR PERIOD ASTERISKS
ARE THESE GENERALS THEN WAR CRIMINALS OR HAVE THEY MERELY STOOGES
IN THE HANDS OF THEIR POLITICAL MASTERS QUESTION MARK PEOPLE
LIKE SCHACT FALL INTO QUITE A DIFFERENT CATEGORY PERIOD HE UN-
DOUBTEDLY PERSONIFIES THE WORST TYPE OF POLITICAL IRRESPON-
SIBILITY COMMA A MAN WHO WAS PERFECTLY WELL AWARE WHAT WAS GOING
ON UNQUOTE PARAGRAPH ONLY COMMENTATOR QUESTIOING WHO OTHER IN-
DIVIDUALS WERE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS FIRST LIST IS A CORRESPON-
DENT OF DAILY EXPRESS WHO VOICES SURPRISE THAT IT DOES NOT IN-
CLUDE VON BRAUCHITSCH

WINANT

HB/1055P

30 AUGUST 1945