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OFFICE OF U. S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL  
FOR THE PROSECUTION OF AXIS CRIMINALITY

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of HANS FRANK

By: Lt.Col. Hinkel, 6 September 1945, p.m., Nuremberg.

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PERSONS IMPLICATED, AND SUBJECTS

1. HANS FRANK
  - a. Annexation and administration of Poland (p.9-11, 17).
  - b. Deportation of slave labor (p.14, 16).
  - c. Persecution of Jews (p.16, 19, 22, 27-29).
    - (1) Establishment of Polish ghettos (p.23, 24, 26, 32).
2. HITLER
  - a. Abolition of representation government in Germany (p.2-3).
  - b. Establishment of SS (p.5).
  - c. Restriction of individual legal rights and control of the courts (p.5).
3. AMANN, BORMANN, DONITZ, GOERING, HESS, JODL, KEITEL, LAMMERS, LEY, ROSENBERG.
  - a. Relationship with Hitler (p.6-9).
4. BUHLER
  - a. Deputy of Frank in Government General (p.12).

CRITICISM OF HITLER'S ACTIVITIES

1. The fact that he abolished the idea of the creation of the German Reichstag. Technically Hitler acted legally, for he kept the Reichstag, but when he dissolved the parties the meaning of the Reichstag no longer existed (p.2).
2. The fact that Hitler dissolved the Reichsrat, which represented the different countries such as Bavaria, Prussia, etc. Thus their influence on German law making was gone, for Reich law could then be made by the Reichstag without consulting the Reichsrat (p.3).
3. That Hitler dissolved the position of the Reichs President (p.3).
4. That Hitler dissolved the existing little countries into one Reich - thus they lost their character as states and were entirely dependent upon a centralized government (p.3).
5. That Himmler, under Hitler's protection, was allowed to build up an SS state within the state. Hitler had executive rights both for SS and police. Himmler had his own courts, created an institute for scientific research, had his own representatives in economy. Himmler was not subject to prosecution but he could prosecute anyone in Reich (p.5). Emphasized (p.3-4).

6. That Hitler broke the promises he made to the Christian Religious Unities and the churches - for example, the concordat made with Rome. Frank says he tried to do something against abolition of existing rights but without success (p.4-5).

7. That the individual was deprived of his rights in justice or at court by the fact that even if a court found a man innocent he might be picked up at the back door by Himmler's SS and put into a concentration camp (p.5).

8. That Hitler made the whole family responsible for the fault of one member (Sippenhaftung). "That was by far the lowest grade law could attain."

9. That the whole character of the state was changed, was "false" - a "voluntary people movement became later a forced institution." This was a contradiction of law and even to the Party program itself (p.2-6).

#### THOSE BENEFITTING FROM PARTY "INNER CIRCLE"

Hitler, Himmler, Borman, Goering, Hess - and "Those thousands who were dependent on Himmler and were paid by Himmler" (p.6). Lammers and Doenitz named, also Ley. "All those men got tremendous gifts from Hitler, money and positions." Also Amann, and Rosenberg (p.7-8). Keitel and Jodl close to Hitler (p.8-9).

#### RESPONSIBILITIES AS GOVERNOR OF POLAND

(p.9) "To represent the Reich and the construction of administration" (p.11). To get labor he made "a voluntary demand to the population (p.12). Named Buhler chief of post (p.12). Admits signing forced labor decrees about 26 October 1939 (p.14). He denies that in a speech in November, 1941, at Berlin that he said that his forced labor decrees "enabled the German authorities not only to exploit Polish Jews as a slave labor force, but also to deport them wherever you wanted them" (p.16). Says his relations with Poles was excellent - had over 200,000 Polish officials working for him (p.17). Says Himmler had jurisdiction over Polish Jews and made all the rules (p.17).

#### DECREES DEALING WITH POLISH JEWS

He admits signing on 23 November 1939 a decree calling for the segregation of Jews in the general government region of Poland, compelling all Polish nationals of the Jewish race, above the age of ten, to wear a white armband with the Star of David, and threat imprisonment and a heavy fine on all who failed to comply (p.19).

#### SPEECH IN NOVEMBER 1941

He denies that in that speech he stated that "at one time it was the plan to bring all the Jews to Poland, but that this plan had been changed, and that instead of using Poland as a place to concentrate the Jews, Poland was to be used only as a camping ground, while the Jews were moved further East" (p.22).

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF GHETTOS IN POLAND

States that the police set up the ghettos and that he tried "to get a legal background and foundation for those things" (p.23). States that the ghettos

governed themselves but were responsible to his officials (p.24). Denies that he was originator of the ghettos - he simply legalized them. Claims that he tried to improve conditions in the ghettos but admits that he visited a ghetto only once. States he saw representatives from the ghettos and took up measures to help them with Funk (p.26).

ATTITUDE TOWARD LAWS DEPRIVING JEWS OF THEIR FULL RIGHTS AS GERMAN CITIZENS

Admits agreeing with them, on theory that Jews should have their own state because they are a special race and it was difficult for the Germans to live with them (p.27). He dodges the question whether it was against German law to deprive one part of the population of citizens' rights on a racial basis. Agreed with Nuremberg laws (p.28). Denies knowledge of any plan to restrict the Jewish population to a certain part of the city, although he admits that the city government was under him (p.29). Denies that he issued an order to Dr. Fischer to complete the transfer of the Jewish population of Warsaw into the ghetto by 15 November 1940 (p.32).