

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of FRICK, Wilhelm
By: Mr. Sackett, 25 September 1945, p.m.

Persons and organizations implicated, and subjects

1. FRICK
 - a. Police (p. 1, 2)
 - b. Security police (p. 25)
 - c. Order police (p. 2, 22)
 - d. Racial laws
 - (1) Nurnberg Laws (p. 3, 4)
 - e. Arrest of Jews, November 1938 (p. 2, 3, 23, 24)
 - f. Approval of Party Program (p. 7-9)
 - g. Appointed Minister of the Interior (p. 9, 10)
 - h. Reich Protector (p. 10)
 - i. Economic laws against Jews (p. 12, 13)
 - j. Confinement of political prisoners (p. 17)
 - k. Concentration Camps
 - (1) Number in existence (p. 23, 27)
2. HIMMLER
 - a. Police Department (1, 2, 18)
 - b. Concentration Camps (p. 23)
3. FUNK
 - a. Four Year Plan (p. 12, 13)
4. GOERING
 - a. Four Year Plan (p. 12, 13)
5. DALEUGE
 - a. Order Police (p. 2, 22)
6. HEYDRICH
 - a. Security Police (p. 2, 22)
7. CABINET (p. 12, 12, 13)

W. Frick, 25 Sept., 1945, P.M.

Frick reaffirms that the Fuehrer had admonished him through Lammers not to interfere in police matters, as Himmler was capable of taking care of them alone. Furthermore he was not kept informed as Himmler never reported to him. (pp 1-2).

Actions of the Security Police were extremely secret and personnel of the Security Police was sworn to discretion in a high degree. (p. 25)

Admits that as Minister of the Interior he was State head of the Order Police but adds "formally". The actual leadership of the Police in 1936 under Himmler was in the hands of Daluge for the Order Police, and Heydrich for the Security Police. (pp 2 & 22)

The arrests of Jews in November 1938 were made without Frick's knowledge. He denies any knowledge of mass arrests at any time, he only knows of some few individual cases. (pp. 2 - 3 & 23 - 24).

Frick takes full responsibility for the Nurnberg laws and all laws dealing with the status of Jews in their relation to the State. He was fully in accord with the Party program that the Jews were to be denied all political privileges, and the right to hold public offices or to practice any professions. (pp 3 & 4)

He met Hitler in 1918 or 1919 in his capacity as Police Commissar in charge of the Political Division of the City of Munich, which Division was responsible for the issuance of permits relating to public meetings and posters. (p. 5)

Frick was arrested after the November putsch 1923 for having failed to take energetic measures against the rebels. He was sentenced to one year and 6 months in the penitentiary but was pardoned and retained his position as public official. (pp 5 & 6)

He joined party in February 1925, when it became legal, having been elected to the Reichstag in 1924 "by the votes of people who were outlawed National Socialists". (pp 6 & 7)

Approved fully of the Party program. (pp 7 - 9)

Stresses he was appointed Minister of Interior by Hindenburg in a completely legal manner. (pp 9 - 10)

His post as Reich Protector was purely decorative and he was only a figure Head. All functions were taken by FRANK. (p 10)

Since 1937 no cabinet meetings. LAMMERS had confirmed this to witness. (pp 10, 12, 13)

W. Frick, 25 Sept., 1945, P.M.

Nurnberg laws were never discussed in Cabinet but brought forth through petition in the Reichstag. Among the 30 petitioners were Hitler and Frick. The petition was planned by Frick as "Head of the Party", i.e. Chief of the body of the Party in the Reichstag. (pp 11 - 12)

Economic actions against Jews were not discussed at all when there still were meetings of the Cabinet, but those matters were brought up by the Four-Year Plan under Goering and by the Ministry of Economics under FUNK. (pp 12 - 13)

Contact within cabinet was achieved through circulation of memos and drafts. (p 13)

A decree of the Fuehrer over the signature of HITLER and LAMMERS took the place of the law. (pp 13 & 14)

Frick was head also of the Party Police, but stresses again that Himmler was the actual chief of all police forces. In 1936 Himmler discussed matters with Frick fairly often, but soon bypassed him completely. (p 16)

Admits that there was a separate jail of the Political Police in Albrechtstrasse, Berlin. (p 17)

He only received yearly reports on the number of people in jail. (p 17)

Daluege as Chief of the Uniformed Order Police was Himmler's subordinate after the reorganization of the German Police Forces in 1936. (p 18).

Attempts to show he had no influence over the Security Police. (pp 18 & 21)

Denies knowledge of number of concentration camps or anything in connection with these institutions. (pp 23 - 27)

Concentration camps were not an institution of the State, but they were on the Party budget, and were partly financed by the SS budget. (p 23)

Not until May 1945 did Frick learn there were 83 concentration camps, none however financed by the budget of the Reich. Source of information was State Secretary of the Finance Ministry, Reinhardt. (p 24)