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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of FRICK, Wilhelm
By: Mr. Sackett, 8 October 1945, a.m.

Persons and organizations implicated, and subjects

1. FRICK
 - a. Racial laws
 - (1) Jews (p. 1,2,5,7)
 - (2) Poles (p. 2-4)
 - b. Citizenship law of 1 July 1943 (p. 4,5)
 - c. Economic racial laws (p. 7-11)
 - (1) Status of Jews (p. 7-11)
 - d. Why he signed laws against his principles (p. 11-17)
 - e. Suppression of Communists (p. 4,17,18)
 - f. Roehm Putsch (p. 21-25)
 - g. Admission of Party illegal acts (p. 25)
 - h. Violation of Hague Convention (p. 25-27)

Frick explains his position concerning the Jewish question: "I want to say in short and precise words that for any documents where my signature is, I am going to take the full responsibility, or if I am one of the signatories, partial responsibility." Further, "I always looked at these things from the business point of view" and, "I considered myself the executive officer of the Fuehrer in that respect (discrimination against Jews and acted according to his wishes." Finally, "If I had acted on my own, I would have taken away only the citizenship rights of the Jews." (1-2).

Frick, Wilhelm, 8 October 1945, a.m.

Frick asserts that decree of 4 December 1941 specific code of Justice for Poles and Jews in the East, signed by him in his capacity as Chairman (was not Goering chairman?) of Council of Defense, was worked out by Ministry of Justice, and passed for the protection of Germans living there and against all kinds of revolutionary actions (p.2-4).

Frick admits signing and approving Reich Citizenship law of 1 July, 1943, providing that Jews (Frick says Poles were included) be put under the judicial procedure of the police and not be under the regular courts. The same law limited the Jews' rights as tenants and provided for confiscating of property on death (p.4-5).

Admits signing and approving laws preventing Jews from performing public functions. Frick explains "nobody who was not a citizen of the Reich could perform" those functions. Following functions are mentioned and in each case Frick admits responsibility and approval:

Judge	
Notary Public	
Employment in Reichsbank	
"	" Railways
"	" Armed Forces
"	" Police Forces

The Jew had no political rights (p.5-7). Frick admits partial or full responsibility for the Jews' position, described as follows:

By 1943 the Jews were excluded from law, medicine, economic activities; they could not own real estate or mortgages; they had to deposit all securities with the government; they had to deposit their jewels and art objects (which then were sold). They could give only specified names to their children; they had to wear the Star of David. The Jews could not engage in a long list of business enterprises; they were limited as to education. The Jews could not become citizens. They had to pay a huge atonement fine; they were compelled to repair damages done by Germans to their premises they were denied compensation for air-raid damage; their appearance in public was restricted; they had lost many of their legal rights as tenant; they had no access to the courts and were dealt with by the police alone; their property was confiscated on death; they could not marry Germans (p.7-11).

Frick admits either partial or full responsibility for the different laws and decrees practically reducing the Jews to slavery (p.7-11).

States that he did not approve of certain laws; but signed them to comply with Hitler and therefore accepts responsibility. Admits Jews were persecuted and that he followed Hitler's wishes rather than resign and risk of being sent to a concentration camp (p.11-17).

Frick, Wilhelm, 8 October 1945, a.m.

Admits that many communists were arrested during the election of March 1933 and also other party opponents and admits this was part of Party policy (p.7-18).

Denies having told Social Democrat Gerhardt Seger (transcript says Egger) in 1932 that when the Nazis got in power they would put him in a concentration camp. Seger was thrown into concentration camp in 1933. (p. 18-21).

Of the so-called Roehm putsch Frick states he did not think Roehm actually contemplated one, but that the killings on and about 30 June 1934 were instigated by Himmler who wanted more power. Hitler ordered Himmler to suppress the "putsch" in Southern Germany and Goering in Northern Germany. "Many, many people were arrested and something like a hundred were killed. All this was done without taking the law into consideration." Further, "They were killed on the spot." Frick mentions Schleicher and Georg Strasser, and continues, "That was the first act of Hitler and the new government which did not have any legal foundation." Frick uses words such as "illegal" and "frame-up" (p.21-25).

Frick admits that Hitler and many of the people of the Party did a lot of illegal things (p.25).

Denies that decrees and laws against Jews, as for instance the decree of December 1941, violate the Hague Convention (Questioner referred specially to Article 46). Frick contends the anti-Jewish laws were legal (p.25-27).

Frick repeatedly attempts to put all responsibility on Hitler, Heydrich and especially Himmler (p.2; 9,12,13,14,16,17,19,23,24,25).