

Admiral RAEDER served as Commander-in-Chief of the German Navy from 1928 until January 1943. During the period of Nazi rearmament beginning in 1933, RAEDER supervised the rebuilding of the German fleet and the surreptitious development of its U-boat arm. In this period RAEDER participated in conferences with the Fuehrer and his military advisers at which the Nazi conspiracy for the territorial conquest was evolved and steps taken toward its fulfillment. In 1935, RAEDER was promoted to the newly created rank of General-admiral. On 4 February 1938, Hitler named RAEDER to a newly formed Council on Foreign Affairs, and in 1939 promoted him to Grossadmiral. After the outbreak of war RAEDER continued in active command of the German Navy, directing its war operations until relieved as Commander-in-Chief by Doenitz in January 1943. At that time he was appointed Admiralinspektur of the German Navy.

RAEDER used his position as one of the Fuehrer's advisers and as Commander-in-Chief of the Navy during the rearmament and during the early years of the war, in such manner that:

(a) He materially aided and assisted in the internal preparations for aggressive war of the Nazi conspirators.

(b) He participated in the plans and preparations of the Nazi conspirators for wars of aggression and wars in violation of international treaties and, inter-alia, materially aided in the execution of such plans by personally authorizing and directing the rebuilding of the German Navy for purposes of aggressive warfare.

(c) He participated in the launching and waging of wars of aggression and wars in violation of international treaties and, inter-alia, materially aided in such moves by personally directing war operations of the German Navy.