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Defendant ARTHUR SEYSS-INQUART

In 1935 Seyss-Inquart became a member of the executive committee of the "Deutsche-Osterreichischer Volksbund" founded to promote a union between Austria and German; he later secretly joined the NSDAP.

In 1936, after the signing of the Austria-German accord of July 11, he became official liaison officer between the National Opposition and the Austrian Government. On 17 June 1937 he was appointed State Councillor by Austrian Chancellor Schuschnigg. On February 16, 1938, four days after Schuschnigg's visit to Hitler at Berchtesgaden, Seyss-Inquart was appointed Minister of the Interior and Security in the Austrian Government. On March 11, 1938, after Schuschnigg's radio speech announcing his resignation and advising that the German Government had delivered an ultimatum to Austrian President Miklas of invasion unless he appointed a Chancellor and Austrian Government as designated by the German Government, defendant Seyss-Inquart made a broadcast ordering the Austrians and their army to make to resistance. Later that day President Miklas appointed defendant Chancellor of the Austrian Republic. Early on March 12, 1938, defendant invited Hitler to send German troops into Austria. On March 13, defendant signed the Austrian Constitutional Law on the Re-unification of Austria with Germany. On March 15, 1938, defendant was appointed Reich Governor of Austria (Reichsstatthalter) by Adolf Hitler, and by another Hitler decree of March 15, 1938, was charged with leadership of the Austrian Government. On May 1, 1939, when Austria disappeared as a legal entity and was divided into Reichsgaue, defendant was made Reich Minister without portfolio, and was thus a member of the Reich Cabinet from this date on. At the conclusion of the Polish Campaign, defendant was appointed Chief of the Civil Administration in South Poland, later, Deputy Governor-General of the Polish General Government. He resigned that position when made, by Hitler decree of May 18, 1940, the Reich Commissar for the Occupied Netherlands. Defendant was named SS Obergruppenfuehrer, and became President of the German Academy, Munich.

Seyss-Inquart, through his personal efforts and through his occupancy of the positions set out above, took and authorized such actions that:

(a) He participated in the planning of the conspiracy, and in the execution of the plans of the conspiracy, for extending the power and control of the Nazi conspirators in countries outside of Germany, and particularly in Austria, and acquiring control and possession, by means of absorption, through the use of threats of aggressive war;

(b) In this participation he strengthened the power of the Nazi Party in Austria; he prevented the holding of free

plebiscites to determine popular opinion on Austria's annexation to Germany; he aided and assisted in the plan of the conspiracy to obtain Austria's territory through illegal threats of aggression and used his official position in the Austrian Government, obtained through such threats, to invite and assist the illegal crossing of Austria's borders by Germany; he repudiated international obligations; he effectuated Austria's annexation to Germany and assisted in the arranging of the amalgamation of Austria with Germany.

(c) He participated in the planning of the conspiracy, and in the execution of the plans of the conspiracy, for achieving amalgamation of Austria in Germany and in other respects planning and preparing for, and increasing capacity for, aggressive warfare without internal hindrance; ~~in~~ such participation included his efforts, personally and through his authorizations by virtue of his official position, in developing in Austria, through legislation and other means, of conditions, internal controls, and organizations, materially aiding and assisting the conspiracy in the foregoing respects.

(d) In his positions in occupied Poland and the Occupied Netherlands he committed war crimes and crimes against humanity in such territories, and he personally appointed and in many cases personally authorized and directed the activities of officials in such territories, assuming specific personal responsibility for, the war crimes and crimes against humanity committed in such territories.