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FRANCE (Cont)

Trial of Benoist-Mechin. (cont)

former German Ambassador in Vichy, has confirmed the authenticity of a telegram, which will be the prosecution's principal evidence, giving ABETZ's account of an interview with BENOIST-MECHIN, when the latter is said to have reported that the Council of Ministers, in January 1942, took the decision to declare war. BENOIST-MECHIN has denied this, but has admitted that negotiations were going on between Vichy and Berlin in the winter of 1941 - 1942. The same source reported that BENOIST-MECHIN was sentenced to death on June 6th.

GERMANY.

TRIALS BY GERMAN COURTS.

Mass graves found near Berlin.

Berlin radio reported (20.5.47) that it had been announced that 21 graves, containing the bodies of 60 women, had been found in the neighbourhood of Malchow near Berlin. The bodies probably came from the camp at Malchow, which was subsidiary to the Auschwitz camp, and contained about 6,000 Jewish and foreign women prisoners.

Nazi Chiefs' Widows arrested.

The Times correspondent in a report dated 30.5.47 stated: Hermann GORING's widow has been arrested and is to be tried as a member of the Nazi Party. Dr. LORITZ, the Bavarian Denazification Minister, who announced this at Munich, said he would demand that she be sent to prison for ten years. Frau Margarotte FRICK, widow of Wilhelm FRICK, who was hanged at Nuremberg, has been arrested in Frankfurt; and Frau Brigitte FRANK, widow of Hans FRANK, the executed Nazi governor of Poland, has been arrested at Schliersee, Upper Bavaria.

Case of Helene Schwaerzel to be reopened. (see Nos. XVIII, p.1 & XXI, p.2 of this Digest)

The Times reported from Berlin (20.5.47) that the case of Helene SCHWAERZEL, the woman who was sentenced in December for having denounced to the Gestapo, Dr. GOERDLER, formerly chief burgomaster of Leipzig, is to be reopened. SCHWAERZEL was tried for "murder carried out in a malicious way because of avarice" and was sentenced to 15 years penal servitude and forfeiture of her property. From the outset it was open to doubt whether she had acted from political motives and this aspect of the case is to be reviewed. Her counsel will be a former friend of the dead burgomaster.

Denazification trials.

The Daily Telegraph reported (16.5.47) that Richard STRAUSS, the composer, would be tried by a denazification court according to an announcement by the Military Government of Bavaria. Also to appear would be Dorothea KEITEL, widow of HITLER's one-time chief of the O.K.W. The wives of HESS, SAUKEL, von SCHIRACH, STREICHER and JODL have also been arrested.

GERMANY.

AMERICAN ZONE.

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

Visit of the Chairman and members of the Commission to American Zone.

Lord WRIGHT, chairman of the United Nations War Crimes Commission, accompanied by General de BAER, Belgian representative, Colonel R.M. SPRINGER, United States representative and Colonel G.A. LEDINGHAM, Secretary General of the Commission, arrived at Nuremberg on 8.5.47. They were present at the trials of the German Industrialists, the 23 doctors and scientists and the 15 Nazi Ministry of Justice officials. The party returned to London on 13.5.47.

Forthcoming trials in the American Zone.

The Times correspondent in a report dated 15.5.47 stated: "Brigadier General Telford TAYLOR, the chief American prosecutor, announced at Nuremberg yesterday that the United States intended to hold nine more trials this year for war crimes. The defendants would be senior Nazi officials and soldiers, about 220 in all. He expected these trials to be completed by March 1 next year. After that the United States would probably turn over to the German courts the evidence in the remaining trials.

General TAYLOR has asked for the indictments for the nine cases by July 1. The cases will involve leading members of the Foreign Office who helped RIBBENTROP; 12 members of the Reich Chancery, including Hans LAMMERS, a secretary of the Nazi Party; leaders in the economic field, including officials of the Herman Goring Werke and Goring's deputy Paul KOERNER; Alfred KRUPP and other officials of the Krupp works; members of the staff of the Dresdener Bank and the Racial and Resettlement Office of the SS.; Gestapo men who were responsible for the reign of terror in the east; military men who ill-treated prisoners of war, including General Hermann REINICKE and SS Obergruppenführer BURGER; and field-m Marshals and generals suspected of having joined in a deliberate plan to wage aggressive war."

The "WVHA" Trial. (see No. XXVIII, p.3 of this Digest)

An Agency message from Nuremberg (23.5.47) reported that SS. General Oswald POHL had admitted responsibility for the destruction of the Warsaw ghetto (the 29-day massacre of 40,000 Jews four years ago.)

The "Hostages" Case. (see No. XXVIII, p.3 of this Digest)

A U.S. Press release No. 129 of May 10th 1947 stated that the indictment of the 12 German generals, which was presented to the Secretary General of the OMGUS Military Tribunal in Nuremberg, contains four counts, all based on charges of War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity. All 12 defendants are named on each count. These counts include the alleged murder of thousands of persons taken from the civilian populations of Greece, Yugoslavia and Albania; the plundering and looting of public and private property, the destruction of cities, towns and villages and the commission of other militarily unjustified acts of devastation in the three southeastern countries and Norway; the initiation, issuance and execution of illegal orders directing, among others things, the refusal of quarter and the denial of prisoner of war status and rights to enemy troops, and the summary execution of surrendering members of Allied Military forces; and finally, the torture and terrorization, imprisonment in concentration camps, impressment into forced labour on fortifications and the deportations to slave labour of the civilian populations of Greece, Yugoslavia and Albania.

Reuter reported (30.5.47) that Lieutenant General Franz BOEHME, one of the defendants in the "Hostages" case, had died during that night after throwing himself from a third floor window of Nuremberg gaol. He was Commander XVIII

/Mountain .....



GERMANY.

AMERICAN ZONE.

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

(Cont)

The "Hostages" Trial. (Cont)

Mountain Army Corps, April 1941 - December 1941; Plenipotentiary Commanding General in Serbia, September 1941 - December 1941; Commander-in-Chief Second Panzer Army, June 1944 - July 1944; Commander-in-Chief Twentieth Mountain Army and Wehrmachtbefehlshaber Nord, January 1945 - May 1945.

to the

The following should be added / list of the indicted Generals already given (see No. XXVIII, p.3 of this Digest)

General Lothar RENDULIC, Commander-in-Chief, Second Panzer Army, August 1943 - June 1944; Commander-in-Chief Twentieth Mountain Army, July 1944 - January 1945; Wehrmachtbefehlshaber Nord, December 1944 - January 1945; Commander Army Group North, January 1945 - March 1945; Commander-in-Chief Army Group Courland, March 1945 - April 1945; Commander-in-Chief Army Group South, April 1945 - May 1945.

General Ernst DEHNER, Commander LXIX Army Reserve Corps, August 1943 - March 1944.

General Ernst von LEYSER, Commander XV Mountain Army Corps, November 1943 - July 1944; Commander XXI Mountain Army Corps, July 1944 - April 1945.

General Kurt von GEITNER, Chief of Staff to the Commanding General in Serbia, July 1942 - August 1943; Chief of Staff to the Military Commander of Serbia and Military Commander Southeast, August 1943 - October 1944.

Four Princes under Arrest.

Reuter reported (27.5.47) that four German princes had been taken to Nuremberg under arrest and are now in prison waiting to appear as witnesses in some of the 16 pending war crimes trials of high ranking Nazis. They are Prince Philipp von Hessen, who acted as HITLER's courier to MUSSOLINI; Prince August Wilhelm of Prussia who served as an SS Brigadefuhrer; Erbprinz Friedrich Zu Schaumburg Lippe who was an adjutant to GOEBBELS and Erbprinz Ernst Zu Lippe-Deilmold who served as personal advisor to the Nazi Minister for Food and Agriculture.

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Execution of Mauthausen Concentration Camp Staff.

An Agency message reported (28.5.47) that 48 SS administrators, convicted of mass murders at the Mauthausen concentration camp, were executed at Landsberg prison on May 27th and 28th. Among them was Major Victor ZOLLER, Commander of the Mauthausen guards and EIGRUBER, Gauleiter of Upper Austria.

Sentences on Concentration Camp officials.

The Daily Telegraph reported (22.5.47) that an American War Crimes Court sentenced to death Herman TUNTKE, a former Mauthausen guard.

News of Germany reported from Dachau (15.5.47) that Dr. Erika FLOCKEN, a woman doctor, and three guards of the Muhlendorf concentration camp were sentenced to death by an American Military Court at Dachau. Two other defendants received life sentences and five others prison terms ranging from 10 to 20 years.

/Arrest .....

GERMANY.

AMERICAN ZONE

(Cont)

Arrests of Nazi Officials.

An Agency message from Munich reported that Brigadier General Eric NEUMANN, of the S.S., principle adjutant to HIMMLER, had been captured working as a farmer in Bavaria after a two-year search by American war crimes investigators.

The same source reported that Rudolph DIELS, HITLER's first Gestapo chief, had been arrested in Nuremberg.

Escape of SS general.

Reuter reported (29.5.47) that official sources have confirmed the escape from the internment camp in Dachau of Siegfried UIBERREITER, an SS brigadier general, who formerly served as Gauleiter of the Gau Styria in Austria.

[Note: UIBERREITER, who was a witness at the Nuremberg trials, was to appear before an American military court at Dachau on war crimes charges.]

Former Commandant's Suicide.

The Daily Telegraph reported that Kurt MATHESIUS, commandant of the Nordhausen concentration camp, who was to have been tried on war crimes charges, hanged himself in Dachau prison hospital.

BRITISH ZONE.

Forthcoming trials in the British Zone.

Viscount JOWITT, the Lord Chancellor, who has been on a tour of the British Zone, announced in Hamburg on May 29th that trials by German courts of about 20,000 members of organisations - such as the SS and SA Nazi formations - declared criminal at Nuremberg will be opened next month.

He said that between 80 and 100 courts would be sitting simultaneously in the British zone. Legal advice bureaux for internees were at work in internment camps. About 5,000 suspects would be brought from the American zone.

The Commission was informed of the following:

The Gladenbach Case.

This trial was to open at Brunswick on May 22nd 1947. The accused, Karl MENGE, Konrad MANGOLD, Ludwig WILL, Karl SCHMIDT, Otto KOCH, Ludwig MICHEL, are charged with committing a war crime in that they in the vicinity of Gladenbach on or about December 10th 1944 were concerned in the killing and ill-treatment of Australian prisoners of war.

Results of completed trials.

The Ihmert Case. (see No. XXVIII, p. 4 of this Digest)

This trial was completed on May 16th 1947. Josef KNOTH was sentenced to death.

/Trial .....



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G E R M A N Y.

BRITISH ZONE

(Cont)

Trial of von Ruckteschell. (see No. XXVIII, p.5 of this Digest.)

This trial was completed on May 21st at Hamburg. Helmut von RUCKTESCHELL was sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for war crimes at sea.

Trial of murderers of airmen.

Former S.A., Lieutenant Erich WILLIANSKI was sentenced to death and Hans KUEHN to 20 years imprisonment by the War Crimes Court at Hamburg on May 30th for their part in the murder of one British and three Canadian airmen at Solingen.

Two former members of the German airforce were sentenced to death at Osnabruck for having taken part in the shooting of allied airmen.

G R E E C E.

Execution of Brauer and Müller (see No. XXIII, p.9 of this Digest)

The Times correspondent in a report from Athens (20.5.47) said: Two German generals, Friedrich MÜLLER and Bruno BRAUER, who were sentenced to death in December by the War Criminals Court in Athens, were to-day executed. They had been found guilty of war crimes in Crete during the German occupation.

I T A L Y.

BRITISH TROOPS IN ITALY.

The Death Sentence on Kesselring. (see No. XXVIII, p.5 of this Digest)

Reuter reported (22.5.47) that KESSELRING had been brought to the British zone of Austria; his exact whereabouts was not disclosed.

The sentence on KESSELRING was the subject of much correspondence in the Press. General Sir Oliver LEESE, in an interview given to the Sunday Pictorial (11.5.47), said, "I do not think KESSELRING should die" and that "8th Army men who fought against him had no complaints about his conduct."

Mr. Randolph CHURCHILL, in the Daily Telegraph, regarded the sentence as "particularly shocking" and quoted Field Marshal ALEXANDER's statement that "the fighting in Italy was carried out fairly and from a soldierly point of view."

Others argued that the execution of higher commanders would provide a precedent for the victors in future wars.

On the other hand, Mr. Maurice SHARE, in the Times (19.5.47) pointed out that the latter argument "is no more valid than to say that criminals who are punished to-day may revenge themselves on society to-morrow. The real question is: Are we to have legal precedents for punishing international crime or are we to have no international law on these matters?"

Mr. Elwyn JONES, K.C., M.P., one of the prosecutors at the Nuremberg Trial cited the words of the Nuremberg Court's judgement concerning the German Generals: "that those among them who are guilty of these crimes should not escape punishment."

[The text of Mr. Elwyn Jones' article is annexed in the appendix.]

P O L A N D.

Germanisation of Polish Children.

Warsaw radio reported (27.5.47) that UNRRA investigations with reference to the 15,000 Polish children deported to Germany have shown that, in accordance with HIMMLER's orders, mostly children aged two to six years were selected for Germanisation. They had to conform in appearance to Nordic requirements and were then placed in SS schools or with SS families. Many documents have been traced proving this unique criminal scheme of abducting children from an occupied country. Apart from children carried away from Poland some who accompanied their parents conscripted for labour and some born in camps were also abducted. The identification of children from Labour camps has been made easier by the fact that their parents had tattooed marks on them. The documents concerned with this scheme will constitute important evidence in the trials against German war criminals and Nazi organisations.

Trial of Forster.

Reuter reported (30.5.47) that Albert FORSTER, former gauleiter of Danzig, would soon be tried before the Polish Supreme People's Court on charges of participating in the German aggression against Poland.

Suicide of Gallasch.

The Daily Telegraph reported (22.5.47) that Karl GALLASCH, former commandant of the Gross-Rosen concentration camp, who was sentenced to death for killing several thousand camp inmates, hanged himself in his cell at Wroclaw.

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/THE FAR EAST .....



THE FAR EAST.

Progress of War Crimes Trials in the Far East.

Mr. BELLENGER, in reply to a question in the House of Commons, said that the progress of war crimes trials by British Military Courts in Singapore, Hongkong, Malaya, Burma and Borneo was being satisfactorily maintained. Up to April 25th 1947, 688 Japanese and Koreans had been tried. Of these 53 were sentenced to life imprisonment and 235 to death. The latter figure included sentences not yet confirmed but at least 166 death sentences had so far been carried out; 141 accused were now either on trial or were awaiting trial with the cases against them complete and 1,605 were in custody whose cases were under investigations or who were suspects held pending investigation. The latest figures received from the Australian authorities indicated that 733 Japanese had been tried by Australian Military Courts in Singapore, Fort Darwin and Rabaul. Of those 371 had been sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment and 142 to death. In Singapore at the end of April there were five accused still awaiting trial by Australian Courts, 41 accused had also been tried by United States Courts in Japan in cases involving British victims; 7 had been sentenced to death and 34 to terms of imprisonment.

SINGAPORE AND PACIFIC.

Execution of General Harada and Sgt. Jotani.

Reuter reported (28.5.47) that Lt. Gen. HARADA and Sgt. JOTANI were hanged on the previous day at Changi gaol, Singapore. They were responsible for the deaths of allied prisoners of war.

Japanese General sentenced. (see No. XXVIII, p. 7 of this Digest)

The Daily Telegraph reported that General Hitoshi IMAMURA was sentenced to ten years imprisonment for failure to prevent his troops from committing atrocities.

HONGKONG.

Sentence on General Ryosaburo.

An Agency message (22.5.47) reported that Major General Tanaka RYOSABURO, one of the Japanese divisional commanders who led the attack on Hongkong, was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment for the mass murders of British prisoners of war.

Execution of Colonel Noma.

The Daily Telegraph reported that Colonel NOMA, chief of the Japanese gendarmerie in Hongkong during the occupation, who was sentenced to death during February for atrocities against British and Chinese, was hanged on May 27th.

Trial of three Japanese Officers.

The Times correspondent in a report from Hongkong (30.5.47) stated: By arrangement with the American authorities, as the alleged crime was committed in Japan, Colonel TAMURA, Major HIRANO and Captain FUJINO have been arraigned before the war crimes court here and charged with being concerned in the killing of an R.N.V.R. sub-lieutenant, pilot of a Seafire who parachuted down in Inchinomiya and was subsequently shot.

APPENDIX.

EXTRACT FROM AN ARTICLE BY F. ELWYN JONES, K.C., M.P.

Entitled "Kesselring, Martyr or Murderer ?". Published in Reynolds News, on May 25th 1947.

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After describing the scene in an Italian village where German reprisals had been carried out Mr. Elwyn Jones went on to say:

"That Italian scene has come often to my mind since the agitation to save Kesselring, Nazi Commander-in-Chief in Italy, has been taken up by British generals, British publicists, British politicians.

Kesselring, prototype of Prussianism, was to the last Hitler's faithful agent. He succeeded Rommel in Italy because, unlike Rommel, he was willing to do what Hitler wanted. During the days of the revolt in July, 1944, when some even of the German generals saw the red light, Kesselring backed Hitler.

On July 19th he was at Hitler's H.Q. to celebrate the anniversary of his first commissioning into the German Army. When, the next day, Hitler was blown up by a bomb, Kesselring was the first German commander to congratulate him on his escape from assassination. Yet long before this the world - and most Germans - had come to know that Hitler was the biggest killer in history.

Last month Kesselring was found guilty by a British Military Court of being concerned in the reprisal murder of 335 Italian civilians in the Ardeatine Caves, near Rome.

He was also convicted on a second charge of inciting and commanding the German army and police forces, in Italy under his command, to kill Italian civilians as reprisals, as a result of which scores of Italians were slaughtered.

The facts of the Ardeatine massacre are well known. In March, 1944, 32 Germans soldiers were killed in a bomb attack in Rome. Kesselring, then C.-in-C. in Italy, passed on an order received by his H. Q. from Hitler's H. Q., to the Commander, 14th Army, that for every German killed, 10 Italians were to die. As a result 335 Italians were murdered. They included a large number of anti-Fascists awaiting trial, and 66 wholly innocent Jews.

As to the second charge, on June 17th, 1944, Kesselring issued to all his troops "New regulations for Partisan operations." His order stated

"The fight against Partisans must be carried out with all means at our disposal, and with the utmost severity. I will protect any Commander who exceeds our usual restraint, in the choice and severity of the means he adopts in the fight against Partisans."

This Kesselring order, in effect, licensed German commanders to kill hostages, burn down villages, hang suspects without trial. So appalling were the results that even Mussolini was moved to complain of the atrocities which Kesselring's order had inspired.

This is the man whose supposed honour is now being vindicated in the correspondence columns of the Times.

My concern, however, is not with the personal fate of Kesselring -

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although if those responsible for mass killing go unpunished, then mass murder may become a normal feature of international behaviour.

I am more concerned with the fact that active steps towards the revival of German militarism have already been taken - and this agitation for Kesselring is part of it. The German militarists know that to be strong again they must re-establish the faith of the German people in their military prowess and must dissociate themselves from the atrocities which they so readily committed in the service of Hitler.

Throughout the Nuremberg trial the Nazi field-m Marshals and generals did their utmost to sustain the myth of the impeccable and invincible German General Staff. "Why did the Wehrmacht meet with defeat?" we asked. "Because Hitler interfered too much in military affairs," said Manstein.

They claimed to have disregarded Hitler's criminal orders. "Any atrocities which did occur were committed by other men, such as Himmler and other agencies, such as the S.S." These are the myths and legends which the German militarists, who are still a powerful force in Germany, now seek to propagate.

What are the facts? Hitler's power in Germany rested on the collaboration of German industrialists and the military clique - Beck, Von Fritsch, Rundstedt and the others.

"Hitler produced the results which all of us warmly desired," said Blomberg and Blaskowitz. Having joined the Nazis and the Krupps, the generals planned and perpetrated aggressive wars which turned Europe into a charnel-house. In the words of the Nuremberg judgment, they

"were responsible in large measure for the miseries and sufferings that have fallen on millions of men, women and children . . . . They were a ruthless military caste . . . . When it suits their defence they say they had to obey; when confronted with Hitler's brutal crimes which are shown to have been within their general knowledge, they say they disobeyed. The truth is that they actively participated in all these crimes or sat silent and acquiescent, witnessing the commission of crimes on a scale larger and more shocking than the world has ever had the misfortune to know."

The Nuremberg judges added that,

"Where the facts warrant it, these men should be brought to trial so that those among them who are guilty of these crimes should not escape punishment."

The Kesselring trial was the aftermath of this wise counsel.

Our basic problem is that German military leaders never cease to believe in war. Manstein admitted in the witness-box that they "naturally considered the glory of war as something great." The "considered opinion" of the German High Command in 1938 was that: "War serves the survival of the race and State, and is the assurance of its historical future. This high moral purpose gives war its total character and its ethical justification."

In 1935 General Beck was telling the German War Academy that if the military leaders displayed intelligence and courage, then losing a war "is ennobled by the pride of a glorious fall." He urged his officer audience to remember "their duty which they owe to the man who recreated the German Armed Forces."

In 1935 that man was Hitler. Before him there had been the Kaiser. Germany may undergo defeat after defeat. Yet the German militarists will - if we permit them - plot future war once again. They will join forces with any

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man or government that will support military adventures.

What is at stake now in Europe is not the life of this or that German general, but the future influence of German militarists within Germany, and, over and above that, the peace of the world. The apologists for Kesselring are playing with fire. And next time, it will be atomic fire.

What shall it profit us to spend millions in occupying Germany if the basic object of that occupation - to demilitarise and denazify it - is sabotaged at home by highly placed reactionaries ? "

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No. XXX.

July 2nd, 1947.

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION

(Research Office)

WAR CRIMES NEWS DIGEST.

[ NOTE: The above title replaces that of Press News Summary used in the early numbers of this series. For internal circulation to the Commission. ]

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## S U M M A R Y   O F   E V E N T S

### A L B A N I A

#### Demand for Extradition of War Criminals.

An Agency message from Belgrade(23.6.47) stated that Albanian Notes demanding the extradition of alleged war criminals from occupied zones had been delivered to the British and United States Embassies in Belgrade.

### A U S T R I A.

#### Alleged retention of War Criminals in French Zone.

See under "France".

### B E L G I U M.

#### Appeal for the Release of von Falkenhausen.

See under "Germany - American Zone.

### C Z E C H O S L O V A K I A.

#### Search for Jacobs (alias Kozicki).

A Czechoslovak Agency message (19.6.47) stated that the Czech police were searching for Joe JACOBS, former manager of Max Schmelling, the boxing champion. JACOBS, alias Jacob KOZICKI, was alleged to have been executioner in the Litomerice concentration camp in North-west Czechoslovakia in 1945.

### F R A N C E.

#### Denial that War Criminals are sheltered in Austria.

It was officially announced in Paris (4.6.47) that the French Government had rejected a Russian complaint to the effect that war criminals claimed by the USSR were being detained on French orders at Landeck and Kufstein in the French zone of Austria. The announcement observed that the 20 persons concerned did not figure in the official lists of war criminals, and there was no proof that they had been listed anywhere else as war criminals.

GERMANY ...



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## GERMANY

### TRIALS BY GERMAN COURTS.

#### Trials of Members of Criminal Organisations.

News of Germany reported from Hamburg (4.6.47) that the first of the trials of 20,000 members of Nazi organisations termed criminal by the International Military Tribunal would open on June 9th and 10th before the de-Nazification court in Bielefeld.

#### AMERICAN ZONE.

The following passage occurs in the Judgment (concurring opinion: Judge Musmanno), page 86, in the case of Erhard MILCH:

"Albert SPEER, convicted in the first trial, stated here in this court room that had trials such as these followed the first world war the second world war might have been averted."

### THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

#### Programme of Trials. (See also Research Circular No. 22).

A review of the position made for a Press Conference at Nuremberg showed the position to be as follows as on 14.5.47, that is twelve months after the first group of the present staff arrived at Nuremberg.

Since that time, four Tribunals had been established in Nuremberg, and were now at work. The MILCH trial had been completed, and the sentence of life imprisonment was under review by the Military Governor. The Medical Case involved 23 defendants; the defence had taken longer than was anticipated, but was drawing to a close. Thereafter, it would no doubt take several weeks for the concluding arguments and the judgment.

The case involving Oswald FOHL and 17 other defendants was in process before the same Tribunal which had tried ex-Marshal MILCH. The prosecution's case had closed, and the defence was beginning. With 18 defendants, it was likely to take another six weeks to conclude the case.

The trial of the 15 Nazi judges and officials of the Reich Ministry of Justice was in progress before Tribunal III and the prosecution would shortly close its case. One should reckon with two more months to finish the evidence.

The FLICK case was in process before Tribunal IV and the presentation of evidence on Count I (Slave Labour) was already completed. That was, by far, the longest of the counts; the prosecution's case under the other counts was expected to go more rapidly, and should be completed by the end of May 1947. There were only six defendants in this case, but the evidence was rather complicated; and the defence might take another six weeks.

To sum up, there were 62 defendants on trial before the four Tribunals then functioning.

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GERMANY (AMERICAN ZONE) Contd.

About ten days previously, the report continued, the second indictment against industrialists was filed, naming 24 high officials of the I.G. Farbenindustrie. The prosecution had also filed the first large military indictment, involving war crimes charged against Field-Marshal LIST and von WEICHS, Generaloberst RENDULIC, and nine other generals who served under them, mostly as corps commanders. These two cases involved a total of 36 defendants, so that there were 98 defendants then under indictment, not including Milch, whose trial had been completed.

Two more Tribunals--Nos. V and VI--were expected to arrive early in June. One of these Tribunals would hear the FARBEN case; the other would hear the military case against LIST, von WEICHS and the other generals.

It was not the object of the Prosecution to try all persons suspected of war crimes, but only those in each field of activity, against whom the evidence seemed to show the chief responsibility for war crimes. Accordingly, a very important part of the Prosecution's task over the past year had been to study the structure and composition of each of these main fields of activity, and determine which of the leaders appeared to be most blameworthy and which should be either released or committed to the Spruchkammern for handling under the de-Nazification law. In doing so, it had been necessary to give consideration to requests for extradition of suspected war criminals to other countries, and a large number of such persons had been transferred to one or other of the United Nations.

This screening process had now been largely completed, and a substantially final schedule of the trials had been made out. Including the seven cases in which indictments had already been filed, it was planned to have 16 cases in all. Though the plans would remain flexible, the programme was divided into four principal parts:

First, cases involving government ministers, State Secretaries, and other government officials (e.g., the case in process against the judges and other officials of the Ministry of Justice).

Secondly, cases against private industrialists and financiers (e.g., the FLECK and FARBEN cases).

Thirdly, the principal surviving figures of the Himmeler régime, including the SS, the Gestapo, and the other affiliated organisations under Himmeler (e.g., the case then in process against Oswald POHL and the other officials of the WVHA; and the Medical Case, though the latter overlapped both the SS and the military field).

Fourthly, the military category (e.g., the indictment just filed against LIST, von WEICHS and others).

The nine cases still to be brought fell within one or another of these four categories. In the first category--ministers and other high government officials--it was planned to have two more cases. One of these would be concerned with some 12 to 15 leading officials of the German Foreign Office; among them would certainly be Dr. STEENGRACHT von MOYLAND, Secretary of State in the German Foreign Office, and Ernest BOHLE, Chief of the Auslands organisation.

The other case in this category would include State Secretaries and Ministers from the Reichschancellery and other government departments, including propaganda and education (see below: list of probable defendants).

Another case, which overlapped the first and second categories, would be concerned with leading government economic officials, including Paul FLEIGER and other principal officials of the Hermann Goering Works,

Walter ...



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GERMANY (AMERICAN ZONE) CONT.

Walter DARRE, and Paul KOERNER, Goering's deputy in the Four-Year Plan.

Then there would be two other cases in the field of private industry and finance. One concerned with Alfried KRUPP and high officials in the Krupp enterprise, and the other with the leading officials of the Dresdner Bank.

Passing to the third category, the HIMMLER SS Group, two more large cases were contemplated. One would be concerned with the leading figures in the Race and Resettlement Office of the SS. and its affiliated offices, such as LEBENSBOERN and VOMI. Probably 15 defendants would be involved in this case.

The other would involve high officials of the SD., the Gestapo, and the RSHA, particularly the SS men who headed the so-called Einsatzgruppen and Einsatz-Commandoes which were responsible for the large-scale massacre of Jews in the east and in the Balkans. There might be 20 defendants in this case.

A somewhat smaller case would be concerned with the treatment of prisoners of war, a matter with which both the military and the SS. were closely connected. The principal defendants here would undoubtedly be former SS-Obergruppenführer Gottlieb BERGER, Chief of the Central Office of the SS, and General Hermann REINECKE, who had general jurisdiction over prisoner of war affairs at the OKW.

In the strictly military field, it was planned to have one other case following the case against WEICHS, and RENDULIC, and the others in the indictment recently filed. The charges in this case would be broadened, and more analogous to those which were brought against KEITEL, RAEDER, and the other military defendants in the international trial.

"... Needless to say, the United States does not regard it as criminal to be a soldier, or an officer, or even a general. On the other hand, it does not regard the uniform as a protection under which military men can commit crimes with impunity. Our selection of defendants for the case in which the indictment has just been filed was based on a very laborious screening of a great number of captured documents, and this process is still going on with respect to the second case, in which the charges will be broader. ..."

The seven cases already instituted and the nine others just described should include approximately 220 defendants. It was expected that most of these would be completed before January 1st, 1948. Probably there would be three or four cases which would carry over for a couple of months into 1948. The indictments in the remaining nine cases were expected to be filed by July 1st.

The Reichschancellery Trial at Nuremberg.

The defendants in the case are expected to include the following leading officials: Hans H. LAMMERS; Friedrich W. KRITZINGER; Hermann von STUTTERHEIM; Willy MEERWALD; Hans G. FICKER; Leo KILLY; Franz WILLUHN; Gerhard KLOPFER; Otto L.E. MEISSNER; Wilhelm STUCKART; Otto DIETRICH; Werner ZSCHINTZSCH; Arthur AXMANN.

In ...



GERMANY (AMERICAN ZONE) Cont.

In another Press release the relations between the U.S. Theater Judge Advocate and the U.S. Chief of Counsel were defined as follows:

"The Theater Judge Advocate, as adviser to the Chief of Staff and the Commanding General, U.S. Forces, European Theatre of Operations, is responsible for investigation and trial of war crimes involving "violations of the laws of war to the prejudice of U.S. nationals, notably prisoners of war"; atrocities committed in concentration camps before seizure by United States armed forces; and other crimes assigned to the Theater Judge Advocate for action by the Theater Commander. The Chief of Counsel for War Crimes is responsible for prosecution of "leaders of the European Axis Powers and their principal agents and accessories" and of "such of the members of groups or organisations declared criminal by the International Military Tribunal as the Chief of Counsel for War Crimes may determine to prosecute."

Other Trials in the U.S. Zone.

Conviction of SS. Colonel Lassack at Dachau.

An A.P. telegram from Dachau (13.6.47) said that Julius LASSACK, a former SS colonel, was sentenced to life imprisonment on that date by a United States war crimes court which convicted him of turning three captured American flyers over to a Nazi official to be murdered.

Trial of SS. General Skorzeny.

Reuter reported from Dachau on 25.6.47 that Otto SKORZENY, who led the Nazi airborne troops which rescued Mussolini in July 1943, was to be tried by a U.S. military court, on 29.6.47, for alleged war crimes during Runstedt's Ardennes offensive of December, 1944.

Appeal for evidence concerning Concentration Camps.

The Daily Telegraph reported from Munich (12.6.47) that United States war crimes officials at Dachau had appealed to former concentration camp inmates of Mauthausen, Buchenwald, Flossenbourg and Nordhausen who saw atrocities to come forward with information. Special detachments would open offices in Regensburg, Kassel, Vienna and Stuttgart, showing photographs of suspects in custody.

Arrests in the U.S. Zone.

News of Germany reported (26.6.47) that Robert MOHR, former chief of the Gestapo in Hesse and later in Magdeburg, had been arrested by the police of Düsseldorf-Gerresheim. He had escaped from the Langwasser internment camp, near Nuremberg, in July, 1946.

Execution ...

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GERMANY (AMERICAN ZONE) Cont.

Execution of Kobus for Murder of an Airman.

News of Germany reported from Frankfurt (25.3.47) that August KOBUS, former Ortsgruppenleiter and Burgomaster of Freilassing, was hanged on March 15th at Bruchsal prison, south of Heidelberg, on conviction of murder of an American airman.

Release of General von Falkenhausen.

The Daily Telegraph (25.6.47) published a letter from Mr. Edinger, former correspondent in Belgium, appealing for the release of General von Falkenhausen, former military Governor of Belgium, on the ground that he had opposed the persecution of the Jews in Belgium, and had in consequence been sent to Dachau where he was found by the American troops at the end of the war.

On 1.7.47, the same paper stated that von FALKENHAUSEN had been unconditionally released by the United States authorities.

[Note: General von Falkenhausen is on the United Nations War Crimes Commission's List of War Criminals, charged by Belgium for war crimes.]

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BRITISH ZONE.

The Stalag Luft III Trial.

This trial opened at Hamburg on July 1st, 1947. The Sunday Times announced on 22.6.47 that the defendants would be charged with the shooting of 50 R.A.F. Dominion and Allied Air Force officers who took part in the mass escape from Stalag Luft III in 1944.

A statement issued by the War Office on 21.6.47 said that detailed evidence would be produced by the prosecution at the trial to show that these orders emanated from the highest level, the decision to shoot 50 of the escaped officers having been taken at a conference held at Hitler's headquarters shortly after the escape.

The following is a list of the defendants:

Max WIELEN, Emil SCHULZ, Walter BREITHAUPT, Alfred SCHIMMEL, Josef Albert Andreas GMEINER, Walter HERBERG, Otto PREISS, Heinrich BOSCHERT, Emil WEIL, Eduard GEITH, Johann SCHNEIDER, Johannes POST, Hans KÄHLER, Artur DENKMANN, Oskar SCHMIDT, Walter JACOBS, Wilhelm STRUVE, Erich Hermann August ZACHARLAS.

These are all Gestapo officials. It is understood that SCHARFWINKEL, Chief of Gestapo, Breslau, who was also charged by the British, is still in Russian custody.

Death ...

G E R M A N Y.

BRITISH ZONE. (Cont.)

Death Sentence on Lüttering for murdering a pilot.

News of Germany reported from Hamburg (5.6.47) that a British military court had passed sentence of death on a former Nazi official, Johann LÜTERING, found guilty of murdering a Canadian pilot.

Execution of Striegel, Mauthausen War criminal.

Agency messages of 21.6.47 reported that Otto STRIEGEL, an SS. man, who admitted throwing stones into the mouth of a prisoner at Mauthausen concentration camp, was one of four Germans hanged at Hamburg for war crimes.

Execution of Salvequart, Ravensbrück wardress.

Agency messages (26.6.47) announced the execution of Vera SALVEQUART, last of the 11 defendants sentenced to death in the Ravensbrück Women's Camp trial (see No. XXIV, page 7, and No. XXVIII, page 5, of this Digest).

Her execution had been delayed because she had claimed Czechoslovak citizenship. The claim was found to be false.

Numbers executed in the British zone.

Mr. Bevin stated, in reply to a question in Parliament on 4.6.47:

"Sixty-eight Germans were hanged in 1946 under arrangements made by the Control Commission, and 27 between January 1st and May 29th this year. Executions by shooting are carried out by military authorities."

U.S.S.R. ZONE.

Reuter reported (4.6.47) that the doctors and nursing staff of the Nazi "mental home" at Annenstein would stand trial at Dresden in the Soviet zone on 16th June charged with aiding in the murder of 150,000 patients.

Mystery Broadcast.

The Daily Despatch reported from Berlin (24.6.47) that mysterious broadcasts by a voice purporting to be that of major-general of the Luftwaffe, Adolf GALLAND, had created unrest on the Baltic coast, near the island of Rügen, in the Russian zone. The speaker said: "Germany will rise again. Hold out. We are still here, and if you knew who is standing beside me at this moment you would raise a cheer."

The correspondent added that GALLAND was reported by CROWCASS to be alive, but not interned.

ITALY ...



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I T A L Y.

Colonel Kappler for trial.

Reuter reported from Rome (13.6.47) that Adolf KAPPLER, former commander of the SS. troops in Rome, who arranged and took part in the massacre of 335 Italians in March 1944, was to be tried by an Italian court.

Death sentence on General Max Simon.

The European News Service reported from Padua, (27.6.47) that the German General, Max SIMON, had been sentenced to death by an Allied military tribunal in Padua for his wartime massacre of 3,000 Italians. (This refers apparently to Waffen SS General SIMON, former commander of 3rd and 16th SS Division.)

P O L A N D.

Oswiecim Museum.

The Times reported from Warsaw (15.6.47) that the camp of Oswiecim (Auschwitz) was opened on that date as a State museum. Some 50,000 former inmates attended the ceremony. The camp at Birkenau, close by, has been completely destroyed.

The message added that some 400 SS. and former staff of the camp were to be sent to Auschwitz for trial.

Execution of Riebow, Commandant of Lodz Ghetto. (See XXVIII, p. 6 of this Series.)

The Daily Telegraph reported from Warsaw (25.6.47) that Hans BIEBOW, former commandant of the Lodz (Poland) ghetto, had been hanged.

S P A I N.

Reported escape of van Krahme.

The Daily Graphic (17.7.47) reported that Ludwig von KRAHME, veteran Nazi, former Air Attaché in Madrid, and wanted for trial by the Allies, had slipped out of Spain with false papers with his secretary, Fraulein von Scheele. They were thought to be heading for Buenos Aires.

Y U G O S L A V I A.

The extradition of war criminals.

Reuter reported from Belgrade (24. 6. 47) that Brigadier F. Maclean, the war-time head of the British Military Mission at Marshal Tito's headquarters, had arrived at Belgrade and had been investigating the return from British occupied territory of persons alleged by the Yugoslav Government to be war criminals.

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THE FAR EAST ...

T H E   F A R   E A S T .

THE TRIAL OF THE JAPANESE MAJOR WAR CRIMINALS.

The I.M.T. goes into recess.

It was announced by the President, Sir William Webb, on 11.6.47, that the I.M.T. would go into recess for six weeks from 23.6.47 till 4.8.47, after sitting for more than a year, in answer to a request for an interval in which to reorganise the defence.

Order for Production of Witnesses held by USSR.

The Times reported 17.6.47 from Tokyo that the I.M.T. had ordered the Russian prosecutor to produce within two months, for cross-examination, five Japanese generals held as prisoners of war in Russian territory, failing which their depositions would be struck from the record of the trial. Ever since last autumn, in spite of protests by the defence, the Russians had defied the order that these witnesses be produced in court. Japanese defending counsel declared that one of the five, General HARADA, was executed by the Russians after the subpoena was issued.

Admission of Ribbentrop's Affidavit as evidence.

The Times reported from Tokyo (20.6.47) that before adjourning till 4.8.47, the Court admitted in evidence, in favour of the defendant, HIROSHI OSHIMA, the former Japanese Ambassador in Berlin, an affidavit of von RIBBENTROP which deponent signed on October 15th, 1946, the day before his execution.

The document absolved OSHIMA of subscribing to Hitler's order that shipwrecked crews of allied vessels should be killed. It further denied that the anti-Comintern pact was directed against democratic countries. RIBBENTROP stated that he urged OSHIMA early in 1941 to ask his home Government to go to war against Great Britain without involving the United States. Later he wanted Japan to fight the Soviet Union, but "Japan was doing everything possible to avoid war with Russia." On the day before his death RIBBENTROP deleted two passages, which, had they been allowed to stand, would have completely exculpated OSHIMA from any responsibility in bringing about the Japanese-German agreements.

S I N G A P O R E .

The Execution of Kawamura and Oishi.

The Times reported from Tokyo (26.7.47) that Lieut.-General KAWAMURA and Lieut.-Colonel OISHI, were hanged at Changi gaol on that day for complicity in the massacre of 5,000 Chinese after the fall of Singapore. KAWAMURA was garrison commander in Singapore under Yamashita, and OISHI was commander of the military police.

HONGKONG ...

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THE FAR EAST (Cont).

HONGKONG.

Convictions for the Murder of Lieut. Hockley.

The Times reported from Hongkong (13. 6. 47) that Colonel TAMURA and Major HIRANO were sentenced to be hanged and Captain FUJINO to 15 years' imprisonment for the murder of Sub.-Lieutenant HOCKLEY, R.N.V.R., pilot of a Seafire, after the announcement of the Japanese capitulation.

The Formosan Camps trial: Sentences.

The Times reported from Hongkong (9.6.47) that at the conclusion of the trial of three Japanese charged with maltreating prisoners-of-war and civilian internees in Formosan camps, Colonel SAZAWA, chief commandant of all prisoner-of-war camps in Formosa between July, 1943, and March, 1945, was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment. Lieut. HIOKI, acting commandant at Shirakwa in 1944, to four years', and Corporal MATSUMURA, medical N.C.O. to 10 years.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC.

Death Sentence on General MASAO BABA.

The Times (5.3.47) reported that Lieut.-General MASAO BABA, formerly commanding 37th Army, who ordered the tragic marches of British and Australian prisoners from Sandakan to Ranau, in North Borneo, in January and May, 1945, had been sentenced to be hanged by the war crimes court in Rabaul. Evidence showed that the journey was over 165 miles of rugged country. Of the 470 prisoners who took part in the January march six survived, and of the 540 who set out in May 183 reached their destination. Many of these died later from ill-treatment and starvation, and 33 survivors were shot because they were too ill to be of use to Japan as labourers and because food was short.

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ERRATUM.

Page No. 6.

Release of General von Falkenhausen.

The report of this General's release published in the Daily Telegraph of 1.7.47 was contradicted by the same paper on the following day. It was added that a bulletin issued on the authority of United States Headquarters, European Command, stated that von FALKENHAUSEN was in hospital at Marburg, where he was in the custody of No. 7708 War Crimes Group.

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XXXI

No. XXXI.  
July 28th 1947.

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION.

(Research Office)

WAR CRIMES NEWS DIGEST.

[ NOTE: The above title replaces that of Press News Summary  
used in the early numbers of this series. For internal  
circulation to the Commission. ]

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## SUMMARY OF EVENTS.

### EUROPE.

#### AUSTRIA.

##### Lenient treatment of ex-Nazis.

The Vienna correspondent of the C.S. Monitor (14.6.47) wrote that undue leniency was being shown to higher Nazi officials. He cited the case of Rudolf PAUSPERTL, District Inspector of Gendarmerie, the investigation of whose crimes was suspended; Franz RICHTER, Standartenführer, SS; WITZANY and Otto HARTMANN whose escapes were apparently connived at. [RICHTER, WITZANY and HARTMANN were recaptured.]

The article contained the following figures:

Austrians registered as Nazis, under the Anti-Nazi law: 536,660. Of this total 377,266 were party members; 61,198 belonged to the S.A; and 22,729 to the SS.

#### BELGIUM.

##### War Crimes Trials.

Reuter reported (9.7.47) from Brussels that Belgium's war crimes trials were expected to begin on September 15th. It has not yet been decided whether the German war criminals who are to be tried would be allowed to select German lawyers or whether Belgian lawyers would be appointed.

#### GERMANY.

##### TRIALS BY GERMAN COURTS.

##### Denazification plan drawn up.

News of Germany reported (2.7.47) from Stuttgart that General CLAY, U.S. Military Governor, had revealed at a press conference that a new plan calling for a uniform denazification system in all four occupation zones was drawn up by the foreign ministers' conference at Moscow and submitted to the Allied Control Council.

##### Progress of Denazification.

It was officially stated in Berlin (2.7.47) that denazification courts of the U.S. zone had completed 44,000 cases in May 1947. This total raised the number of completed cases to 324,920 since the courts began functioning in June 1946. The May 1947 report of Spruchkammer activities indicated that 1,409,646 persons, chargeable under the denazi-

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## GERMANY.

### TRIALS BY GERMAN COURTS (CONT)

#### Progress of denazification (Cont)

fication law, remained to be tried. Another 1,500,000 had been spared trial on grounds of youth and amnesties.

#### Arrest of all members of "Criminal Organisations".

The Dana German News Agency reported from Frankfurt (16.7.47) that General CLAY, U.S. Military Governor in Germany, had ordered all former members of Nazi organisations which were declared criminal at Nuremberg to be arrested and transferred to internment camps if they had not yet been tried by denazification tribunals. The order was signed on July 9th and sent to all directors of American Military Government in the various states.

#### Arrest of Fritz Wiedemann.

Reuter reported from Frankfurt (18.7.47) that Fritz WIEDEMANN, described as Hitler's former adjutant, had been arrested by order of the denazification court.

[ Fritz WIEDEMANN was former German Consul in the United States and A.D.C. to HITLER. ]

#### Frau Wagner sentenced.

An Agency message (1.7.47) stated that Frau Winifred WAGNER, daughter-in-law of Richard WAGNER, was classified as "active Nazi" by the denazification court at Bayreuth. She was ordered to surrender 60% of her fortune and to work for 450 days for the community.

#### Schacht to appeal. (see No. XXVIII, p. 2 of this Digest)

The Daily Telegraph reported from Munich (9.7.47) that the Military Government had announced that Herr SCHACHT, former German Minister of Finance, who was sentenced to eight years' imprisonment by a denazification court, had been granted a review of the sentence. The hearing will take place next month.

## AMERICAN ZONE.

### THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

#### Judicial Appointment.

News of Germany reported from Berlin (23.6.47) that James BRAND had been named presiding judge of Military Tribunal III replacing Carrington MARSHALL, retiring because of ill health. Justice William HARDING, until now an alternate, had been added to the panel.

/Legal .....

G E R M A N Y.

AMERICAN ZONE (CONT)

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

Legal meaning of "Conspiracy".

A special session of all Nuremberg tribunals was convened on July 9th, at which the use of the legal term "conspiracy" was to be discussed. Defence counsel had repeatedly requested that the term should be dropped from indictments as it was unknown in German law.

[For text of General Telford TAYLOR's statement on the subject see document R7/US/14/7B; available in the Secretariat.]

The Trial of the 23 Doctors and Scientists. (Case 1.) see XXV, 4 of this Digest.

A special release No. 135 dated 14.7.47 said that in the "summation speech" delivered on that day, the prosecution emphasized that the evidence had shown that the subjects of the experiments were not volunteers and that the medical leaders not only knew of the experiments but personally took part in them. The prosecution ridiculed the attempt of Dr. BRANDT to pose as a "stenographic automaton", and argued that, though the State ordered the experiments, it could not exempt the doctors who performed them from their responsibility.

[For list of the defendants see Research Circular No. 24.]

The I.G. Farben Case. (Case No. 6.) see No. XXVII, p.3 & XXVIII, p.3.

As mentioned in No. XXVIII of this Digest the indictment in this case was filed on 3.5.47 (For list of the defendants see Research Circular No. 24).

A U.S. special release No. 131 referring to the indictment said:

"The indictment charges that I.G. Farben had close connections with HIMMLER and his associates through which the firm obtained slave labour. A letter written by Baron von SCHROEDER to HIMMLER in May 1944 contains a list of members of the so-called "Himmler Circle", a select group of prominent industrialists who subsidized HIMMLER and his organizations to the tune of about 1,000,000 marks a year. The list indicates that two of the defendants, Heinrich BUETEFISCH and Dr. Hermann SCHMITZ, acting on behalf of I.G. Farben, contributed altogether 100,000 Reichmarks during that year. At the regular meetings of the Circle BUETEFISCH met both HIMMLER himself and also one of the chief assistants, the SS General Kurt WOLFF."

"The importance of these meetings becomes clear from the indictment, which charges that General WOLFF arranged with the I.G. Farben officials in Berlin to furnish the Combine with concentration camp labour at the price of one and a half marks per day per person. The indictment further asserts that the defendant Otto AMBROS, the Farben expert on buna rubber who had been a school-mate of HIMMLER's and knew him personally, had recommended the Auschwitz site and had called attention to the availability of concentration camp labour. It is maintained that AMBROS, when in charge of the Auschwitz plant, used his connections with HIMMLER to assure the continuous supply of slave labour from the camp."

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GERMANY.

AMERICAN ZONE (CONT)

SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS (CONT)

The I.G. Farben Case. (cont)

The Morning Advertiser (16.7.47) reported that 30 British ex-prisoners had responded to the appeal for witnesses broadcast by the B.B.C on 21.6.47 ( see Research Circular No. 23.) and that 5 or 6 of them would go to Nuremberg to give evidence. The report continued:

"Mr. E.E. MINSKOFF, legal adviser to the U.S. Treasury, on loan to the War Crimes Commission as assistant prosecutor at the trial, will take statements from ex-prisoners of war at their homes in Durham, Manchester, Bristol, Dorchester, Glasgow, Liverpool, Cardiff and Gloucester. He told a "Morning Advertiser" reporter: "A conservative estimate of the workers from I.G. Farben who died was between 22,000 and 25,000." Mr. MINSKOFF said that about 2,000 British prisoners of war were employed by I.G. Farbenindustrie in factories and mines. "

News of Germany (9.7.47) reported that Max BRUGGEMANN, former director General of I.G. Farben, one of the defendants, had been sent to a sanatorium in the British zone suffering from heart disease. It was not known whether he could take his place with the 23 other defendants.

[The trial was expected to begin on 15.8.47.]

The "Hostages" Case. (Case No. 7.) see XXVIII, p. 3 of this Digest.

Field Marshalls LIST and von WEICHS and the other generals accused in this case were arraigned on 8.7.47.

The Trial began on 15.7.47 before Tribunal V, consisting of Judge WENNERSTRUM (president), Judge CARTER and Judge BURKE.

A special release No. 136 of 15.7.47 said that in opening the prosecution General Telford TAYLOR, U.S. Chief of Counsel, stated that the defendants were not accused as being responsible for occasional outrages by their troops but of having inaugurated a deliberate programme of terror and extermination. He contested the view that military men were a race apart, not responsible for their acts, because they had to obey orders, and cited the German army code which made it the duty of a soldier to refuse to obey orders which he knew to be criminal.

Mr. Clark DENNY, who continued the prosecution, cited Marshal von WEICHS' order of 28.4.41 that 100 Serbs were to be shot for every soldier injured by surprise attacks by the Serbs; he quoted a report made by KUNTZE to the O.K.W. that 11,522 of the enemy were killed in battle and 21,809 in reprisals. Mr. FENSTERMACHER, another prosecutor, showed that Serbia under Generals FELBER and GEITNER was "an administrative extermination camp", and Greece was no better. General TAYLOR next discussed the law of hostages and reprisals, and said the German practice had gone far beyond the accepted limits and had "deteriorated rapidly into a bloodbath."

[For list of the defendants see Research Circular No. 24.]

No decision has been taken whether the two field-m Marshals in British hands, RUNDSTEDT and BRAUCHITSCH, will be arraigned in this group but it is learned that evidence has come to light during the investigation which is being passed to the Attorney-General.



G E R M A N Y.

AMERICAN ZONE (CONT)

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

The " R.K.F.D.V " Trial. (Case No. 8)

A special release No. 132 dated 1.7.47 stated, in part :  
"An indictment charging 14 generals and other high officials of the SS, including one woman, with kidnapping foreign children, with abortions, enslavement, extermination and other crimes against humanity and war crimes, was filed with the Secretary General for the OMGUS Military Tribunals."

The indictment alleges that the crimes committed by the defendants were carried out against thousands of German civilians, prisoners of war and foreign nationals as part of a systematic programme of genocide to exterminate and weaken foreign nationals and ethnic groups and to strengthen the German nation and the "Aryan" race.

The defendants during the war, were associated with four offices of the SS whose main purpose was to safeguard the "superiority" of Nordic blood. Those offices are: the Main Staff Office of the Reichs Commissioner for the strengthening of Germanism (Reichskommissar fuer die Festigung des deutschen Volkstums, commonly known as the "RKFDV"), the Repatriation office for Ethnic Germans (Volksdeutsche Mittelstelle, commonly known as "VOMI"), the SS-Main Race and Settlement Office (SS-Rasse und Siedlungshauptamt, commonly known as "RUSHA"), and the Wells of Life Society (Lebensborn, e.V.).

The defendants included one woman, Inge VIERMETZ, deputy chief of Department A of Lebensborn. In this office it is alleged that she took a prominent part in the Nazi programme of kidnapping foreign children and was partly responsible for installing the "racially desirable" ones in foster homes or "children's homes" where they were indoctrinated with the Nazi ideology.

In carrying out the objectives of their organisations the defendants committed the crimes set forth in the first two counts - crimes against humanity and war crimes. The third count is membership in the SS, an organisation judged criminal by the International Military Tribunal last year.

The kidnapping charge accuses the defendants of forcibly taking Czech, Polish, Yugoslav and Norwegian children away from their parents. The children were then classified according to their "racial value". Those considered to be "racially desirable" were placed in foster homes or children's homes and taught the Nazi ideology.

Another crime was large-scale abortion. All known cases of pregnancy among Eastern slave workers were submitted to the RUSHA. If it was decided that the children would not be "racially valuable" the mothers were induced to undergo abortions. Children considered "racially superior" were Germanised. The aim was to keep women available to work for the Reich and to reduce the population of the Eastern nations. If a child born was found to be "racially desirable" it was taken over by either the Nazi Welfare Association or the Lebensborn for Germanisation. Children judged inferior were collected for extermination.

Citizens of enemy countries, held to be of "ethnic Germans" were classified. Some were inducted into the German Armed Forces or the Police and forced to fight for Germany. Others were deported to Germany, forced into slave labour or sent to concentration camps.

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G E R M A N Y.

AMERICAN ZONE (CONT)

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

..... ONT\

The "R.K.F.D.V." Trial. (Cont)

The case was expected to be brought to trial within two or three months. The prosecution team was to be headed by Mr. J. MACHANEY, assisted by Mr. E. SCHWENK, Mr. D. SHILLER and Mr. H. NEELY.

[For list of the defendants see Research Circular No. 24.]

The Einsatzgruppen Trial. (Case No. 9.)

A special release No. 133 dated 3.7.47 said that the indictment filed on that day charged the 18 defendants with over a million murders. It was the biggest murder case among the Nuremberg war crimes trials. All the accused were members of the Einsatzgruppen (Special task forces). These were murder units of 500 to 800 men whose special purpose was to exterminate the Jews and other races in the East, regarded by the Nazis as racially "inferior".

The most barbarous methods were employed. The Chief of Counsel believes that the trial will set a precedent in international law by clarifying the term "crimes against humanity".

A further special release, No. 134, said that the indictments were served on the defendants on 8.7.47.

..... [For list of the defendants see Research Circular No. 24.]

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Removal of Major War Criminals from Nuremberg.

Reuter reported from Berlin (10.7.47) that the seven German war criminals, HESS, FUNK, RAEDER, von SCHIRACH, SPEER, von NEURATH and DONITZ, who were sentenced to terms of imprisonment by the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg last October, were removed from Nuremberg to Spandau prison, Berlin on that day. The American, British, French and Russian representatives control the prison with a quadripartite staff.

The Trial of Dietrich.

News of Germany reported from Dachau (3.7.47) that the trial of Fritz DIETRICH, former police president of Saarbrücken, and seven policemen and former SS men opened there during that week before an American military court. The defendants were accused of ordering the shooting of seven shot down American pilots in July and August 1944.

Trial of former concentration camp Officials.

The New York Times reported from Dachau (24.6.47) that eight former officials at German concentration camps in Austria had been sentenced to death by an American war crimes court there. Three were sentenced to life imprisonment and seven received sentences ranging from two to twenty years. The defendants had been stationed at camps at Linz and Wiener-Neustadt.



G E R M A N Y.

AMERICAN ZONE (CONT)

The Buchenwald Camp Trial. (see No. XXVII, p. 4 of this Digest)

An Agency message from Dachau (1.7.47) reported that Arthur DIETSCH, one of the 31 defendants in this trial, gave evidence that he was ordered to assist Dr. DINGSHULER in experimenting on other prisoners. This work included giving injections to produce typhus and typhoid.

Wing Commander DEROSS, M.C., testified that DIETSCH saved his life by enabling him to exchange his identity with a prisoner who had died under experiments.

Mauthausen-Gusen Camp guards convicted.

News of Germany reported (8.7.47) that former SS Sgt. Rudolf KLEIN of Gusen concentration camp No. 1 was sentenced to death by an American military court at Dachau for cruelties that caused the death of a number of inmates. Six former sergeants accused of mistreatment of prisoners at this camp were sentenced to penal servitude from two to ten years.

[Gusen is a sub camp of Mauthausen.]

Conviction of guards of Nuehldorf Camp.

An Agency message of 17.7.47 said that four former SS guards at the Nuehldorf concentration camp had been sentenced to life imprisonment by a Dachau war crimes court for torturing and killing camp prisoners.

Trial of Otto Skorzeny.

The U.P. Agency reported from Dachau (24.7.47) that SKORZENY, former lieutenant colonel of the SS, and nine other SS men were arraigned on that day before an American war crimes court, on charges of torturing United States soldiers captured during the Ardennes offensive in December 1944, in order to extort information, and afterwards murdering them.

An A.P. message of the same date said that SKORZENY had admitted having taken part in carrying off Admiral HORTHY, the former Hungarian Regent, and bringing him to HITLER.

Arrest of Gauleiter SPRITZER.

News of Germany reported from Kassel (9.7.47) that Erich SPRITZER, former leader of the Netze Gau and SS colonel had been arrested by police in Gensungen and had been sent to the Darmstadt internment camp.

Reported escape of Wesemann, a Gestapo agent.

The 'Telegraf' reported (10.7.47) that among Germans granted an immigration visa to the USA was the former Gestapo agent Hans WESEMAN. Under the alias of Bergmann and by claiming to be a Jewish emigrant and a former concentration camp inmate, he managed to enter the USA. Meanwhile the US authorities had received information of WESEMAN's



G E R M A N Y.

AMERICAN ZONE (CONT)

Reported escape of Wesemann. (cont)

antecedents, but so far he had evaded arrest in New York.

[WESEMANN was the man who kidnapped the anti-fascist author Berthold JACOB from Switzerland.]

Release of German prisoners of war at Dachau.

News of Germany reported from Dachau (2.7.47) that the last batch of German prisoners of war, 690 in number, had now been released from Dachau. The camp at Dachau, however, will continue to be operated for another three months to process prisoners of war.

General von Falkenhausen. (see No. XXX, p. 6 of this Digest)

Information received from United States Headquarters, European Command, states that General von FALKENHAUSEN has been released from captivity as a prisoner of war but has been re-arrested as a war criminal.

BRITISH ZONE.

The Stalag Luft III Trial. (see No. XXX, p.6 of this Digest )

The Times correspondent reporting (1.7.47) on the opening of the trial wrote:

"The accused (for list see No. XXX, p.6 of this Digest) all pleaded 'Not Guilty' both to two general charges of killing and carrying out orders in violation of the laws and usages of war and to seven charges of shooting particular officers. Altogether 76 officers made the mass escape through a tunnel from Stalag Luft III. Of these 50 were shot, 15 were returned to the camp at Sagan and eight were detained by the Gestapo; three managed to escape.

The President of the court is Major-General H.L. LONGDEN. Colonel HALSE, the prosecutor, stating the facts, said that after a local hue and cry WIELEN ordered a nation-wide search. The news of the escape reached HITLER's ears, and an order was issued, presumably to HIMMLER that "more than half" of the escaped prisoners were to be shot. General WESTHOFF, head of war prisoners' section of the High Command, protested, but KEITEL told him that the order was from HITLER himself.

The shootings were to be explained away as having occurred during attempts to escape. The list of officers selected for killing was discussed with KALTENBRUNNER over lunch. In one instance there was a rehearsal of the shooting. When it became known that the British authorities had heard of the shootings a "white-washing conference" was held. The Gestapo and the Kripo were told to rewrite their reports and make them "realistic," as representatives of the Protecting Power of the

/International .....

GERMANY.

BRITISH ZONE (CONT)

Stalag Luft III Trial. (Cont)

International Red Cross might be visiting the camps and the scenes of the alleged escapes. WIELEN was present at that crucial conference, although he denied it.

On July 2nd General WESTHOFF gave evidence on the same lines as in his statement when called for the defence at the trial of the major War Criminals at Nuremberg. Peter MOOR, a witness called on July 3rd, stated that NEBE, head of the Criminal Police, who had made up the list of men to be executed had afterwards taken part in the plot against HITLER and had been hanged.

In the proceedings on July 8th Dr. OHLERT, a woman barrister, counsel for ZACHARIUS, objected to the admission of the latter's statement on the ground that it was obtained under pressure. The allegation was not substantiated and the objection was disallowed.

Two German women, summoned as witnesses, were reported (14.7.47) to have disappeared on their way to Hamburg.

Forthcoming Trial.

The Commission was informed of the following:

Trial of Maurer and Others.

This trial was to be held at Hamburg on July 16th 1947. The accused, Otto MAURER, Wilhelm SCHWINN, Johann MEYER, Wilhelm HAIGIS, and Wilhelm GEISLER are charged with being concerned in the killing of two British airmen at Koenig, Kreis Erbach, Germany on or about November 21st 1944.

Results of Trials.

The Commission was informed of the following:

The Sollingen Case.

At this trial, which was held at Hamburg on the 22nd and 23rd of May 1947, WILLINSKI was sentenced to death; KOHN to imprisonment; WAHLEN was acquitted and the charge against LOIBERG was withdrawn. The defendants were charged with the ill-treatment of allied airmen at Sollingen during 1944.

Rengsdorf Case.

At this trial, which was held between the 19th and 30th June 1947, CORNELIUS and BAUHOFER were sentenced to death; WIEBENS and KAGEL to imprisonment and PAUSEBACK was acquitted. They were charged with the killing of allied airmen near Rengsdorf in 1944 and 1945.

Trial of Schulze.

Fritz SCHULZ was sentenced to death by a Military court held at Hamburg from 8th to 17th July 1947. He had been found guilty of being concerned in the killing of two R.A.F. prisoners of war at Sollingen on or about December 31st 1944.

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GERMANY.

FRENCH ZONE.

Death sentence on Isselhorst.

The name of Erich ISSELHORST, Chief of the Security Police (who was condemned to death together with SS General Karl OBERG by a British Court at Wuppertal in June 1946) appears in the latest return of French trials as having been sentenced to death on May 17th 1947 on a charge of complicity in murders.

RUSSIAN ZONE.

The Daily Telegraph reported that Professor Paul NITSCH was among four persons sentenced to death by a Dresden court trying doctors and nurses charged with the murder of 15,000 lunatics in an asylum at Sonnestein, Saxony

The same source reported that Dr. L. HARDT, one of the defendants sentenced to death in this trial, had committed suicide.

I T A L Y.

Kesselring, Mackensen and Maelzer reprieved. (see No. XXIX, p.6 of this Digest.)

It was officially announced at British G.H.Q. in Venice on 4.7.47 that "after full consideration of all the circumstances" Sir J. HARDING, deputy Commander in Chief of the Central Mediterranean Forces, had decided to commute the sentences to imprisonment for life in all three cases.

The Italian "Il Tempo" severely criticised the decision contrasting the reprieve of these German generals, found guilty of the deaths of 325 Italians, with the execution of the Italian General BELLOMO, found guilty of the murder of one British soldier.

[General BELLOMO was convicted by a British Military Court in Italy of killing a recaptured British prisoner of war. He was shot on 11.9.45]

Moscow radio in a broadcast on July 9th 1946 said: "....The military caste of some nations wants to take the HITLER bandits in generals' uniforms under its protection."

/ In the .....



I T A L Y (CONT)

Reprieve of Kesselring, Mackensen and Maelzer. (cont)

In the Fortnightly Review, July 1947, prior to the announcement of the reprieve, Mr. Elwyn JONES, K.C., one of the assistant prosecutors in the first Nuremberg Trial, expressed his concern at the clamour in KESSELRING's favour in the British Press. He observed that this trial was a parallel contribution to the vital effort made by the American war crimes authorities in indicting Field Marshal LIST and nine other generals (Case 7) at Nuremberg. "The whole object of our occupation of the British zone in Germany," he concluded "is to denazify and to de-militarise it. It is therefore remarkable that the very men who personify that militarism should now be defended by British publicists in the name of Christian forgiveness and chivalry. The French are already asking nervously — must the British learn another lesson? Tread gently, you apologists for KESSELRING. For you are treading on dynamite."

[The text of another article by Mr. Elwyn JONES on the same subject was given in the appendix to No. XXIX of this Digest.]

N E T H E R L A N D S.

Four Dutchmen sentenced.

The Daily Telegraph reported (11.7.47) that one death sentence had been among those passed at the Hague on four Dutch members of the Commando Frank, special police working for the Germans during the occupation.

N O R W A Y.

Fehmer sentenced.

An Agency message reported (28.6.47) that sentence of death had been passed at Oslo on Siegfried FEHMER, leading German Gestapo agent in Norway during the occupation, who was found guilty of torturing his victims, which, in some cases, led to their deaths.

Y U G O S L A V I A.

Trial of Friedrich Reiner.

The New York Herald's correspondent writing from Belgrade (11.7.47) said: "Thirteen ....., alleged war criminals, were indicted in a Ljubljana court today. The Chief defendant, REINER, was charged with responsibility for crimes committed during his leadership of the Nazi Party in Carinthia and Slovenia. According to the indictment REINER became supreme commissioner for the Adriatic coastland by

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YUGOSLAVIA (CONT)

Trial of Reiner. (Cont)

HITLER's special decree, and subsequently "carried out terrorist measures with the purpose of Germanising the Slovene population."

The Prosecutor said that REINER had a limitless power of decision of life and death over the Slovene people. He is also charged with closing down all the Slovene schools and replacing them with German institutions which attempted to "inculcate the Nazi spirit into Slovene youth."

Also contained in the indictment was a charge that he systematically plundered Slovene national and private property for the purpose of strengthening the German economic and war potential. REINER also faces charges of responsibility for the shooting of thousands of hostages and innocent civilians.

The other defendants, all of whom held important military positions, are charged with mass shootings, arrests, deportations and destruction of national property."

An Agency message (21.7.47) from Belgrade said that REINER, Gauleiter of Slovenia and six other defendants had been sentenced to be hanged by the war crimes court at Ljubljana; and five others defendants to death by shooting. The defendants named were: REIMER; Helmut GLASSER; Gen. Ludwig KUEBLER; Lt. Gen. Hans von HESSLIN; Col CHRISTI; Hans FLECKNER, police officer; Josef VOGT and Reinhold GERLACH of the 'Kripo'; Kreisleiters HRADETZKI, HOCHSTINNER and KUSS; Dr. Hermann DUJAK, administrative adviser and Franz MILLER of the Gestapo.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

U.N.W.C.C. Law Report.

The National Review for July 1947 contains a short notice of volume I of the Law Reports. "All of this material" it states "is of the greatest interest to students of the origins and conduct of the war on the German side and of the behaviour of the Germans in occupied countries generally. It is much hoped that the Nuremberg material before it is finished will include the volumes of documents which at present are obtainable with great difficulty (if at all) only from the United States Government Printing Office in Washington. At the very least an exchange arrangement should be made which would enable libraries of learned institutions and qualified serious students of the war and its background to obtain these volumes of essential documents. Perhaps the American could be persuaded to give his attention and help in this matter."

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THE FAR EAST.

J A P A N.

Trial of the Major War Criminals.

The Economist in a report dated July 19th 1947 said: The trial of General TOJO and other former Japanese leaders charged as major war criminals is still going on, though the world at large has quite forgotten about it. If, indeed, it were merely a matter of hearing the case against yesterday's rulers, the trial would not be news again until the delivery of the judgment. But it has taken a most surprising turn; the Tokyo courtroom has, in fact, become one of the battle-grounds of contemporary Soviet-American conflict. The trial has from the beginning differed from the Nuremberg model in that the defence has not been confined to Japanese, but has been open to American lawyers and these have fought as hard for their clients as if they were acting in an ordinary criminal case. A crisis involving a prolonged adjournment of the trial has now been reached on account of the Soviet prosecution's refusal to produce for cross-examination three Japanese generals whose signed statements obtained under Russian interrogation in prisons have been produced in evidence. The point at issue is the responsibility for the outbreak of fighting on the Manchurian-Siberian border in August 1938.

Russian official comment shows great anger at the truculence of the American defence counsel, and this is only natural in view of the Russian conception of what a political trial ought to be. "The defence," complains I. LEMIN in Soviet News. "makes no attempt to assist the Court in getting a clear picture of the war crimes and the degree of the individual guilt of each defendant." That defence counsel should actually try to defend their clients when State interests are at stake is in any case intolerable to minds trained in Communist ideology. But more is involved in this matter than the effectiveness of Allied nations' prosecution of TOJO and his fellow defendants. The Far Eastern Commission in Washington has laid it down that the sharing of reparations from Japan is to be determined on a "broad political basis, taking into due account the scope of material and human destruction and damage suffered by each claimant country as a result of Japanese aggression, and taking into due account each country's contribution to the defeat of Japan, including the extent and duration of its resistance to Japanese aggression." To make a good claim for themselves as victims of aggression, the Russians have to prove their version of all Manchurian border incidents from 1932 onwards."

B U R M A.

Execution of murderers of Prisoners of War.

The Times reported (28.6.47) from Rangoon that Lt. Okani HIROSHIN, Lt. Kanno YASUTOKA and Katamaya SHIRO were hanged in Rangoon gaol on that date for the murder of four R.A.F. men whom they took prisoner in 1945. They were found guilty of having chopped off their heads after torturing them. A number of other Japanese who were tried with them were sentenced to terms of imprisonment.

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XXXII

No. XXXII.

September 5th 1947.

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION.

(Research Office)

WAR CRIMES NEWS DIGEST.

[ NOTE: The above title replaces that of Prasa News Summary used in the early numbers of this series. For internal circulation to the Commission. ]

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## SUMMARY OF EVENTS.

### EUROPE.

#### DENMARK.

Confirmation of death sentences passed on Lorentzen Group. (see No. XXV, p.1 of this Digest.)

The Sunday Times reported 27.7.47 that the Copenhagen High Court had confirmed the sentences of death passed by the town court last January on 10 members of the Lorentzen Group, including a girl, found guilty of 166 war crimes, including 10 murders.

#### FRANCE.

Nazi War Criminals for Trial.

The Daily Telegraph reported (9.8.47) that two Nazi war criminals, General BLECKWEIN and Major LUDORF, had left Britain for trial in Paris.

#### GERMANY.

##### TRIALS BY GERMAN COURTS.

Reichhert sentenced.

The Daily Telegraph reported (23.8.47) that Johann REICHERT, the former German public hangman, who denounced a number of persons to the Gestapo and also hanged several, had been sentenced by a Munich de-nazification court to ten years in a labour camp.

Eva Braun's parents to be tried.

An agency message from Munich stated that HITLER's parents-in-law, Fritz and Franziska BRAUN, are to be tried for Nazi activities. Fritz BRAUN is accused of encouraging the match between HITLER and his daughter and of being a Nazi since 1937.

Fritz Kuhn held for trial. (see No. XXVIII, p.2 of this Digest.)

News of Germany reported from Munich (23.7.47) that Fritz KUHN, former leader of the German-American Bund, had been arrested during the previous day by order of a Munich Spruchkammer and committed to Neudeck prison where he will be kept until his denazification trial begins. It is probable that he will be indicted as a major offender, according to a statement by Dr. HERFF, prosecutor with the Munich appellate court.

Trial of Frau Todt.

Agency messages from Frankfurt dated 1.9.47 reported that Frau Elsbeth TODT, widow of Fritz TODT, had been found guilty of "Nazi activities and profiteering" by a German denazification Tribunal in Munich and sentenced to two years "special work" and confiscation of all but £250 of her property.

G E R M A N Y.

TRIALS BY GERMAN COURTS (CONT)

Arrest of Erich Hoffmann.

News of Germany reported from Munich (25.7.47) that Erich HOFFMANN, former commandant of the Blechhammer concentration camp, had been arrested by German Police near the Dutch border. A few hours before his arrest he had been sentenced, in absentia, to ten years in a labour camp as a major offender by a Munich Spruchhammer. Since 13 witnesses had attested to his active participation in the murder of 200 camp inmates, the case records will be forwarded to the International Military Tribunal in Nuremberg or to a German criminal court.

Trial by a German Court under the Control Council Law.

One of the first cases to be tried by a German court under the Control Council Law for Crimes against humanity was recently concluded at Aurich in the British zone when Waldemar KABRA was sentenced to six years' penal servitude on charges of brutal assaults against the Jewish population of Leer during the pogroms in November, 1938.

AMERICAN ZONE.

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

The Trial of the 23 Doctors and Scientists. (Case 1.)

This trial which began on December 9th 1946 ended at Nuremberg on August 19th 1947. The sentences were as follows:

Karl BRANDT,	death.	Hermann BECKER-FREYSING,	20 yrs.
Karl GEBHARDT,	death.	Herta OBERHAUSER,	20 yrs.
Joachim MRUGOWSKY,	death.	Wilhelm BEIGLBOECK,	15 yrs.
Rudolf BRANDT,	death.	Helmut POPPENDICK,	10 yrs.
Wolfram SIEVERS,	death.		
Viktor BRACK,	death.	Paul ROSTOCK,	acquitted.
Waldemar HOVEN,	death.	Kurt BLOME,	acquitted.
Siegfried HANDLOSER,	life impr.	Siegfried RUFF,	acquitted.
Oskar SCHROEDER.	life impr.	Hans Wolfgang ROMBERG,	acquitted.
Karl GENZKEN,	life impr.	Georg WELTZ,	acquitted.
Gerhard ROSE,	lif impr.	Konrad SCHAEFER,	acquitted.
Fritz FISCHER,	life impr.	Adolf POKORNY,	acquitted.

The I.G. Farben Trial. (Case No. 6) ( see XXXI, p. 3 of this Digest)

A special release, No. 138 of 8.8.47 stated that three more United States judges had been appointed and would constitute Tribunal No. 6, which had been tentatively scheduled to hear the I.G. Farben Case. They were Judge Curtis SHAKE (President), Judge James MORRIS and Judge Paul HEBERT.

The trial opened at Nuremberg on 28.8.47. The indictment comprised 3 Counts, viz., Count I, Planning and preparing invasions and wars of aggression; Count II, plunder and spoliation; Count III, slavery and mass murders.



AMERICAN ZONE.

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS. (CONT)

The I.G. Farben Trial. (Cont)

All of the defendants, except LAUNTENSCHLAEGER, who was absent at the time, had pleaded not guilty at their arraignment on August 15th. LAUNTENSCHLAEGER was now present and added his plea of not guilty.

At the opening of the proceedings the President announced that the defence's request for a six months' postponement had been rejected, as had been defence objections concerning the legality of the indictment.

The opening statement for the prosecution was made by General Telford TAYLOR, U.S. Chief of Counsel, and Major D.A. SPRECHER. The statement emphasized that the crimes alleged were committed by the defendants with the utmost deliberation, the purpose being to turn the German nation into a machine of destruction so formidable that Germany could, by brutal threats, and by war if necessary, impose her will on Europe, and later on other nations.

After outlining the rise of the I.G. Farben system from a small group of chemical plants till it became HITLER's largest sources of ammunition and explosives the prosecution alluded summarily to the seizure by I.G. Farben of chemical industries in Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Under Count II a brief summary was given of evidence in connection with the spoliation of Poland, France and the Soviet Union. Further evidence in regard to Norway, Greece and Yugoslavia would, it was stated, be presented during the trial.

Under Count III the prosecution alleged that the defendants had known and aggressively participated in the employment of foreign labour in the I.G. Farben plants, notably in the Buna plant at Auschwitz where so many thousands had died as a result of inhumane treatment; and they had also participated in criminal medical experiments, conducted at I.G. Farben's request in Buchenwald and other concentration camps.

In concluding the prosecution emphasized that the defendants were not charged solely in their capacity as I.G. Farben officials, but were responsible for their acts in whatever capacity these were undertaken.

The Ministry of Justice Trial. (Case No. 2) (see No. XXVI, p.4 of this Digest)

An agency message (25.8.47) stated that Dr. Carl ROTHENBERGER, 51 years old former Deputy President of the Academy of Nazi German law, now on trial with other Nazi lawyers for crimes against humanity, attempted to commit suicide in his cell in Nuremberg prison. He was rushed to hospital and later was reported to be out of danger.

The "Hostages" Trial. (Case No. 7) (see No. XXXI, p.4 of this Digest)

Reuter announced (29.8.47) that the prosecution had ended its case, and that the court had adjourned until September 12th, 1947.

The "Einsatzgruppen" Trial. (Case No. 9) see No. XXXI, p.6 of this Digest.

A special release, No. 137 of 28.7.47, stated that six names of high ranking SS officers had been added to the list of defendants, who will now number 23. The six new defendants are:- Eugen STEIMLE, Werner BRAUNE, Walter

/ HAENSCH .....

AMERICAN ZONE.

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS. (CONT)

The "Einsatzgruppen" Trial. (Cont)

HAENSCH, Eduard STRAUCH, Waldemar KLINGELHOEFER and Waldemar von RADETZKY. STEIMLE, BRAUNE, HAENSCH and KLINGELHOEFER were all in British custody until recently. STRAUCH, according to the special release No. 137, was formerly commandant of the Security Police in Liège.

[For the original list of defendants see Research Circular No. 24.]

The indictment charged the defendants as participants in more than 1,000,000 murders of Jews, gypsies and "other racially inferior or anti-social people". This will, according to the special release, be the biggest murder case tried at Nuremberg and is expected to set a precedent in international law by clarifying the charge of "crimes against humanity".

The chief prosecutors will be James McHANEY and Benjamin FERENCZ.

The Krupp Case. (Case No. 10)

The indictment in this case was filed on 12.8.47. The defendants were 12 leading officials of the Krupp concern, namely:-

Alfried Krupp von BOHLEN und HALBACH,	Max IHN,
Ewald LOESER,	Karl EBERHARDT,
Eduard HOUDREMONT,	Heinrich KORSCHAN,
Erich MUELLER,	Friedrich von BUELOW,
Friedrich JANSSEN,	Heinrich LEHMANN,
Karl PFIRSCH,	Hans KUPKE.

According to the summary of the accusation given in Press release No. 139, the indictment charged the defendants with having given large sums of money to the Nazi Party; assisted in re-armament, disregarding the restrictions of the Treaty of Versailles; supported the Four Years Plan with full knowledge of its purpose; and at the same time enriched themselves by the profits thus acquired. It further stated that plunder, spoliation and other offenses against property were carried out in the occupied countries of Belgium and the Netherlands, Austria, Yugoslavia, Greece and the Soviet Union, calculated to inflict special hardship on Jews, Slavs, and Hitler's political enemies. The defendants, because of their influential positions, were also able to gain possession for themselves and for Krupp, of plants and of other valuable properties. Methods used included seizure, purchases and leases obtained by duress, and so-called "trusteeships" and "sponsorships".

Under deportation, exploitation and use of slave labour the indictment included the crimes of murder, extermination, torture and other inhumane acts against men, women and children of occupied territories, concentration camp inmates and prisoners of war. At least 5,000,000 workers were deported to Germany by Hitler, and the defendants participated in crimes committed against hundreds of thousands of these foreign nationals who were forced to work in the iron, steel and mining industries. It was further alleged that prisoners of war and nationals of foreign countries were employed in the manufacture of armaments and munitions used against their own people.

/ The .....



AMERICAN ZONE.

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS (CONT)

The Krupp Case. (Cont)

The indictment was prepared by J. KAUFMANN, deputy Chief Counsel, and R. TAYLOR.

It was pointed out in the Press that neither Gustav KRUPP (father of Alfried KRUPP), who was found physically unfit to be tried with the major criminals, nor Fritz THYSSEN, who resolutely opposed HITLER and fled from Germany in 1939, were included in the indictment.

The Trial of the 23 Doctors and Scientists. (see page 2 of this Digest)

In continuation of this item News of Germany reported (22.8.47) that counsel for most of the 16 convicted Nazi doctors and scientists had announced that they would appeal for review of their cases to the U.S. Supreme Court. However they would hold up their applications pending developments in the case of Field Marshal Ehard MILCH whose attorney had reported that his application for review had been received by the U.S. Court.

The convicted defendants also planned an appeal for clemency to General CLAY, according to Dr. Otto NELTE, one of the attorneys. It has erroneously reported previously that appeals for clemency would be made to the U.S. Supreme Court. It was stated that September 3 was the deadline for clemency appeals, and General CLAY would decide on the time and place of execution of the seven condemned if no clemency was granted.

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The Buchenwald Camp Trial. (see No. XXVII, p.4 of this Digest)

The New York Times in a report from Dachau (12.8.47) stated that the 31 defendants in the Buchenwald concentration camp trial had been found guilty on all counts on that day.

Sentences on Dachau Concentration Camp Officials.

An agency message reported that Karl LITTMAN, former SS officer, had been sentenced to life imprisonment by an American tribunal in Dachau on charges of ill-treating inmates of Dachau concentration camp. Rudolph SCHMIEDER a former SS man, was sentenced to 26 months' imprisonment for beating up camp prisoners with his fists.

Reuter reported (20.8.47) that an SS man, Peter OTTO, was sentenced on that day to death by hanging for taking part in the murder of 38 Polish intellectuals in Dachau concentration camp.

Reuter reported (16.8.47) that sentence of death by hanging had been passed at Dachau on Anton STINGELWAGNER, a former SS officer, and Franz MILENZ, accused of murdering numerous prisoners in the concentration camp.

/Sentences .....



AMERICAN ZONE.

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS (CONT)

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/Sentences .....

GERMANY.

AMERICAN ZONE (CONT)

Sentences on Officials of Gusen Concentration Camp. (Mauthausen)

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BRITISH ZONE.

The Stalag Luft III Trial. (see No. XXXI, p. 8 of this Digest)

Evidence was given on behalf of the prosecution rebutting the allegations made by some of the defendants that they had been subjected to pressure or violence to induce them to make statements. Colonel SCOTLAND, in charge of the London "Cage" declared the allegations to be "entirely untrue".

The trial of the 18 defendants, which began on July 1st, ended on September 2nd when the Court declared the findings.

According to the report sent by the Special Correspondent of the "Times" (3.9.47) 17 out of the 18 defendants were found not guilty of two general charges preferred against them, but each was found guilty of a specific charge of being concerned in the killing of Royal Air Force or Dominion Air Force officers who had been recaptured after having escaped from the camp at Sagan, in Silesia, in March, 1944. The eighteenth man, head of the criminal police in Breslau, was found guilty of the two general charges which were the only charges brought against him.

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GERMANY.

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GERMANY.

BRITISH ZONE (CONT)

The Stalag Luft III Trial. (Cont)

only Max WIELEN, head of the Criminal Police in Breslau and a lawyer by profession, was found guilty, were that they were concerned together, with the head of the Gestapo, the head of the Criminal Police, and others in the killing of prisoners of war who had escaped from Stalag Luft III; and that they aided and abetted other persons in carrying out orders which were contrary to the laws and usages of war.

The case for the prosecution was that the officers, who were shot within the area of Breslau, could not have been killed in the way it happened without the cooperation of the criminal Police and of WIELEN, who was responsible for security in Stalag Luft III.

The Judge Advocate, in summing up, emphasized that the officers, as prisoners of war, were only doing their duty in trying to escape, and by all rules and usages of war prisoners of war must be protected. The charges brought in the trial referred to the shooting of only 12 officers.

There was a common theme in the pleas which the defending counsel made for mitigation of sentences - that in Germany in 1944 it was impossible for anyone to act otherwise than as the accused had done when confronted with an order coming from HITLER, to disobey which was to risk death personally, and, under the Nazi practice of collective responsibility, to incur reprisals on near relatives.

On September 3rd the sentences were announced:

Emil SCHULZ,	death.	Johann SCHNEIDER,	death.
Alfred SCHIMMEL,	death.	Johannes POST,	death.
Josef GMEINER,	death.	Walter JACOBS,	death.
Walter HERBERG.	death.	Erich ZACHARIAS,	death.
Otto PREISS,	death.		
Heinrich BOSCHERT,	death.	Max WIELEN,	life imprisonment.
Emil WEIL,	death.	Walter BREITHAUPT,	life imprisonment.
Edmund GEITH,	death.		
Hans KAHLER,	death.	Artur DENKMANN,	10 years.
Oskar SCHMIDT,	death.	Wilhelm STRUVE,	10 years.

The sentences were subject to confirmation by the Commander in Chief of the Rhine Army.

Trial of Otto Maurer: Murder of Airmen.

A Reuter message from Hamburg (28.7.47) stated that Otto MAURER was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment by a British Military Court for taking part in the killing of two British airmen near Frankfurt on November 21, 1944. Three other Germans received sentences of 12, 7 and 5 years respectively. The sentences were subject to confirmation.

The Fuhlsbuettel Case.

In this case, which was tried by a military court at Hamburg from 3rd to 27 August 1947, the accused were charged with being concerned in the killing and ill-treatment of allied nationals at Fuhlsbuettel. Graf von

/BASSEWITZ .....

GERMANY.

BRITISH ZONE (CONT)

The Fuhlsbuettel Case (Cont)

BASSEWITZ-BEHR was found not guilty; TESSMANN was sentenced to 7 years' imprisonment and STANGE to 5 years'. The sentences were subject to confirmation. BASSEWITZ-BEHR was the senior SS and Police leader of the Wehrkreis X.

Forthcoming Trials.

The Commission was informed of the following:

The Altenau Case.

This trial is to be held at Hamburg on September 17th, 1947. The accused Otto FRICKE, Christophe HARTWIG and Friedrich PFEIFFER are charged with being concerned in the killing of Canadian prisoners of war at Altenau on or about 16th March 1945.

Spaniol Case.

This trial was to be held at Hamburg on September 4th 1947. The accused, Gerhard SPANIOL, is charged with being concerned in the ill-treatment of British prisoners of war at Beuthen between May 1941 and March 1944 when he was an official at the Hohenzollern Mine.

The Brauweiler Case.

This trial was to be held at Brunswick on September 3rd, 1947. The accused, Walter HIRSCHFELD and Josef SCHIFFER, are charged with being concerned in the killing of two female Russian nationals at Brauweiler on or about February 15th 1945.

The Pantke Case.

This trial is to be held at Hamburg on September 10th, 1947. Fritz PANTKE is charged with being concerned in the killing of two members of the Palestinian Auxillary Pioneer Corps, at Schomber in or about May, 1944.

Decision to release suspects.

The Times announced (19.8.47) that the British authorities had decided to submit to the nations concerned the names of persons detained in the British zone of Germany for alleged war crimes against allied countries. If the suspects were not claimed by October 1st, they would either be discharged or classified for denazification provided they were not required by the British authorities. The action was taken to clear out the German internment camps and the war crimes holding centres in the zone.

Denazification Courts in the British Zone.

Reuter reported (1.8.47) from Germany that seven special tribunals and a court of appeal in the British zone had begun proceedings against about 19,000 members of Nazi organisations described as "criminal" by the Nuremberg international tribunal last year. The organisations were the Nazi Leadership Corps, the SS, and the Gestapo and SD (Security Service)

G E R M A N Y.

R U S S I A N   Z O N E.

Russian Zone Order.

The Times correspondent in a report from Berlin dated August 17th, 1947, said: "An order by Marshal SOKOLOVSKY published to-day lays down instructions for the treatment to be accorded in the Russian zone of Germany to those Nazis who were only "nominal and non-active Fascist" and who can be weaned from Fascist ideology and allowed to take part in the construction of a peaceful, democratic Germany.

"Such former members of the Nazi Party as are innocent of crimes against the peace and security of other nations and of crimes against the German people are to be allowed not only to vote in elections but to stand as candidates. At the same time it is decreed that former active Fascists and militarists must be dismissed within the next three months from all official posts and from corresponding posts in important private business. "

G R E E C E.

Appeal for Mercy made by Schubert. (see No. XX, p.6 of this Digest)

The Daily Telegraph reported (7.8.47) that Franz SCHUBERT, the "hangman of Crete" who was sentenced to death 27 times by a Greek war crimes court for mass murders, had appealed for mercy.

N O R W A Y.

Recapture of escaped Quislings.

Ten prominent members of the Norwegian Nazi underground movement, who had broken out of jail at Bergen and escaped in a yacht across the Atlantic, were recaptured about the end of August when they landed for food and water on the island of Noronha, used as a prison by the Brazilian authorities.

P O L A N D.

Stutthof Concentration Camp Trial. (see No. XV, p.9 of this Digest)

The Commission was informed by the Polish Commissioner that the trial of a number of the Stutthof Concentration Camp personnel took place before the Polish Special Court at Gdansk in April and May 1946. Eleven of the accused were sentenced to death, one to five years and one to three years' imprisonment. Two defendants were found not guilty.

/ Trials .....



P O L A N D. (Cont)

Trials in Poland.

The Commission was informed by the Polish Commissioner on August 15th, 1947 that POLZHAUSEN, responsible for the concentration camp in Radogosz; and KUCZYNSKY, responsible for mass murder of the civilian population in Silesia were, at present, being tried in Poland and that the trial of Gauleiter FORSTER would begin in the early autumn. This trial would be followed by the trial of Joseph BUEHLER and a part of the Oświęcim camp personnel.

List of war criminals tried in Poland.

The Commission received from the Polish Commissioner on 18.8.47 a list of 227 war criminals who have been tried by the courts at Walcz, Piotrkoe, Kielce, Prudnik, Olesnica and Grudziadz. (see Weekly Bulletin No. 104).

M I S C E L L A N E O U S.

The Crime of Genocide.

The New York Times in an editorial dated 12.8.47 said: The Social and Economic Council has just finished considering an international treaty, drafted with the assistance of Professor LEMKIN, defining genocide as "a criminal act," empowering the U.N. to intervene to stop it, providing punishment for offenders, establishing an international court to try the criminals. Member governments have been asked for their comments.

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## THE FAR EAST.

### The Trial of the Major War Criminals.

The Times Correspondent in a report from Tokyo dated August 4th, 1947, said: The International Military Tribunal for the Far East was re-convened to-day after six weeks' recess. The president, Sir William WEBB, commented from the bench on the "unfavourable comparisons between the Tokyo trial and Nuremberg." "Hitler's war," Sir William pointed out, "was started in 1939, while the wars with which we are dealing here began 11 years earlier." He made it clear that he did not hold the defence responsible for the length of the Tokyo trial, now in its fourteenth month.

The Japanese counsel for the defence opened the "Pacific phase" of their case. Advancing arguments similar to the general defence case put forward last February, counsel claimed that the "unyielding diotata of the United States" (the American Note of November 26, 1941) forced Japan into the war, and that, blockaded by the United States, Britain, the Netherlands and China, Japan "merely struck first." Acceptance of the American conditions, counsel said, would have meant literally the disappearance of Japan as a military, industrial and commercial Power. It appears as though, rather than attempting to rebut the prosecution's evidence with regard to Japanese plans to acquire domination over all east Asia, the defence intends simply to ignore it, and to submit a wholly new body of evidence.

## HONG KONG.

### Sentences on Japanese Officers for ill-treatment of prisoners of war.

The Times reported (29.7.47) that Colonel NAKANO, Captain IMAMURA and Lieutenant WAKATSUGI were sentenced to imprisonment for 20 years, 15 years and 1 year respectively at a war crimes trial which ended at Hongkong on that day. They had been found guilty of ill-treating prisoners of war in camps in Formosa.

The Times also reported that Captain USHIYAMA, of the Japanese gendarmerie, had been sentenced to death for the ill-treatment of prisoners of war and causing the deaths of some of them.

### Execution of Inouye. (see No. XXI, p.15 of this Digest)

Router reported, that twice tried and twice sentenced to death, Kanao INOUE, Canadian born Japanese interpreter, was hanged at Hongkong on August 26th 1947.

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### Japanese Nationalism in Brazil.

The Tokyo news agency reported the widespread belief among Japanese colonists in San Paulo that Japan, far from having lost the war, was in full control of the Pacific and had held a victory parade in Washington. Such reports, propagated by an ultra-nationalistic organisation, were said to have led to many fatal casualties in "pitched battles" with the "opposition camp."

XXXIII

No. XXXIII.  
October 6th, 1947.

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION

(Research Office)

WAR CRIMES NEWS DIGEST.

(For internal circulation to the Commission)

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C O N T E N T S.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS:

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## SUMMARY OF EVENTS

### EUROPE.

#### AUSTRIA.

##### Identification of War Criminals.

An agency message from Vienna (5.9.47) said that, in order to assist victims of Gestapo cruelties in identifying their torturers, photographs of 1,000 Gestapo officials, who are in custody, were being exhibited, together with a model of the old Metropole Hotel, the scene of those crimes. A cross-check connects every room in the hotel with the faces of the Gestapo men who used it for interrogations.

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### GERMANY.

#### TRIALS BEFORE GERMAN COURTS.

##### The System of supervising German Courts.

Under this title The Times (8.9.47) prints an article on the system in the British zone by a Legal Correspondent; the following are some of the chief points:

"A major legal operation is proceeding in the British zone of Germany and is likely to continue for several months. It consists of the trial of 18,000 interned Germans charged with membership of the Nazi organisations declared by the Nuremberg judgment last year to be criminal. The bodies incriminated are the SS., the Gestapo, and the Leader Corps of the National Socialist Party. Each person interned because he was believed to have been active in one of these bodies will be brought before a Germany Jury Court (Spruchgericht), composed of a Judge and two laymen. A higher instance is provided by a "senate" of three judicial persons, which hears appeals on questions of law. The tribunals sit near the camps. It is for the prosecution, represented by a State official, to prove that the accused (1) either voluntarily entered the organisation knowing its purpose, or (2) failed to retire from it when he had full knowledge, or (3) took part personally in criminal acts of the body. The punishments are imprisonment up to 20 years, forfeiture of property, and fine. Only a few hundred cases have thus far been disposed of. ....

"The resultant trials follow the prolonged process of denazification inquiries, which is also in part conducted by German tribunals and is far from complete.

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It ...

Germany:  
Trials before German Courts  
(Cont.)

"It would, however, be a misconception of German justice in the British zone to infer that these extraordinary legal purges are the main activity. In fact, the full apparatus of Courts in three instances has been at work for more than a year, dealing with criminal and civil cases. ...

"To-day 2,000 approved German Judges fill the three grades of jurisdiction: magistrates, District Courts and Courts of Appeal. An English legal division exercises general supervision. It is composed of King's Counsel, barristers, and solicitors, and has a representative in every important centre in the zone. ...

"At the same time a British jurisdiction, parallel with the German, deals with criminal cases in which British and allied nationals are involved and also with certain German crimes. The military courts, which for a time dealt with all serious criminal cases, are now displaced by Courts of the Control Commission. The British Courts are in two instances (1) Summary and High Court, which try cases according to their gravity, and (2) the Court of Appeal, which has a jurisdiction similar to that of the Court of Criminal Appeal in England. It can hear appeals either from the prosecution or from the convicted person, quash or vary sentences, order a fresh trial, and substitute one conviction for another. ...

"British control over German Courts is exercised rather by indirection than by direction. The instrument is the Legal Division, which has liaison officers with the supreme German bodies and drafts legislation which is issued by the Quadripartite Control Council. The channel of control over the German Courts and Legislatures is the German Central Legal Office. ...

"The link with the British Legal Division is furnished by liaison officers who work in the central office at Hamburg. .... An annual conference is held in the Rhine town of Godesberg, which has sinister memories for the world. A project is also under consideration to bring a number of younger lawyers and legal students for short courses to England to get knowledge of English law and English institutions."

War Crimes Documents available to Germans.

News of Germany reported from Munich (22.9.47) that documents of the Nuremberg war crimes trials had recently been made available to German authorities for study. The ministries for political liberation and justice in the U.S. Zone had appointed a commission to determine which cases tried by military courts require German court or Spruchkammer proceedings.

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A number of letters appeared in the British Press in September condemning the system by which men of the SS were being detained for trial as members of criminal organisations, in pursuance of the judgment of the International Military Tribunal.

(See Research Circular No. 27.)

False ...



Germany:  
Trials before German Courts:  
(Cont.)

False Medical Certificates for Internees.

The Frankfort radio announced (11.9.47) that, according to the De-Nazification Department of the United States Military Government, about 75 per cent of the reports of medical examinations carried out in the Augsburg camp by German doctors were untrue. Among those recommended for release on medical grounds were some who had committed most serious offences. The de-Nazification Ministers of the U.S. Zone States had therefore been informed that application for the premature release of internees must be endorsed by a U.S. doctor or a German doctor known as an anti-Nazi.

Fritzsche's Appeal: Dittmar as a witness.

The Times (19.9.47) reported that Kurt von DITTMAR, Goebbels's assistant, was to give evidence at Fritzsche's appeal against his sentence by a de-Nazification court.

AMERICAN ZONE.

War Crimes Prosecutions to end this year.

The DPD again reported from Berlin (11.9.47) that official U.S. quarters in Berlin had announced that after January 1st, 1948, no new indictments would be lodged either with the U.S. Military Courts at Dachau or with the Nuremberg Court. Applications for extradition of war criminals or traitors from the U.S. Occupation Zone to other countries must be submitted before November 1st, 1947. After this date they would only be considered if justified by individual circumstances; evidence substantiating applications for extradition of war criminals might however be submitted until December 31st of this year.

In connection with the same subject the British Northern Echo (13.9.47) reported from Germany that no new war crimes trials were to be started in Nuremberg after January, 1948, and that all trials should be completed by June, including that of the Krupp organisation. Defendants who were still untried would pass on to military government or German courts.

As of August 1st, it was reported officially by OMGUS that the 7708th War Crimes Group in Munich had processed 3,425 extradition requests.

The Trial of Meissner.

News of Germany (17.4.47) reported that it was officially announced that the trial of Otto MEISSNER, former Nazi state minister and chief of the presidential chancellery would probably be postponed because he had to be transferred to University Hospital for treatment. He was to be tried with a group of former high Nazi state officials.

(See News Digest No. XXX, p. 4:  
Reichs Chancellery Trial.)

Acquittal ...

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- 4 -

Germany  
American Zone (Cont.)

Acquittal of SS Colonel Otto Skorzeny.  
(See News Digest No. XXXII, p. 6)

The Press reported (10.9.47) that a court of American colonels sitting at Dachau had acquitted SKORZENY and some of his subordinates in the 150th Panzer Brigade, who were charged with wearing U.S. uniform during the battle of the Ardennes. An A.P. despatch (12.9.47) quoted "a high-ranking U.S. attorney" as saying he believed that the court may have used this line of reasoning:

"Skorzeny ... and his men wore the uniforms of the enemy in battle. They admitted it. The Geneva Convention, the basis of all laws of war, forbids that. Men caught wearing the uniform of the enemy are deemed to be spies and may be shot on the spot. But Skorzeny and his men were not caught red-handed. And the Geneva Convention does not clearly cover that contingency."

The A.P. correspondent comments ironically that it seems to be a matter not of what a man did, but what he was caught doing.

[Nevertheless, it has not been the custom to sentence men for such offences unless captured en flagrant délit. - R.O.]

TRIALS OF CONCENTRATION CAMP OFFICIALS.

An agency message from Germany (11.9.47) stated that a U.S. War Crimes Court at Dachau sentenced to death by hanging Otto KLEINGUENTHER and Christian WOHLGRAB, former SS men and medical orderlies at Mauthausen concentration camp. They were found guilty of murdering inmates by injections of petrol. Steffen MALLECHITS, N.C.O. of the SS., in charge of the transports to the gas chambers at Hartheim Castle in Austria, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, and Rolf BRANDT, SS. dentist, who pulled out the golden teeth of victims and made a fortune, to three years' imprisonment.

Reuter reported from Dachau (15.9.47) that Joseph KISCH, former SS Gruppenführer, who killed 47 Allied paratroopers (40 Dutch, six British and one American) in Mauthausen Concentration Camp in 1944, was sentenced to death by a United States military court. When the Allied soldiers were taken to the camp, KISCH forced them to pass through a cordon of sentinels, who shot them as they were "trying to escape". Two other former SS officers, Herbert FUELLGRAF and Josef HAIDER, who took part in the murders, were sentenced to life imprisonment.

News of Germany reported (15.9.47) that a U.S. military court at Dachau had sentenced to death five former guards of the Gusen camp (a branch of Mauthausen) for participation in the murder and maltreatment of thousands of inmates.

A B.U.P. message from Munich (25.9.47) said:

"Found guilty of killing, beating, torturing and starving Allied nationals and prisoners of war, a former SS concentration camp official, Georges SCHALLERMAIR, has been sentenced by a war crimes court at Dachau to death by hanging."

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Germany  
Trials of Concentration  
Camp Officials (cont.)

An agency message from Germany (11.9.47) said:

"Life sentences were passed by a U.S. military court at Dachau on four former guards of a concentration camp at Melk, in lower Austria, accused of shooting 21 inmates who fell exhausted on a 'death march' during evacuation of the camp in April, 1945."

An agency message from Frankfurt (27.9.47) said that five Nazi war criminals had been sentenced to death by hanging by United States military courts. Among them was Max SEIDL, SS guard, who helped to gas 136 Czech women in reprisal for the assassination of HEYDRICH.

An A.P. message from Frankfurt (20.9.47) said:

"Four guards from the Dachau and Mauthausen concentration camps have been hanged at Landsberg prison, following war crimes convictions."

An agency message (27.9.47) reported that two former SS men, Josef NEUNER, and Hermann FISCH, and a former German policeman, Heinrich OTTE, were hanged in Landsberg prison for the murder of United States airmen who landed by parachute, and for killing prisoners at Kaufering Concentration Camp.

GENERAL HALDER'S APPOINTMENT.

The DENA Agency reported (4.9.47) from Nuremberg:

"The Press Officer announced that the former General, Franz HALDER, one time chief of the general staff of the German army, is no longer a prisoner of war, but an employee with the History Division of the U.S. Army European Command in Neustadt, near Kassel."

[HALDER is on the UNWCC list of war criminals.]

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Execution of Flossenb. rg Officials (see Digest XXVI, p. 5).

The Times (reported (3.10.47) that eight members of the staff at Flossenberg, convicted last January by a United States court of war crimes, were hanged at Landsberg, including the executioner Erhard WOLF; Albert ROLLER and Ludwig SCHWARZ, who killed laggards on evacuation marches; Joseph WURST, who had 100 inmates shot to death; and Christian BUSCH who beat to death a number of others.

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AMERICAN ZONE ...

20-9

- 6 -

GERMANY

AMERICAN ZONE

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

Progress during September, 1947.

No. 3 Case: Ministry of Justice officials.

Defendant ROTHENBURG attempted to commit suicide 25.8.47.

In the first part of September witnesses for the prosecution gave evidence showing the unscrupulous manner in which CUHORST conducted trials. CUHORST, giving evidence in his own defence, said that 20% of his trials were political cases. Defendant BARNICKEL testified that he was opposed to increased severity of sentences introduced in 1942. Defendants PETERSEN and NEBERLUNG, late of the People's Court, declined to give evidence.

Witnesses on behalf of CUHORST admitted that his Stuttgart court had a reputation for harsh sentences. Defendant OERSCHHEY, former judge at Nuremberg, said he had given 60 death sentences in two years.

In the third week of September, defendant ALSTOTTER, giving evidence in his defence, denied that his courts had ordered sterilisation only because the subject was a non-Aryan. Testifying on behalf of ROTHENBERGER, he said that the latter tried unsuccessfully to prevent the Nazi Party from influencing the trials.

The Tribunal announced that final arguments would start on 13.10.47 irrespective of the time allotted to the completion of the evidence.

No. 4 Case: The "W.V.H.A." (Concentration Camp Administration) Trial.

The defendant, Oswald POHL, who had given evidence, was recalled for questioning by the Tribunal. He admitted having appointed HOESS as commandant of Auschwitz, knowing that he was in charge of the extermination programme.

The court went into recess until 15.9.47, and reconvened on 15.9.47 for the final day of rebuttal. In their closing speeches the defence counsel took the same line as that urged during the presentation of their evidence, namely that Oswald POHL and his assistants never participated in concentration camp crimes or in atrocities against Jews. In many cases they did not know of concentration camp conditions until they saw documents in this trial; and in instances where they had knowledge that concentration camp inmates worked in WVHA economic enterprises they were either ignorant of bad working conditions or they tried to improve them.

Reuter reported (17.9.47) from Nuremberg that the prosecution has ended its case on 18.9.47 by demanding the death penalty on Oswald POHL and his 17 co-defendants.

No. 5 Case: Trial of Flick and other industrialists.

The court heard further witnesses for the defence. Defendant BURKART, testifying in his own behalf, denied knowledge of any ill-treatment of foreign workers. Other witnesses, former FLICK employees, took the same line, though one of them admitted that concentration camp inmates were employed.

Subsequently ...

Germany - American Zone  
Second Nuremberg Trials  
(cont.)

No. 5 Case : Trial of Flick and other Industrialists (cont.)

Subsequently, ROECKLING, a steel magnate, and war-time plenipotentiary for iron production in occupied countries, gave evidence for defendant BURKART; he thought it possible that administrators, on the high level, of German factories did not know that eastern labourers were forced to work in them.

Otto FLICK, defendant FLICK's son, spoke of the good living conditions of Ukrainians in the Rombach plant. Defendant KALETSCH denied knowledge of ill-treatment of foreign workers, or of employment of slave labour from concentration camps.

Case No. 6: The I.G. Farben Trial.

In the first week of September the prosecutor, Major SPRECHER, produced documentary evidence showing how I.G. FARBEN supported the Nazi Party in its early days, and how the firm had developed secret processes for armament purposes.

Defendants BRUEGEMANN and WURSTER were too ill to attend the court.

Judge SHAKE, the presiding judge, decided to sever the case against the former. The defendant WURSTER attended the court on 17.9.47, and was arraigned, but was excused from attendance on condition that his counsel would be present until he was well enough to attend regularly.

A British witness, Brigadier John MORGAN, a member of the Control Council after 1918, told how members of I.G. FARBEN had hampered the efforts of the Allies to obtain the secrets of manufacture of explosives.

Case No. 7: The "Hostages" Trial.

Early in September General Ferd JODL (brother of Alfred JODL, the major war criminal) and the Norwegian General DAHL gave evidence for the prosecution concerning the evacuation of Norway by order of the defendant, General RENDULIC, and the destruction of towns, which, DAHL said, was not a military necessity. The Court then went into recess till 15.9.47.

During the recess, three of the judges visited Hammerfest in the north of Norway to satisfy themselves as to the extent of the destruction.

Case No. 9: The Einsatzgruppen Trial.

The Press reported from Nuremberg (16.9.47) the opening of the above case on the previous day. The defendants were Police General Otto OHLENDORFF and 22 others. (For list see Research Circular No. 24)

All the defendants pleaded Not guilty. Two of them, Otto RASCH and Edward STRAUCH, were taken out of court owing to illness. The Times correspondent wrote that Mr. B. Ferencz, the chief prosecutor, stated before the trial opened that the main question was to "fix the

principles ...



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Germany - American Zone  
Second Nuremberg Trials  
(Cont.)

Case No. 9: The Einsatzgruppen Trial (cont.)

principles of international law according to which it is a crime to persecute and kill people whose only crime is their religion or political opinion. " He added that the prosecution believed it could present its case in three days and that witnesses might not be called.

The message added that OHLENDORFF had admitted responsibility for killing 90,000 people when he gave evidence in the trial of the major war criminals before the International Military Tribunal.

BRITISH ZONE.

Extradition and release of War Criminals in the British Zone.  
(See Doct. Mis 108 and News Digest No. XXXII, p. 8.)

The Commission was informed that on 14.7.47, information was passed to all Allied Missions concerned that war criminals claimed by them and now under arrest in the British Zone in Germany would be released on 1st October, unless they had been taken over by that date.

All persons subject to extradition or release by the date indicated were held at the War Criminals Holding Centre at Fischbeck.

The Commander-in-Chief, B.A.O.R., had assumed responsibility for extradition of war criminals and had approved a procedure by which all requests for extradition would be investigated.

TRIAL RESULTS.

The Volkenrode Case.

The Commission was informed that a British Military Court held at Hamburg 27th August-4th September, 1947, had passed the following sentences:

DINGE, GAWLICZEK, and BUSSEM, sentenced to death by hanging.

The accused were charged with being concerned in the killing of an Allied airman at Volkenrode on or about 18th October, 1944; sentences subject to confirmation.

Trial of Jakob Hamacher.

Reuter reported (29.8.47) that a military court, sitting at Brunswick, had sentenced a former Gestapo official, Jakob HAMACHER, to prison for 15 years, for taking part in the execution of Canadian Air Force officers who made a forced landing during the war.

The ...

The Fuhlsbüttel Prison Case.

Reuter reported (25.9.47) that a British war crimes court sitting at Hamburg had passed sentence of death by hanging on Willi TESSMANN, former Governor of Fuhlsbüttel prison, Hamburg, for ill-treating Allied subjects in the gaol. Two former warders, SCHUETTE and HENNINGS, were also sentenced to death, and four other members of the staff to sentences ranging from five to fifteen years. Two were acquitted.

[TESSMANN had been sentenced to imprisonment on a previous charge, see News Digest No. XXXII, page 7.]

FORTHCOMING TRIALS.

The Commission was informed that the following persons would be tried at Brunswick on 3.10.47, charged with killing and ill-treating Yugoslav prisoners of war: Berthold MEINBURG, Friedrich GRIEGER.

The Kiel-Hasse Case.

The Commission was informed that the following persons would shortly be on trial as War Criminals:

MUELLER, BAUMANN, JENSEN, STENDER, DIER, UNRUH, FORCK, KLOSTERMANN, KLEINSTEUBER, Ruth.

Extradition of Count von Bassowitz-Behr.

The Times reported from Berlin (28.9.47) that Count von BASSEWITZ-BEHR, formerly SS. and police chief at Hamburg, was extradited to the Russians on 16.9.47, on a charge relating to the killing of 45,000 Russian citizens in the area of Dniepropetrovsk. The legal division of the British Control Commission had decided that the Soviet Union had made out a prima facie case for the extradition.

[NOTE: Count von BASSEWITZ-BEHR was acquitted by a British Court at Hamburg on August 27th, 1947 (see News Digest No. XXXII, p. 7). He was on the UNWCC List, wanted for trial by the French (Charge 1035).]

The Stalag Luft 3 Trial (See Digest No. XXXII).

Several letters appeared in the British Press criticising the sentences, on the ground that the defendants were bound to obey orders. In regard to one such letter the Chairman of the UNWCC wrote to The Times as follows:

"Sir,— I regret that the Vice-Provost of Worcester College, Oxford, has forgotten the decent and salutary rule that public comment on judicial matters while still sub judice should be deferred until the final confirmation of the sentences has been given. I cannot help also remarking that the tone of his letter is derogatory to the distinguished British officers who formed the Court and sat for 60 days to hear and decide the case.

"Yours faithfully,

(signed) WRIGHT."

THE FAR EAST ...

T H E F A R E A S T

J A P A N.

The Trial of the Japanese Major War Criminals.

The Times Tokyo correspondent cabled (25.9.47) that the Tribunal had rejected an affidavit by Mr. GREW, former U.S. Ambassador in Japan, and parts of an affidavit by the British General PIGGOTT, on the ground that these parts were "statements of opinion".

General TANAKA, ex-head of the Japanese Political Police testified that imperial sanction was secured to try and to execute airmen. A special law was promulgated towards the end of July 1942, regarding the treatment of flyers who raided the Japanese homeland. The same law was to be effective in areas controlled by the Japanese armies in China. TANAKA further stated that the law which prescribed the death penalty was passed "so that if flyers were executed it would cause members of the American Air Force to fear their possible fate and thus desist from bombing Japan."

Colonel HASHIMOTO, one of the accused, admitted under cross-examination that he had advocated the domination by the Japanese people of Asia and the Pacific Ocean; this would have involved the establishment of Japanese naval bases in Australia and New Zealand.

The American chief prosecutor, Mr. KEENAN, put forward the argument that the accused "seized the power of Japan and defrauded the Japanese people into believing that the Emperor was behind the war with the rescript issued a few hours after the attack." Sir William WEBB ruled that this argument "was contrary to the evidence of the prosecution."

An A.P. message from Tokyo (25.9.47) said that Mr. KEENAN had absolved the Emperor HIROHITO from responsibility for the war, and declared that he had opposed it, on the eve of Pearl Harbour.

The News Chronicle correspondent, writing from Tokyo (19.9.47) said that the trial was costing £2,500 per day; and that the Allied personnel engaged numbered 616. The court sat five days weekly. One of the reasons for the length of the trial was meticulous translation.

The AP reported (24.9.47) that the ex-Premier TOJO, is so resigned to death that he has already assumed his posthumous name, in accordance with Japanese custom.

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Release of Class "A" Suspects.

An Agency message from Tokyo (11.9.47) said that Mr. KEENAN, Chief U.S. prosecutor, had announced that 23 "Class A" Japanese war crime suspects had been released in Tokyo because investigations, while revealing justification for their arrest, did not warrant their being tried by a tribunal.

CHINA ...



T H E F A R E A S T

C H I N A .

Arrest of Karl Schmidt, German Agent.

The New York Times (1.9.47) reported from Peiping that Karl SCHMIDT, former Chief of the Nazi Gestapo in North China, had been arrested in Peiping, where he had been hiding for two years, being "wanted" both by the Japanese and the Chinese.

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H O N G K O N G .

The Behar Trial.

The A.P. reported from Hongkong (19.9.47) that the Japanese Rear-Admiral SAKUNJU and Captain MAYZUMI were summoned for trial there on charges of killing 65 survivors of the British Motor vessel "Behar" on April 18th, 1944.

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B U R M A .

An agency message (5.9.47) reported that a war crimes court at Rangoon had sentenced ten officers of the Japanese secret police to be hanged for murdering 26 Burmese civilians in 1945.

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XXXIV

No. XXXIV.

November 13th 1947.

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION.

(Research Office)

WAR CRIMES NEWS DIGEST.

(For internal circulation to the Commission).

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RELEASE AND EXTRADITION OF WAR CRIMINALS IN EUROPE.

This question was the subject of announcements by the American and British authorities in Germany and of criticisms of their policy in this matter by the delegates of the U.S.S.R, Poland and Yugoslavia at Lake Success and by the Albanian Government.

Announcements of Release Policy in the British and U.S. Zones.

In connection with the fixing of a time limit for the extradition or release of persons charged as War Criminals (see Digest XXXIII, p.8) the Commission was informed that the British authorities would release such prisoners on 1.11.47 unless a request for extradition had already been granted or applied for. This instruction also applied to prisoners held in custody in the United Kingdom and in the Middle East.

So far as the United States zone in Germany was concerned no change had been intimated, the last day of release or extradition being still November 1st, 1947.

In the debate in the United Nations Assembly, 1.11.47 (see below) Mr. MACNEIL, representing Great Britain, repeated that Britain intended to release all prisoners held on war criminal charges unless their surrender had been requested by other Allied Governments. Britain, he said, could not accept further responsibility for their feeding and guarding because the Government wanting them had not proceeded to bring them to trial.

Albanian demand for extradition of "collaborators".

The Times reported on 15.10.47 that the British Government had refused a request by the Albanian Government for the surrender of certain Albanians alleged to be war criminals. In their reply the British Government pointed out that they recognised no obligation to surrender to the Albanian authorities Albanian nationals accused of collaboration. The protocol of the Moscow conference, to which the Albanian Government referred in making their request, concerned Germans who had committed war crimes, and had nothing to do with Albania.

Debates in the United Nations on Extradition Policy.

In the Legal Committee on 16.10.47, Great Britain and the United States were sharply criticised by Yugoslavia, with the support of the U.S.S.R and neighbouring States, for ignoring the Assembly resolution of 1946 and refusing to hand over Axis war criminals for trial in the countries where they committed their crimes. According to the Times, 16.10.47, the main Yugoslav charges were: (i) The United States authorities in Germany and Austria extradited only 20 out of 198 war criminals whose extradition was sought in 1946 and 1947. (ii) The British authorities handed over only 18 out of 117. (iii) The Allied authorities in Italy had failed to hand over one of 759 war criminals whose extradition was requested.

In replying for the United States Mr. FAHY deprecated the practice of invoking the war criminals procedure against political opponents who might or might not be within the jurisdiction of the United States authorities.

Sir Hartley SHAWCROSS, who replied for Great Britain, said that it had always been the intention of his Government that war criminals against whom an honest case had been made out should be extradited. He insisted, however, that prima facie evidence of guilt must be produced. Britain would not extradite persons who had become emigrants owing to some change in a political system.

/When .....



When the same subject was debated in the Assembly on 31.10.47, the Yugoslav delegation moved a resolution demanding that Governments of member States should take immediate steps for arresting and extraditing war criminals, so that they might be punished under the laws of the countries where their crimes were committed; the Yugoslav delegate also proposed that Secretary General should require all Members to report on the extent to which they had carried out the Assembly's resolution of the previous year in regard to war criminals.

The new resolution was opposed by the British and American delegates, and the Assembly adopted, in its place, a British resolution noting the progress made in the extradition and punishment of war criminals and recognising that when extradition is demanded prima facie evidence must be produced regarding the identity and guilt of the alleged war criminals.

The Moscow radio, 4.11.47, severely criticised the British resolution which, it said, established "a new procedure under which the victim countries would have to apply all over again for the extradition of war criminals and furnish conclusive legal proof of their guilt ...". After arguing that the British resolution ran counter to international agreements for the surrender of war criminals, the Moscow radio stated: "During the debate it was disclosed that Yugoslavia had demanded the extradition of 2,104 persons, but only 125 of them have been surrendered by the Anglo American authorities .... not a single Italian war criminal had been turned over to Yugoslavia, though more than 700 Italian names figure on List A alone. Not a single war criminal has been extradited, up to the present, to the Government of Ethiopia: the Polish, Ukrainian and Byelorussian delegates cited numerous instances showing that the Anglo American authorities refused to hand over war criminals discovered in their zones although the guilt of those persons had been fully proved and admit of no doubt ...".

#### SUMMARY OF EVENTS IN EUROPE.

##### A U S T R I A.

###### Conviction of Keibitsch.

The Tanyug agency reported from Klagenfurt, 1.11.47, that the notorious Nazi Mayor KEIBITSCH had been sentenced by the Klagenfurt court to life imprisonment with confiscation of his property. During the proceedings the Slovene organisations in Carinthia passed resolutions demanding that KEIBITSCH be sentenced to death.

##### UNITED STATES ZONE OF AUSTRIA.

###### Arrest of Bormann (Jr)

A B.U.P message from Vienna, 30.10.47, stated that Martin BORMANN, 17 year old son of the Nazi leader Martin BORMANN, had been arrested by Austrian police near Salzburg and handed to the U.S. authorities. He was intensively questioned for three days but said that he had never seen his father since the end of the war and knew nothing of him.

/BELGIUM ....

BELGIUM.

War Crimes Trials to begin in 1948.

Reuter reported from Brussels, 20.10.47, that trials of German war criminals would begin in Belgium early in the New Year. A large contingent of Germans accused of war crimes by the Belgians had already arrived in Brussels and a further contingent was expected soon. General REEDER, head of the German civil administration in Belgium and Northern France during the occupation was among those scheduled to stand trial.

An order empowering the Belgian military courts to stage such trials was recently published in the Belgian official gazette.

GERMANY.

TRIALS BY GERMAN COURTS.

Application for Release of SCHACHT. (see No. XXVIII, p.2 of this Digest)

News of Germany reported, 15.10.47, that an appeal had been made to the Baden denazification Minister for the release of Dr. Hjalmar SCHACHT, former Reichsbank President, on medical grounds. Dr. SCHACHT was in hospital in the Ludwigsburg labour camp serving a sentence of 8 years awarded to him by a denazification court on 13.5.47 after his acquittal by the International Military Tribunal.

Thyssen to be tried.

The Daily Telegraph reported, 27.10.47, that Fritz THYSEN, former German industrialist, was among 30 Germans who had been turned over by the Allies to a Hamburg denazification court.

First Death sentence under Order 201.

The Berlin radio, 25.10.47, reported from Chemnitz, in the Russian zone, that the first death sentence, in pursuance of the Soviet Order No. 201, was passed by the Chemnitz Criminal court. The defendant was the former military commander of Zschoppau, who shot a man whom he had denounced for anti-Nazi activities on the orders of a Standarten-fuehrer. The defendant was included in the list of major war criminals and sentenced to death; his property was confiscated.

Helene Schwaerzel's appeal. ( see No. XX1, p.2 of this Digest)

An agency message, 4.11.47, stated that the sentence of 15 years' imprisonment passed on SCHWAERZEL by a Berlin court for denouncing Dr. GORDELER, Mayor of Leipzig, a participant in the plot against HITLER in July, 1944, was reduced on appeal, by the Frankfurt court, to six years' and loss of civic rights.

/ AMERICAN ZONE ....



DC-9

AMERICAN ZONE.

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

The 23 Doctors and Scientists. (Case No. 1)

News of Germany reported from Nuremberg that Rudolf BRANDT, a former adjutant to HIMMLER, had now appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court. He was the only one of the seven defendants in Case No. 1, under sentence of death, who had only appealed to General CLAY for clemency.

Ministry of Justice Trial. (Case No. 3)

This case was in recess till 13.10.47 when the summation speeches of the prosecution were made followed by the defence attorneys' statements and final pleas of the defendants. The court adjourned on October 18th to write its judgment.

The "W.V.H.A." Trial. (Case No. 4)

Agency messages, 4.11.47, reported that the court gave judgment on the previous day. Four of the defendants were sentenced to death, viz: Oswald POHL, head of the "W.V.H.A" which managed the concentration camps; Georg LOERNER, deputy to POHL; Franz EIRENSCHMALZ, largely responsible for building the crematoriums and gas chambers in the concentration camps and Karl SOMMER, head of the labour allocation division.

According to Press reports three other defendants, including August FRANK, received life sentences; and three, including Josef VUGT, auditor, were acquitted.

The trial, which opened in April 1947, involved charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity including the enslavement and extermination of millions of people. The destruction of the Warsaw ghetto in 1943 was part of the evidence against POHL.

The Trial of Flick and other Industrialists. (Case No. 5)

Ex Air Marshal MILCH, convicted in Case No. 2, gave evidence for the defence, relating especially to the allocation and treatment of prisoners of war workers in the industries. The aim of the defence appeared to be to show that employers were powerless in these matters. MILCH's evidence included tirades against Churchill and against stenographers of the Planning Board.

The I.G. Farben Trial. (Case No. 6)

Witnesses for the prosecution gave evidence on the aggressive war count about Farben-sponsored intelligence agencies in the United States.

The "Hostages Trial. (Case No. 7)

The Defendant KUNTZE gave evidence in his own defence denying all knowledge of arrests being effected for racial reasons. The prosecution produced documentary evidence showing that it was known that inhabitants were to be executed in retaliation for illegal acts. The defendant, FUERTSCH, chief of staff of an Army group, gave evidence that he was unable to object to HITLER's orders for killing hostages. The defence asked for the text of an order, allegedly issued by General EISENHOWER, allowing the taking of hostages, and referred to an order by the French

/General ...



Germany - American Zone.  
Second Nuremberg Trials.  
(cont)

The Hostages Trial. (Case No. 7) (cont)

General LECLERC threatening to shoot 5 German soldiers for each Frenchman murdered in Strasbourg.

The Daily Telegraph reported, 7.10.47, from Nuremberg that Field Marshal von WEICHS, one of the defendants, had been declared unfit to plead because of ill health, and had been admitted to hospital.

The "R.K.F.D.V." Trial. (Case No. 8) (see Digest No. XXXI, p.5)

The trial opened on 10.10.47. Reuter's Nuremberg correspondent said that all the defendants pleaded not guilty to war crimes and crimes against humanity through enslavement, abortion and extermination for the safeguarding of the superiority of the Nordic blood. The one woman defendant, Inge VIERMETZ, was charged with selecting "Aryan" children for adoption by Nazi families. The race and settlement office was also accused of executing and imprisoning "undesirable" non-Germans married to Germans or parents of German children, and of sponsoring a programme of forced abortion among Jews and slave labourers.

The accused were further charged with carrying out a programme of genocide against foreign nationals and prisoners of war in order to weaken the European nations.

On 4.11.47 evidence was given about the kidnapping of the children of Lidice, when that village was destroyed in 1942.

The Einsatzgruppen Trial. (Case No. 9)

OHLENDORFF gave evidence in his own defence accepting responsibility for the deeds of his Einsatzgruppe, but insisting that the orders to kill undesirables had to be obeyed; he said that the figure of 90,000 executions which he gave the International Military Tribunal was exaggerated and that only people who were dangerous to security were killed. The defendant NAUMANN said that the Fuhrer's order to kill Jews, Communists and gypsies was necessary to achieve the aims of the war.

A B.U.P. message from Nuremberg, 28.10.47, reported that the defendant Brigadier Franz SIX, giving evidence on 27.10.47, said that the only reason he took part in the invasion of Russia was because he wanted to study archives, protect churches and spread culture.

The Krupp Works Trial. (Case No. 10)

According to a B.U.P. message from Nuremberg, 3.11.47, Mr. KAUFMANN, a U.S. prosecutor, said that the trial of Alfred KRUPP and 11 former senior officials of the Krupp works would open about a fortnight after the above date.

(For list of the defendants in this case see Digest XXXII, p.4.)

The "Wilhelmstrasse" Trial. (Case No. 11)

The Times reported from Frankfurt, 6.11.47, that the indictment in this case was served on the previous day on the 18 defendants most of whom held high office in the Wilhelmstrasse or in German banking or industry. The list was headed by Baron Ernst von WEIZSACKER, Secretary of State at the German Foreign Office until 1943 and subsequently Ambassador

/at .....

Germany - American Zone.  
Second Nuremberg Trials.  
(cont)

The "Wilhelmstrasse" Trial. (Cont)

at the Vatican. Other defendants included the chiefs of the presidential and Reich chanceries, Otto MEISSNER and Hans LAMMERS; Wilhelm KEPPNER, one of HITLER's personal advisers, Karl RITTER, Ribbentrop's liaison officer with the Wehrmacht; Richard DARRE, Reich Minister for Food and Agriculture; Otto DIETRICH, Nazi Press Chief; and Count Schwerin von KROSIGK, Reich Minister of Finance.

All the defendants are charged collectively with planning and waging aggressive war and with a detailed series of war crimes.

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Ex-Gauleiter Lauterbacher again acquitted.

An A.P. message from Dachau, 2.10.47, reported that LAUTERBACHER had been tried by a U.S. Military court together with 9 other defendants for being concerned in murders of shot down airmen. The court acquitted LAUTERBACHER, 1.10.47, and three other defendants; six of his subordinates were convicted. The message added that LAUTERBACHER who was accused of passing on orders from HIMMLER and BORMANN to kill the airmen, successfully argued that he had not passed on the orders but had burned them, because he disagreed with them.

A British Court last year acquitted LAUTERBACHER, owing to insufficient evidence, on charges of ordering the deaths of hundreds of inmates of Hamelin prison.

Sentences on Mauthausen Officials.

The Times reported from Frankfurt, 23.10.47, that five death sentences and a sentence of 20 years' imprisonment had been passed by an American war crimes court at Dachau on former officials and guards of Mauthausen concentration camp. The accused were convicted of beating, hanging, drowning and shooting prisoners. Those sentenced to death were Max ARNOLD, SS captain, commandant of an outcamp; Hans SIELAFF, SS sergeant; Wilhelm KAUFF, SS corporal; Emil GAY, SS sergeant and Rudolf KANSMEYER of the camp police. Erwin KAUFF was sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment.

Murders of Airmen: Death sentence on Hellmuth.

Reuter reported from Frankfurt, 10.10.47, that the American Military court at Dachau had sentenced to death by hanging Otto HELLMUTH the former Nazi Gauleiter of the district of "Main-Franconia," together with seven others who stood trial with him. HELLMUTH was accused of responsibility for killing allied pilots and was found Guilty of having passed an order to shoot allied air-men who had crash landed. Richard SCHULZ, official in the Berlin police department; Kurt HANS, former head of the criminal police in Wurzburg and Norbert ENDRES, former Nazi district chief of Bad Neustadt, Franconia, were found Guilty of the same crime and also sentenced to death.

/Trial ...



Germany- American Zone.  
(cont)

Trial Statistics in the U.S. Zone.

News of Germany reported from Dachau, 27.10.47, that the U.S. military courts had tried 1,500 persons on war crimes charges. Court statistics show that 28 percent of all defendants were sentenced to death, while 15 percent were acquitted; 12 percent were sentenced to life imprisonment and the remaining 45 percent received prison terms ranging from one to 20 years.

Another 177 persons were still under arrest pending investigations which would determine whether they were to be tried before the end of the year.

German Staff Officers to be tried by Spruchkammern. (see Digest No. XXXIII, p.5.)

News of Germany reported from Frankfurt, 27.10.47, a statement of Colonel POTTER (US), under whose supervision 240 German general staff officers have been writing the German side of the history of the war, that they would not receive any special consideration in denazification trials and would be tried individually by Spruchkammern at Neustadt.

Attempts to revive Nazism.

News of Germany reported from Muhlendorf, 20.10.47, in the U.S. zone that members of a football club had collected 400 marks for a former lieutenant in the SS., August BREITENWIESER, who on October 9 had been classified a major offender and given a five year term by a Spruchkammer. BREITENWIESER was convicted of participating in court martial proceedings resulting in the execution of three resistance leaders in April 1945. During and after the denazification court trial disorders developed. Stones were thrown at an automobile carrying prosecution witnesses; Spruchkammer members were attacked and the court president was insulted.

BRITISH ZONE.

The "Shootings" Case. (see Digest No. XXXIII, p.9)

In this case, which was being tried at Brunswick by a British Military Court, 3 - 9 October, 1947, the defendants were charged with killing and ill-treating Yugoslav nationals at Brunswick-Meinburg about March 1945. BERTHOLD and GREIGER were both found guilty and sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment.

Captain von Ruckteschell's sentence reduced. (see Digest No. XXVIII, p.5.)

The Press reported, 4.10.47, that the sentence of 10 years passed by a British war crimes court at Hamburg on this officer had been reduced to seven years. RUCKTESCHELL, who cruised the North Atlantic for three years sinking Allied ships, was found guilty of continuing to shell the British merchantman, Davisian, in 1940, although his radio instructions to the ship had been obeyed.

/Forthcoming .....



Germany- American Zone.  
(cont)

Trial Statistics in the U.S. Zone.

News of Germany reported from Dachau, 27.10.47, that the U.S. military courts had tried 1,500 persons on war crimes charges. Court statistics show that 28 percent of all defendants were sentenced to death, while 15 percent were acquitted; 12 percent were sentenced to life imprisonment and the remaining 45 percent received prison terms ranging from one to 20 years.

Another 177 persons were still under arrest pending investigations which would determine whether they were to be tried before the end of the year.

German Staff Officers to be tried by Spruchkammern. (see Digest No. XXXIII, p.5.)

News of Germany reported from Frankfurt, 27.10.47, a statement of Colonel POTTER (US), under whose supervision 240 German general staff officers have been writing the German side of the history of the war, that they would not receive any special consideration in denazification trials and would be tried individually by Spruchkammern at Neustadt.

Attempts to revive Nazism.

News of Germany reported from Muhlendorf, 20.10.47, in the U.S. zone that members of a football club had collected 400 marks for a former lieutenant in the SS., August BREITENWIESER, who on October 9 had been classified a major offender and given a five year term by a Spruchkammer. BREITENWIESER was convicted of participating in court martial proceedings resulting in the execution of three resistance leaders in April 1945. During and after the denazification court trial disorders developed. Stones were thrown at an automobile carrying prosecution witnesses; Spruchkammer members were attacked and the court president was insulted.

BRITISH ZONE.

The "Shootings" Case. (see Digest No. XXXIII, p.9)

In this case, which was being tried at Brunswick by a British Military Court, 3 - 9 October, 1947, the defendants were charged with killing and ill-treating Yugoslav nationals at Brunswick-Meinburg about March 1945. BERTHOLD and GREIGER were both found guilty and sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment.

Captain von Ruckteschell's sentence reduced. (see Digest No. XXVIII, p.5.)

The Press reported, 4.10.47, that the sentence of 10 years passed by a British war crimes court at Hamburg on this officer had been reduced to seven years. RUCKTESCHELL, who cruised the North Atlantic for three years sinking Allied ships, was found guilty of continuing to shell the British merchantman, Davisian, in 1940, although his radio instructions to the ship had been obeyed.

/Forthcoming .....

Germany - British Zone.  
(cont)

Forthcoming Trials.

The Commission was informed that among Germans who would be shortly tried before a British court was Karl GUTENBERGER, former Chief SS and Police Leader of District VI (Munster).

Repatriation of German Generals.

The Daily Telegraph reported, 7.10.47, that three German generals, classed as members of criminal organisations would be flown to Hamburg on that day, viz: General Walter BRAEMER, General J. KAMPTZ and General Werner BALLAUF. Six others, wanted in Germany for war crimes, were flown the day before. Among them was General J. LEMELSEN, former commander of the 14th Army.

A further group of senior officers, comprising Admirals HORST and SCHULZE, Vice-Admirals MEIER and MACHENS, General Major RUFFKOPF and Lt. General KOECHY who were suspects on security grounds would leave for Germany on the next day. It was understood that these were not to be tried as war criminals. Some might appear in denazification proceedings.

An agency message, 9.10.47, concerning the repatriation of senior German officers from the "generals" camp at Bridge End said that General Alfred SCHLEMM was one of those repatriated; three field marshals, RUNSTEDT, BRAUCHITSCH and von MANNSTEIN were still at Bridge End. The message added: "Leaving England does not mean they are free. Those wanted as war criminals, security suspects or members of criminals organisations are turned over to the Allied Control Commission on arrival."

[NOTE: Of the above named officers field marshals BRAUCHITSCH, RUNSTEDT and MANNSTEIN, and generals BRAEMER, KAMPTZ and LEMELSEN are on the Commission's lists.]

Denazification Procedure in the British Zone.

According to News of Germany, 7.10.47, General BISHOP told a Press Conference at Lubeck that transfer of British Zone denazification to the Land governments was in progress. The directive, he declared, left it to the Land legislative bodies to issue denazification laws. Land governments were also authorised to establish offices for classification of individuals into groups. Dismissals from offices and other posts must be completed, according to the Control Council regulations by January 1, 1948. The Military Government, he added, reserved the right to prosecute high ranking army officers. Administration of civilian internment camps and classification of the internees would continue to be handled by the Military Government. Members of organisations termed criminal by the International Military Tribunal would continue to be prosecuted in established denazification courts.

Internees not belonging to the "criminal" category would be classed in group two (activists) or released. The number of such persons was between 20,000 and 30,000

/Russian Zone .....

GERMANY.

RUSSIAN ZONE.

The Sachsenhausen (Oranienberg) Camp Trial.

It will be remembered (see Digest XXI, p. 10) that this trial, and the defendants, were handed over by the British to the Russians. The trial opened in the Russian zone on 23.10.47.

The defendants were: Anton KAINDL, Commandant of the Camp; August HOHN, Deputy-Commandant; Michael KOERNER, third Chief of Camp; Kurt ECCARIUS, Chief Warden of the Prison; Heinz BAUMKETTER, Camp Physician; Ludwig REHN, Head of Man-power Section; Heinrich FRESEMANN, Head of Factory Branch of the Camp; Ernst BRENNSCHEIDT, Chief of Footwear Bureau; Gustav SORGE (+); Wilhelm SCHUBERT, Block Leader; Fritz FLICKER, Block Leader; Horst HEMPEL, Block Leader; Menne SAATHOFF, Block Leader; Paul SAKOWSKI, Executioner; Karl ZANDER, Senior Block Warden; KNITTLER.

[(+)Note: Gustav SORGE, known as the "Iron Gustav", is one of the most notorious of the concentration camp criminals.]

The Tass Agency (1.11.47) reported that, at the end of his speech, the Prosecutor had said: "Act No. 10 of the Control Council allows the death penalty for these crimes, and the criminals now in the box deserve this sentence. However, on 26th May, 1947, the Praesidium of the Supreme Council of the USSR issued an order providing for the abolition of the death penalty in the Soviet Union. In view of this historic act, I ask the military tribunal to sentence all the accused to penal servitude for life." A Tass bulletin announced that the following had been sentenced to life imprisonment: KAINDL, HOHN, KOERNER, ECCARIUS, BAUMKETTER, REHN, FRESEMANN, SORGE, SCHUBERT, KNITTLER, FLICKER, HEMPEL, SAATHOFF and SAKOWSKI. BRENNSCHEIDT and ZANDER 15 years.

The Soviet Press complained of the small publicity given to this trial in the Western newspapers.

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GREECE.

The Commission was informed of the following trials by Greek courts:

Germans:

Walter SCHUBERT: sentenced to death for murder, arson, rape, pillage, July, 1947 (executed 22.10.47).

Walter DETER (industrialist); Eugen FISCHER; and Edmund KIRCHNER: Trials still proceeding.

Helmut SHEFFEL, acquitted by the Athens war crimes court.

The trial of General Alex. ANDRAE is expected to begin on 3.12.47.

Italians ...



G R E E C E (cont).

Italians:

Trial by the Athens war crimes court:

GRANIOLA, MARCHETTI, QUEREL, GELMETTI, acquitted.

LUIGI sentenced to four years' imprisonment. (Decision No. 8/1947.)

Bulgarians:

DOITSINOF, sentenced to  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years' imprisonment for torture.

NICOLOF, acquitted.

A court-martial at Kavalla sentenced PETROF and LILLOF to three years' imprisonment; KUNTZEZ to eight years; ZOULSOF  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years.

A war crimes court at Athens sentenced ALEXIEV to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  years' imprisonment. (Decision No. 6/1947.)

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H U N G A R Y.

Death Sentence on General Jany.

The Times reported from Budapest (6.10.47) that General Gustav JANY, who commanded the Second Hungarian Army on the Russian front in 1942-43, had been sentenced to death by the Budapest People's Court as a war criminal.

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I T A L Y.

Murder of British Guards Officers.

The Press reported (13.10.47) that the British Judge Advocate General had issued an appeal for information which might assist his enquiries into the murders, on September 15th, 1943, of two Grenadier Guards officers, Lieutenant Lord Brabourne and Lieut. Vivien, who were murdered by the Germans at Bronzolo (Italy).

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P O L A N D.

War Criminals tried by Polish District Courts.

A list of 227 persons who have been convicted as war criminals by district courts in Poland during 1947 have been received from the Polish Commissioner. Of the 227 persons convicted, 18 were sentenced to death, 13 to life-imprisonment and the remainder to terms of imprisonment, varying from 10 years to 6 months.

Forthcoming ...

P O L A N D (Cont.)

Forthcoming Trials in Poland.

The Commission was informed that the trials of General STEIN and SPORRENBURG had been postponed pending a decision by the United States authorities concerning the extradition of other German war criminals involved in the same case.

The trial of Albert FORSTER, ex-Gauleiter of Danzig and West Prussia, had been postponed pending the extradition of Police-General von ALVENSLEBEN (former SS. and Police leader in Wehrkreis IV), LOESAK, and other accomplices.

The Auschwitz Trials.

"Tass" reported from Warsaw (25.10.47) that the trials of the Germans accused of crimes in Auschwitz concentration camp would take place shortly in several Polish towns. The first group of 40 criminals, headed by Artur Lietegensch (? Liebehenschel) would be brought before the Supreme National Tribunal in Cracow in November. Besides these people there were a further 722 Germans in prison, accused of crimes committed at Auschwitz. They were to be tried by a Polish regional court.

The Stutthof Camp Trial.

The Soviet radio (10.10.47) reported the opening on 8.10.47 of the trial of the first group of 26 officials of the Stutthof concentration camp. The chief defendant was Theodore MEYER, Camp Commandant. Other defendants were FOTH, PAULITZ, PETERS, and RACHT. It was alleged by the prosecution that of 120,000 persons interned in the Camp, 80,000 were put to death.

Agency messages of 1.11.47 reported that the trial had ended, and that ten of the defendants were sentenced to death.

Reported Arrest of Murer.

"Robotnik" (8.10.47) reported that MURER, who as Deputy Area Commissioner for the City of Wilno was responsible for the death of some 100,000 Poles and Jews, had been arrested in Austria. The Commission for the investigation of German crimes is now preparing evidence against him. 'Robotnik' commented: "It would be right to demand that the murderer of thousands of Polish citizens and the liquidator of the Wilno ghetto should be extradited and tried by Polish courts."

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U. S. S. R.

WAR CRIMES TRIALS IN RUSSIA.

The Bobruisk Trial.

The Moscow radio (29.10.47) reported the opening of a trial at Bobruisk of 22 Germans charged with mass murders of 2,200,000 Soviet citizens, deportations and destruction, at Vitebsk, Minsk and other places in Byelorussia.

The ...

The Bebrusk Trial (cont.)

The defendants were Lt.-Gen. OCHSNER, Lt.-Gen. TRAUT, Major Gen. KONRADI, Major Gen. THARBUCK, Lt.-Col. FRANCKS, Sergeant Major GRIMM, Sergeant Major BURG, NCO AEMISCH, Lt.-Col. GROSS, Captain DRAEGER, Captain GOTSCHALK. Major KUENGOLD, Captain ZELLER, Captain SCHMITZ, Lieut. SCHRAETTER, Oberlieut. KUENZIG, Oberlieut. KOSCHINSK, Oberlieut. KRAUS, Oberlieut. JUSCHKUS, Oberlieut. KRAEMER and Major JANEZKE.

On 3.11.47 the defendants were all found guilty; 18 of them, including the Generals, were sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment, the remainder to 20 years.

The Stalino Trial. (Also known as the Dombos Massacres Trial).

The Soviet radio (26.10.47) reported the opening of this trial at Stalino before a Military Tribunal of the Kiev area (President General of Justice KARAVAIKOV). The indictment charged the accused with destroying the coal mines and other plants in the Donetz basin, and massacring and deporting hundreds of thousands of Soviet citizens at Konstantinovka and 12 Ukrainian towns. The defendants mentioned were:

General RAEPKE (? ROEPKE), former O/C. of 50th Regiment, 111th Division.  
Colonel KRATSCH, former O/C. of 42nd, and later of 72nd Infantry Regiment.  
Colonel GAARHAUS (HAARHAUS?), former O/C. 477th Regiment.  
Major Georg WILHELM.  
Polizei Meister ZECHENDORF, of the Gendarmerie.  
Gustav ZANDER, former chief of I.C. Section of H.Q. of 257th Infantry division.  
LESSNER, ROTTER, LUCASZ (? DUKAS), REGITSCHNIGG.

General RAEPKE, WILHELM and LUCASZ pleaded Not guilty; the others pleaded guilty or partly guilty.

On 30.10.47 the Court gave judgment: KRATSCH and HAARHAUS were sentenced to 20 and 15 years' imprisonment, respectively; all the others to the maximum sentence of 25 years.

As in the case of the Sachsenhausen trial (see above) the Soviet news services commented bitterly on the silence of the Western Press in regard to the Stalino and Bobruisk trial.

Trial of General Jaenecke and other Generals.

Agency messages from Moscow reported (17.10.47) that Soviet military courts had committed ten former German generals for trial on war crimes charges. They included, Col.Gen. Erwin WERNICKE (? JAENECKE), former commander of the 17th Army, held responsible for the murder and torture of over 86,000 civilians.



The Bebrusk Trial (cont.)

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YUGOSLAVIA ...

YUGOSLAVIA.

Trial of General Oberkamp and other officers. (See No. XVII, p. 7 of this Digest.)

The Commission was informed that the result of the above-mentioned trial before a Yugoslav military court at Belgrade (27.3.47 - 1.4.47) was as follows:

- Johannes BALZER, Deputy Commandant at prisoner of war camp at Allendorf - 20 years' imprisonment.
- Willi FRIEDRICH, Commandant of the Camp at Banjica - death by hanging.
- Hans Joachim GRAVENSTEIN, Major-General, Commander of the "Tiger" Infantry Division 373, - death by shooting.
- Karl HERMANN, Oberst. Commandant 384th Regiment, 373rd Division - 20 years' imprisonment.
- Fritz KIEFER, SS. Hauptsturmführer. Commandant of Boten Camp near Rognan, Norway - death by hanging.
- Hartwig von LUDWIGER, Lieut.-General; Commandant 104th Jäger Regiment - death by shooting.
- Fritz MUELLER, Obergrfr. Deputy feldkommandant at Niš and Kreis-kommandant at Zaječar - death by shooting.
- Karl von OBERKAMP, Major-General and Commander of 7th SS. "Prinz Eugen" Division - death by hanging.
- Paul von WOLF, Freiherr Oberst, Commandant of the 1st Kuban Regiment.

Trial of General Danckelmann, Nauhausen and others.

The Tanyug agency reported (31.10.47) that on October 31st, 1947 a Belgrade military tribunal passed sentence on the group of German war criminals who during the occupation of Serbia perpetrated a series of mass crimes on the innocent population. Heinrich DANCKELMANN, Hermann BENREND; Karl HEINZ, Egbert MÜLLER and Jakob ZEIGER were sentenced to death by shooting; Otto SEIFERT was sentenced to death by hanging; and Franz NEUHAUSEN to 20 years' imprisonment with hard labour.

[General DANCKELMANN was military commander in Serbia 1941/42; Obergrfr. NEUHAUSEN was chief of the Military Administration in South-east Europe.]

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THE FAR EAST

HONGKONG

The "Behar" Murders Case.

The Times reported from Hongkong (30.10.47) that a military court passed sentence on Rear-Admiral Sakonju, who commanded the 16th Squadron South-West Area Fleet, and Captain Mayazumi, who commanded the cruiser Tone, charged with being responsible for the killing of about 65 survivors of the M.V. Behar. Admiral Sakonju was sentenced to death and Captain Mayazumi to seven years' imprisonment.

Death Sentence on Colonel Kanagawa.

The Times reported from Hongkong (30.10.47) that a war crimes court had sentenced to death by hanging Colonel Kanagawa, who became chief of the police in 1945, on charges of ill-treatment of prisoners of war and of civilians, between February and August, 1945.

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SINGAPORE.

Trial Statistics.

Reuter reported from Singapore (3.10.47) that, according to an announcement by the Far East Land Forces, 280 war crimes trials, involving 849 accused, have been completed to date by the South-East Asia War Crimes organisation. Of these Japanese, 219 had been sentenced to death, 503 imprisoned, 52 for life, while 116 had been acquitted.

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December 11th 1947.

(Research Office)

(For internal circulation to the Commission)

## C O N T E N T S

## Page.

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## SUMMARY OF EVENTS.

### A U S T R A L I A.

#### Arrest of Joh Becker.

The Times reported from Sydney, 26.11.47, that Dr. Joh BECKER, former head of the Nazi Party in Australia, was arrested on board an American tanker about to sail for the Panama Canal.

### A U S T R I A.

#### Completion of U.S. War Crimes Trials.

An A.P message from Vienna, 15.11.47, said that the U.S. Army headquarters had announced the completion of its war crimes trials in Austria.

### B E L G I U M.

#### Execution of Rexists.

The Daily Telegraph reported, 11.11.47, that twenty-seven Rexists (Belgian Fascists), sentenced to death by a military court for crimes during the war, were shot at Charleroi.

### C Z E C H O S L O V A K I A.

#### Trial of Ludin and Hoffle.

Agency messages from Prague, 4.12.47, stated that Hans ELARD LUDIN, war-time German Minister to Slovakia, and General HOFFLE, who commanded the S.S. there, were sentenced to be hanged for war crimes by the Slovak National Court.

#### Release of War Criminals.

See under: BRITISH ZONE, page 5.

GERMANY . . . .

GERMANY.

TRIALS BY GERMAN COURTS.

Leniency towards Nazis.

The Manchester Guardian, 22.11.47, quotes a statement published by the Legal Division of the British Control Commission criticising the leniency of sentences passed by German courts on members of the criminal organisations.

Of the defendants tried 25% belonged to the Gestapo and political SS. Out of 2,000 sentences only 10 have involved imprisonment for over 3 years. There were 381 acquittals.

The New York Times, 7.11.47, reported from Munich that, in Bavaria, out of 17 generals only one was put in Class I (major offenders); of 9,000 officers of the Wehrmacht only 10 were put in Class I; There have been 1,086 escapes from civilian internment camps, and only 251 were recaptured.

AMERICAN ZONE.

Escape of General Kuhn.

Reuter reported, 14.11.47, that SS. General Otto KUHN, ex-commander of the Prinz Eugen SS. Division, who was to have been handed over to Yugoslavia for trial, had escaped from the Dachau prison.

Conviction of SS Leader Schramm.

Reuter reported from Frankfurt, 21.11.47, that SS. Leader Josef SCHRAMM, known as "the most brutal man in Buchenwald" had been sentenced to life imprisonment by a U.S. Military Court.

Executions of SS men.

Reuter reported, 15.11.47, the execution of 7 SS men and one civilian at Landsberg for ill-treating Russians at Dachau and complicity in murders of airmen. Among them was the SS leader Karl EGGERT.

Termination of Trials at Dachau.

An Agency message, 4.12.47, stated that December 31st, 1947 had been fixed for the completion of the war crimes trials at Dachau. Since the end of the war 1,660 defendants have been tried by the war crimes courts there; 230 were sentenced to death. [News of Germany gave the number executed as 463.]

The same message named among the most notorious criminals sentenced to death: Dr. SCHILLING (malaria experiments); Dr. Erika FLOCKEN, who selected prisoners for gassing at Mueldorf (sentence not yet confirmed). It is added that General Sepp DIETRICH, SS., and 73 of his comrades (see Digest No. XV, p.4) sentenced over a year ago, are still awaiting the result of their appeal.



Germany - American Zone.  
(cont)

News of Germany reported from Berlin, 22.11.47, that General Lucius D. CLAY, U.S. Military Governor, had announced that a Christmas amnesty would be granted on December 15 to some 2,000 German prisoners who have been serving sentences imposed by Military Government courts. The amnesty would apply to those whose sentences are to expire between December 15, 1947 and January 31, 1948. Prisoners not affected by the amnesty are those against whom detainer warrants have been issued for other crimes, those suffering from contagious diseases, those sentenced after December 1, 1947, and those under sentence by denazification courts.

The total prison population in the American Zone and American Sector of Berlin is now 29,000 of whom 10,000 were sentenced in military courts and 19,000 in German courts.

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

The 23 Doctors and Scientists. (Case No. 1) see Digest No. XXXIV, p.4.

The Press reported, 23.11.47, that General CLAY, Military Governor of the U.S. zone of Germany, had rejected the appeals for mercy from all the former Nazi doctors and scientists sentenced to death by hanging for war crimes on August 20.

The Ministry of Justice Trial. (Case No. 3) see Digest No. XXXIV, p.4.

Judgment was delivered in this case on 4.12.47. Nine of the defendants were found guilty and sentenced to imprisonment as follows:  
For life: SCHLEGELBERGER, KLEMM, ROTHAU, OESCHER.  
10 years: METTENBERG, AMMON, JOEL.  
7 years: ROTHENBERG.  
5 years: ALTSTOETTER.

The "W.V.H.A." Trial. (Case No. 4) see Digest No. XXXIV, p.4.

The full list of sentences, as stated in the judgment, were as follows:

Oswald POHL.	death.	Hans LOERNER,	10 yrs.
Georg LOHNER,	death.	Erwin	
Franz EIRENSCHMALZ,	death.	TSCHENTSCHER,	10 yrs.
Karl SOMER.	death.	Hans MOHBERG,	10 yrs.
August FRANK.	life imprisonment.	Hans BAIER,	10 yrs.
Max KLEFER.	life imprisonment.	Leo VOLK,	10 yrs.
Hermann POOK.	life imprisonment.		
Karl MUMMENTHEY,	life imprisonment.		
Heinz FANSLAU,	25 years'		
Hans BOBERMIN.	20 years'		

Acquitted: Joseph VOGT; Rudolf SCHEIDE; Horst KLEIN.

The Industrialist ....

Germany - American Zone.  
Second Nuremberg Trials.  
(cont)

The Industrialists Trial. (Case No. 5) see Digest No. XXXIV, p.4.

This case was in recess from 8th - 24th November, after which the final speeches of the defence and prosecution were to begin.

I.G. Farben Trial. (Case No. 6) see Digest No. XXXIV, p.4.

In the week ending 17.11.47, evidence was given that 30,000 inmates of Monowitz — a sub-camp of Auschwitz used by I.G. Farben — perished in three years, owing to inhumane treatment, and that Farben bought 150 female inmates for 170 marks each as subjects for experiments which proved fatal in all cases.

The "Hostages" Trial. (Case No. 7) see Digest XXXIV, p.4.

Evidence was given in defence of RENDULIC by General VOGEL; and von LEYSER gave evidence on his own behalf, claiming that the destruction of the country in Croatia was simply due to the fighting and that the 15th Mountain Corps had not engaged in atrocities.

The "R.K.F.D.V." Trial. (Case No. 8) see Digest No. XXXIV, p. 5.

Evidence was given of the kidnapping of Polish children from Looz, and of Czechoslovak children after the destruction of Lidice; and of deportations of Luxembourg citizens. The court adjourned till 20.11.47 when the opening speeches for the defence were to begin.

The Einsatzgruppen Trial. (Case No. 9) see Digest No. XXXIV, p.5.

Walter BLUME and Eugen STEINLE gave evidence in their own defence; they claimed that their units only executed people because they were partisans or were bearers of Communistic ideals. Defendant SANDBERGER next testified that his unit had executed only 300, not 1,000 Jews, Gypsies and Communists.

The Krupp Trial. (Case No. 10) see Digest No. XXXIV, p.5.

The Times reported from Nuremberg, 17.11.47, that Alfred von KRUPP von Bohlen und Halbach pleaded "Not Guilty" with 11 of his associates on that date when arraigned before an American military tribunal on four charges of complicity in Nazi war crimes. After formal proceedings the court, presided over by Judge H.C. ANDERSON, adjourned until December 8 on which date the trial was formally opened.

Lord WRIGHT, Chairman, and Colonel LEDINGHAM, Secretary General of the United Nations War Crimes Commission, attended the opening session.

The Moscow radio, in German, 21.11.47, commenting on the trial said, in part: "It is not enough to sentence only KRUPP and his chief directors while at the same time such war criminals as DINKELBACH, POENSGEN, SCHLANGE-SCHOENINGEN, BUECHNER and others remain at large."

The ....

Germany - American Zone.  
Second Nuremberg Trials.  
(cont)

The "Wilhelmstrasse" Trial. (Case No. 11) see Digest No. XXXIV, p.5.

In connection with this indictment News of Germany, 4.11.47, reported a statement to the Press by Dr. KEMPNER, deputy to the U.S. Chief of Counsel, to the effect that "it was generally believed two years ago that the Gestapo was mainly responsible for Jewish persecution. Preliminary investigations had shown that the plan to exterminate some 11,000,000 European Jews was the result of a conference of German ministers and state secretaries on January 20th, 1942."

Trial of German Generals. (Case No. 12)

Reuter reported from Nuremberg, 28.11.47: "Thirteen former German field-m Marshals and generals and one admiral will face, in January, the twelfth and last of the series of big Nuremberg trials. They include Field-Marshal SPERHART; Field-Marshal von LEEB; Field-Marshal von KUECHLER; Field-Marshal BLASKOWITZ; General HOTH; and General REINHARDT.

"The indictment includes charges of offences against peace, against the laws of war and against humanity."

Doctrine of Judicial Immunity.

The Scotsman, 4.12.47, reported from Nuremberg in connection with Case No. 3 (see above): "In a unique case of judges sitting in judgment on other judges, an American War Crimes Tribunal to-day denied that 14 former Nazi judges and prosecutors were entitled to the benefit of the Anglo-American doctrine of judicial immunity. The doctrine that judges are not personally liable for their judicial actions is based on the concept of an independent judiciary administering impartial justice," the Court declared in a long statement of its judgment which will continue to be read to-morrow. The verdict also is expected to-morrow."

BRITISH ZONE.

Release of War Criminals.

The Commission was informed by the British authorities, 4.11.47, that the final lists of German prisoners of war in the United Kingdom who were wanted as war criminals had not been submitted, as had been requested, by 1.11.47. The repatriation of prisoners of war was rapidly drawing to a close, and a solution to the problem of "frozen" prisoners of war was urgently needed. Accordingly it was now proposed to release for normal repatriation all prisoners of war on CROWCASS or other "wanted" lists for whom a specific claim had not been submitted by 1st November, 1947. In respect of men on the UNWCC lists it was proposed to release them for repatriation unless arrangements were made by the country making the charge to claim the individual by 30th November, 1947.

The ....



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Germany - British Zone.  
(cont)

Release of War Criminals. (cont)

The Prague radio, 10.11.47, stated that the Czechoslovak Military Mission in Berlin had been ordered to protest "against the decision of the British and U.S. authorities not to deal after 1st November with applications for the extradition of war criminals, and to ask that such applications should continue to be dealt with in the usual way". According to CTK the Foreign Ministry, on behalf of the Government, declared that the punishment of war criminals was not the private affair of the commanders of occupation zones.

A commentary by BABIN, in a USSR broadcast, 17.11.47 said that Czechoslovakia had asked for the extradition of war criminals from the Anglo-U.S. Zone, but the British and American authorities had said that they would no longer entertain such demands. The commentary condemned the alleged attitude of these authorities.

Fuhlsbuettel Prison Cases.

The Commission was informed, 13.11.47, of the result of this trial, in which the accused were charged, at Hamburg, with killing and ill-treating Allied nationals interned in Fuhlsbuettel prison, 1943/1945: REPPIN, 15 years; SCHNAPPAUFF, 12 years; MATHEA and ROETTGER, 7 years; SCHULZ Ella, 7 years; GUHLKE, 6 years; STEUVE, 5 years; BOSCH, 3 years; LOCKEMANN, 3 years; SCHIRMMEIER, 2 years; HERMANN, KOOPMAN, SICK, ORBMANN, BARTELS, TICUS, ALBIICHT, SCHULT, SCHAARSCHMIDY, KREUS, EKRUTT, MYBWOLE, acquitted.

Trial of Generals Stumpf and Schmidt.

The Commission was informed, 21.11.47, that in this trial, in which the accused were charged with issuing orders for the killing of Allied airmen, General Hans STUMPF was acquitted and General August SCHMIDT was sentenced to life imprisonment.

German Officials sentenced.

The Times reported from Berlin, 5.12.47: The Higher British Military Court in Hamburg passed sentence of death on Friedrich HAUSER, former local leader of the Nazi Party at Pforzheim. HAUSER was found guilty of having murdered three officers and a sergeant of the R.A.F. at Huchenfeld, near Pforzheim on 17.3.45. Two other officials, BECKER and GOEHRING, received sentences of 15 and 8 years' imprisonment respectively.

Repatriation of German Generals.

The Press reported, 26.11.47, that a batch of repatriates which left Southampton on the previous day, included General von THOMA, captured at El Alamein, Vice Admiral BRINKMANN, General of the Luftwaffe F. FAHNERT and General Joachim SPURLING. General SPURLING was escorted aboard. It is understood that he had threatened to commit suicide. On his return to Germany he is expected to face trial by the Russians for alleged atrocities at Minsk.

Release ....

Germany - British Zone.  
(cont)

Release of SS. N.C.Os on parole.

Lord PAKENHAM announced in the House of Lords, 13.11.47, that all SS. N.C.Os awaiting trial in Germany, and a number of SS. officers born after January 1st, 1919, were to be released on parole. Only those considered dangerous would be kept in internment.

FRENCH ZONE.

Concentration Camp Trial at Rastatt.

An agency message reported, 25.11.47. that the biggest war crimes trial in the French zone of Germany ends on that day when a French military court at Rastatt sentenced 10 former concentration camp guards to death and 24 others to terms of imprisonment ranging from 10 to 20 years.

P O L A N D.

The Trial of the Auschwitz (Oświęcim) Camp Staff.

This trial opened at Cracow on 24.11.47, before the Supreme National Court. The Moscow radio announced that the accused included Arthur LIEBEHENSCHER, camp commandant in 1943/1944; Max GRABNER, head of the political section of the camp; and ALMEIER, deputy commandant and 37 others.

The chief prosecutor, Tadeusz CYPRIAN, told a Press Conference: the defendants were chosen from 800 former members of the Oświęcim staff. The remaining 760 will be tried at ordinary courts in various Polish towns. The Cracow trial will be conducted in five languages, like the Nuremberg trial. The public prosecution will be represented by two prosecutors of the Supreme National Tribunal and three prosecutors of the Cracow District Court. There will be 120 witnesses at the trial, 80 from Poland and 40 from abroad, chosen out of 1,500 who gave evidence in this case. The indictment embraces 67 volumes of about 15,400 typewritten pages. The trial is expected to last till 18th December. Contrary to the HOESS trial, which threw light on circumstances in which 3,000,000 people were murdered who were directed right to the Oświęcim crematoria and were not registered at the camp, the task of the present trial will be to enquire into the fate of 300,000 Oświęcim inmates. The Court consists of three Judges of the High Court, presided over by Dr. Alfred EILER.

A number of distinguished visitors attended the opening of the trial, including General FURLEY, Président LEMERLE and Procureur General GRANIER from France; Colonel HARBROUGH, JAG Eucom USA in Germany, Lieut.-Colonel STRAIGHT, commanding officer the American War

Poland. (cont)

The Trial of the Auschwitz Camp Staff (cont)

Crimes Group in Germany; Lieut.-Colonel ELLIS, commanding officer of the Dachau War Crimes Mission; Group Captain SOMMERHOUGH, chief of the British North Western Europe War Crimes Group; Mr. SMITH, head of the War Crimes Department in the Legal Division, U.S. Military Government, and several observers from Switzerland, Sweden, USSR, Czechoslovakia and other countries.

In an interview with the Polish Press, Colonel HARBROUGH, the American Judge Advocate General said: "The trial before the Supreme National Court in Cracow of the Oświęcim<sup>staff</sup> is not an act of revenge but an impartial and objective administration of justice."

The Trials of Wenzler and Dober.

Warsaw radio reported, 13.11.47, that the trial of Ludwig WENZLER, former Kreisleiter in Gdynia, was taking place in Torun. He controlled the building of fortifications in Pomerania. Polish workers employed there were forced to work 14 hours a day and died from starvation and exposure in great numbers. Also that a Court at Lublin had sentenced to death Margit DOBER, the last number of the band which last July perpetrated the assault on the inhabitants of Puchaczow.

Death sentence on Pickenhagen.

The Jewish Chronicle reported from Warsaw, 28.11.47, that a Polish Court there had sentenced to death Guenther PICKENHAGEN, a member of the SS. Viking Division, which participated in the liquidation of the Warsaw Ghetto. PICKENHAGEN was also charged with the murder of a three-year-old child.

Demands for Extradition.

Reuter reported from Warsaw, 24.11.47, that Poland had asked the Allies to hand over General Heinz GUDERIAN, former Nazi General Staff chief; General Erich BACH-ZALEWSKI, former Warsaw area commander and others held responsible for the destruction of the Polish capital.

Mr Mayhew, replying to a question in the House of Commons, said, 1.12.47, that the charges against Dr. DEHRING, did not warrant his trial. Unless further evidence was produced he will be released by January 1st, 1948.

U.S.S.R. ....



U. S. S. R.

The Sebastopol Trial.

The Moscow radio reported, 13.11.47: The trial dealing with misdeeds in the Crimea and Kuban valley opened on 12th November in the Black Sea Officers' Club. A number of ex-members of the German army, police and gendarmerie, charged with murdering, torturing, and deporting masses of Soviet citizens, and with barbarously destroying the industry and agriculture in the Crimea and the Kuban are to be tried under Article I of the USSR Supreme Council Praesidium Decree of 19th April, 1943.

The Trial is conducted publicly by the Military Tribunal of the Black Sea Navy, of which Major General ZAITSEV and Colonel EVISKOV and Lt. Colonel FEDORCHUKOV are members. The indictment states that, during the two and a half years of their rule in the Crimea, the Hitlerites killed and tortured to death 86,943 civilians and 47,234 prisoners of war, and deported to Germany 85,947 people. They also destroyed the towns of Sebastopol, Kerch, Balaklava, largely destroyed Simferopol, Yalta, Theodosia and other inhabited localities, more than 12,000 state enterprises and institutions, 13,000 collective farm buildings and over 15,000 private dwelling houses. Hundreds of thousands of cattle and horses, and tons of grain, vegetables, fruit, cotton and tobacco were requisitioned from the population. The Extraordinary State Commission estimated all this damage at over R. 14,000,000,000.

In the Krasnodar Region the invaders and their accomplices killed 48,560 civilians and 6,500 prisoners of war, deported to Germany tens of thousands of men and women, burnt and destroyed 20 higher educational establishments, 486 schools, 140 hospitals and clinics, 1,700 children's homes, requisitioned a large quantity of food, industrial goods, cattle and other property.

On 25.11.47 the Tass Agency reported: the sentences at Sebastopol were given as follows: JAENECKE, WILLERT, ALBERTI, KAUBEL, HAHN, KUEHNE, RADATUS and SCHREEVE, 25 years' detention in labour correction camps; FLESCHNER, BRAUN, HUZEMANN and LINEBERG, formerly NCOs of the 88th Battalion, 20 years' detention.

The Trial of Germans at Poltava.

The Tass agency, 25.11.47, reported: The names of the accused at Poltava were: Helmut BECKER, the 3rd SS Death's Head Tank Division; Lt. General Werner SCHATOW, O.C. 397 Field Kommandatura; Max KUEHN, Martin WEIDLICH, Ludwig SCHNEERMANN, Willi SCHUBERT and Oskar PEICHARD, all of the SS Death's Head Tank Division and subordinate officers and NCOs, making 22 in all. The Chairman of the Tribunal was Colonel SYTENKO.

The indictment, according to Tass, gave details of atrocities committed by the accused at Darnitsa, near Kiev, during an offensive against Kursk, and in a retreat from Kharkov, involving the death and torture of 221,895 citizens and the deportation of 159,629, and the destruction among other things of a theatre, library and museum at Poltava. The damage in those areas had amounted to R. 37,252,745,000. General SCHATOW had confessed to the murder of 27,000 people, and the deportation of 90,000 for hard labour and 20,000 civilian and service personnel to prison. The prosecution asked for sentences of 25 years' imprisonment on all the accused.

Trial ....

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- 10 -

U.S.S.R. (cont)

Trial of Germans and Hungarians at Chernigov.

The Tass agency reported, 29.11.47, that on 25th November a verdict of guilty was given against all the accused German and Hungarian aggressors for crimes committed in Byelorussia. A sentence of 25 years' detention in a labour camp was pronounced on each of the accused.

Agency messages, 27.11.47, reported that the defendants numbered 13, including 3 major generals.

UNITED NATIONS.

UNWCC Report discussed at Geneva.

The Press reported from Geneva, 5.12.47, that three sub-committees of the United Nations commission on human rights, now sitting at Geneva, had been constituted and had been asked to complete their report in time for a plenary session on December 11th. A further sub-committee had been set up to consider the report of the United Nations War Crimes Commission and the effects of the trials of war criminals on the question of human rights generally.

YUGOSLAVIA.

Rosenthal sentenced to death.

The Tanyug agency reported, 23.11.47, that the military court in Subotica had sentenced the war criminal Alfred ROSENTHAL to death by hanging. Alfred ROSENTHAL, former commandant of a Nazi concentration camp in the Ukraine, had been convicted of having been responsible for the death of 5,000 people.

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THE FAR EAST.

Trial of Admiral Ryukuchi Tamura and five others at Hongkong.

The Times correspondent, in a report from Hongkong dated 24.11.47, said: "The trial started to-day before an Australian war crimes tribunal of Admiral Ryukuchi TAMURA and five other Japanese naval men for what the prosecutor described as the war crime par excelsis, efficiently executed, and deliberately concealed for almost 18 months after the cessation of hostilities. It is alleged that TAMURA, who was in command of the 14th Naval Base at Kavieng, after heavy allied bombings ordered the secret execution of some 23 Australian internees. They were strangled and their bodies were thrown into barges which were later taken out to sea and sunk."

War Crimes Trial in Singapore.

In a report from Singapore the Times correspondent stated: "At Singapore, the first of a series of related trials has opened in which two Japanese vice-admirals, one rear admiral and several officers and petty officers of the Japanese fleet headquarters in Singapore are charged with having beheaded 22 American airmen at Seletar, the naval base. A curious feature of the trial is that there are no non-Japanese witnesses. The airmen were crews of B-29's shot down over Malaya, and they were executed, according to the defence, after General DOOLITTLE's raid on Tokyo."

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XXXVI

No. XXXVI.

March 4th 1948.

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION.

(Research Office)

WAR CRIMES NEWS DIGEST.

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C O N T E N T S.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS.

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C O N T E N T S.

SUMMARY OF EVENTS.

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## SUMMARY OF EVENTS.

### BELGIUM.

#### Death Sentences on SS Belgians.

The Times reported from Antwerp, 8.1.48, that 21 Belgians, former members of the SS, had been sentenced to death there for treason by a court martial, and 14 others to life imprisonment.

#### General von Falkenhausen extradited.

The Times, 27.1.48, reported that General von FALKENHAUSEN, ex-Governor of Belgium, had been placed at the disposal of the Belgian authorities, with a view to trial.

### CZECHOSLOVAKIA.

#### Sentences on Ravensbrück Camp Officials.

The Times reported, 12.1.48, that a court at Prague had sentenced Sophie NIETSCHE to death and five other female officials of the Ravensbrück women's Camp to imprisonment for torturing and killing internees.

### FRANCE.

#### Suicide of General Otto von Stülpnagel.

This general, former commander in France (November, 1940 - February, 1942) committed suicide in prison in Paris on 6.2.48, while awaiting trial for killing of hostages and deportations.

### GERMANY.

#### TRIALS BY GERMAN COURTS.

#### Re Arrest of Hermann Cuhorst. (see Digest No. XXXV, p.3)

This ex-official of the Ministry of Justice, having been acquitted by the U.S. Court at Nuremberg (Case No. 3) on 4.11.47, was given a safe conduct by the Court to the French Zone. After a protest by the German de-Nazification Minister, who threatened to resign, CUHORST was arrested and brought back for trial by the competent Spruchkammer.

Trial ....



Germany.  
Trials by German Court  
 (Cont)

Trial of General Hans Juttner.

News of Germany reported that General Hans JUTTNER, Chief of the SS Operational Command, was to be tried by a Spruchkammer at Neustadt (United States Zone) on 5.2.48.

AMERICAN ZONE.

THE SECOND NUREMBERG TRIALS.

The Balkan Generals ("Hostages Case"): Case No. 7. (See Digest No. XXXV, p. 4)

Judgment was given in this case on 19.2.48 as follows:

Field Marshal Wilhelm von LEST.	life imprisonment.
General KUNTZE.	life imprisonment.
General RENDULIC	20 years imprisonment.
General SPEIBEL	20 years imprisonment.
General FELMY	15 years imprisonment.
General LANZ	12 years imprisonment.
General von LEYSER	10 years imprisonment.
General DEHNER	7 years imprisonment.
General von GEITNER	acquitted.
General FOERTSCH	acquitted.

According to Agency Press reports the Court ruled that the shooting of hostages was not itself contrary to international law, but that the excessive and inhumane application of that measure would constitute a crime.

The Ministries ("Wilhelmstrasse") Trial. Case No. 11. (See Digest No. XXXV, p.5.)

The full list of defendants in this trial, which opened on 6.1.48, was as follows: Baron WEIZACKER, permanent secretary at the Foreign Office and later Ambassador to the Vatican; Gustav Steengracht von MOYLAND, who succeeded WEIZACKER at the Foreign Office; Wilhelm KEPPLER, State Secretary at the Foreign Office; Ernst BOHLE, chief of the Nazi foreign organisation; Ernst WOERMANN, of the Foreign Office, formerly German Ambassador in Nanking; Karl RITTER, liaison officer between the Foreign Office and the German High Command; Otto von ERDMANNSDORFF, political division of the Foreign Office and Minister to Hungary; Edmund VEESENMAIER, an associate of KEPPLER and envoy in Hungary; Hans LAMMERS, State Secretary and chief of the Reich Chancery; Wilhelm STUCKART, State Secretary in the Ministry of the Interior; Richard DARRÉ, Reich Minister for Food and Agriculture; Otto MEISSNER, chief of the Presidential Chancery; Otto DIETRICH, Reich Press Chief; Gottlob BERGER, Himmler's liaison officer to the Ministry for the Occupied East; Lutz Schwerin von KROSIGK, Minister of Finance; Emil PUHL, vice-president of the Reichsbank; Karl RASCHE, director of the Dresdner Bank; Paul KOERNER, Goring's deputy for the four year plan; Paul FLEIGER, chairman of the Reich Coal Association; Walter SCHEIDTBERG, Himmler's chief intelligence officer and Hans KEHRL, chief of the planning office in the Ministry of War Production.

The ....

Germany-American Zone.

The Second Nuremberg Trials.  
(Cont)

The Trial of the "13 Generals". Case No. 12. (See Digest No. XXXV, p.5)

In this trial, which opened on 6.2.48, 13 Generals and 1 Admiral were arraigned. The full list was: Field Marshal von LEEB; Field Marshal von KUECHLER; Air Marshal SPIERRE; Generals BLASKOVITZ (who committed suicide on 6.2.48), WARLIMONT, REINHARDT, REINECKE, HOTH, SALMUTH, HOLLIDT, ROQUES, WOEHLER, LEHMANN and Admiral SCHNIEWIND.

The Trial of the 23 Doctors and Scientists. (Case No. 1) See Digest No. XXXII, p.2)

The Jewish Chronicle, 27.2.48, stated that the United States Supreme Court had refused, by 5 votes to 3, to consider the cases of the 14 defendants found guilty by the Nuremberg judges in August 1947.

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Flossenburg Camp Doctor Sentenced.

On 16.12.47, the U.S. Court at Dachau sentenced Heinrich SCHMITZ, camp doctor at Flossenburg, to be hanged for the murders of internees.

Nordhausen (Dora) Concentration Camp Trial.

Hans MOESER, ex-commandant of Nordhausen, was sentenced to death by the U.S. Court at Dachau on 30.12.47. 14 other defendants were sentenced to imprisonment.

[This judgment concluded the Dachau Trials.]

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BRITISH ....

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- 4 -

BRITISH ZONE.

War Crimes Trials at Hamburg.

Military Courts, sitting at Hamburg, gave judgment as follows:

The Burgholz Case.

Karl BEINE and 5 defendants sentenced to death, 8 others to imprisonment, on 30.12.47, for killing Russian nationals.

The Rheinhausen Case.

BRINKMANN sentenced to 2 years' imprisonment on 5.1.48 for shooting 3 Russians without trial.

The Siegburg Prison Case.

Karl RATH and Otto SCHULZ sentenced, on 22.1.48, to 3 years' imprisonment for the unlawful execution of Luxembourg nationals.

The Huchenfeld Case.

Friedrich HAUSER sentenced, on 5.1.48, to death and two other defendants to imprisonment for murdering 3 officers and 1 sergeant of the Royal Air Force in March, 1945.

The Darmstadt Case.

Otto MOHN sentenced to death, on 13.2.48, for the murder of an Indian prisoner of war.

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Officers held for Trial.

The Minister for War stated in the House of Commons on 24. 2.48, that 35 German ex-officers against whom charges were pending were being held by his department. A number of others were held in custody of the Control Commission for Germany. Two additional courts were being built in order to expedite trials.

The Stalag Luft III Case. (See Digest No. XXXII, p. 7)

The Times reported from Berlin, 26.2.48, that 13 of the 14 men condemned to death in the above trial on 3.9.47 had just been executed at Hamelin. The death sentence on BOSCHERT was commuted to imprisonment.

FRENCH ....



FRENCH ZONE.

Trial of German Industrialists.

Hermann and Ernst ROCHLING, Hans GEMMINGEN-HORNBERG, Albert MATER and Wilhelm RODENHAUSER, German industrialists, were arraigned before a mixed War Crimes Court at Baden Baden in the French zone on 16.2.48, charged with complicity in Nazi aggression and plunder.

G R E E C E.

Life sentence on General Andrae.

A B.U.P message, 23.11.47, said that the German general ANDRAE, was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Athens War Crimes Court for mass executions in Crete.

H O L L A N D.

Death Sentence on an Informer.

An Agency message, 14.1.48, said that a Jewess, Ans van DYCK, had been executed for betraying Jews to the Gestapo.

Trial of General Christiansen.

Reuter reported, 12.1.48, that General Friedrich CHRISTIANSEN, ex-commander-in-chief in Holland, would be tried at Arnhem in February, 1948.

I T A L Y.

Extradition of Italians demanded.

Press messages, 13.1.48, said that the Yugoslav Government had asked Italy to hand over 27 men accused of war crimes including MARAZZA, former Secretary to the Ministry of the Interior, and General Taddeo ORLANDO, ex Under Secretary for Defence.

POLAND ....

P O L A N D.Trial of Industrialists.

The Commission was informed of the opening, 14.2.48, of the trial of Harald SUGET and other officials of the Lohman Werke, accused of looting Polish enterprises, forced labour and deportations.

Trial of the Auschwitz Camp Staff (See Digest No. XXXV, p.8)

On 22.12.47 the Supreme National Court at Cracow sentenced to death 23 of the accused officials including LIEBEHENSCHER, GRABNER, AUMEIER and Maria MANDL, Director of the women's camp. The condemned persons were executed on 28.1.48.

U. S. S. R.The Kishineff Trial.

The Tass agency, 8.12.47, reported that the trial was proceeding at Kishineff of Major General DEVITZ-KREBS, former commandant of that place, and nine other defendants of lower rank, including some Rumanians. [Results of trial not available.]

The Novgorod Trial.

The Tass Agency announced from Novgorod, 18.12.47, sentences of 25 years' hard labour on the German generals K. HERZOG and J. RUPPRECHT, and 17 other defendants of lower rank.

The Gomel Trial.

The Moscow radio, 20.12.47, announced sentences of 25 years' hard labour on 16 German defendants. [no names were given.]

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