

W. Warlimont

(12) 10.03
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Walter Warlimont
General der Artillerie

Nuremberg, November 19, 1945

TO: Major General William J. Donovan

Sir,

I have the honor of advising you that the Statement of the five German Generals to be submitted through your kind offices to the Nuremberg Tribunal has been completed.

I take this opportunity of thanking you most sincerely for your courtesy to our group. We realize that it is a great privilege which you extended to us and we appreciate that it is the valiant soldier as well as the lawyer experienced in international affairs who shows this remarkable degree of understanding for a most intricate situation.

The Statement in numerous instances mentions conflicts and disagreements between OKW and the Army Command. The OKW consisted of various offices and departments and numerous officers the majority of whom came from the army. Wherever reference is had in the Statement to the OKW only the highest commanding officers who were the immediate collaborators of Hitler are intended to be referred to, and not the rank and file in the offices and departments. They were merely executing orders which they received. They did not advise. Their personal

opinions coincided almost without exception with those of the army.

I belonged to them. As Assistant Chief of Staff of Operation Department I had no independent executive powers. Even when my superior, Colonel General Jodl was absent his powers did not devolve on me, but were taken over by his superior, Fieldmarshall Keitel. I, therefore, should not be included in the term OKW as used in the Statement.- This also applies to the period of 9 months preceeding the war during which Colonel General Jodl was absent on another command.

Respectfully,

Halter Hartmann