

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

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Interrogation of FRANK, Hans  
By: Lt.Col. Hinkel, 6 September 1945, a.m., Nurnberg.

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1. HANS FRANK

- a. Relationships with Hitler (p.1-2, 6, 10, 13).
  - (1) Attitude toward (p.17-18)
- b. Membership in MSDAP (p.10, 17-18).
- c. Concentration camps (p.6, 7-8, 17).
- d. Restriction of individual legal rights (p.3-4).

2. HITLER, BORMANN, GOERING, GOEBBELS, HIMMLER, HEYDRICH.

- a. Illegal establishment of authoritarian control (p.7-8, 10, 11-12, 17-18).
- b. Concentration camps (p.7-8, 18).

3. FRICK, HESS, LEY, RIBBENTROP, ROSENBERG, STREICHER, VON PAPEN.

- a. Relationship with Hitler (p.11-12).

#### RELATIONSHIP WITH HITLER

Says that with Roder he served as the personal counsel of Hitler. Served as defense counsel in cases of insult against Hitler. Says Roder defended Hitler when Hitler was tried for his attempt to overthrow the government (p.12).

#### SPEECH AT WEIMAR AT THE NIETSCHE ARCHIVES

In response to the question whether he stated that Nazi law aims not at the protection of the weak at the expense of the strong, he says that "That was torn out of the whole speech", was Nietzsche's idea, and "Naturally the law always aims to help the strong" (3-4).

#### RE CONCENTRATION CAMPS, IN PARTICULAR DACHAU

He admits visiting Dachau in 1935 or 1936, but had heard of killings in Dachau in 1933 and had asked General von Epp to make an investigation and report; also asked Gurtner to talk to Hitler about them. Was later explained that "no repetition of this kind of accident would happen again." He protested against "Just arresting people without court trial, without judgment, and intern them or even kill them and then explain that they only shot them in an attempt to escape" (p.6). Also protested same once to Hitler. He admits that the system of concentration camps was part of a general plan of certain people in the Party to control Germany, and names in this connection Hitler, Himmler, Heydrich, and Goering, but insists that these were aims of an "inner circle" (7-8).

#### ACQUAINTANCE WITH PARTY MEMBERS AND RELATION TO THEM

Says he knew the leading members of the Party and grew with the Party. States that he himself gave Hitler the oath "that he will act only according to legal means and that once he got this office he will continue to govern under the German legal law." States that Hitler's advisers counselled him to act otherwise- names Himmler (10), Goebbels, Goering (says that he started the system of concentration camps even before Himmler), Streicher, Frick, Ribbentrop, Heydrich (in the beginning), ~~not Dalmeida~~, Lammers, (11, set-up"), Hess (not "on the extreme side", i.e. in favor of Himmler's idea), von Papen ("part of this Himmler-Goering-Goebbels clique"), and Rosenberg (not asked much - same fate as Frank) (11-12).

#### WHY FRANK REMAINED IN PARTY BUT CLAIMS TO OPPOSE IT, RESIGNATIONS

"I admit I did believe in Adolf Hitler until December 1938." Tried 8 times to resign. (13) Offered resignation orally to Hitler in 1934 from Minister of Justice of Bavaria.

#### WHAT FRANK CONSIDERS ILLEGAL IN HITLER'S OPERATIONS

First, concentration camps. He admits that he voted for Hitler having the right to change the constitution, and it was by this step that Hitler legalized his acts. Frank's cover is that he did not know to what extent Hitler would use this power. Also admits that the means by which Party could effectuate its objectives was to put Hitler in power. Frank's interest was the legalizing of Hitler's acts. Hitler's aims were Party aims. He admits having read

Mein Kampf and believing in it, but states that concentration camps were not mentioned there. He and the German people believed that Hitler would get his power only legally and then act legally. Because he didn't do that Frank says he opposed him. He didn't act legally, Frank thinks, because of - Himmler, Bormann, Goering, Goebels, Heydrich (17-18).