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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of FRICK, WILHELM
By: Mr. Sackett

13 October 1945 A.M.

Person implicated, and subjects:

1. FRICK

- a. Laws under Weimar Constitution (pp.1-2)
- b. Laws in the period 1933 - 1938 (pp.2,3,9)
- c. Laws after 1938
 - (1) Hitler and Lammers (pp.4,9,17-20)
- d. Functions of Reichstag, Cabinet, Reichspresident and Reichskanzler (pp.3-20)
- e. Terminology of "Law" and "Decree" (pp.6,7,9)
- f. Reichs Defense Councils

W FRICK

13 October 1945, a.m.

Frick stated how laws were passed under the Weimar constitution prior to 1933. (pp 1-2).

When the Nazis came into power "the Weimar constitution was never stopped, it was only suspended (transcript says corrected)", so that after March 1933 it was possible to pass a law by majority of the Cabinet plus the signature of the president (2-3, 9).

Frick stated that from about 1938 or 1939 laws were made by decree of the Fuehrer alone, countersigned by Lammers (4,9, 17-20).

Frick explained the functions of the Reichstag, Cabinet, Reichs president and Chancellor in detail. Stated that the Cabinet stopped meeting in 1937 and explained how laws were passed thereafter by circulation of the same among cabinet members by way of Lammers. Frick distinguished between the laws and decrees and explained the inception of Fuehrer decrees (3-20).

Frick explains: "A law is directed to the public and directs them for certain obligations or puts burdens on them, while a decree is merely directed to the subordinate authorities." "The laws were supposed to be kept as short as possible, and all the details of the law were given in the form of decrees." "There is no difference between a decree and a directive." (6,7,9).

Frick explains about the different Reichs Defense Councils. Refer to later interrogation which will be held on this subjects of preparations for war from March 1935.