

35.02

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

DOCUMENT ROOM INTERROGATION SUMMARY

Interrogation of: Hermann Goering  
By : Col. Amen on August 27, 1945 at Nurnberg

PERSONS, ORGANIZATIONS IMPLICATED AND SUBJECTS

Goering raises a question as to oath he is asked to take - German law - accused cannot swear. Referring to the document, Exhibit A this date Goering believes that this document was addressed to General Jeschoneck, Chief of Staff of the Luftwaffe, and who gave it to Col. Schmidt to work on who marked "Chefsache" on it. (p.4, p.5) The document reflects the facts existing at that time and the Gibraltar question mentioned therein was a topic of many discussions between Goering and the Chief of Staff and Hitler. Goering proposed to take Gibraltar himself. ( p.5)

Goering stated if he had seen a document it bore his initials. The writing in the upper right hand corner means it was seen by the Chief of staff, of the Führungsstab (p.10)

Signature and initials as he signed official documents were signed by Goering on Exhibit B.

Goering was shown a document Exhibit C and stated that it did not reflect his opinions. The writer of this document, Wolter, was once his adjutant but at the time that he had written this he was in the General Staff "small man" in Section 5. One copy of this document had gone to the German Airforce Operations Staff and the other (p.7, p.8) remained in the General Staff but document is full of "nonsense", (9)

Goering signed documents indiscriminately with ink, colored pencil or with indelible pencil (p.p.8) The chief of staff used to sign in red, the next one - blue; the next green but for "me if was not necessary", (p.p.9)

This document contains war plans against Czechoslovakia but the General Staff made such defense plans against all countries and for all eventualities twice a year. In this case it was against Czechoslovakia because this question became acute at that time (before the Munich pact). (p.9)

The letter E on top of this document Exhibit C, means "draft". The numbers running backwards on the top of this document mean the General Staff. (10)

Goering first knew Hossback in 1937, as Hitler's Chief Adjutant and then he (Hossback) returned to the General Staff. (German army did not use first names) . He lost the confidence of Hitler in connection with the Fritsch case. (p.11) Hossback may have made notes about discussions at the Hitler meetings without special orders from Hitler, since Hossback was in close contact with the Chief of Staff in the Army "to report to him about it afterwards". Any notes by Hossback would be his opinion of what Hitler said,

Hermann Goering, 27 August 1945

Goering does not recall the special meeting in Berlin on the 10 of November 1937, which was concerned with future plans of actions and foreign policy at which Hitler, Blomberg, von Fritsch, Raeder, Goering, Neurath and Hossback were present, since he held many such conferences.

As to whether Hitler had expressed his future plans at the meeting since Goering acknowledged Hitler did express his views more than once, Hitler believed Fritsch and Beck were obstacles in the forceful execution of the rearmament program and therefore he had to make his (Hitler's) ideas clear.

With reference to the Hossback minutes, Goering was asked if he remembered a meeting at which Hitler referred to his "last will" in case of his death; but he did not recall the conference but stated there were several conferences where foreign policy was mentioned. Since Hitler often spoke about the Anschluss of Austria, the Sudeten Germany, Danzig, the question of the Corridor, the expansion to the East but mainly with regard to Austria, the Sudeten Germany and the Corridor (being first). The occupation of Czechoslovakia was a surprise to Goering (16).