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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of KEITEL, Wilhelm  
By: Mr. T.J. Dodd, 29 August 1945, P.M., Nurnberg

PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS IMPLICATED, AND SUBJECTS

1. Keitel, Wilhelm
  - a. Requirements of the Wehrmacht submitted to OKW and Secretary of Ammunition (1-3)
    - (1) Responsibility for Distribution of Armaments (p.12)
  - b. OKW and Secretary of Ammunition--monthly reports of armaments available (12)
  - c. Necessity of foreign raw materials for armaments (7).
2. Hitler
  - a. Approval of Requirements of the Wehrmacht during latter part of war (p 1).
  - b. Receipt of monthly reports by OKW concerning losses (12)
3. Speer
  - a. Responsibility as Head of Ministry of Production and Armaments (6)
4. Gen. Thomas
  - a. Responsibilities as Head of Office for Military Industries (before establishment of Ministry for Ammunition) (7)

DISTRIBUTION OF ARMAMENT

The three branches of the Wehrmacht calculated their respective needs for armament and submitted their requirements to the Secretary of Ammunition and to OKW. During the last part of the war, all armament requirements were submitted to Hitler and from there passed on to Keitel and to the office concerned. The OKW made the distribution when armament became scarcer after the fall of 1943 (p 1).

Hitler got monthly reports concerning losses in men, horses, and material. The reports were combined by the OKW. The Secretary of Ammunition also made a monthly report concerning the amount of armament available which Keitel had to distribute (p 12).

In calculating the respective needs, losses and reserves were taken into account. Keitel also admits that the requirements for a definite action, such as the Ardennes Offensive, were likewise taken into account and prepared several months in advance (p 2, 3).

In distributing armament, special reservations were made for special action (p 3). The demands made by the various branches of the Wehrmacht could not always be filled; in that case a certain percentage of the actual demand was distributed (p 3). Keitel asserts that it never happened that a military operational plan had to be altered because of insufficient armament production, with the possible exception of the Air Force about which he is not informed (p 4).

