

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of WILHELM KEITEL

By: Mr. T. J. Dodd, 6 October 1945, A.M.

PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS IMPLICATED, AND SUBJECTS

1. KEITEL

- a. Discussion of document L-221 - conference at Hitler headquarters, 16 July 1941 (p. 3 - 4)
- b. Discussion of documents 832-PS, 669-PS - Night and Fog decrees (p. 4,6,7-11)
- c. Shooting of Parisian hostages (p.11-13)
- d. Discussion of document 834-PS-transfer of police executive power in France (p.20)

CONFERENCE AT HITLER HEADQUARTERS 16 JULY 1941

Keitel was shown L-221, notes made by Bormann at a conference at Hitler's headquarters, attended by Keitel, Lammers, Rosenberg and Goering. Keitel, recalled the conference, and accepted the notes as accurate for the part at which he was present (p.3). He claimed he entered the conference at the point the discussion turned on the qualifications of Loushe (p.4). As for a remark attributed to him in the notes to the effect that local inhabitants who failed to do as they ought should be shot, Keitel admitted he stated that in substance, but added that "Bormann was the kind who would have liked that sort of expression" (p.3).

NIGHT AND FOG DECREES

832-PS. Keitel said: "I recognize it; I acknowledge it, and I also signed it". He identified the pencilled written note at the bottom of the page as being in Warlimont's handwriting (p.4). He also noted the left hand top corner as showing the document passed through the Office of the Chief of the Legal Division of the OKW (p. 8).

669-PS - Keitel admits having signed the document. (p.6). Keitel claims that "at least once, or twice or possibly three times" he went to Hitler and tried to get the NIGHT AND FOG order revoked, after discussions with Dr. Lehrmann, Chief of his legal division (pp. 7 - 11). He admits that the order was not in conformity with legal procedure (p.11).

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SHOOTING OF HOSTAGES

In the second half of 1941, Keitel admits instructing Stuelpnagel Military Commander of Paris, to observe strictest measures in passing on the order, to shoot a specified number of hostages in retaliation for an attack on an soldier's and nurses home (p.11 and 12). However, Keitel cites Warlimont as a witness that he called Stuelpnagel after the order was issued and arranged with him to have substituted for the hostages other persons already legally condemned to death, so that no innocent persons actually were killed as a result of the order (p. 13)

834-PS. Keitel stated the contents were known to him, and added that in the spring of 1942, the police executive power was transferred from the Military Governor to the command of a higher police officer (p.20).