

22 November 1945

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MEMORANDUM TO GENERAL DONOVAN:

From: Major Kelley

Subject: Comments on the Trial Proceedings

At the end of the second session of the trials, the part of Jackson's speech dealing with crimes was the common topic. ROSENBERG wondered if the Americans were concerned about Russian crimes against Christianity.

RIBBENTROP admitted the charge that he had done nothing about the Vatican's protest and indicated that he was helpless in this matter.

GOERING in a discussion with FUNK, stated that he (GOERING) was willing to accept full responsibility for the Four Year Plan. Goering also suggested to von SCHIRACH that HIMMLER was responsible for the crimes against the Jews in the Warsaw ghetto.

RIBBENTROP states again that he had not had time to prepare his defense and that the time was coming in the trial when he would have to ask for such an opportunity even though it meant delay in the trial.

FRITSCH seems willing to accept a certain amount of guilt for the mistakes he has made, but feels that the entire trial is a gigantic type of propaganda. He feels particularly bitter in his present disgrace as being a member of the major criminal group. He feels that he will not get a fair trial.

Today's session on party organization was provocative of much criticism of the evidence. All agreed it was a mistake - GOERING's statement being - "The more silly mistakes they make the better it is for us." The mention of von SCHIRACH as Cabinet Minister seemed to strike them all as very funny.

FRITSCH stated - "I don't envy the prosecution the job of figuring out the party organization since we German's could never figure it out."

The main discussion among the defendants however was to the fact that they would like to present in opposition a similar chart of the Communist Party; such a chart would prove to be much more devastating than the one used today in court, according to their opinion.