

Statement

on the Extension of the
"Ministries" Case to Include some
Additional High Nazis Responsible
for the Extirpation of Jews

I. On November 1, 1947, the Office of the Chief of Counsel on War Crimes in Nuremberg completed the indictment of nineteen German diplomats and top officials, known as "Case #11."

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- against -

ERNST VON WEIZSACKER, GUSTAV ADOLF STEENGRACHT VON HOYLAND, WILHELM KEPPLER, ERNST WILHELM BOHLE, ERNST WOERMANN, KARL RITTER, OTTO VON ERDMANNSDORFF, EDMUND VEESENMAYER, HANS HEINRICH LAMMERS, WILHELM STUCKART, RICHARD WALTHER DARRE, OTTO WEISSNER, OTTO DIETRICH, GOTTLLOB BERGER, LUTZ SCHWEIN VON KROSIGK, EMIL PUHL, KARL RASCHE, PAUL KOERNER, and PAUL FLEIGER."

The defendants are accused on eight counts, namely

1. Planning preparation, initiation and waging of wars of aggression and invasions of other countries,
2. Common plan of conspiracy,
3. War crimes in the technical sense of the word,
4. Crimes against humanity: atrocities committed against German nationals on political, racial and religious grounds, from 1933 to 1939,
5. Atrocities and offenses committed against civilian population, from March 1938 to May 1945,
6. Plunder and spoliation, from March 1938 to May 1945,
7. Slave labor from September 1939 to May 1945,
8. Membership in criminal organizations.

The defendants Darre, Dietrich, Lammers, Stuckart, Schwerin-Krosigk, Rasche, Koerner, Keppler, Veessenmayer, Bohle, Weizsaecker, and Woermann are specifically charged with anti-Jewish acts, before the war, and Berger, Stuckart, Darre, Weizsaecker, Woermann, Erdmannsdorff, Dietrich, Steengracht, Keppler, Bohle, Ritter, Veessenmayer, Schwerin-Krosigk and Rasche are responsible for anti-Jewish action during the war.

II. Among the acts the defendants are charged with, the meeting of January 20, 1942, during which the final solution of the Jewish problem was decided upon, is referred to. This meeting was attended by the following persons:

REINHARD HEYDRICH, DR. MEYER, DR. LEIBBRANDT, DR. STUCKART, NEUMANN, DR. FREISLER, DR. BUEHLER, LUTHER, KLOPFER, KRITZINGER, HOFFMANN, MUELLER, EICHMANN, DR. SCHOENGART, DR. LANGE.

Of these participants only Stuckart is listed among the defendants in case #11, while it is reported that at least four others of these who participated in the meeting are reportedly alive and are at present in American hands, namely Neumann, Leibbrandt, Hoffmann and Kritzinger.

III. All Anti-Jewish action was in practice conducted through or by the Section IV/B4 of the Gestapo. The Chief of the Gestapo, Mueller, and his assistant, Eichmann, are missing, but two of Eichmann's chief aids, Krumei and Girzik, are alive, the first held in a British camp and the second in the U.S. Zone.

IV. The United States authorities have resolved to discontinue the prosecution of German war criminals within the near future. All indictments have to be in by the end of the year and the trials ended by the middle of next year. Thus case #11 may be the last opportunity to bring to justice those top Nazis, responsible for the death of millions of Jews, who are alive.

In view thereof the WJC addressed a solemn request to the Secretary of the Army, Kenneth C. Royall and the Chief of Counsel Brigadier General Telford Taylor to extend case #11 by including among the defendants NEUMANN, LEIBBRANDT, HOFFMANN and KRITZINGER, and, if possible, KRUMEY and GIRZIK.

If these persons are included, the trial of Weizsaecker and others would in fact, if not in name, become a major case of action by the U. S. authorities against the German initiators (and main culprits) of anti-Jewish action in all of Europe.

It has also been decided that the WJC will delegate to this trial a special representative to follow up the proceeding and to assist in the presentation of the Jewish aspect of this extremely important case.

NOTE:

Count 5 includes murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, imprisonment, killing of hostages, torture, persecution on political, racial and religious grounds, and other inhuman acts against German nationals and members of the civilian population in other countries.