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(Part I)

NAZI PLANS FOR DOMINATING GERMANY AND EUROPE

THE CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE JEWS

DRAFT FOR THE WAR CRIMES STAFF

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NOTE

Copies #1 through #12 of this report are master copies which have attached to them the following appendices: Exhibit A, Statistics on Jewish Casualties During Axis Domination, prepared in conjunction with the Institute of Jewish Affairs, New York, and Exhibit B, Indemnification and Reparations, Jewish Aspects, published in the bulletin From War to Peace (No. 2), issued by the Institute of Jewish Affairs.

Owing to reproduction difficulties, and because of the urgency of issuing the report, these appendices have had to be omitted from all other copies.

THE CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY AGAINST THE JEWS

The multitude of crimes committed against the Jews of Nazi-dominated Europe cannot be regarded as merely isolated instances of individual brutality. Rather they constitute one continuous and indivisible crime -- a criminal conspiracy against the Jewish people. All the various anti-Jewish measures taken by the Germans, from petty discrimination to final mass murder, whether executed by the government, its agencies, party formations, the Army, private and semi-public associations, or even "spontaneous" mobs, were links in the same chain.

As to the indictment of those guilty of crimes against the Jews, it should be remembered that physical extermination through killings of individuals and groups of mass murders was merely the last step in the plan to exterminate the Jewish people. The earlier preparatory phases, such as the persecution of the Jewish religion, the disfranchisement of the Jews, the destruction of their economic life, their isolation in ghettos, mass starvation, deportations, forced labor and the organized mass violence against them were all part and parcel of the same master plan against the Jewish people. It is essential to stress that it is equally criminal to conspire against a racial, ethnic, religious or political group, and by depriving it of an opportunity to earn a living, indirectly to exterminate it, as it is to indulge in outright murder. It should be therefore emphasized that the agencies, associations and persons, which engaged in carrying out earlier phases of the plan are equally culpable with those who executed its final phase, that of mass annihilation.

PART ONE

I. THE PRECONCEIVED PLAN TO ANNIHILATE THE JEWISH PEOPLE

A. General Characteristics of the Plan

It is the purpose of the Prosecution to demonstrate the existence of a common plan or enterprise of the German Government, the Nazi Party, and the German military, industrial, and financial leaders to achieve world domination by war. The destruction of the Jewish people as a whole, although an end in itself, was at the same time linked to and closely tied up with this aim of world conquest.

The Jews were originally singled out as the primary target of Nazi attacks because of their ready availability as a scapegoat for all the ills of Germany -- and of the world. They were unhappily qualified for this unpleasant role by the long tradition of anti-Semitism in Germany (and in Europe). They were conspicuous enough to make a good target, and yet weak enough to prohibit the possibility of a real struggle.

From historical precedent the leaders of the Nazi state apparently derived the assurance that killing Jews is not murder. This fundamental conviction unquestionably underlay and motivated the unique policy of the total annihilation of the Jewish people as contrasted with only partial decimation of other peoples.

The fundamental purpose served by the anti-Jewish conspiracy, first in Germany and then in Nazi-occupied Europe, was to provide a binding force cementing together the various elements of society into the so-called "people's community." As the one point upon which mutually hostile social groups could agree, it became the rallying cry of Nazism--Deutschland erwache, Juda verrecke! (Germany, Awake, Jewry Perish!).

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In time, the anti-Semitic campaign came to serve other Nazi purposes. Thus, the Jews provided the Nazis with an effective guinea pig for testing repressive measures. Actions against the Jews became a regular preliminary to similar measures against the other elements of Europe's population. Concentration camps were first established for Jews, but soon came to house pacifists, conservatives, Communists, Socialists, Catholics, Protestants, and every other group not fully subservient to the Nazi system. First Jewish property was expropriated, but before long similar measures were taken against anti-Nazi Germans, Poles, Czechs, Frenchmen, and Belgians. Extermination of Jews was merely the prelude to the annihilation of Greeks, Poles, and Serbs. This use of anti-Semitism has been aptly described as "a spearhead for terror."

In another sense the difference in the treatment of Jews and non-Jews was both a form of bribe and an implied threat. It served to remind the non-Jewish population of occupied Europe that there was one group which had even less rights than they. In this way notice was served that, however bad the situation might be for the non-Jews, things could be considerably worse, and that, consequently, cooperation with the Reich would be to their advantage.

The physical extermination of European Jewry was also used by the Nazis to involve the German people, as well as their collaborationist followers, in collective guilt. In the slaughter of millions of Jews the Nazis implicated the German Army, the civil service, the occupational authorities and quislings, and all their henchmen and accessories. Conscious, as most of them were, of their incrimination as accomplices, these groups could the more easily be persuaded that the Nazi fate was their fate. Their dread of being called to account could be relied upon as a brake on any desire to sue for a separate peace.

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anti-Semitism also proved to be one of Germany's major weapons for political and economic infiltration abroad. Hitler, Rosenberg, Goebbels, and other leaders of the Third Reich, quite openly declared their intention to disunite and disintegrate the democratic world by invoking anti-Semitism. This theory was well formulated by SS Group Leader Werner Best, former legal adviser to the Gestapo and later Hitler's plenipotentiary in Denmark. In an address to Elite Guard (S.S.) functionaries on 27 July 1942 he declared:

"The Jewish question is the dynamite with which we blow up the redoubts where the last snipers of liberalism have dug in. Nations who abandon their Jews thereby give up their previous Judaized form of life, based on false ideals of freedom. Only thereafter can they take their place in the fight for a new world."

There is no doubt that the German idea of conquering Lebensraum required the destruction of peoples living in those spaces coveted by the Germans; the Nazi conspiracy of total mastery over the world entailed a total war. Its consequence was the new ruthless concept of "biological warfare," according to which the aim and purpose of the state was not only to win the war but also to bring about permanent biological changes. This was openly professed by Dr. Best when he stated:

"History proves that the annihilation or expulsion of a foreign nationality is not contrary to biological law, if carried out totally." ("Grundfragen einer deutschen

1. Dto Weltwoche, Zurich, 18 September 1942.

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Grossraumverwaltung," Festgabe fuer Heinrich Himmler.

Darmstadt, 1941; excerpts published in Zeitschrift fuer Politik, June, 1942).

The perfect example of this new Nazi method of biological warfare was the annihilation of the Jewish people.

What is characteristic of the conspiracy against the Jewish people is the pattern - created in Germany, tested in Austria and Czechoslovakia during the period of preparation for the war, and then methodically applied to all countries conquered by Germany. This pattern consisted of a chain of successive and accelerating measures of oppression, all aimed at a final result: Disfranchisement, elimination from political, cultural, and economic life, spoliation, enslavement, starvation, deportation, physical torture, and finally, annihilation.

The extent to which Germany succeeded in carrying out this conspiracy to destroy a people is shown by the annexed statistical data.

The figures in ~~Exhibit~~ Exhibit A show that, by even the most conservative estimate, of the 9,600,000 Jews who lived in Europe (including the USSR) at the time when they came within the reach of Nazi power, 5,700,000 have disappeared--not killed on the battlefields but deliberately put to death.

Exhibit B shows that the total estimated Jewish possessions in the countries dominated and/or controlled by Germany amounted to from 8,230 to 8,620 million dollars. Most of this property is now lost--as a consequence not of war damage, but of outright robbery.

Another consequence of the slaughter of the Jews of Europe cannot be expressed in figures, But the impact of it is even more important to the

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future of the Jewish people and mankind. Old Jewish communities, with their own rich communal, spiritual, and economic life, for centuries bound up with the life of the nations in which they flourished, were completely wiped out. There is no need to stress the contributions these communities made to the civilization of their respective countries in all walks of life -- medicine, the arts, education, politics, trade industry, and commerce. Their destruction, carried out intentionally and methodically by the Nazis, represents a loss which cannot possibly be recouped. To grasp its significance, one need only imagine what gaps in all branches of our common culture would be evident today if such an extermination of the Jewish people had been conceived and carried out a century ago.

Even more drastic are the effects of this mass annihilation on Jewish population trends in Europe. The magnitude and scope of the biological extermination of the Jewish people by the Germans and their satellites is without precedent in recorded history. Even a partial restoration of the Jewish population cannot be encompassed within a foreseeable future in communities deprived of children and youth and composed in the main of aggregates of physical and mental wrecks and broken up families.

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B. Intent and Motives

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While the all-out fight against the Jew is at the bottom of Nazi racial ideology and the Nazi movement, the intent of complete physical annihilation was to some degree veiled during the early period of the Nazi advent to power, when Germany had not yet achieved sufficient strength to challenge the world. But after 1938, following the Anschluss with Austria and the Munich capitulation and, further, with the launching of the war of aggression, all restraint was discarded. The aim of destruction of the whole of European Jewry and the threat to Jews living beyond the immediate reach of the German conqueror was proclaimed openly.

To restate all official and semi-official utterances, statements, and manifestations to this effect would be impossible within the limits of this paper. Typical ones emanating from top Nazi leaders and agencies, given below, while far from exhaustive, will suffice to demonstrate clearly the Nazis' preconceived intent.

1 Nazi Party program and pledge by the members of the Nazi Party

The "immutable" National Socialist Party program adopted as early as 24 February 1920 contains two sections bearing directly and indirectly upon the fate of the Jews. Section 4 states:

"Only he can be a German citizen who is a Volksgenosse. Only a person of German blood can be a Volksgenosse, irrespective of religion. No Jew can be a Volksgenosse."

Furthermore Section 7 proclaims

"We request that the state take the obligation to provide in the first place for the possibilities of work and life for the citizens.

If it proves impossible to provide food for the whole population of the state, subjects of foreign nations (non-citizens) have to be expelled."

(Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch,
1939, page 148)

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The meaning of these provisions was explained by Gottfried Feder, author and official commentator of the Party program as follows:

"Anti-Semitism demands the expulsion of the Jews from our State and our economic life."

(Gottfried Feder, Hitler's Official Program, London, 1938, p. 57)

This policy of excluding Jews from food supplies, thus leading to their annihilation by starvation, materialized when the Nazis, after the outbreak of the war, introduced official food rationing and gradually reduced the rations granted a Jew to one-fifth of that allowed a German. Moreover, when in August 1942 the German Minister of Food, Herbert Backe, submitted to Hitler a plan for easing the difficult German food situation, he is said to have suggested the annihilation of the Jews living in Germany and in the occupied countries, after they had been deported to certain regions in Eastern Europe. ¹ In accepting and carrying out this plan, the Nazi Government acted in strict accord with the letter and spirit of the provisions referred to above.

As for the principle contained in Section 7 of the Party program, that the Jews as non-citizens should be excluded from all possibility of making a living, it was rigorously implemented in the solemn declaration which the German joining the Party had to make, in addition to his oath of blind and unconditional obedience to the Fuehrer: ²

1. According to documents reported to be held by the State Department.
2. The wording of this oath of allegiance was: "I pledge allegiance to my Fuehrer Hitler. I pledge respect and obedience at all times to him and to the leaders whom he may appoint over me." On the other hand, of the 14 commandments which were incumbent upon every party member, the following three merit particular attention:

- (1) The Fuehrer is always right.
- (2) The program is to be thy creed; it exacts from thee the utmost sacrifice and devotion;
- (3) Law is what best serves the Movement and thereby Germany, i.e., thy nation. (Nationalsozialistisches Jahrbuch, 1939, 153, 154.)

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"I hereby declare on my word of honor that from now on and in the future I shall never do business of any kind with Jews or with anyone connected directly or indirectly with Jews. I shall never enter a Jewish shop and will turn away any Jews who enter my place of residence or estate.

"I shall not consult a Jewish physician or a Jewish lawyer. I shall also take care that nobody in my family or my relatives makes acquaintance with Jews.

"I am aware that I have the opportunity to consult the list containing the names of Jewish businesses in my residential district. I am also aware that if I fail to keep this promise, or if I try to evade it, I shall be expelled immediately from the party, the SA, the Local Council, the National Socialist Organizations and that I may be branded both orally and by writing as a man who has broken his word of honor and as a scoundrel."

(Gangulee, The Mind and Face of Nazi Germany, London, 1942, pp. 73-74.

While this policy of uprooting and spiritual and economic destruction was bound of itself to lead to physical destruction, it is certain in any event that from the beginning the intent of physical annihilation existed in the minds of the Nazi top leaders. Obviously, Nazi tactics consisted in holding up the revelation of such major aims until the time was ripe.

Hitler himself admitted this policy in his speech of 29 November 1935, delivered at the dedication of the Deutschland-Halle in Berlin. He then stated:

"National Socialism explained to the people only the general principles. As a rule it was silent about tactics."

(Hitler's Speeches, 1922-1939, edited by Norman H. Baynes, London, 1942, Volume I, p. 119,

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However, the idea of elimination by violence is manifested from the very beginning of the Nazi anti-Jewish action by the unmistakable acts of the Nazi cohorts. "Deutschland erwache -- Juda verrecke!" (Germany awake -- Judah must perish!) is the official battle cry of the brownshirts. That Jewish blood must be shed was proclaimed by the official song of the SA:

"When our knives draw Jewish blood,
Our hearts are twice as light."

Again, the idea of extermination of Jewry as a bacillus poisoning the German people is Hitler's leading motif in Mein Kampf. (Hitler, Mein Kampf, English version, by R. Manheim, Boston, 1943, p. 305). Speaking of the German defeat of 1918, Hitler says:

"If at the beginning of the war and during the war twelve or fifteen thousand of these Hebrew corrupters of the people had been held under poison gas . . . the sacrifice of millions at the front would not have been in vain." (loc.cit., p. 679)

As early as 1932, Dr. Goebbels declared:

"It is true that the Jew is also a human being, but the flea is also an animal, but not a pleasant one. Since the flea is not a pleasant animal, we are not obliged to keep it, protect it, and let it prosper so that it may torture us. Our duty to ourselves and to our conscience requires us to make him harmless. Likewise with the Jews."

(Goebbels, Nazi-Soci, Fragen und Antworten fuer den National Sozialisten, 1932, p. 12)

The same Goebbels admitted unequivocally in 1933 that the intent of annihilation by violence existed from the very inception of the Nazi movement. He declared:

"Jewry must perish has been our battle cry for the last 14 years. Let it at last perish."

(Sunday Referee, London,
30 July 1933)

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On 17 July 1932, the SA Commander von Jagow wrote in the N.S.

Rheinfront:

"We shall thrust this scum of murderers into the ghettos and into the jails, and one day we will hang them up on the gallows."

(Jewish News, Jewish Central
Information Office, London,
1943, No. 13)

No less significant are the statements of various Nazi official organs.

In July 1933, the Deutsche Catfront wrote:

"Das juedische Volk ist ein Teufelsvolk. Es ist ein Volk von Verbrechern und Moerdern. Darum muss dass juedische Volk ausgerottet werden unter der Sonne."

(The Jewish people is a people of devils. It is a people of criminals and murderers. Hence the Jewish people is to be wiped out from under the sun.)

(Die Nation, Bern, 23 May 1945,
"Was wir nicht glauben wolthen.")

In the same month, Dietwart, official organ of the German Reich Sport Direction, wrote:

"Wuerde man denn nicht wilde Tiere, die Menschen fressen, sofort toeten, auch wenn sie menschenaehnlich waeren? Und sind denn diese Juden etwas anderes als Menschenfresser?"

(Would not wild beasts that devour human beings be killed immediately even though they have a human appearance? And those Jews, are they not but cannibals?)

(Loc. cit.)

In 1936, in one of the parks of Zehlendorf (a Berlin suburb), a statue was erected, representing a nude German athlete killing a snake with a hammer. The legend on the monument read:

"There can be no health for the people until the Jews have been extirpated."

(World Telegram, 21 October 1936)

After the capitulation of Munich which marked the climax of Germany's military preparations to launch an aggressive war to procure by force that which it could not conquer bloodlessly, the mask was completely lifted. The threat to get rid not only of German Jewry but also of the Jews in all European countries to be dominated or controlled was then openly confessed:

"National Socialism" wrote the Voelkischer Beobachter of 19 November 1938, "has never left any doubt that it considers as absolutely unbearable the presence of any substantial portion of Jewry on any territory reserved for German settlement; it has given proof that it is determined to proceed in earnest with the removal of the Jews."

No less outspoken is the statement of the Westdeutscher Beobachter of Cologne, 23 November 1938:

"Germany wants to get rid of the Jews -- at once, without any sloppy sentimentalism and without any haggling either. We do not deny, in fact we don't mind saying so quite openly, that we are doing our best to make life impossible for them."

And from Das Schwarze Korps, weekly journal of the SS, writing in its editorial of 24 November 1938:

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"The result would be the factual and final end of Jewry in Germany, its absolute extermination."

The most drastic admission to this effect was made by Hitler himself on 30 January 1939. Having obviously already taken the decision to plunge the world into an unparalleled cataclysm, he was already looking for the scapegoat to be charged with the guilt for the coming catastrophe. In his conversation with the Czech Minister of Foreign Affairs, Frantizek Chalkovsky, Hitler said:

1. Of the economic destruction of the Jews.

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"This vermin must be destroyed. The Jews are our sworn enemies and by the end of this year there will not be a Jew left in Germany We will give similar advice to Rumania, Hungary, etc. Germany will seek to form a bloc of anti-Semitic states, as she would not be able to treat as friends states in which the Jews, either through their economic activity or through their high positions, could exercise any kind of influence."

(French Ministry for Foreign Affairs,
The French Yellow Book. New York,
1940, p. 53.

After September 1939, the Nazi Government no longer made any secret of its firm determination to annihilate European Jewry. The threats expressed by Hitler in his conversation of 30 January 1939 were publicly repeated in his speeches of September 1939 and January 1941, following the occupation of Poland and of all Western Europe, as well as in his speeches of January 1942, March 1942, and January 1943, after he had recognized the failure of his blitzkrieg against Russia, and in his proclamation to the Party of February 1943. (New York Times, 1 October 1939, 2 January 1941, 31 January 1942, 15 March 1942, 2 January 1943, 24 February 1943) Only his speech of 31 January 1942 need be quoted:

"Aryan peoples will not disappear from Europe, and this war will see the destruction of Judaism."

No less outspoken were other Nazi leaders. Said Dr. Walter Gross, lecturing at the Institute for the Study of the Jewish Question, in Frankfurt-on-Main, 27 March 1941:

"We look upon Jewry as a thoroughly real phenomenon that has known the ways of earthly life exceedingly well, but is also liable to earthly death. As far as the historical appearance of the Jew in Europe is concerned, we believe that the hour of his death has irrevocably arrived."

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Said Alfred Rosenberg at the opening of the same Institute, a day later:

"Germany will regard the Jewish question as solved only after the very last Jew has left the Greater German living space Europe will have its Jewish question solved only after the very last Jew has left the continent."

(Both statements published in Weltkampf, journal of the Institute No. 1-2, April - September, 1941, pp. 52, 71.)

Similar statements were made by Robert Ley in Karlsruhe (Strassburger Neueste Nachrichten, 20 May 1942) and Julius Streicher (Der Stuermer, No. 39, 1 November 1942).

Hermann Goering said:

"This war is a war of races. It is to decide whether the German, the Aryan races, or the Jews shall rule the world. That is what we are fighting for."

(Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 6 October 1942)

Julius Streicher declared:

"The sun will not shine on the nations of the earth until the last Jew is dead."

(Solstice Festival, Hasselberg, 26 June 1938)

Goebbels confirms in cynical frankness this irrevocable determination to wipe out not only the Jews of Europe but even those in other continents. In connection with the stepping up of Allied air raids on Germany, he wrote in his own organ, Das Reich:

"The Jews are playing a frivolous game and will pay for it with the extermination of their race in all Europe and perhaps even beyond Europe"

(New York Times, 13 June 1942)

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About a year later, he again wrote in Das Reich:

"If we show the slightest trace of weakness in settling the Jewish question, we shall cause the greatest danger in the whole of Europe. The Jews are the glue which hold the enemy coalition together. Either we break the Jews or this nation will be broken by the Jews."

(The New York Sun, 1 May 1943)

Said Ley:

"Judah and capitalists and Bolsheviks, listen: We want Judah to be exterminated too. That we know. We swear we are not going to abandon the struggle until the last Jew in Europe has been exterminated and is actually dead. It is not going to isolate the Jewish enemy of mankind -- the Jew has got to be exterminated."

(Jewish News, London, 1943, No. 12 and No. 22)

Perhaps the clearest admission of the preconceived plan to annihilate the Jews of Europe is to be found in a statement made by Ley after the conquest of a part of Russia. He said:

"Today, however, the German Wehrmacht stands on the soil which was the starting point of the Jewish thrust for world domination. All the thousands of towns and villages where the Jews constituted far more than fifty percent of the population, and which furnished inexhaustible reinforcements for all the Jewish powers in the world, are in our hands. The enemy's base is occupied, and the knowledge of former mistakes and sins of omission is alive. Germany will draw the necessary conclusions from that knowledge."

(Der Angriff, June 1942)

A few days after this article was published, the deportation to Poland of Jews from all occupied Europe, and their mass slaughter, began.

Even in 1944, when the Nazis had already seen the handwriting on the wall, Robert Ley proclaimed the action against the Jews one of Germany's best secret weapons. Said Ley:

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"The second German secret weapon* is anti-Semitism. Because it is consistently pursued by Germany, it will become a universal problem which all nations will be forced to consider....That is why we appeal to all Germany to use both secret weapons: Judah must die to save humanity."

(Der Angriff, 14 May 1944)

Alfred Rosenberg, the philosopher of Nazism and the proponent of the deportation of the Jews to special reservations, insisted, as he did in all his writings, on the biological necessity of complete physical elimination of the Jews. In a speech delivered in 1943, he proclaimed:

"It is time to state that the Jews have no more business to remain in Europe. It is the task of all Europeans to cleanse Europe of the plague of Jewish murderers....This demand is not cruel but dictated by a biological necessity."

(Nationalblatt Luxemburg, 10 May 1943)

The same idea is developed by Rosenberg in his preface to the Manual published by the Office of Personnel of the Wehrmacht in January 1944, designed for the political education and training of the German officer and soldier.

Rosenberg points out that among the enemies of the eternal Reich, the Jews occupy the first place and that Hitler's merit consists in that he

"uncovered the Jews as arch-enemies of each Volkstum. Today we are the first Germanic people who got rid of Jews, but also the last Germanic bastion against world Jewry."

(Wofür kämpfen wir?, January 1944,
p. 23)

German admissions of specific guilt are difficult to find. Four such statements are submitted here, but a more painstaking search should reveal many more.

* The first weapon was robots.

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(1) Adolf Hitler, in a manifesto broadcast on 24 February 1943 over the Berlin radio, reiterated his threat to exterminate all the Jews in Europe:

"This struggle will not end as our enemies plan, with the annihilation of the Aryan part of humanity, but with the extinction of Jewry in Europe."

(New York Times, 25 February 1943)

(2) Joseph Goebbels, speaking of anti-Jewish measures in the Sportpalast on 18 February 1943, said:

"We shall exterminate (ausrotten)" -- then corrected himself --
"to exclude (ausschalten) them."

(World Telegram, New York,
19 February 1943)

(3) Danziger Vorposten, 13 May 1944 in an editorial by Lobsack entitled "Judah before its Fall," said:

"There is no longer any Jewish problem in the Reich and even in other European areas. Jewry has suffered further heavy losses. For instance, the Jewish population centres which we found in Poland, Warsaw, and Lublin have been neutralized just as much as is at present the case in Hungary. By this action five million Jews have been eliminated in these countries alone.

"The consequences of the materialization of Nazi World Power will be even more terrific for Jewry than its defeat..."

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