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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of: Joachim RIBBENTROP

By: Colonel H.A. Brundage, 29 August 1945 p.m. Nuremberg

PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS IMPLICATED, AND SUBJECTS

1. RIBBENTROP

a. German Foreign Policy

- (1) England (6-12)
- (2) Austria (p.19)
- (3) Sudetenland (p.20) (a) The VDA (pp.20-21)
- (4) Munich Conference (pp.22-23)
- (5) Hitler's August 1939 Speech at Obersalzberg (pp.40-46)

b. The Jewish Question (pp.45-47)

Von Ribbentrop

29 August 1945 PM

GERMAN FOREIGN POLICY

Ribbentrop recounts events in German foreign politics beginning June 1935; visit of Simon and Eden in Berlin; Naval arrangement in London; visit to France (1,2). He discusses his work and the contacts he established in England from 1930 on (4-5), and Hitler's and his ideas about relations between England and Germany (6,7,8,9,10,11,12); how these relations deteriorated (13,14,15,16) and finally led to war (17,18). He elaborates on the political aspects of the annexation of Austria, Memel (19) and of Sudetenland (20)-in the latter of which VDA (Verein fuer Deutschum im Ausland) had a hand (20,21),-and their culmination in the Munich conference (22,23). Ribbentrop maintains that he never had adequate liaison with military events (24,25,40,41) and continues in longwinded tirades along well-known Nazi idealogi s (26,27,28).

Ribbentrop emphatic lly refuses to believe that Hitler ever made the notorious speecch of 22 August 1939 at Obersalzberg before a meeting of the Supreme Commanders and Commanding Generals of which he says he was never heard (29-40, 44,45,46) Ribbentrop talks on about "Lebensraum" (41,42) and about minority problems (43). He knew that by 1939 it was concentration camp for criticism (45) and he had a "frightful row" with Streicher in 1935 about the Jewish question (47).