

1. Did you believe that ^{Hitler}~~Goering~~ was intent on aggressive war? *When you come to believe that. What led you to believe it? Before you believed did you suspect it?*
2. What other Defendants did you believe were intent on aggressive war?
3. Name the Defendants and state the basis for your opinion, including discussions you had with them. *Did you talk with any of them - Did you know your experience?*
4. Were you before 1933 opposed to reparations?
5. If so, why?
6. Were you opposed to other provisions of the Treaty of Versailles? *Yes.*
7. If so, which? *Name the specific provisions*
8. Specify as to each subject why you were opposed to the particular provisions of the Treaty.
9. Did you favour Germany's adherence to the Treaty of Locarno?
10. Did you feel Locarno was a treaty that could be broken unilaterally by Germany?
11. Did you feel that Germany needed Lebensraum?
12. Did you favour an attempt to regain colonies?
13. What were your views about additional living space if Germany could not get colonies?
14. When did you first read "Mein Kampf"?
15. Did you draw from "Mein Kampf" the conclusion that Hitler's views and the necessity for living space generally agreed with your own views?

16. Did you understand from "Mein Kampf" that Hitler desired additional soil for the German people?
17. Did you understand from "Mein Kampf" that this soil should be on the Continent of Europe?
18. Did you understand from "Mein Kampf" that this soil should be in the East?
19. Did you, between the time you read "Mein Kampf" and 1932, have any evidence of any change of intention on Hitler's part with respect to the acquisition of territories in the East?
20. If so, what evidence?
21. When you came to favour Hitler for the Chancellorship, did you feel that you could subscribe to his foreign policy as well as to his domestic policy?
22. What you did at that time understand Hitler's foreign policy to be?
23. When did you first determine to support Hitler and his party?
24. What were the motivating considerations?
25. When did you first meet Goering?
26. What discussions did you have with him?
27. Was foreign policy touched upon?
28. If so, in what respects?
29. When did you first have talks with Hitler?
30. Was foreign policy touched upon?
31. If so, in what respects?

3.

32. Specifically, did you talk to Hitler prior to his taking power about the abrogation of the Treaty of Versailles?

33. Did you talk to Hitler

34. Did you talk to Hitler about a proposed abrogation of the restrictions of German armament.

35. If so, what ~~what~~ was the discussion?

36. Did you talk to Hitler about the acquisition of territories?

37. If so, what territories were discussed:

- (a) Those lost by Germany in the First World War?
- (b) Those territories inhabited by so-called racial Germans?
- (c) Other territories in Europe?
- (d) Colonies?

38. With respect to questions 27 through 37, state discussions that you had on the subject matter contained in these questions with other Nazi leaders and the Defendants in this case. Divide the answer, if possible, into discussions:

- (a) prior to the taking over of power in 1933, and
- (b) thereafter.

39. Did you gain the impression from Hitler, Goering and other Nazi leaders that there was a general objective in foreign policy, namely, the acquisition of territories on the Continent of Europe, but that the means would have to be determined by the course of events?

40. If so, give some detail with respect to such discussions?

41. Did you discuss with any of the Defendants the use of threats intimating fifth column activities and propaganda to acquire foreign soil?

4.

42. If so, specify in detail.
43. Did you have any discussions with any of the Defendants to the general effect that international treaties were not to be considered obligations but that such treaties could be abrogated by unilateral action if it were in the interests of Germany to do so?
44. If so, state the discussions and with what Defendants?
45. Did you discuss with Hitler or any of the Defendants a proposal to incorporate Austria into the Reich?
46. If so, with whom and when?
47. Was it made clear to you that Austria should be annexed with the will of the Austrian people if possible and without their will if necessary?
48. Was it an aim of the Nazi Party in Austria to cause trouble so as to make possible a German intervention and annexation?
49. With whom did you discuss this matter?
50. When did you first discuss it?
51. Was the Nazi Party in Austria supported by the Nazi Party in Germany?
52. Who was in charge of providing this support?
53. Were requests made to you for financing means to support the Nazi Party in Austria?
54. What were you told the purpose of these subventions were?
55. Did the Defendants or any of them discuss with you particular goals of German foreign policy, e.g. the Corridor, Memel, Austria, the Sudetenland?

5.

56. When did these discussions take place and with whom?
57. Was it understood that rearmament was to be the means for achieving foreign policy successes?
58. During the period 1933 to 1935, was there secret rearmament?
59. Did you participate in it?
60. To what extent?
61. During this period, what was the purpose of the rearmament as stated by you by any of the Defendants or Hitler?
62. Before you accepted the Presidency of the Reichsbank in 1933, did Hitler tell you that one of your functions would be to finance rearmament?
63. If so, did you agree?
64. If so, who else was present at these discussions?
65. Was there a progressive development of Hitler's views on foreign policy as presented to the inner circle during the period 1933 to 1938?
66. If so, state the development?
67. Did there come a time when it was made clear to the inner circle that a show down with the USSR was inevitable?
68. If so, when?
69. Was not this intention of Hitler an intention to attack the USSR and eliminate it as a potential opponent on the Continent?

70. Did there come a time when Hitler stated to the inner circle that military action against the USSR need no longer depend upon an alliance with Britain?
71. If so, when?
72. Was it Hitler's idea, as stated to the inner circle, that Great Britain was so unprepared, both militarily and psychologically for intervention, that she could be disregarded in his plans against the USSR?
73. Was it Hitler's policy during the period 1933 to 1937 and known to the inner circle that he was proceeding step by step in territorial acquisitions in Europe?
74. Was it Hitler's policy as known to the inner circle during 1933 to 1937 that he could obtain territories by a piecemeal process without danger of intervention?
75. Was it Hitler's policy as known to the inner circle during 1933 to 1937 that he would obtain territories by the use of his Armed Force as a threat to smaller nations?
76. Was it Hitler's policy during 1933 to 1938 and known to the inner circle that if Hitler could not obtain his territorial objectives by threat, propaganda and fifth column activities alone, he intended the use of force?
77. Was it felt in the Cabinet from 1933 to 1938 that the rearmament program itself involved a risk of war in that the Powers might intervene to correct the unilateral abrogation of Germany's international treaties?
78. Was it understood that the march into and de-militarisation of the Rhineland was a preliminary step to territorial acquisitions?

7.

79. When the fortifications were built in the west, was it the intention as stated to members of the Government that its purpose was to protect Germany in the west while its arms were deployed for aggression in the east?
80. Did you agree with Hitler that all persons of so-called "German blood" should be under the protection of the Reich regardless of their nationality?
81. With which of the Defendants did you discuss such a policy?
82. Was it your feeling that no territory in the east could be won without going to war?
83. Did you derive this opinion from discussions with the Defendants or from your general knowledge of the European situation, or both?
84. Did you read in "Mein Kampf" that Hitler rejected a colonial solution to Germany's alleged need for living space?
85. Did you in your early discussions with Hitler find that his views, as stated in "Mein Kampf" on the colonial question, had not substantially changed?
86. Did a time come when Hitler authorized you to make certain requests of the Powers, particularly France and Great Britain, for colonial acquisitions?
87. Did Hitler ever agree that the obtaining of colonies by Germany would be in lieu of obtaining additional territories in Europe?
88. With which of the Defendants did you discuss the colonial problem and what were the discussions?
89. Was it understood among the Defendants that the Armed Forces of Germany would be used to make demands upon the Powers and upon particular countries for territory which Germany wanted?

8.

90. Did you learn from discussions with Hitler from 1933 to 1937 that Hitler felt he must present the German people with a military victory?
91. Did you have such discussions with other Defendants?
92. If so, state the discussions and when they took place?
93. Did you talk to Hitler and Defendants concerning the economic requirements when war came?
94. Did you discuss, for example, whether or not a gold reserve would be needed for war?
95. Did you feel that the over-doing of armaments contained the danger of war in itself.
96. If so, when did you first feel this?
97. Did you also feel that once a large rearmament program had been set up it would be difficult, if not impossible, to cut it down because of serious repercussions on the economy?
98. If so, with which of the Defendants did you discuss this matter?
99. Did you not by the Summer of 1936 know that Hitler intended aggressive warfare if he could not obtain his territorial objectives by threat?
100. What discussions did you have with other Defendants during 1936 concerning such intentions?
101. Did you understand in 1936 that Hitler was taking great risks in the field of foreign affairs?
102. What were these risks?

103. Were you told that all formations of the Air Force had to be ready by 1 April 1937?
104. If so, what conclusions did you draw therefrom?
105. With whom did you discuss the matter?
106. Did you know as early as 1934 that the policies of Hitler were dangerous for the peace and quiet of the world?
107. If so, what made you think that?
108. Did you, as early as 1934, state to Ambassador Dodd that the Hitler Party is absolutely committed to war?
109. If so, on what did you base your opinion?
110. What was your purpose in indicating this fact to the United States Ambassador?
111. Did you in January 1937 when you talked to Ambassador Davies realise that peace could not be assured unless Hitler were given some territories?
112. If so, for how long before your conversation with Ambassador Davies had you known this?
113. Was it clear to you when you talked to Ambassador Davies that if peace could not be assured it would be only because Germany would press the acquisition of territories, if necessary to the point of aggressive war?
114. If this is true, for how long had you been of this opinion?
115. Were other Defendants in agreement with you on this point?
116. If so, give details.

10.

117. Did you tell Ambassador Bullitt in late 1937 that Hitler was determined to have Austria?

118. For how long had you known this?

119. Did you mean that Hitler intended to have Austria by any means, including aggressive military action?

120. List the Defendants with whom you discussed the acquisition of Austria and give details.

121. Specifically give your discussions with:

- (a) Goering
- (b) Von Papen
- (c) Seyss Inquart
- (d) Von Neurath
- (e) Ribbentrop
- (f) others

122. Did you convey to foreign diplomats that Hitler was intent on the goal of the Sudetenland?

123. If so, when and how long had you known such intention?

124. Did you mean to convey that such intention included aggressive war if necessary?

125. Did you suggest to United States diplomats that the United States confine its interests to the Far East and give Germany a free hand in Europe?

126. Was this based on discussions with other Defendants than Hitler?

127. What did you mean by a "free hand in Europe"?

128. What were the discussions ^{with} ~~xxxx~~ Hitler and the Defendants concerning the revolution ~~on~~ in Spain?

129. Was this revolution understood to be a first step in a plan for the acquisition of territories by Germany?
130. Was it considered an aim of German foreign policy to support Franco among other reasons for the purpose of immunising Britain's control of the Mediterranean through the possession of Gibraltar?
131. What did you do towards aiding Franco?
132. What did other Defendants do?
133. When you subscribed to the views of Hitler prior to his taking power, was there a discussion to the point that it would be more desirable for you to serve the cause by not becoming a formal member of the Nazi Party?
134. When you supported Hitler before his obtaining power, were you in agreement with him on the following doctrines:
 - (a) That Germans were a master race?
 - (b) That the German people should be ruled on the Fuehrer principle?
 - (c) That Trade Unions should be eliminated?
 - (d) That the Nazi Party should control the State?
 - (e) That Jews should be deprived of their civil rights and deprived of rights of citizenship?
135. Did you discuss these tenets of the Nazi Party with any of the Defendants?
136. If so, state their views?
137. When the Reich Defence Law of 1935 was passed, were there discussions in the Cabinet or in Hitler's entourage to the effect that the creation of an Armed Force was not merely for defence but for the furthering of an aggressive foreign policy including the use of such force, if necessary, to obtain living space?

138. Did you feel that the purge of 1934 was proper, morally and legally?

139. Did you approve the measures taken in 1933 to deprive the Jewish people of civil liberties?

140. Did you approve the creation of concentration camps for political prisoners?

141. Did you approve giving the Gestapo wide powers of detention and imprisonment?

142. Did you approve of the attacks on the Churches made by responsible Nazis?

If

143. ~~xxxx~~ you objected to any of these internal policies of the regime, to whom did you make your protests and what were the answers that you received?

144. Did you favour a purging of civil servants on racial grounds?

145. Did you favour the purging of civil servants for "political unreliability"?

146. If you objected to either of these policies, to whom did you make your protests and what were the answers you received?

147. Did you approve with the policy of the SS?

148. If not, to whom did you object and what were the answers?

149. Did you understand that it was the intention of the Nazi leaders to destroy the Jews?

150. Did you know the views of Rosenberg, Ley, Streicher, Goering and of other Defendants as well on this point?

151. Did you understand that the regime of which you were a member was dedicated to such a proposition?

152. Did you approve of the regimentation of education in Germany and the ousting of University professors for "political unreliability".
153. In the measures that you took to prepare Germany's economy for war, was it understood in the discussions you had with various Defendants that aggressive war would be conducted if the pressure of the Armed Force alone could not obtain Germany's foreign objectives?
154. In 1935 when Germany announced to the world that it would respect the territorial limitations of the Versailles Treaty and comply with the Locarno pacts, was it understood among the Defendants that this was a mere pretence to the world and that, if necessary, it would not be adhered to?
155. When the German Government announced in March 1936 that it had no territorial demands to make in Europe was it known to the Defendants that this was untrue?
156. If so, state with which Defendants the matter was discussed and the nature of the discussions?
157. Was it understood among the Defendants that Hitler's various pronouncements to the effect that Germany did not intend to interfere in Austria or to conclude the Anschluss were untrue?
158. State any discussions with the Defendants on this subject?
159. Did Hitler state to you after Munich that Chamberlain had prevented his military march into Prague?
160. If so, who was present?

14.

161. Was this expression of Hitlers similar to those he had earlier used in your presence, namely, that he required a military victory?
162. If so, what other Defendants knew Hitler's view on this point?
163. State your views on the Jewish question as you held them during your term of office as a member of the Reich Cabinet.
164. How did they differ from the views of other Defendants, if told?
165. Specify which Defendants held what views?
166. When you made your preparations for war as Minister of Economics and as Plenipotentiary, did you think of any nations as likely to commit aggression against Germany?
167. If so, which and for what purpose?
168. Was there any nation in Europe, in your opinion, which had territorial designs on Germany?
169. If so, which nation and what territory?

Answers to Questionary.

1.

1. No.
2. I knew of none.
3. -
4. Yes.
5. Because it was impossible to pay them.
6. Yes.
7. To the provisions which shrinked German selfgovernment and sovereignty.
8. I wanted Germany to be on equal foot with her neighbours.
9. Yes.
10. No.
11. The word "Lebensraum" is misleading. The truth is that Germany is 20% short of foodstuffs the regular supply of which I think has to be secured.
12. Yes.
13. It is not the question of territorial space but of securing the regular import of foodstuffs. If not by colonies, then it may be secured by more open markets in the world or by customs unions with some more agricultural neighbour countries like Poland, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Denmark etc.
14. Summer 1930.
15. I disagreed entirely with his views of getting "Lebensraum" in Europe.
16. Yes.
17. Yes.
18. Yes.
19. No.
20. -
21. Not at all. But as in "Mein Kampf" he had declared territorial acquisitions in the East possible only, if Great Britain would support him and as I was convinced, that Great Britain would never do that, I was not concerned about this matter.
22. Hitler had always stated that his policy was "Peace and Bread". I trusted him at that time.

- 2.
23. I did not support the Party. In 1932 I have asked Hitler once, whether he wanted me to join the Party, which he declined to my satisfaction.
24. Since July 1932 Hitler was the leader of the by far greatest party of the Reichstag. He had promised to maintain right, to protect the church, to do away with unemployment and to maintain peace.
25. December 1930.
26. I do not remember any details. It was all more general.
27. It may be that the restrictions on Germany of the Treaty of Versailles have been discussed.
28. -
29. January 1931.
30. No, as far as I remember, domestic problems were discussed only. It may be that the Treaty of Versailles has also been touched upon as under question 27.
31. -
32. It was quite clear that the Treaty of Versailles could not be abrogated, but every German wanted certain changes.
33. The conversation with Hitler in January 1931 took place in Goering's apartment.
34. Not at this first occasion, as far as I remember.
35. Later I stated that if the Allies did not fulfil their obligation under the Versailles Treaty to disarm, the alternative was a rearmament of Germany.
36. Never, except of colonies.
37. (d) One or another of the former German colonies.
38. I have never had any close relations or contact with other Nazi leaders than Hitler and Goering. I do not remember to have had discussions of that sort with them. As to my colonial ideas I have discussed them with Neurath and many others. I have made public speeches and written articles on that matter.

39. I have never had any indication to that effect but the general desire to include the Austrian and Sudeten Germans into the Reich.
40. -
41. Never.
42. -
43. Never.
44. -
45. Never, except that we hoped that Austria would one day by public vote or parliamentary decision express the desire to join the Reich as she did in 1919.
46. -
47. I never heard of an intended incorporation of Austria against the will of the Austrian people.
48. At the time I had no indication to that effect. But looking backward I should to day say: yes.
49. I never had such discussion.
50. -
51. That, I do not know.
52. -
53. Never.
54. -
55. Hitler has never discussed with me any foreign policy problems, except on colonies which I brought before him. His foreign political actions came to me and probably to most of the other ministers as a surprise.
56. -
57. The only aim of rearmament, which I have ever discussed with Hitler, was the restoration of German sovereignty and of equality with her neighbours in all international negotiations.
58. I do not know, when the rearmament has exactly started, but certainly before 1935. From a memorandum which

4.

was shown to me by one of the interrogators I saw that until May 1935 the Reichsbank had given credits up to nearly 2500 million RM.

59. Yes. The amount mentioned under 58 was lent by the Reichsbank.

60. See answer under 58.

61. See answer under 57.

62. Yes, we agreed about that.

63. -

64. Nobody.

65. See answer under 55. I did not know of any inner circle. I do not remember that foreign political problems were ever discussed in the Cabinet, the only organisation I belonged to since August 1934.

66. -

67. I have never heard thereof.

68. -

69. I do not know.

70. I never heard of that.

71. -

72. I know nothing thereabout.

73. I have never heard of any such intentions.

74. I did not know anything thereabout.

75. I never heard of that.

76. I never heard of that.

77. The progress and the consequences of rearmament have never been discussed in the Cabinet. I personally was not afraid of the risk, because I expected not war but diplomatic intervention and in consequence thereof a new international discussion of general disarmament.

78. Not, as far as I know.

79. I have never discussed or heard of such idea.

80. No.
81. With none, because it was absurd.
82. Surely.
83. From my knowledge of European situation.
84. Yes.
85. Hitler in the first years of my knowing him was rather reluctant as to the colonial outlet. Not before 1936 he agreed to my taking up international discussions thereabout.
86. In Summer 1936.
87. He had never mentioned to me that he intended to win eastern territories, because I had in previous conversations - before he came to power - rejected his ideas which he had outlined in „Mein Kampf“. My own hope was, that he would drop those foolish ideas in case Germany would get a colonial outlet.
88. See answer under 37.
89. I have never heard of that.
90. No.
91. No.
92. -
93. To Hitler: yes, and may be to Goering. I have always maintained that Germany's economic potentials were so insufficient that we should do everything to avoid war.
94. Whether such a point has ever been discussed at all I do not know. Our gold reserve did not count small as it was. Generally I liked foreign exchange better than gold.
95. Yes.
96. I never learned to what extent we had armed. From the beginning however of arming I have tried to go slowly and without compromising the economic needs of Germany.

B

ny, In 1938 I became earnestly suspicious about the dangers of over-doing armement.

97. I did not feel that way. There were lots of objectives of peaceful character to carry through for which the money could be spent better than on over-arming.

98. I may have expressed such opinions in occasional conversations, but there was no real discussion on all such such points. Hitler decided and the others accepted.

99. No.

100. None.

101. No.

102. I do not know of any.

103. No. It is the first time I hear of that, today.

104. -

105. -

106. No.

107. -

108. That is absolutely untrue.

109. -

110. -

111. I have always endeavored to convince any foreign politician of influence that something had to be done to satisfy the economic needs of the German People. If nothing of that kind happened, I was always afraid of some dreadful trouble, upheaval, economic or political ~~subversive~~ crisis, social outbreak etc. which nobody would be able to control command. I have never asked for territories - excepting always colonies - nor have I threatened anyone with war. But I myself was frightfully afraid of something unexpected, so that

such conversations as with Dodd, Bullitt, Davies etc. were mere cries for help.

112. See answer under 111.

113. I had never heard of any intention of an aggressive war.

114. -

115. -

116. -

117. It was well known that everybody wanted the "Anschluss."

118. Since the resolution of the Austrian Parliament in 1919 which asked the Anschluss.

119. I never thought of that, nor did I want it.

120. I had no special discussions about this. It was general opinion.

121. -

122. I may have mentioned that.

123. I think that the Sudeten problem was not taken up by Hitler before towards the end of 1937.

124. Never.

125. If this question would mean a free hand in politics it would be ridiculous to ask such a thing and I certainly never did. If anything of a similar kind has been said by me it can only have referred to the economic field. I was at some time often attacked for my barter agreements with the Balkan countries. In the course of discussions thereon I may have said that U.S.A. had the enormous far eastern markets for their trade and that they should not envy us our growing trade relations with the near east.

126. It was certainly my own view only.

127. See answer under 125.

128. I have never had any conversation with Hitler or other leading party or military persons thereabout.
129. I have not the slightest idea thereabout.
130. I have no idea.
131. Nothing.
132. I do not know.
133. See answer under 23. He might have thought so, but I am sure he always felt that I was not a man for the Party. When he dismissed me in January 1939 from the Reichsbank he said to me: "You do not fit into the whole Nazi-picture." He was right.
134. a. No.
b. Not without democratic control. I have never in America the Führer-principle in the Reichsbank.
c. No.
d. No. I have permanently defected and maintained the state authority over the party.
e. No.
135. Yes.
136. As far as they were party members, they did not agree with me. The others did in most of the items.
137. I never heard of such discussions.
138. No.
139. No.
140. No.
141. No.
142. No.
143. I made a written protest to Hitler May 3rd, 1935. He tried to appease me by calling all these things unavoidable elements of a revolution, which would

cease after some time. Nevertheless I have repeated⁹ my views publicly in a speech at Königsberg in summer 1935.

144. No.

145. No.

146. As to question 144: In the Reichsbank there were altogether seven Jewish officials out of some 3000. He had to dismiss them according to the law but we have helped them to find a job elsewhere. As to 145: Nobody in the Reichsbank has ever been treated as unreliable. When once I got the order to discriminate former Freemasons I answered that I declined to do this because I myself was a Freemason. No answer to that was received.

147. By no means.

148. See answer under 143.

149. I never knew of that.

150. Only as far as they were public.

151. The cabinet has never discussed or resolved such a declaration. The non-party ministers were certainly not in favor of any prosecution of the Jews. After the pogrom against the Jews November 9th 1938 I have publicly called it shameless and detestable in a meeting of Reichsbank employees.

152. No.

153. I have never prepared Germany's economy for war. I have always been a pacifist. See also answer under 93. I have never had any discussion or knowledge of discussions on an aggressive war.

154. I did not know of any pretence. I believed in the truth of such declaration and approved it.

155. I did not know of any intention. I agreed to the announcement sincerely. ^{W.}

156. With none.

157. I never heard of that. I have taken the announcement of Hitler as sincere.

158. There were none.

159. He did not state it to me. I heard him saying that in a small group of his entourage by mere chance.

160. I cannot say. They were mostly SS people.

161. I have never heard such or similar utterances of Hitler.

162. I do not know.

163. I have always ridiculed the racial hatred against the Jews as an inferiority complex testis of its immorality. When I took the management of the Ministry of Economics I asked Hitler as to the treatment of the Jews. He stated to me that in economic life the Jews should be treated like all others. This rule I have carried through against all attacks of the Party. I have protected every Jew as far as my Ministry was concerned. Besides I have helped a good many Jews who wanted to emigrate.

164. The party members were all anti-Jewish.

165. I cannot specify.

166. I never made preparations for war. I did not expect any aggression against Germany. I hoped that an invasion as 1923 into the Ruhr would not happen again.

167. —

168. No.

169. —

November 17th 45.

Erasmus Schacht