

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON SCHACHT'S ANSWERS TO THE 169 QUESTIONS.

1. It is clear that Schacht is unwilling to give an inch on the question of aggressive war and that he does not intend to implicate any other Defendants.

2. Some ADMISSIONS are implied in his answers:

a. Answering Question 15 he stated "I disagreed entirely with his views of getting Lebensraum in Europe". The clear implication is that Hitler wanted it. But we need not rely on implication because the answers to Questions 16, 17 and 18 indicate that Schacht understood Hitler's views in "Mein Kampf" that soil in the east should be obtained for Germany. He nevertheless supported him. Emphasising the point/<sup>the answer</sup> to Question 19 indicates that between the time Schacht read "Mein Kampf" in 1930 and 1932 when he agreed to support Hitler, he had no evidence of any change in Hitler's part with respect to the acquisition of territories in the east.

b. He re-affirms that from his knowledge of the European situation he had the feeling that no territory in the east could be won without going to war. - Questions 81, 82. Schacht drops his guard in answer to Question 7 where he says "I have 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". This makes it clear that not only had Schacht read "Mein Kampf" but that he had also discussed Hitler's territorial actions in the east with him personally and further that Hitler had stuck to his guns.

3. CONTRADICTIONS.

a. In Answering Question 21 he stated that he could not subscribe to Hitler's foreign policy. In several speeches later he pointed out that rearmament was for the purpose of furthering Hitler's foreign policy.

b. Schacht has always boasted that he never became a member of the Nazi Party. Yet in answer to Question 23 he states "in 1932 I have asked Hitler once whether he wanted me to join the Party which he declined to my satisfaction." Obviously Schacht was willing to join the Party.

c. With respect to the answer to Question 38, it is transparently ridiculous that he discussed colonies alone with Neurath and others but never discussed alternatives thereto.

d. The answer to Question 67 is directly contradictory to the minutes of 4 September 1936 concerning the "show-down with Russia"

e. In answer to Question 96 he says he first felt that the over-doing of armaments contained the danger of war in 1938. He has previously testified that he felt that in 1936. The difference is extreme because in March 1937 he agreed to give Hitler another 3 billion RM for armaments.

f. Answer to Question 101 is contradicted by the Minutes of 4 September 1936 where Goering says Hitler was taking great risks in foreign policy.

g. In answer to Question 134 Schacht maintains that he did not ~~xxxx~~ believe in anything Hitler stood for and yet he supported him. He will turn out to be the most hypocritical man in history!

h. All the measures in 138 through 142 were taken while Schacht was a member of the Government and he failed to protest. Now he says he disapproved of them all without exception.