

14 November 1945

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To: General Donovan

From: Dr. v. Schlabrendorff

Subject: Interrogation with Schacht

On 13th of November 1945 I have had a talk with Schacht.

Time: one hour. Participants: Captain Nordon, Dr. v. Schlabrendorff and one soldier.

1.) I asked Schacht if he is clear who are his defenders. He answered: "Yes, Professor Kraus from the university Göttingen is my advocate. But it is in doubt if besides Dr. Dix from Berlin can come to defend me also." Schacht said: "I hope the trial is certainly on 20th of November and the trial is short."

2.) I asked Schacht if it is clear for him that the trial is not the main point in a proceeding. I am convinced that the heavy-weight in each proceeding lies in the preparation. Schacht answered: "Yes, therefore I have the desire to speak with a top man of the prosecution. Do you know who is fit for such a talk?" I answered it is not impossible that General Donovan is the man with whom Schacht can speak often.

By the interrogation said Schacht, he might tell the whole life of 1933-1944 with and against Hitler. He might say the whole truth. Schacht asked me, on which way he is able to inform General Donovan of his desire. I advised him to write a letter to General Donovan as soon as possible. Schacht affirmed and discussed with me what he shall write. The result was: Schacht will write a letter to General Donovan till 14th of November three o'clock in the afternoon. Schacht will say three points:

- i) He appreciates the International Military Tribunal.
- ii) He is innocent.
- iii) He is ready to say the whole truth about the years 1933-1944.

v. Schlabrendorff