

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of LAHOUSEN Erwin, 19 September 1945 A.M.
By: Colonel John H. Amen

PERSONS IMPLICATED AND SUBJECTS

1. LAHOUSEN

- a) Border incident at the Brenner Pass in 1943
 - (1) General Warlimont, General Gause, Rommel (p.1)
 - Canaris (p.4,8)

2. JODL

- a) Giraud and Weygand affair (p.7)
- b) Keitel (p.7)

3. HITLER

- a) Killing of Poles (p.10)
- b) Lahousen, Canaris, Keitel, Jodl. (p.10)
- c) Relationship between Canaris and Keitel (pp.11,12)

VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL RULES OF WAR

- 1. About the border incident at the Brenner Pass, the witness remembered a conference in Berchtesgaden in May 1943, under the chairmanship of General Warlimont. Also present were: General Gause, Rommel's Chief of Staff. Warlimont stressed the secrecy of the subject, especially also toward the superior of Lahousen i.e., Admiral Canaris.

General Warlimont remarked on a statement of General Gause about his worry regarding the passiveness of the Italians in watching the Alpine passes in the following words: "well, we could help that. It is quite possible that the English could attack the passes and destroy them. Of course you know we have English bombs."

WEYGAND AFFAIR

- B. Jodl once asked the witness, about the measures he had taken in the affair Weygand. The order for the Weygand affair did surely not originate in the head of Keitel, but was only transmitted by him. Jodl and Keitel are to the same extent involved in the Giraud affair as they were in the Weygand affair. (p.7)

Erwin Lahousen, 19.Sep.45
A.M.

CRUEL AND INHUMAN TREATMENT OF THE POPULATION IN POLAND
PARTICULARLY WITH REFERENCE TO THE JEWS.

G. Before the fall of Warsaw, a conference took place in Hitler's train. Present were Lahousen, Canaris, Keitel, Jodl and Hitler. Hitler in a monologue said it was necessary to make a political house-cleaning (Politische Flurbereinigung), that is, to eliminate the clergy, aristocracy intelligentsia and Jews, meaning to kill them all. (p.10) At this meeting the witness handed in a typewritten note, which is translated and attached to these records. Its title is "Relationship between Canaris and Keitel". Two sentences of this note are of particular interest and are quoted as follows: Canaris put at Keitel's disposal all the evidence of actual events in the world, and the actual reaction of the world, and - as far as it existed - that of the German people against the method of statesmanship and conduct of war of the Third Reich. Canaris warned him on innumerable occasions (p.12) - Relationship between Canaris & Keitel-Handwritten statement from Lahousen of October 23 is identical with a translation thereof involved in the minutes of 19.Sep.1945 on page 11 & 12.