

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

INTERROGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

Interrogation of LAMMERS, Heinrich

By: Lt. Col. Thomas A. Hinkel, 13 September 1945, a.m. Nuremberg.

PERSONS IMPLICATED AND SUBJECTS

1. LAMMERS, Heinrich
 - a. political position (pp.1,2,3,4,5)
 - b. Relationship with Schacht (pp.2,6,9,10,16); with Hitler, (pp.3,4,16); with Funk (pp.10,14,15); with Bormann, (pp.11,12); with Menzel (p.14); with Carl Falk (p.14).
2. Financing of the armament
 - a. LAMMERS (pp.5,7)
 - b. BLOMBERG (p.7)
 - c. GOERING (p.7)
 - d. SCHWERIN-KROSIK (pp.8,9)
 - e. Gen. BECK (p.13)
 - f. THOMAS (p.13)
 - g. KRUPP (p.13)
 - h. FRICK (p.13)
3. von PAPAN
 - a. Political position (p.3)

POLITICAL STATUS:

In 1920, entered the Ministry of Interior, under von WELSER. Knew Schacht only slightly; no conferences with him before Nazis came into power, no dealings with him until after he became President of the Reichsbank (p.2). Took no part in the seizure of power by the Nazis. Became leader of the Reichs Chancellory, 30 January 1933 (p.2). When asked to explain this tremendous promotion he said that his rise was not so sudden, that he missed only one step in the hierarchical ladder (p.2). Claims he never acted as representative of Hitler, and could not sign in the name of any Minister. (p.3). States that only the Vice-Chancellor, von Papen, could have acted for the Fuehrer (p.3-4).

States that Chancellory Secretary had considerably less influence under the Hitler totalitarian regime, carrying out administrative, routine non-political matters, (p.4)

Lammers Heinrich, 13.Sept.45 a.m.

Says his office had only fourteen officials and constituted one tenth of Reichs Chancellory.(p.4)

REARMAMENT

Cannot remember when Schacht first asked for money for rearmament or when State Police was taken over by the Reich. State Police came under Ministry of Interior. Knows no details of rearmament program and recalls only certain documents asking for credits and Hitler's signature for certain armament programs as they passed through his hands. (p.5).

Had only one conference with Schacht when the latter planned to resign from the Reichsbank to avoid inflation. Did not participate in financing rearmament, but presumes Hitler discussed the matter with Military Departments, Finance Minister Krosigk, and probably Schacht.(p.6).

Rearmament was also under the jurisdiction of the Military Departments. He did not attend their conferences, but presumably Goering and Blomberg were involved.

AUDIENCES WITH HITLER

Visitors who had business with Hitler relative to his Chancellory went through his antechamber, but he knew nothing of Hitler's private visitors. Hitler's invitations to the Reich Finance Minister or the Reichsbank President were given directly, not through his office, after 1933 (p.7).

Had arranged a systematic visitors' list for those who called on the Fuehrer, but Hitler disliked this and had invitations issued otherwise. Could not recall who the visitors were. Count Schwerin Krosigk in the last 5 yrs. rarely admitted to conferences with Hitler. (p.8).

Does not recall being present at a conference between Hitler and Funk. Was present when Schacht resigned from Reichsbank and Funk was appointed in his place. Official meetings between him and Schacht were few and casual, but cordial; saw him frequently socially (p.9-10).

He and Funk never discussed rearmament. Does not recall discussing rearmament with Bormann, with whom he made a point of being on good terms for business reasons (p.11).

Lammers Heinrich, 13.Sept.1945 a.m.

Assumes that Finance Minister, War Minister and other officials accompanied by their staffs, attended rearmament conferences with Reichsbank President and the military people; but was not there himself (p.12). There were generals of all descriptions, probably von Bock, certainly Thomas.(p.13).

FINANCIAL FRIENDS

Saw Frick and Krupp only at receptions.(p.13).In financial Circles Funk was Lammers friend. Funk Friendly with in a financial sense. Had no important friends in industry. Had slight acquaintance with Menzel. Occasionally saw Ministerial Director Carl Falk at social gatherings(p.14-15).

LACK OF AUTHORITY

Insists that he was never consulted on important matters, that in the last years he reported to Hitler only every six or eight weeks; his last report was 24 Sept.1944. Willing to assume role of "office boy" having to fight and beg for an audience with Hitler, who divulged no plan to anyone until forced. (p.16).