Hess, Rudolf

Daily Int
Sum.

21 Aug (41)

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

DOCUMENT ROOM INTERROGATION ANALYSIS

WITNESS: Rudolf Hess
BY : Col. Amen

DATE: 9 October 1945
1430 - 1510
PLACE: Nurnberg

NAME HEADINGS : Hess

INDEX HEADINGS:

Witness is confronted with Goering, Dr. Karl Haushofer, von Papen, and Bohle. He does not recognize any of them, nor remember any of the past incidents which they try to recall to him. He says that his memory extends back only for the last ten or fourteen days (4, 8).

Hess 3rd File

10 October 1945

SUBJECT: Interview Between Professor Karl Haushofer and Rudolph Hess.

TO : Colonel Amen.

1. At the close of the interrogation session at which Hess was confronted respectively by Goering, Haushofer, von Papen and Bohle in an unsuccessful effort to recall to Hess's mind things from the past, Haushofer conversed with Hess for a period of time with no one present except Father Walsh.

2. Father Walsh reports that in general the attempt by Haushofer to recall to Hess's mind details from the past was unsuccessful. However, there were a few things that Hess would seem to remember which were as follows:

a. A photograph of Hess and his wife which Haushofer had carried with him for a period of years. Hess identified his wife and himself without being prompted.

b. Hess seemed to remember his secretary, Fath, when Haushofer mentioned his name. The memory was very faint and only momentary.

c. Hess remembered the name Duke of Windsor.

d. At one stage in the conversation, Hess stated, "In this moment, I realize I am not in England but in Nurnberg".

e. Hess again showed interest in his son (Haushofer had asked him about his son at the meeting referred to in Para 1).

f. On occasion Hess's countenance showed a change as new things were presented.

3. The photograph of Hess and his wife furnished by Haushofer is attached hereto, and it is suggested that it be turned over to Hess as something that might assist him in bringing back his memory. Haushofer was willing to part with the photograph for this purpose.

THOMAS S. HINKEL
Lt Colonel, IGD
Executive

Attachment

HEADQUARTERS
THIRD UNITED STATES ARMY
DOCUMENTS CENTER (PROVISIONAL)
APO 403 US ARMY

29 October 1945.

SUBJECT: Rudolf Hess correspondence and my visit to Mrs.Hess.

TO : Lt. Blumenstein.

From the point of view of war crimes evidence the reading of the 60 odd Leitz folders was not very fruitful. These folders contain mostly the private correspondence of R.Hess and his wife, as they conducted it from their "Privatkanzlei", where Miss FATH - now in our custody as material witness - was the family secretary since 1933.

However, the correspondence contains a wealth of material about the personality of Hess, his friends and his purely personal activities. Frankly, I am rather impressed with the type of friends he had and the manner in which he frowned upon favoratism, even in the cases of his own family. The letters which I have extracted and separated into three folders are inclosed. They are of mild MC interest but very important to high level CI interest our own State Department, FBI and last not least to the British Foreign Office. I suggest that after you have used the material, you return these folders to us and we will make proper distribution from here.

Particular attention is invited to the folder of Dr.GERL, who was employed by HESS and HITLER personnally, to undermine high ranking British Statesmen and people "behind the throne", and to sell Germany to them. If this mission to Dr.Gerl is to be considered part of the "Masterplan", the letters might have some value. Incidentally, Dr.Gerl, is still living in HINDELANG, near Mrs. Hess home and he is maintaining very cordial relations, with the British, who visit him on occasion. Lately one of the Dr. 's patients was so seriously ill, that only Pencillin could help. The British brought it to him (- and got a Leica for it, which the good Dr. bought from Mrs. Hess for 325 Mark). It seems from the correspondence, and from my conversation with Mrs. Hess, that Dr. GERL used his medical reputation to do political espionage.

My talks with Mrs. HESS were most interesting in relationship to the case HESS and his reported loss of memory. Attached to this report is a letter written by Mrs. HESS and her little son, including a photo of the little son. The envelope has been chosen advisedly, it is of the type that was used in Hess office, for confidential material, destined only for him.

Mrs. Hess suggested as a possible therapie for her husband the use of classical music. He was a great amateur of Mozart, particulary themes from the "Magic Flute", "Abduction from the Seraglia" and the "Barber of Seville", also of Mozart Lieder, sung by Petzak.

Another suggestion of Mrs. Hess is, that she be brought to Nuernberg with her little son to meet her husband, either in the prison or preferably - for the association value with his former life - at the house of her sister, who lives near Nuernberg. If this procedure should be decided upon, I would suggest, that I bring her to Nuernberg and be her escort during the time, she is confronted with her husband, the reason being, that she has a great deal of confidence in me (why, I dont know) and that she would be more at ease with someone she already knows.

Erich M Liepman

ERICH M LIEPMAN

PS. It seems that Hess had correspondence with Lord Hamilton, the man whom he wanted to contact most after his flight to England, however I could find nothing but the Chrismas card, which is an interesting sidelight on the "appeasement" of certain English circles before the war.

F.a
J.H.a

BRITISH WAR CRIMES EXECUTIVE [E.S.]

Tel: 61232

7th November, 1945.

Dear Amen,

We have had a telegram from the Foreign Office on the subject of the documents brought by Hess. It states as follows:-

"A careful search here has shown that no copies of the documents which Hess has given to the Americans exist in London."

I am afraid this means that there is no short cut to undertaking the translation here.

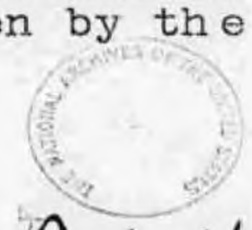
Yours

H.J. Phillimore.

Col. J.H. Amen,
Interrogation Division,
Office of U.S. Chief of Counsel,
Nuremburg.

19 December 1945

Received of Col. John H. Amen, Office of U. S. Chief of Counsel, three folders containing the Hess documents which had been lent to Col. Amen by the Documents Center, Third Army.



Robert Schoenfeld

Robert Schoenfeld
1st Lt. AUS

Attorney-at-Law von Rohrscheidt
Defense Attorney for Rudolf Hess

Nuernberg
December 21, 1945

To the General Secretary of the International Military Tribunal

N u e r n b e r g

In regard to the request of the defendant Hess for the delivery of 4 manuscript-maps.

On December 19, 1945 several portfolios, documents, copy-books, record books, and various parcels as things to be preserved in the Document Room were delivered by the prison administration to the defendant Hess.

The defendant kindly requests that the portfolios labeled with red Roman numerals I - IV, containing writings of a political and economic nature, edited by him, be delivered to his cell. Upon an earlier request of October 30, 1945 in order to verify his memory, the delivery was sanctioned by Col. Amen.

The defendant needs these wr itten records mentioned above as a matter of information for the preparation of his defense.

Rohrscheidt

Attorney-at-Law

Attorney-at-Law von Rohrscheidt
Defense Attorney for Rudolf Hess

Nuernberg
December 21, 1945

To the General Secretary of the International Military Tribunal

N u e r n b e r g

Concerning the request of the defendant Hess for the return of his own manuscripts.

The defendant Hess begs for the return of 13 writings which he personally wrote and which were taken from him upon his appearance in the Nuernberg prison. These writings were placed before him on October 30, 1945 for the sake of testing and verifying his memory and were still in existence at that time.

It is a matter of 9 writings of voluminous extent, which bear the following titles:

"Explanation"
"World War and the Secret Means"
"Meaning of the Trial of the War Criminals and the Trials against Collaboraters"
"What I said in England"
"Causes of World War II"
"The historical Antecedents of World War I"
"Historical Research and the Secret Means"
"The Atom-bomb"
A further writing whose title at the moment the defendant is unable to recall.

Next there are 4 short writings with the following titles:

"The Politics of Edward VII"
"Atomic Research"
"Is there a Scarcity of the Means of Subsistence in the World?"
"Proposals for world economic Cooperation"

The defendant needs these writings as a matter of information for the purpose of preparing his own defense.

The writings named above were not among the manuscripts and portfolios placed in the Document Room on December 19, 1945. I beg of you to surrender this material to the defendant in his cell as soon as possible.

von Rohrscheidt
Attorney-at-Law

Kees

The International Court

Finished

MOTION

of the defense counsel von Rohrscheid
for the defendant Rudolf H E S S.
Re 1.) Inclusion of records documents a.s.o.
2.) Summons of witnesses and experts,

To the
Secretary General of the International Court
Nuernberg

As attorney of the defendant H e s s I motion herewith that the court order for use of my defense:
1.) The inclusion and presentation of all records reports and statements of opinion concerning the defendant Hess
a) of the duke of Hamilton
b) of the interrogating officers
c) of the hospitals in Glasgow
d) of the Britisch Foreign Office
e) of the physician Prof.Dr Dick London
f) of the German Secret State Police (Gestapo)
and of the Security Service (SD)
2.) The summons before court as witnesses
a) of the interrogating officers, who interrogated Hess in the prison in Glasgow - name and residence unknown-
b) of the duke of Hamilton-residence unknown-
c) of the official of the British Foreign Office who interrogated Hess after his transfer to the Prison in Glasgow name and residence unknown--
d) of the physician of the hospital in Glasgow,into which Hess was brought after his landing- name and residence unknown-
d) of Professor Dr Dick who being an expert examined Hess and gave his opinion about him during his stay in England residence unknown--
regarding d) and e) as experts also

Justification

to 1) The above mentioned records,documents a.s.o. which were made out after the landing of the defendant Hess by various private and official authorities,contain according to information received by the defense,very important conclusions about the motive of this flight and about the state of health of Hess,especially about the mental disturbance and mental disorder at the arrival and in the time following during his hospitalization in Glasgow and later as well as the information of the Gestapo and the SD. for the period before the flight.
a-c) The records of the duke of Hamilton about his conversation with Hess and the records of the interrogating officers show their impressions received in the conversations-about Hess- mental incompetence.The medical records of the hospital in Glasgow contain besides objective reports of these contents especially signs for assumption of a possible lack of clearness in mind.
d-e) The records of the British Foreign Office and of Prof. Dr.Dick the physician entrusted (with the medical examination)speak of the possibility of existing morbid disturbances of the functioning of the brain,in one case on the basis of the apparent conduct of Hess and of all the circumstances in the other case on the basis of the medical examination.
f) According to the records of the Gestapo and the SD. who were charged with the examination of the:case Hess: a:weakness:of mind of Hess is supposed to have been proven allready month before the flight in connection with other established facts.

to 2) The same facts about the apparent conduct of Hess, confirming a confusion of mind as well as about his mental disturbance, reaching back allready for years, but continuing up to the presentwill be proven to be known to the above mentioned witnesses. The statement of both physicians justify their hearing as experts on the basis of their medical knowledge.

II,

The proposed evidence is also important. The defense by its previous motion of evidence of 7.11.45. has referred to the present peculiar state of Hess and to the total failure of his memory, credible first of all because of his bad phisical condition. From this the defense came to the conclusion, that under these circumstances the defendant is not in a position to prepare his defensein a competent way and to give the necessary informations to his attorney and especially not able to follow the trial on account of the lack of his physical (unusually fast tiring) strength. (Failure of memory). As the procurement of these proofs would confirm the statement of the defense, these proven facts are important as they will attest the unfitness for trial and simultaneously by it will prove the existing assumption of irresponsibility or at least the restricted insight in the past. As the punishment of the defendant is dependent on the question of responsibility, the investigation of evidence is of the utmost importance for the defense and for the finding of truthby this high court for preparation of a just sentence.

III.

Hess ' statements so far as they were made immediately after his landing-are, under the direct impression of the previous events and not influenced by eventual later reflections and influences, of special importance and therefore the motion gains increased importance. According to experience, only the personal interrogation of witnesses results in the necessary understanding of the facts and in the necessary completion of the existing written material of evidence, on which there was up to now no no possibility of influence by the defense.

As asserted in the previous defense motion by the writer, that no delay is intendedon the part of the defense and this could not even be effected, because the start of the trial against the defendant Hess is not dependent on the presence of the material of evidence.

Nuernberg November 13 1945 signed von Rotscheid
Attorney

Rechtsanwalt von Rohrscheidt
Verteidiger von Rudolf Hess

Nürnberg, den 21. XII. 1845

An den

Herrn Generalsekretär des Internationalen Militärgerichtshofs

N ü r n b e r g .

Betr.: Ersuchen des Angeklagten Hess um Rückgabe von eigenen Manuskripten.

Der Angeklagte Hess bittet um Rückgabe von noch insgesamt 13 Niederschriften, die er persönlich verfaßt hat und die ihm bei seiner Ankunft im Gefängnis in Nürnberg abgenommen worden sind. Diese Niederschriften wurden ihm am 30. Oktober 1945 zur Feststellung und Nachprüfung seines Erinnerungsvermögens vorgelegt und waren also damals noch vorhanden.

Es handelt sich um 9 Niederschriften größeren Umfanges mit folgenden Überschriften :

" Erklärung "
" Weltkrieg und das Geheimmittel "
" Sinn der Kriegsverbrecher-Prozesse und Prozesse gegen Kollaborateure "
" Was ich in England sagte "
" Ursachen des 2.Weltkrieges "
" Zur Vorgeschichte des 1.Weltkrieges "
" Die Geschichtsforschung und das Geheimmittel "
" Die Atombombe."
eine weitere Niederschrift, deren Titel im Augenblick nicht in der Erinnerung des Angeklagten.

Ferner handelt es sich um 4 kürzere Niederschriften mit folgenden Überschriften :

" Die Politik Eduard's VII.
" Atomforschung "
" Besteht in der Welt eine Lebensmittelknappheit ? "
" Vorschläge für weltwirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit "

Der Angeklagte benötigt diese Niederschriften zur Vorbereitung seiner Verteidigung als Informationsmaterial.

Die vorerwähnten Niederschriften waren bei den im Dokumentenraum am 19.XII.45 niedergelegten Schriftstücken und Schriftmappen nicht vorhanden. Die Rückgabe bitte ich zu genehmigen an den Angeklagten unmittelbar in seine Zelle.

Rechtsanwalt.

Rec 21/12 - 11 00
Room 54

and this could not even be effected, because the start of the trial against the defendant Hess is not dependent on the presence of the material of evidence.

Nuernberg, November 13, 1945 signed Von Rohrscheid

Attorney

Rechtsanwalt von Rohrscheidt
Verteidiger von Rudolf Hess

Nürnberg, den 21. XII. 1945.

An den

Herrn Generalsekretär des Internationalen Militärgerichtshofs

N ü r n b e r g .

Betr.: Ersuchen des Angeklagten Hess um Aushändigung von 4 Manuskript-Mappen.

Für den Angeklagten Hess sind am 19.XII.45 einige Schriftmappen, Schriftstücke, Hefte, Buchaufzeichnungen und diverse Pakete als Asservate im Dokumentenraum von der Gefängnisverwaltung abgeliefert worden.

Der Angeklagte bittet die mit roten römischen Zahlen I - IV bezeichneten Mappen, enthaltend von ihm verfaßte Niederschriften politischen und wirtschaftlichen Inhalts in seine Zelle auszuhändigen. Die Aushändigung wurde ihm bei einer früheren Vorlage am 30.X.45 zur Nachprüfung seines Gedächtnisses bereits durch Oberst Amen genehmigt.

Der Angeklagte benötigt diese bezeichneten Niederschriften zur Vorbereitung seiner Verteidigung als Informationsmaterial.

Rechtsanwalt.

Kc 21/12 - 1120
Kam 54

T R A N S L A T I O N

SUBJECT: **Dialogue between Rudolf Hess and his secretary.**

ORIGIN :

DOCUMENTS:

1. **typewritten documents**
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Dialogue between Rudolf HESS and his Secretary.

Secretary: You will recover your memory.

Hess: Yes, I think so too. Have you also seen my family ?

Secr. : Yes, your boy and your wife were at my house. I also sent you photographs of your wife and your boy but I do not know if you received them.

Hess: Yes, I received photographs in January.

Secr. : Your family have sent you more than 80 photographs

Hess: Right ? In any case I returned th em.

Scr.: Don't keep getting annoyed.

Hess: I have continuous anxiety. Everything is so changed, I am very worried

Secr.: Everything is so different.

Hess: I just cannot repeat anything. I just cannot remember who the Hess was and whose consent ..... I have the impression

Secr.: I was very happy to be with you. Before I came to you I was medical-technical employee in Ulm.

Hess: It is egotistical.

Secr.: I was a prisoner and have already been interrogated several times.

Secr.: That belongs ~~xxx~~ probably to the same chapter. She was probably unfaithful.

Secr.: When you go again on expeditions, and when you are again in your old surroundings, things will go better at once.

Hess: Certainly, it won't do any harm.

Secr.: May you talk to anyone ?

Hess: Certainly certainly. You could perhaps take over the part of the person concerned.

Secr.: I would quite like to do that. Yes, I wanted to tell you more about your brother, I don't know whether the news has reached you that in the meantime he has had two children ..... and then your father was spoken about. Your mother I hear, is well.

Hess: Indeed, in these days ..... write about me what can be written in these days.

Secr.: I think I have the possibility, but I do not know if I am allowed to greet them from you.

Hess: I would be very greatful if you would do so, and if there is a possibility of conveying my greetings please do so for me.

Secr.: We have written so many letters to England and you will also have written many letters from England in the last four years.

Secr.: Everything has,however, gone through so many controls and once I even perpetrated a little " Scheme " (fraud)

Secr.: We were even very astonished that once a newspaper got through from you in which you are shown with the parachute, that came through a messenger.

Secr.: I was asked if I preferred an honorable enemy to a false friend.

Hess: I would retract that at once. Who asked you ?

Secr.: The " Ami ".

Hess: What, the Ami ?

Secr.: That is a slogan for " Americans ". But of course it has nothing to do with the French word " Ami " (friend).

Hess: I have already said so, Americans riffraff.

Secr.: On that basis I prefer a false friend. So far the family is well.

Hess: Where do they live now ?

Secr.: They told me at Hallaching, but I think they are inHindelang, that is a village in the Allgaeu.

Hess: Do you know that for certain ? I also understood that. I should like to send a letter there but do not know the address. But you could perhaps convey to them.

Secr.: In any case I am to give you their warmest greetings.

Hess: At present I know nothing about that. In my journies round the world I have lost everything. I am somewhat confused.

Secr.: Were you always like that ? I have also suffered a great deal. I was 6 weeks in Dachau. I also received your brother who always praised you very much.

Hess: Were you also happy with me ?

Secr.: Yes, I have been with you since 1934.

Hess: That is a mad chapter.

Secr.: He grumbled very much that you cannot remember many people of whom your wife wrote to you.

Hess: How long ago was that ?

Secr.;: Two years.

Hess: Two years ? What ? I cannot understand it at all. What can really be changed in that time.

Der Internationale Militärgerichtshof.

Antrag

des Verteidigers Rechtsanwalt von Rohrscheidt
für den Angeklagten Rudolf H e s s .

Betr.: 1.) Beiziehung von Schriftstücken, Urkunden usw.
2.) Ladung von Zeugen und Sachverständigen.

An den

Generalsekretär des Intern. Gerichtshofs

Nürnberg.

Als Verteidiger des Angeklagten H e s s beantrage ich hiermit. dass das Gericht zwecks Verwendung für meine Verteidigung anordnet:

1) die Beiziehung und Vorlage aller Aufzeichnungen, Berichte und gutachtlichen Äußerungen über den Angeklagten Hess
   a) des Herzogs von Hamilton
   b) des Vernehmungsoffiziers
   c) des Krankenhauses in Glasgow
   d) des engl. Auswärtigen Amtes
   e) des Arztes Prof. Dr. Dicks - London
   f) der deutschen Geheimen Staatspolizei (Gestapo) und des Sicherheitsdienstes (SD.)

2) die gerichtliche Ladung als Zeugen
   a) des Vernehmungsoffiziers, der Hess im Gefängnis in Glasgow vernommen hat,-Name und Aufenthalt unbekannt-
   b) des Herzogs von Hamilton
   -Aufenthalt unbekannt -
   c) des Beamten des engl. Auswärtigen Amtes, der die Vernehmung des Hess nach seiner Einlieferung in das Gefängnis in Glasgow geführt hat,
   -Name und Aufenthalt unbekannt-
   d) des Arztes des Krankenhauses in Glasgow, in das Hess nach seiner Landung eingeliefert wurde,
   -Name und Aufenthalt unbekannt-
   e) des Professor Dr. Dicks, der als Sachverständiger Hess während seines Aufenthalts in England bereits untersucht und begutachtet hat,
   -Aufenthalt unbekannt-
   zu d) und e) auch als Sachverständige.

Begründung. - I. -

zu 1) Die voraufgeführten Aufzeichnungen, Urkunden usw., die nach der Landung des Angeklagten Hess von den verschiedenen privaten und amtlichen Stellen gemacht wurden, enthalten nach den an die Verteidigung inzwischen herangetragenen Informationen sehr wichtige Feststellungen über die Ursache dieses Fluges und über den Gesundheitszustand des Hess, insbesondere über die Geistesverwirrung und Geistesgestörtheit,

bei Ankunft und in der nachfolgenden Zeit während seines Krankenhausaufenthaltes in Glasgow und später, sowie die Ermittlungen der Gestapo und des SD. für die dem Abfluge voraufgehenden Zeitraum.

a-c).: Die Aufzeichnungen des Herzogs von Hamilton über seine Unterredung mit Hess und die Protokolle des Vernehmungsoffiziers geben ihren aus den Unterhaltungen gewonnenen Eindruck über die geistige Unzulänglichkeit des Hess wieder. Die Krankengeschichte des Krankenhauses in Glasgow enthält neben objektiven Feststellungen dieses Inhalts auch vor allem Merkmale für die Annahme einer möglichen geistigen Unklarheit.

d-e): Die Aufzeichnungen des engl. Auswärtigen Amtes und des von diesem mit der medizinischen Untersuchung beauftragten Arztes Prof.Dr.Dicks sprechen ebenfalls von der Möglichkeit des Vorhandenseins einer krankhaften Störung der Geistestätigkeit, in dem einen Falle auf Grund des äußeren Verhaltens des Hess und der gesamten Umstände, im anderen Falle auf Grund der medizinischen Feststellungen.

f): Nach den Protokollen der Gestapo und des SD., die mit der Untersuchung des "Falles Hess" beauftragt waren, soll in Zusammenhang mit den sonstigen ermittelten Tatsachen eine "geistige Unklarheit" des Hess schon Monate vor dem Abfluge als erwiesen anzusehen sein.

zu 2) Die gleichen Tatsachen über das äußere, eine geistige Verwirrung bestätigende Verhalten des Angeklagten Hess sowie über seine schon Jahre zurückliegende, bis in die Gegenwart reichende Störung seiner Geistestätigkeit werden in das Wissen der vorbenannten Zeugen gestellt. Die Bekundungen der beiden Ärzte rechtfertigen auf Grund ihres medizinischen Wissens ihre Vernehmung als Sachverständige.

II.

Die beantragten Beweise sind auch erheblich. Die Verteidigung hat mit ihrem früheren Beweisantrag vom 7.XI.45 auf den augenblicklichen, merkwürdigen Zustand des Hess und auf sein durch den körperlichen Verfall zunächst glaubhaftes vollkommenes Versagen seines Erinnerungsvermögens hingewiesen. Sie hat hieraus den Schluß gezogen, dass der Angeklagte unter diesen Umständen nicht in der Lage ist, seine Verteidigung in sachgemäßer Weise vorzubereiten und seinem Verteidiger die erforderlichen Informationen zu geben und erst Recht nicht der Verhandlung wegen Fehlens seiner körperlichen (ungewöhnlich schnelle Ermüdung) und geistigen (Gedächtnisschwund) Kräfte zu folgen. Da die Erhebung der beantragten Beweise die Behauptung der Verteidigung bestätigen wird, so sind diese unter Beweis gestellter Tatsachen erheblich, da sie die Verhandlungsunfähigkeit bezeugen und weil damit gleichzeitig die bestehende Vermutung für eine völlige Unzurechnungsfähigkeit oder mindestens eingeschränkten Einsicht in der Vergangenheit erwiesen ist. Da die Bestrafung des Angeklagten von der Frage der Zurechnungsfähigkeit abhängig ist, so ist die Beweiserhebung von allergrößter Bedeutung für die Verteidigung und für die Wahrheits-

findung des Hohen Gerichts zur Vorbereitung eines gerechten Urteils.

III.

Die Angaben des Hess sind, soweit sie sofort nach seiner Landung erfolgt sind, unter dem unmittelbaren Eindruck der voraufgegangenen Ereignisse unbeeinflußt von etwaigen späteren Überlegungen und Einwirkungen von besonderem Wert und insoferne gewinnt der Beweisantrag noch erhöhte Bedeutung. Die persönliche Vernehmung der Zeugen bringt erfahrungsgemäß erst die notwendige Klärung des Sachverhalts und die erforderliche Ergänzung des vorhandenen schriftlichen Beweismaterials, auf das die Verteidigung bisher keine Möglichkeit der Einflußnahme gehabt hat.
Wie in dem früherem Beweisantrag versichert der Unterzeichnete, dass keine Verzögerung der Verteidigung beabsichtigt ist, auch eine solche schon deshalb nicht eintritt, weil der Beginn der Verhandlung gegen den Angeklagten Hess von der Gegenwärtigkeit des Beweismaterials nicht abhängig ist.

Nürnberg, den 13.XI.45

Rechtsanwalt.

Col Amen
Room 174

OFFICE OF U. S. CHIEF OF COUNSEL
FOR THE PROSECUTION OF AXIS CRIMINALITY
INTERROGATION DIVISION
ANALYSIS SECTION

Received from Colonel J. H. Amen, Interrogations Division, the following material pertaining to Rudolf Hess:

1. Medical reports, consisting of 15 notebooks
2. One (1) folder, containing
   a. Envelope of newspaper clippings
   b. Schedule of flight from Augsburg to England
   c. Handwritten notes on socialism (6 pages)
   d. Handwritten notes on personal health (2 pages)
   e. Handwritten notes on personal health (1 page)
   f. Handwritten notes on political situation (1 page)
   g. Handwritten notes on political situation (2 pages)
   h. Handwritten notes on contemporary history (6 pages)
   i. Handwritten notes on contemporary history (2 pages)
   j. Handwritten notes on atom bomb (2 pages)
   k. Handwritten request for books and furniture (2 pages)
   l. Handwritten notes on political situation (4 pages)
   m. Handwritten notes on contemporary history (4 pages)
   n. Handwritten notes on economics (1 page)
   o. Handwritten notes on reconstruction (9 pages)
   p. Handwritten footnotes (11 pages)
   q. Handwritten extracts from book by J. A. Farrar (59 pages)
   r. Handwritten list of books (1 page)
   s. Handwritten list of poisons (6 pages)
   t. Map of Great Britain (2 pages)
   u. Handwritten notes on war (2 pages)
   v. Handwritten notes on Conrad Hotzendorf (1 page)
   w. Handwritten notes on Hitler (1 page)
   x. Handwritten notes on flight to England (1 page)
   y. Handwritten notes on dreams (5 pages)
   z. Handwritten notes on politicians (7 pages)

3. One folder, containing
   a. 2 envelopes of newspaper clippings
   b. Handwritten notes on politics (2 pages)
   c. Handwritten personal notes (1 page)
   d. Handwritten footnotes (4 pages)
   e. Handwritten notes on Lange (1 page)
   f. Handwritten notes on politics (13 pages)
   g. Architechtural drawings (2 pages)

4. One folder, containing
   a. Minutes of conversation with Lord Simon (71 pages)
   b. Handwritten notes on Atlantic charter (1 page)
   c. Handwritten notes on Lord Beaverbrook (3 pages)
   d. Handwritten notes on Germany and England (33 pages)
   e. Handwritten letter to Lord Beaverbrook (1 page)
   f. Handwritten letter of protest (8 pages)
   g. Handwritten letter to King of England (3 pages)

h. Handwritten letter to King of England (2 pages)
i. Handwritten lists of addresses (1 page)
j. Handwritten miscellaneous notes (2 pages)
k. Handwritten letter to King of England (2 pages)
l. Handwritten letter to King of England (2 pages)
m. Handwritten letter to Lord Beaverbrook (2 pages)
n. Letters from Lord Beaverbrook (2 pages)
o. Handwritten letter to British government (2 pages)

5. One folder, containing architectural plans (2 pages)
6. One folder, containing four (4) envelopes
7. Seven sealed packages, contents unknown
8. One envelope, containing handwritten notebook (193 pages)
9. One envelope, containing
   a. Package # 7
   b. Package # 27
   c. Package # 71
   d. Package # 9
   e. Package # 53
   f. Package # 11
   g. Package # 58
   h. Package # 50
   i. Package # IV
   j. Package # 50
   k. Package # 2
   l. Package # A
   m. Package # I
   n. Package of one red tablet
   o. Package of soup cubes
   p. Package marked "causing headache"
   q. 2 packages of cakes
   r. 2 packages of plums
   s. 2 packages of sleeping pills
   t. 1 unidentified envelope
   u. Package # II
   v. 1 package unidentified (wrapped in newspaper)

Rec'd 1800 19/1/45 and delivered to counsel,
Dr. Gunther v. Rohrscheidt
R E Schrader
Lieutenant USNR
151361

Testimony of RUDOLF HESS, taken at
Nurnberg, Germany on 9 October 1945,
1045 - 1215, by Col. John H. Amen,
IGD, OUSCC.
Also present: Pfc. Richard W. Sonnenfeldt,
Interpreter and Pvt. Clair Van Vleck,
Court Reporter.

COLONEL AMEN TO THE WITNESS THROUGH THE INTERPRETER:

Q Do you prefer to testify in English or in German?

A In German.

Q What is your full name?

A Rudolf Hess.

Q What was your last official position?

A Unfortunately, this already comes into a period which I cannot remember any more. I am suffering from loss of memory, and the doctor has told me that this is a frequent occurrence, especially in time of war, but that there is some chance that my memory will return. There are many cases where I cannot even remember what happened ten or fourteen days ago.

Q What period is it that you cannot remember?

A Anything longer than, say, ten or fourteen days ago. It has frequently happened that I met gentlemen I could not even remember their faces when I saw them again. It is terrible. Yesterday I was told by a doctor, or maybe it was a clerk over there, that it happens sometimes that people don't even know their own names any more, and he said that possibly by a shock it would suddenly all return again. This is terrible for me, and everything depends on it for me because I will have to defend myself in the process which is going to come soon. There is nobody to defend myself if I cannot do it myself.

Q You mean that you cannot even remember what your last official position was in Germany?

A No; I have no idea. It is just like a fog.

Q Do you remember that you used to be in Germany?

A Well, I think that that is self-understood, because I have been told so repeatedly, but I don't remember just where I was and not even in what house I was. It has all disappeared. It is gone.

Q How do you know that any kind of proceeding is coming up, as you say?

A This trial has been talked about all the time. I have seen it in the newspapers, and it has been mentioned to me, and even yesterday I was told about it, and then when I was brought down here I was told that I was brought down here for the trial in Nurnberg. Such a big event, naturally, has made an impression on me and I can remember it. I am thinking of it all the time at night.

Q But you don't know what the proceeding is for?

A I have no idea. I don't even know whether I was told what I am accused of. I know that it is a political trial. That has been said all the time, and also war criminals have been mentioned. Perhaps I had even been told just what I am accused of, but I don't remember.

Q Do you remember how long you have been in England?

A No; that I don't remember.

Q Did people question you while you were in England?

A Certainly not during the last eight or ten days. I don't remember anything that is further back than that, but during the last eight or ten days I was completely alone. When we left there, I was told that I had been at that place for a long time.

Q Did other people do as I am doing today, ask you questions about your past

life in Germany?

A Yesterday, when I arrived here, they asked me some questions in the office and they asked me this same question, and I could not answer it. The doctor even told me where I was born. I was born in Alexandria.

Q No; I mean people in England. Didn't they ask you questions about your past life in Germany?

A They certainly must have, but I cannot remember it. The doctors and officers that were around me must have been interested in it, but I cannot remember anything of details.

Q When did your memory go away?

A The doctor told me yesterday that it has been this way every since July.

Q But you don't know yourself?

A No.

Q Have you ever seen this book before? (Passing book to witness). Suppose you read these first few pages, and see if that means anything to you.

A That there is me, myself (pointing to the printed signature of Rudolf Hess).

Q Will you read this portion? (Indicating).

A This is good, and there is no question about it. However, I cannot remember that I ever wrote this.

Q Suppose you look through the book and see if that doesn't mean anything to you.

A My name appears below all these things. There is no question about that.

Q Don't you know what they are?

A No. I would have to look at it first.

Q Look at it.

A Well, if you will tell me--

Q Do you know what laws are?

A Yes; that is self-understood.

Q Don't you remember having anything to do with the enactment of various laws in Germany?

A Do you mean I, myself?

Q Yes.

A Enacted laws?

Q Yes.

A No trace of it. According to this, I must have--well, how shall I say--I must have had a very prominent position.

Q That is right. Doesn't that help you to remember what that position was?

A No. Well, what I read, I read, but it doesn't mean anything more than just what it says there.

Q Do you know who Jews are?

A Yes; they are people--a race.

Q You didn't like them very well, did you?

A The Jews, no.

Q So you had some laws passed about the Jews, didn't you?

A If you tell me, I have to believe it, but I don't know it. It is terrible.

Q You don't remember having anything to do with any laws about Jews?

A No.

Q Will you look at this portion of the index? Will you just read that part and see if that helps you to remember it at all?

A (Examining document). That is self-understood. It says here, and I

understand what it says.

Q Didn't you have something to do with those Jews that are referred to there?

A Well, that is very apparent, yes, but I can't remember it.

Q You don't remember anything about it?

A No, nothing at all. It is completely blank.

Q Isn't this whole book full of laws, for which you were responsible, and isn't that why your name appears on the front?

A Yes, that is apparent, of course.

Q Still, you don't remember anything about them?

A No, not at all.

Q It is just as if it were a book written by somebody else?

A If I did not know my own name, and if my name did not appear below this introduction, I would believe, without reservation, that somebody else was the author.

Q How do you happen to remember your name? Did somebody tell you, or did you remember that?

A I had to put my signature below documents all the time, and then that has been stamped on my brain, so to speak, from my youth, but the doctor ought to know about that. I don't know how to explain it, but it is a fact that I know I am Rudolf Hess.

Q Do you remember the Fuehrer?

A Yes. During all that time I had a picture of him hanging in my room in front of me.

Q Do you remember being a member of the Fuehrer's secret cabinet council?

A I have no idea.

Q Don't you remember a lot of meetings that you used to attend with the Fuehrer?

A No; not at all.

Q What do you remember about the Fuehrer?

A That he was the Chief of the German State.

Q What else do you remember about him?

A The Fuehrer was the leader, and he was a personality that excelled everybody in every German's mind.

Q What else do you remember about him?

A I know that he is dead.

Q How did you learn that?

A Anyway, I know that. I don't know where I learned it.

Q You don't remember ever talking to him?

A No.

Q Do you think you have ever done so?

A According to this, I must have talked with him. If somebody constantly issues laws or decrees in his capacity, as the Deputy to the Fuehrer, then he must have talked to him.

Q Do you remember that you were a Deputy to the Fuehrer?

A No. I see that from this again. (Pointing to book).

Q But you have no recollection of it?

A No.

Q Do you remember Karl Hermann Frank?

A No. Who is that?

Q Doesn't that name mean anything to you at all?

A No.

Q You remember having conversations with Karl Hermann Frank about what should be done with the Jews in the Sudeten Provinces?

A Well, I cannot remember him. It is out of the question that I can remember something that I talked about with him.

Q You don't remember him at all?

A No.

Q Why don't you like the Jews?

A If I had to explain that to you in detail, I am again facing nothing. I only know that this is deeply within me.

Q How do you remember that you don't like them?

A When the name "Jew" is mentioned, something stirs in me, which is dislike, or that they are not sympathetic to me, or rather that I have no sympathies for them. I cannot explain it in detail.

Q You cannot recall any reasons why you shouldn't like them?

A No.

Q Do you remember Ribbentrop?

A No.

Q The name means nothing to you?

A No.

Q How about Goering?

A Goering, yes. The name has been repeatedly mentioned to me during the last few days; he means something to me. I also read his name on a door. I merely know the fact that he is here, and that he is some personality.

Q Who was he?

A I don't know. He just had some very high rank with us.

Q Do you remember what he looks like?

A No.

Q Do you remember whether he was fat or thin?

A No. If somebody were to come into this room right now, and you would tell me, "There is Goering," I would just say "Good day, Goering."

Q But you wouldn't say "Good day, Goering" unless somebody told you who it was.

A No.

Q Do you like Goering?

A I don't have any feelings of dislike or any feelings against him of any kind.

Q It doesn't arouse any of those feelings that the mention of the word "Jews" does?

A No.

Q Do you remember the Luftwaffe?

A The Luftwaffe, that is the organization of the aviators in Germany.

Q Did Goering have anything to do with that?

A That I don't know.

Q Who did?

A You could kill me on the spot, but I still don't know. I don't know.

Q Do you know who did have anything to do with the Luftwaffe?

A No.

Q How about Goebbels? Do you remember Goebbels?

A The name is familiar to me shomhow. I certainly must have heard the name, but I just don't know in what connection.

Q If Goebbels came in the room today, you wouldn't recognize him?

A No. That is out of the question.

Q How about Lammers?

A I don't know who that is.

Q Von Brauchitsch?

A That I don't know.

Q Keitel?

A I don't know.

Q Jodl?

A I don't know.

Q You have never heard any of those names before?

A No.

Q Do you remember any persons who had anything to do with the German Army?

A No; I don't know any more.

Q Do you know what OKW means?

A No.

Q Have you been trying to commit suicide?

A No.

Q Have you been trying to hurt yourself?

A No.

Q What happened to your leg?

A Nothing at all. It is quite normal.

Q Do you remember that there was a war?

A Of course, I know that there was a war.

Q Between whom?

A Anyway, I know that the Americans were one enemy and the English were another one.

Q Do you remember any others?

A Japan was in the war, but she was on our side; not our enemy.

Q Anybody else?

A I wouldn't know, not at this moment.

Q How about the French?

A The French? That is quite possible. I don't know of any details, but I know that there was the French, that the French were in the war and also the Belgians. Yesterday we traveled through Brussels, and there we saw the air forces and the armed forces, and also the damage that had been done to buildings.

Q Was France an Ally of yours, or was France fighting against you?

A No; I don't believe that France was allied to us. Of course, they were our enemies.

Q How about Russia?

A Of course, Russia, yes, they also were our enemies.

Q When did the war start?

A That I don't know.

Q Did Germany start the war, or one of these other countries?

A That I don't know.

Q You don't remember how the war got started?

A No.

Q Do you know whether it is ended or not?

A Yes. The war is finished.

Q How do you know that?

A I have read the newspapers during the last day, and it is quite evident from that.

Q Do the newspapers make sense to you when you read them?

A Partly yes and partly no.

Q Suppose you read one of these laws and tell me whether that makes sense to you.

A Well, this means something to me when I read it, at least the sense of it is evident. The agencies of the Party are mentioned in there, and also that the approval of the Reichsleitung is necessary. It means to me just what it says in there.

Q Do you not remember having anything to do with that?

A No; I have no idea of it, and if my name would not appear below all this, I wouldn't believe it.

Q Suppose that I tell you that this is a book of laws, for which you were responsible as the Fuehrer's deputy. What would you say to that?

A I have to believe it without any reservations because I do not suppose that you are not telling me the truth.

Q But outside of that, you have no knowledge whatsoever?

A No.

Q How long were you in England?

A I have no idea.

Q Was it for a long time or a short time?

A I was told that it was a long time, that was in the last few days, just before we left there.

Q How did you get there in the first place?

A To England? I don't know.

Q Why did you go to England?

A I don't know.

Q What happened to your family?

A I don't know.

Q Did you have a family?

A Yes. I had a wife and a child.

Q How do you happen to remember that?

A I have the photos of my wife and my little boy hanging in front of my eyes alongside that of the Fuehrer all the time.

Q Do you know what their names were?

A My wife's name is -- well, I don't even know that.

Q How about your child's name?

A I don't know that either.

Q A boy or a girl?

A Boy.

Q Do you remember the Brown House in Munich?

A No.

Q What is this (Presenting document to witness)?

A This is "R. Hess", but usually I always write out "Rudolf."

Q You mean this isn't your signature?

A Yes; this is my signature. Now I write the full name, but I write the "Hess" just as it appears here, so evidently I must have written it differently, and also I am using this "R" at the beginning of the signature.

Q You signed this, though, didn't you?

A Yes; I must have signed it.

Q Do you remember "Heil Hitler"?

A No. That must have been a greeting.

Q Don't you remember ever having used that greeting?

A No.

Q This is a letter, which you wrote. Suppose you read this letter and see if that might not help you to remember. Do you remember Rosenberg?

A No. Rosenberg?

Q Yes.

A No.

Q Go on reading.

A (Examining document). It means nothing more to me than just what it says in the letter. I cannot remember the events as such.

Q But do you think you wrote the letter?

A I must believe that, since my name appears below it.

Q What is this? (Presenting document to witness).

A That is "Hess."

Q Did you write that?

A No; I did not write that.

Q Isn't that in your handwriting?

A No.

Q You say you did not write that?

A This is not correct. I write it with the long "S". It is in German "SZ".

Q What is that? (Pointing)

A That is an "H", but it is not my "H."

Q You did not make it?

A No.

Q Don't you remember that you used to use the initial "H" on letters?

A If I use an "H", I use a different "H". It is an "H" like it appears in the other documents.

Q So you don't think that you made this?

A No, I believe not.

Q Can you write now?

A Yes.

Q Do you write letters?

A Yes, but very rarely.

Q To whom do you write them?

A To my family.

Q I thought you couldn't remember the name of your wife?

A Just before my departure, I checked all my letters there. They were all collected in folders, and when I write, of course, I see the letters and the address that it says on there. I left those papers there and I saw them again, but I did not go through them.

Q Where is your wife?

A I don't know.

Q How can you send letters to her if you don't know her name or where she is?

A That is my opinion. How it probably happened is, when I write to her I took out the papers and checked in the papers what the address looked like.

Q When did you last see your wife?

A I don't know, but it is logical to assume that I saw her before I departed.

Q You came by airplane?

A I don't know how I came.

Q I mean, when you came here yesterday; did you come in an airplane?

A Yes, yesterday I came in an airplane.

Q Then when was the last time that you were in an airplane before yesterday?

A That I don't know.

Q Were you ever in an airplane before?

A Before? I don't know.

Q Did you ever see an airplane before yesterday?

A Yes, of course. They constantly flew over the house in England. That is where I was before my departure.

Q They dropped bombs, didn't they?

A At any rate, not at our house. I don't remember it. It is possible that they did it a long time before, but not in the last time I was there. There wasn't any war any more.

Q Do you know that airplanes dropped bombs?

A Yes, of course.

Q They dropped them on Jews?

A No, how do you mean? Especially on Jews? I wouldn't know where.

Q Do you know the Jews had places of worship?

A I think that that is self-understood.

Q Do you remember having orders issued to burn up the Jews' places of worship?

A You mean I, myself?

Q Yes; I mean you, yourself.

A No. I know nothing at all about that.

Q Do you think that any such laws were ever passed in Germany?

A I don't know that. If I said "yes", I wouldn't be telling the truth, and if I said "no", I wouldn't be telling the truth, because I don't know.

Q When did you last see the Fuehrer?

A I can reconstruct this only by logical reasoning. It appears in the book that I was his deputy and thus I must have been together with him very often, thus I must have seen him before my departure.

Q Your departure from where?

A From Germany.

Q When was that?

A I have no idea.

Q Why did you leave Germany?

A I don't know that.

Q Have you ever been in Munich?

A I don't know.

Q Do you know what a putsch is?

A A putsch? What is a putsch? I don't know exactly.

Q That is what I am asking you.

A No, I don't know.

Q You mean you have never heard of such a thing?

A No.

Q What does it sound like to you?

A To my mind, a putsch is an expression for an impact on water, hitting water.

Q Do you remember a putsch in Munich?

A That must be another different expression then. That doesn't mean anything to me.

Q Did you order a lot of Germans to be shot?

A I ordered that?

Q Yes.

A No, I have no idea.

Q What is this? (Exhibiting document).

A This is a telegram to transmit my congratulations and, evidently, it is to Rosenberg, whom you mentioned before.

Q Do you remember sending that?

A No.

Q Did you send it?

A If it says so here, and this appears to be an original, then it must be so.

Q What is an original?

A Well, I mean original in contrast to copies. This seems to be a specimen that appears to be an original.

Q How do you happen to know the difference between an original and a copy?

A I can't give a detailed definition of this but, for instance, this is a copy (indicating) and this is an original (indicating). It is evident from looking at the document.

Q Don't you remember handling a lot of originals and copies of drafts of laws, in which you were interested in passing as the Fuehrer's deputy?

A I have no idea. All that is as I said before, in a fog. It is more than fog, really; it is black. It is completely gone.

Q Are these originals or copies? (Passing book to witness).

A of course, these are reprints.

Q In book form?

A Yes.

Q A book of laws?

A Apparently.

Q Of Hess laws?

A This is really very interesting. I didn't have any idea that there were any Hess laws.

Q They are very interesting laws. You ought to remember more about them.

A Well, according to what the doctors tell me, it will all come back one day. I just can't remember--I just cannot imagine it, but it is like that.

Q A lot of them have to do with Jews, these laws.

A Thus, probably, also this dislike that is deeply-rooted within me.

Q I have no doubt.

A Also the other way around.

Q Do you know General Haushofer?

A No, I don't know him.

Q Do you remember Bormann?

A No, but I saw the name somewhere here before.

Q Yes, right here. (Passing document to witness). Do you remember that?

A This should be Bormann here? (Indicating).

Q Yes.

A This couldn't be Bormann--yes, in fact, this is meantto be Bormann.

Q That is right. Don't you ever remember seeing that signature before?

A No, never. That is very interesting to me. It is very interesting that this signature should signify Bormann. You could submit it to me ten times, and I

couldn't even read it as Bormann.

Q Here is this same greeting we were talking about here, "Heil Hitler."

A Yes.

Q Do you remember that?

A It occurs everywhere here.

Q Didn't you always use that on the end of your letters?

A Not that I know of, but probably that is the case.

Q How about General Haushofer?

A I don't know who that is. Possibly you can tell me a few more things about him.

Q He was a General.

A I don't know him.

Q Here is a copy of a letter that you wrote with another "Heil Hitler" on the end. Suppose you look at that and see if you can recognize anything about that.

A I did not write this letter. It is addressed to the deputy of the Fuehrer, Rudolf Hess.

Q Read it and see if you don't remember what happened. You ought to be interested in letters that people wrote to you.

A Of course.

Q Maybe all these things will help you to remember, so that you will remember everything all of a sudden.

A It is not mentioned who wrote this letter.

Q That is right, but you remember it, don't you?

A No, I have no idea.

Q Do you think it was Rosenberg?

A How should I know it? This is merely a detail, and if I don't know letters and laws that are much more important, then how should I know this?

Q You never can tell when one of these papers might bring back your memory.

A But that is not the case. The doctor told me that it would have to be by a shock.

Q Who is this doctor that told you all these things?

A That is a doctor who was with me in England.

Q Do you remember his name?

A It isn't so long ago that I heard the name. It is only a short time ago. I can't say. I can't remember it at the moment. There was a case of the same thing yesterday. It very often happens that I cannot remember names just at the moment, and then when I get the time, I will just keep thinking and boring into it, and maybe it will come back. I suffer terribly from this condition, especially in respect to the coming trial. Thus it is that I work with my memory all the time, and see possibly whether it cannot be brought back to me by training it. I am trying it all the time.

Q What is the coming process?

A War criminals.

Q Are you a war criminal?

A Evidently; otherwise, I would have to be a murderer to have these handcuffs on.

Q How do you know you aren't?

A I have been told all the time that I was going to be present with the so-called war criminals.

Q What is a war criminal?

A I would like much more to ask you this question.

Q You mean, you have never heard the expression before?

A Yes, of course, I have heard it before, but in spite of that I am not absolutely certain about just what this means.

Q Do you think it is a crime for a country to commit aggressive war against other countries, without provocation?

A That will depend on the conditions such as they existed. I cannot either say yes or no. That depends on the case.

Q I just said in general.

A I would say that if a country starts a war, without a real cause for war; that is, one which is not internationally recognized as a reason for war, and thus bring war to another country, it is criminal. There is no question about that.

Q That is what a war crime is, isn't it?

A Yes.

Q Do you believe that Germany was justified in conducting this recent war?

A I cannot give you an answer to that, because the circumstances are--not any of the circumstances are in my memory.

Q So perhaps they were wrong, and perhaps they were right; is that it?

A Yes. That depends entirely upon the situation, which I don't know.

Q When did you first learn that the Fuehrer was dead?

A That I don't know.

Q Do you know whether he is dead or not?

A Well, that is a term to me, so to speak. I don't know why it is a term, but if I looked at the picture of the Fuehrer, which was hanging in front of me,

I knew that he was dead.

Q You knew he was dead from looking at his picture?

A That was a thought association, just that the Fuehrer is dead. That is all.

Q Where did you get that thought?

A That I don't know.

Q When did you last see the Fuehrer?

A As I said before, supposedly, before I departed.

Q Do you remember everything that has happened in the last ten days?

A Yes.

Q Do you remember everything that has happened for the last twenty days?

A That would have to be put to a test. Probably there were things that registered a greater impression on my memory than others did. There probably were some that didn't make much impression on my memory.

Q Does this fog, to which you refer, merely cover the period of the war or does it also cover this period while you were in England?

A It extends from a certain moment, and I cannot specify it exactly, for it may be eight or ten days or a month.

Q Are you going to keep on remembering everything back to that point, or does a new fog appear every ten days?

A I can't explain the technical process to you. All I can tell you is, if today I see somebody who I saw a few days before, I recognize them, but if it is longer ago than that, I just don't know any more.

Q What is the last thing you remember in England, for example?

A The start with the plane.

Q You don't remember anything before the start in the plane in England?

A I remember that I was awakened in the morning. It was the day before yesterday; no, it was yesterday, and I was told that I should be ready within a very short time and go by car to some airport, then we were to fly here to this process.

Q Where were you when you were awakened?

A In the room where I lived. It was a bedroom in some hospital.

Q Had you lived there for quite a long time?

A Yesterday, when I left, it was mentioned to me that I had been there a very long time, but I don't know how long.

Q You don't remember anything that happened while you were in England, up until the time when you got on the plane?

A Anyway, during the days immediately preceding that, nothing much happened. I read, as always, and I ate and I slept.

Q Did you have good food?

A The food was not especially good in the last days, but it was not especially bad either.

Q Did you have good books to read?

A I had a great number of books there, but I was just trying to think what I read last, a book by--well, what is his name?

Q Did you ever hear of a book called "Mein Kampf"?

A No.

Q You never heard of that?

A No.

Q Did the Fuehrer write a book?

A That is possible; I don't know.

Q Do you know anyone named Eigruber?

A No.

Q He says he knows you.

A It is quite possible that he knows me. There must be a great number of people who know me, since I had such a position, but I don't remember them.

Q So does Karl Hermann Frank.

A Yes.

Q But you don't remember him?

A No.

Q How about Streicher?

A Who is that? I don't know him.

Q You have never heard of him before?

A No.

Q How about the secret cabinet council?

A I don't know. That means nothing to me. Secret cabinet council?

Q Yes; secret cabinet council.

A I don't know.

Q Why did you leave Germany?

A I have no idea.

Q Did you want to leave Germany?

A Why should I? That is another question which I cannot answer, because I have no idea just what was happening then.

Q Didn't you help Hitler to write "Mein Kampf"?

A Is that a book of his, this "Mein Kampf"?

Q Yes.

A I have no idea. You mean I should have helped with some book of Hitler's?

Q That is right.

A I don't know. This would drive me to desperation if the doctors would not tell me all the time that it would come back.

Q Were you ever in the army?

A I have no idea, but since at one time I was a healthy young man, I must have been in the Army. At least, I wouldn't know why I shouldn't have been a healthy young man.

Q Did you ever hear of the First Bavarian Infantry Regiment?

A No. That means nothing to me.

Q Didn't you belong to it for a while?

A I?

Q Yes.

A I don't know that. It may be. It is quite possible.

Q Didn't you ever hear of the National Socialist Party?

A Yes; I heard of the Party.

Q What did you hear about that?

A At this time it is no more to me than just a term. It is a party which played a certain part in Germany, and I know that from the newspapers.

Q What part?

A That I don't know.

Q Did you belong to it?

A I must suppose that, without any reservations, from looking at this book.

Q Were you ever a private secretary to the Fuehrer?

A I was a deputy of the Fuehrer's.

Q But before that?

A That I don't know.

Q You still don't remember what a putsch is?

A No; that means nothing to me.

Q Do you know what a Reichsminister is?

A Reichsminister? Well, yes, I know what a minister is. He is a minister of the German Reich.

Q Were you ever a Reichsminister?

A I?

Q Yes.

A I can't say yes and I can't say no, because I just don't know.

Q Have you ever been in Bavaria?

A This is all the same. This also is in a period in which I have no idea.

Q Did you go to Bavaria with Hitler in order to get some people killed that you didn't like?

A I am sorry that I don't know anything of this activity any more, but I don't believe it.

Q Do you know what civil service appointments are?

A That must be the appointment of officials.

Q Did you ever have anything to do with that?

A That I don't know. It is possible.

Q Do you remember the Kroll Opera House?

A No; I have no idea.

Q Did you ever go to the opera?

A I know what an opera is, and I suppose that I went to see one, but I can't remember any particular one that I should have seen.

(HESS)

Q Do you remember making an appearance in the Kroll Opera House with the Fuehrer?

A No; I have no idea.

Q Have you ever been to Augsburg?

A I don't know.

Q Didn't you take an airplane from Augsburg to fly over to England in 1942?

A If you tell me I did that, I have to believe it, but I have no recollection of it.

Q I am not telling you; I am just asking you.

A Yes, I understand.

Q You are sure you don't remember who Goering is?

A The name is a term to me, but not more.

Q What kind of a term?

A As that of a personality, which played a great part in Germany.

Q But you don't know what part?

A No.

Q Is he a war criminal?

A Yes. I was told so, and I also saw his name on the door.

Q What door?

A Over there in the prison.

Q How about Frick? Do you remember him?

A No.

Q Lammers?

A No.

Q Bormann?

A No, but the name occurred just a little while ago.

Q Did you ever see any of these people before? (Passing photographs to witness).

A (Examining photographs) This fellow here reminds me of a soldier who is over there.

Q Over where?

A Over there in the prison.

Q You mean an American soldier?

A Yes.

Q Have you ever seen any of these people before? (Passing photographs to witness).

A This could be you, but I don't know. This is not very clear. If it was a better picture, I might recognize it better. This might be the German doctor over there, but I don't know.

Q How about this one? (Indicating)

A No, but it is not a very clear picture either. The man is nodding his head.

Q How about this one? (Indicating)

A They are both unknown to me. I have no idea.

Q Do you remember Sepp Dietrich?

A No.

Q You have never heard of the name before?

A No, never.

Q You say you haven't been trying to commit suicide or hurt yourself?

A No.

Q You won't do it anyway, will you?

A No, no reason.

Q That is all for now.

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APPROVED:

(Interrogator)

R. Wormuth Feldt
(Interpreter)

Claire Van Slyke
(Reporter)

(HESS)

Interrogation of RUDOLF HESS, taken at Nuremberg, Germany, on 9 October 1945, 1430 - 1510, by Col John H. Amen, IGD, OUSCC. Also present: Hermann Goering, Dr. Karl Houshofer, Fritz von Papen, Ernst Bohle, (for the purpose of identification). Pfc Richard W. Sonnenfeldt, Interpreter; and Pvt Clair Van Vleck, Court Reporter.

COL. AMEN: Your name is Rudolf Hess?

RUDOLF HESS: Yes.

COL. AMEN: Will you look over here to the right to this gentleman here.

RUDOLF HESS: At him? (Pointing to Hermann Goering).

COL. AMEN: Yes.

HERMANN GOERING: Don't you know me?

RUDOLF HESS: Who are you?

HERMANN GOERING: You ought to know me. We have been together for years.

RUDOLF HESS: That must have been the same time as the book that was submitted to me this morning. I have lost my memory for some time, especially now before the trial. It is terrible, and the doctor tells me that it is going to come back.

HERMANN GOERING: Don't you know me? You don't recognize me?

RUDOLF HESS: Not personally, but I remember your name.

HERMANN GOERING: But we talked a lot together.

RUDOLF HESS: We were together; that must have been the case. That must have been so. As the Deputy of the Fuehrer all the time in that position, I must have met the other high personalities like you,

but I cannot remember anyone, to the best of my will.

HERMANN GOERING: Listen, Hess, I was the Supreme Commander of the Luftwaffe, and you flew to England in one of my planes. Don't you remember that I was the Supreme Commander of the Luftwaffe. First I was a Field Marshal, and later a Reichsmarshal; don't you remember?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

HERMANN GOERING: Don't you remember I was made a Reichsmarshal at a meeting of the Reichstag while you were present; don't you remember that?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

HERMANN GOERING: Do you remember that the Fuehrer, at a meeting of the Reichstag, announced in the Reichstag that if something happened to him, that I would be his successor, and if something happened to me, you were to be my successor? Don't you remember that?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

HERMANN GOERING: You don't remember that? We two discussed that very long afterwards.

RUDOLF HESS: This is terrible. If the doctors wouldn't assure me time and time again that my memory would return some day, I would be driven to desperation.

HERMANN GOERING: Don't you remember that I visited your family and your wife? I saw you and your wife together repeatedly. You also visited my family with your wife.

RUDOLF HESS: This is all a fog, behind which everything has dis-

come back. Apart from all the things you forgot you still do remember some things, not only the name of towns, which would be understandable, but also other things. It may be that you just read the name of the town of Berlin and Munich, for instance, in the newspapers. But, for instance, Frederick the Great you must have known from some other source.

Let us now consider some other personality or figure out of the past that may have stuck in your memory. Even if you lost your memory completely you still remember Frederick the Great and other people.

HESS: Yes; Frederick the Great was such an important personality I suppose that something stuck in my mind about him.

GOERING: You cannot take things just like that if you didn't know anything at all -- you couldn't discuss Frederick the Great with any intelligence with me now. Consequently you must remember something about it and something must have stuck in your memory. Maybe you will remember where you heard about him and what he is.

HESS: I would be interested in one question. Do you think you could bring back my memory like this? The doctor told me it could be done only by shock. The doctor told me that only some shocking event would one day bring back my memory to me.

GOERING: Who told you that?

HESS: The doctor that examined me here told me that.

GOERING: I can't shock you but I can help you get your memory back.

HESS: It is very hard on me.

GOERING: What is hard on you?

HESS: Such a conversation in which I try to call back my memory and which I probe into my mind.

GOERING: That is just the point. You are not supposed to take it hard but relax and try to recall those things.

HESS: Well, at any rate, to concentrate on such a point of conversation means a terrible load on my mind in the condition in which it is as present and it causes me headaches and for two hours afterwards I have to lie down on my cot and I don't know what is going on. My brain is in such a condition that I can't make any experiments with it right now.

GOERING: Now look here, Hess--

HESS: Yes --

GOERING: It was not so simple for me to come here and talk to you because I too have to concentrate.

HESS: Well, that is why I am trying to answer you. Why in the hell should the both of us exert ourselves so much in here then?

GOERING: All right, then don't let us argue about it but you can well imagine that if a doctor of reputation had talked to me I wouldn't do it but a doctor of reputation told me to talk to you. He did not tell me to shock you or hit you over the head. I couldn't do that, I couldn't make a shock scene with you here. But if we discuss some points quietly something will come back to you.

(THE MONITOR: The conversation runs along the same line. Nothing of importance is said.)

(THE MONITOR: Summary: Goering continues to take the leading part in the conversation, attempting to recall things to Hess' memory. He mentions various incidents of the past or things that any normal person would have done in the past, however, without gaining any affirmative or satisfactory response from Hess.)

GOERING: When you read a book now and it describes things that happened in real life, doesn't it bring anything backto your memory?

HESS: Well, I can understand what the books says but it doesn't mean a thing to me and if it didn't say so in the book I would know even less about it.

(THE MONITOR: Goering continues to draw Hess out in relation to book reading. However, Hess parries all questions insisting that it does not mean anything to him. Goering fails to have Hess admit that book reading produces association of ideas with real life or his own life.)

(some minutes later)

GOERING: How far back does your memory reach?

HESS: I don't know, we would have to have an experiment. If something happened six weeks ago that was very important I might remember it. On the other hand, I might not remember what happened ten days ago if it was not important.

(THE MONITOR: Goering then turns the conversation back to historical subjects and great men of history in an effort to produce some association in Hess' mind, however, with as little success as previously.)

GOERING: Do you remember Schirach?

HESS: Who is that?

GOERING: Do you remember the Fuehrer?

HESS: Well, I know what he looks like, I had a picture in my ro om.

GOERING: Do you remember his manner of speech?

HESS: His picture didn't speak so I don't remember his speech.

GOERING: How about the doctors and the other people that are around you every day, do you remember them?

HESS: Well, they are with me all the time and there is not enough time to forget them.

(At this point the record was inaudible.)

HESS: I don't know and I can't remember. My brain is out of order.

GOERING: That is why I want to come back to the picture of the Fuehrer. You can imagine that now, you can imagine what he looks like. You must have some certain reason for having kept that picture.

HESS: Yes.

GOERING: Try and think about it.

HESS: Yes. Well, it is quite clear that when I originally kept the picture I had some reason for keeping it but I have forgotten it now.

GOERING: Don't you remember now that you went to England?

HESS: Well, yes.

GOERING: Isn't it natural that if I were going to England

like you had I would keep pictures of the people that were closest to me such as my wife and children and say the Fuehrer?

HESS: Yes. All I know is that I had the picture but I don't know what motivated me to keep it.

GOERING: But you kept looking at the picture, didn't you?

HESS: That I do not know.

GOERING: What do you mean you do not know? The picture was with you all the time.

HESS: Yes -- well, I do not know.

GOERING: Well, all right, you lost your memory but nevertheless you looked at the picture. Didn't you ever think in all this time, why is this picture here and didn't you remember it was the Fuehrer and why you put the picture up?

HESS: Well, I didn't think about it. The picture was there anyway.

(THE MONITOR: Conversation continues for about five minutes on the same subject with variations in the questions and none in the answers.)

HESS: Frankly, it was a matter of indifference to me whether the picture was there or not. My mental condition was such that I couldn't wonder about little things like that. And you know, it i s not very good for my brain in its pr esent condition to keep probing into these things.

It is a natural reaction of self-defense -- well, self-defense is not the right word, but it is in the nature of

[redacted]T

the thing that if I work so hard on my brain it tries not to react in order to protect itself.

GOERING: You keep insisting that you need a shock to snap you out of it.

HESS: Yes, the doctor told me so.

GOERING: Well, the doctor just mentioned that to you as one of the possibilities but there are more possibilities than one.

HESS: Yes.

GOERING: And if I build up such a kind of defense for myself or self-defense and say to myself -- my memory will not come back unless I get shocked -- well, you are never going to get your memory back again like that.

But according to the doctor it can also come back if you try slowly to, and as far as it is possible by exercising all your will-power and without exercising any force and if by probing into your sub-conscious you can recall some of the things that happened in the past, certain superficial reminiscences will come back to you.

You refuse to go this way. You refuse to remember -- to want to remember.

Now I want to ask you when you are alone do you try to remember things or don't you want to do it?

HESS: That is the terrible thing, it is like torture. It is always forced upon me to remember these things and I can't.

(THE MONITOR: It is not apparent what is happening in the room at this stage as some unexplainable noise is drowning out the conversation.)

[redacted]

duration; that you had an honor guard. That made me and your wife very happy. That convinced us that you were treated well. In the last letter that you wrote, it already contained the sad line that says "I am beginning to lose my memory. Recollections leave me."

RUDOLF HESS: How long ago was that?

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: That must be about three-quarters of a year ago now.

RUDOLF HESS: Three-quarters of a year?

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: You said, "my recollections are starting to leave me. I cannot even imagine my son any more, and perhaps that is the greatest luck for me". That made us very sad, but we saw, though, and we understood that after three or four years of solitude and separation, you could not bear up under the impact. Maybe you have that much memory, and maybe you can feel yourself back into your recollection. Don't you remember that we read The Story by the Swedish author Selma Laggerloeff, together, and there are gifted students mentioned in there who lost their memory, just like you have now, and then with the help of music and poetry, found their memory again. I imagine you could do the same thing.

RUDOLF HESS: I don't even doubt it after the Doctor told me that. If I didn't believe that, I would have to become desperate.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: You must not become desperate. I remember especially these wonderful letters, which took a long time, but whatever you wrote to your wife, she also sent to me. Thus we remained in contact with your spiritual life and with your feelings, and thus

we are completely convinced that your rememberance and your memory can be restored, if we refer to things that we have lived together during a period of twenty-two years. I know you never were patient in life. Now, you know, I am seventy-six, and you are getting older. You will have to learn to be patient. If you are patient enough, your memory will come back. It will come back more and more to you, and then you will remember your old friends and also your youth, how we circled around the mountains in the Fichtelgebirge with an airplane when we flew from Berlin to Munich. Don't you remember how you made the plane circle in the Fichtelgebirge because the landscape was so beautiful? Don't you remember that?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: That is where your mother lived, and she is quite well. Don't you remember your old hunting lodge, that is the one that your father built?

RUDOLF HESS: Do you have any news from her?

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: In her little fine handwriting she has written letters to me, and she always has. Don't you remember the time when I was forbidden to write to your wife and to your mother, and I told the Gestapo they could arrest me, because I would not give up my old friendship for women and ladies, and then it was permitted for me? Thus, your mother and your wife and I corresponded all the time, but probably people put their noses in it.

RUDOLF HESS: Why was this supposed to be stopped?

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: For some years, that is, after you escaped,

I was no more in favor in the official places. When you flew to England, it was believed that your romantic friend was guilty.

RUDOLF HESS: I can't look through all this now, especially, if some of my friends had to suffer from it.

HERMANN GOERING (To Rudolf Hess): Do you remember an institution which we had, and which was called the Gestapo, the Secret State Police; don't you remember that?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: One sticks to his old friends always, even if one gets treated a little badly sometimes. Of course, you know that I spent six weeks in Dachau. I didn't write to you, and Elsie didn't either, but those things are borne for the sake of old friendship. I would like to look in your eyes, because for twenty-two years I read in your eyes, and I am glad to see that a little bit of recognition is coming back into them. I know that you are going to make yourself a little happier now, after long and heavy and hard times. Don't you remember Albrecht, who served you very faithfully? This is my eldest son. He is dead now.

RUDOLF HESS: It doesn't mean anything to me.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: It will all come back. I see that a lot of it is coming back to you. Your voice is changing, and your eyes are changing. Recognition is coming back to you.

RUDOLF HESS: I am terribly sorry, but at the moment, all this doesn't mean anything to me.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: But sometimes the old gleam is coming back into your eyes, and I think you are recognizing. In those twenty-two years I had great worry and pain for you.

RUDOLF HESS: You are now talking about this flight to England?

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: Before flying to England, you told me, by the fireplace, that you wouldn't fly any more.

RUDOLF HESS: I told you that?

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: Yes; you told me that.

(At this point FRANZ VON PAPEN Enters the room).

COL. AMEN (To Rudolf Hess): Do you know that gentleman?

RUDOLF HESS: I don't know him. Who is that?

COL. AMEN: Did you ever see him before?

RUDOLF HESS: No; I never saw him.

COL. AMEN (To Franz von Papen): Do you know this gentleman?

FRANZ VON PAPEN: Yes; I know him.

RUDOLF HESS: I am sorry; I don't recognize him.

FRANZ VON PAPEN: He has changed very much.

COL. AMEN (To Franz von Papen): Would you state something to him? That might help him to remember who you are.

RUDOLF HESS: Yes, I have changed. I didn't have any chance to shave.

COL. AMEN (To Franz von Papen): Speak German to him.

FRANZ VON PAPEN: I am Mr. von Papen.

RUDOLF HESS: That doesn't mean anything to me.

FRANZ VON PAPEN: I was Vice Chancellor under Hitler's government.

RUDOLF HESS: I am very sorry; I don't know you.

COL. AMEN (To Franz von Papen): Could you recall any incidents to his mind?

FRANZ VON PAPEN: We didn't see each other very much in that time, but you must remember that when we made Hitler's government on the 30th of January, that I was the Vice Chancellor in his government.

RUDOLF HESS: I don't know that any more. I can't remember anything. I just explained it to these gentlemen.

(At this point BOHLE came into the room).

COL. AMEN (To Bohle): Do you know this gentleman?

BOHLE: Yes, I do.

RUDOLF HESS: There's another gentleman whom I don't know.

COL. AMEN: Could you say anything to him that might make him remember you?

BOHLE: Mr. Hess, you know me, of course. My name is Bohle.

RUDOLF HESS: That doesn't mean anything to me. There are many gentlemen here who have been introduced and I am supposed to know.

BOHLE: Don't you remember, your brother Alfred, he was together with me?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

BOHLE (in English): That is most remarkable.

RUDOLF HESS: It is not so remarkable, because the doctors say that all will come back again some time to me.

BOHLE: He has known me for years.

COL. AMEN: Are there any special things you can think of?

BOHLE: I have just told him that I know his brother very well, and we were together for quite a long time. I just reminded him of his brother.

(To Rudolf Hess): Don't you remember, you know your brother Alfred?

RUDOLF HESS: Yes.

BOHLE: He was working with me.

HERMANN GOERING (To Bohle): Remind him that it was you who translated his letter.

BOHLE: Don't you remember that I translated your letter for you to the Duke of Hamilton?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

BOHLE: Don't you remember that you took this letter to the Duke of Hamilton, that it was I who translated it?

RUDOLF HESS: I don't remember that. I don't have the least recollection of that.

BOHLE (in English): That is flabbergasting.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: Perhaps he wasn't called Hamilton then. Don't you remember Clydesdale, the young flier who flew over the Himalayan mountains? Don't you remember that he was your guest in Berlin at the Olympic Games, and his name was Clydesdale. His name was Hamilton later. That was the English way of giving out titles; don't you remember that? Don't you remember him?

RUDOLF HESS: If I don't recognize a person whom I have known for twenty-two years, how do you expect me to know Clydesdale?

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: If I brought his picture to you, you would probably recognize him again, because we found him very sympathetic at the time. Don't you remember you liked his flying feat when he went over Mount Everest, when he dropped for 2,000 meters, and he barely got away? Don't you remember that that made a very strong impression on you, because it was a terrific aviation feat, especially, that the plane did not break? Don't you remember how he got out before, between the mountains? Don't you remember that was something like where you used to ski, in the Hoellental, but that was 2,000 meters that he dropped. Don't you remember that that left a very deep impression on you? That was a wonderful feat in aviation, going over the highest mountain.

HERMANN GOERING: Don't you remember that any more?

RUDOLF HESS: If I don't remember other things that made a much stronger impression on me, how do you expect me to remember that?

HERMANN GOERING: Hess, try to remember the following: remember the other war, the earlier war, when you were a young Lieutenant in the Air Forces, as I was, and you were a fighter pilot?

RUDOLF HESS: I have no idea.

HERMANN GOERING: Don't you remember when you flew in France as a fighter pilot? Don't you remember the plane you had, the Fokker plane? Don't you remember the aerial combat that you were in? Don't you remember all that?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: Don't you remember when you got wounded so bad, when you were shot in your lungs?

HERMANN GOERING: Don't you remember Max and I, who flew together with you? Don't you remember Max?

RUDOLF HESS: Nothing, no. I don't remember anything at all. I am consoling myself with the fact that the doctors will probably be right.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: I can show you many common memories that we have. At least, in your eyes, I have the impression that your memory is coming back.

RUDOLF HESS: Unfortunately, I don't feel anything of it.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: That may be, but your facial expression very often is stronger than what you really show, and it shows. It shows that your memory is coming back to you when you try to picture those things. It must work like that, because I know of many cases where men have found their memory again in this manner. You have to take single pictures in your memory, possibly impressions of music, impressions that you got from pictures. Use all of that to feel your way back. It is terribly hard to do, but you will find out.

RUDOLF HESS: The doctors tell me that it could happen very suddenly if I got very strong impressions.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: That is why we mentioned all those memories to you, because we wonder if possibly one of them might not be strong enough to throw them all back to you. For instance, the moment, don't

you remember when we played hide-and-seek between the oaks in the Hartz Mountains? We looked at the rainbow. Don't you remember that any more?

RUDOLF HESS: I am sorry that I am facing here an old friend, and that I cannot share those old memories with him.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: They will all come back. They are sleeping somewhere deep down in your sub-conscious mind. They are all there. These men are all here trying to help you find again your recollection and memory. I cannot show you anything stronger. I can't show you anything stronger than to tell you that I shook the wonderful hand of your little boy, with my own, and the hand of your wife.

RUDOLF HESS: I am very glad to hear that.

COL. AMEN: We'll continue some other time.

APPROVED:

INTERROGATOR

Klair Van Vleck
COURT REPORTER

R L Sommerfeldt
INTERPRETER

Testimony of Rudolf Hess, taken at Nurnberg, Germany on 10 October 1945, 1700-1707, by Colonel John H. Amen, IGD, OUSCC. Also present: Pfc. Richard W. Sonnenfeldt, Interpreter; and S/Sgt. Wm. A. Weigel, Court Reporter.

COLONEL AMEN TO THE WITNESS THROUGH THE INTERPRETER:

Q How is your memory today?

A The same. It hasn't altered any.

Q It hasn't improved any?

A No.

Q How far does it go back today?

A It is the same thing. It goes back a few days.

Q How many?

A You have to put it to a test. I can only find out with facts. I don't feel very well just now. I just had a cramp in my intestines.

Q I won't keep you here very long, then, but you said yesterday that you thought it went back about ten days.

A Yes. I said it goes back about ten days, but if something happened on, say, the 8th or the 9th, way back, which wasn't especially important, I don't know whether I can remember it. I remember things that were important.

Q Well, I couldn't either. Do you still remember about leaving England?

A Yes.

Q In the plane?

A Yes, of course.

Q But nothing before that?

A Of course, I can remember my quarters there.

Q When did you get this idea of losing your memory?

A I don't know. It is a fact that I don't have it now.

Q I say, when did you get the idea that it would be the smart thing to lose it?

A I don't quite understand that. You mean to say by that that I thought it might be a good idea to lose my memory and then deceive you like that?

Q Yes. That is just what I mean.

A Well, I can only say that that is not true.

Q Well, it might be very helpful in connection with the coming proceedings, might it not?

A Well, how could it be helpful?

Q Well, if you don't remember anything that you were implicated in, it would be more difficult to, perhaps, prove it.

A Well, take the book, for instance, that you showed me yesterday. I don't see what benefit I could derive from losing my memory there.

Q Oh, no, but, for instance, when you directed the murder of various people, which you did.

A I did that?

Q Yes. So the witnesses say.

A You mean that because I can't remember it, the witnesses are less creditable?

Q Oh, somewhat.

A Or, do you mean because I am lying?

Q To make people feel sorry for you also.

A On the contrary, I don't understand that. If I give the appearance that I lost my memory, then people will not like me, and it might influence the

trial in such a way that I will get a worse judgment.

Q Well, all I was interested in was finding out when it was that you got the idea of doing that.

A Well, if I tell you that I never had any such idea, I can't tell you when I got it.

Q Well, you remember Haushofer in here yesterday, don't you; your old friend?

A I can remember the old gentleman who was here yesterday. I was told that he was an old friend, but I can't remember that. I was told that he was.

Q But you remember the conversation which you had with him yesterday; is that right?

A Yes, of course. Especially I can remember the important things he told me. For instance, he told me that he had seen my family.

Q Well, do you also remember his telling you that you read together a Swedish story by Selma Lagerloeff, which concerned students who lost their memory, just like you have, and then with the help of music and poetry found their memory back again?

A Yes, he told me that.

Q Do you remember having read that story with him?

A No, I can't remember that.

Q As a matter of fact, that is where you got this idea of losing your memory, isn't it?

A No, certainly not (laughing).

Q What do you think is so funny about it?

A Possibly the gentleman -- I don't know how to address him properly -- or possibly the judge can put himself into my position. It is very bad that I am in

this position now with respect to the coming trial. I won't be able to defend myself. On the other hand, I sit in my cell all the time and think about these things. In effect, it makes a terrible impression on me, and it hurts my mind very much. Then somebody in a laughing manner says, when did I get the idea to lose my memory, because I read some story, and it leaves a very ridiculous impression on me because of the contrast.

Q Well, I didn't say in a laughing manner. You were the one who was laughing, not I.

A Well, I meant in a nonchalant way; that is, in a matter which concerns me very much. There is the fact of contrast, the offhanded manner in which you stated it, and the way in which it hits me.

Q So you think, for purposes of the trial, you would be better off to have your memory than to have lost it; is that right?

A There is only one thing that I can do in the coming trial, and that is to fight with everything I have for my own skin, and the only instrument I have to fight with is my brain and my memory.

Q Well, your brain is just as good now as it ever was, isn't it?

A Well, how does it help me, though, if my brain is working all right and if I don't have any memory; if I can't confront a witness with facts?

Q Well, it doesn't, of course, if you really haven't got any memory left.

A Then I must ask the gentleman again why he thinks or for what reason he thinks I am doing this. Does he think I am so childish, or so naive, that I think I could improve my position with that?

Q I'm not quite sure why you are.

A Yes. Well, that is just it, and that is why I am asking you, because I am much less sure why I should have any advantage from it.

Q Well, Goering thinks that maybe he can help you get it back again in the near future.

A I don't know what I can give him. Whether I can give him an order or a medal later; I don't know, but whatever I can give to him, I willingly will give to him.

Q Well, we will let him try.

A Well, I am only grateful for that.

Q That is all for now.

APPROVED:

Interrogator

K W Sonnenfeldt

Interpreter

William A. Weigel

Reporter

[redacted] Co[redacted] #1)

Conversation held between Hess (Rudolf) and Hermann Goering on Monday, 15 October, 1945 in Room 167, Court House, Nurnberg, Germany, from 1428 to 1545. Court Reporter, Frances Karr; Monitor Richard Sonnenfeldt.

GOERING: Don't you remember any more? Can't you remember the noise of a motor in an airplane?

HESS: Yes, of course. But I don't know whether that is just from the flight I took recently.

GOERING: Isn't there a difference whether you sit in the cabin or whether you sit up front in the pilot seat?

HESS: Yes, there is some difference.

GOERING: Now I want to ask you if you can remember, do you know how to steer a plane?

HESS: I am not sure.

GOERING: Let us leave planes alone now.

Can you remember anything about German history? Can't you remember Frederick the Great?

HESS: Yes, but he is such an outstanding personality, anbody can know about him. But that doesn't mean I can remember anything about German history.

GOERING: But you do remember the name of Frederick the Great, don't you?

Doesn't all this mean anything to you, as for instance Frederick the Great?

HESS: Well, I just know the name, it doesn't mean very much to me.

GOERING: Try to remember. You had a picture of him, didn't you? Do you remember you had his picture?

[redacted]

HESS: Yes.

GOERING: I want to tell you something now, Hess. Do you understand, even if you do not remember, that we were together very much in our lives?

HESS: Yes.

GOERING: And that is how the two of us belong together and please be convinced that I want to help you in every way.

HESS: Yes, I am convinced of it.

GOERING: It is very important, extremely important, that both of us try to have your memory become stronger.

It is quite clear to you why you are here, isn't it?

HESS: Yes.

GOERING: You must imagine that the fact that somebody does not remember a thing is a defense.

HESS: Yes, I discovered that too.

GOERING: I have only one thing in mind, I want to help you.

HESS: Yes, I realize, but that is not why I lost my memory. The interrogator told me the same thing and I gave him the same answer I am giving you now.

GOERING: Well, let us leave the subject now, then. I just wanted to mention it to you. We will leave the subject alone now. I want to discuss the fact now --

HESS: All this doesn't mean anything because I said so myself.

GOERING: The decisive thing is that you must become clear in your mind that we all have to try to get your memory to

appeared; everything that happened in that time.

HERMANN GOERING: Do you remember that I lived just outside Berlin, in a great house in the forest, at Carin Hall; don't you remember that you came there many times? Do you remember that we were together at Obersalzberg with the Fuehrer, where you have been for years, near Berchtesgaden?

RUDOLF HESS: I have been there for years?

HERMANN GOERING: Yes; for years, even before the acquisition of power.

RUDOLF HESS: That means nothing to me.

HERMANN GOERING: Hess, remember all the way back to 1923, at that time when I was the leader of the SA, that you led one of my SA troops in Munich already for me before 1923? Do you remember that we together made the putsch in Munich?

RUDOLF HESS: The putsch in Munich was already mentioned this morning.

HERMANN GOERING: Do you remember that you arrested the Minister?

RUDOLF HESS: I arrested the Minister?

HERMANN GOERING: Yes.

RUDOLF HESS: I seem to have a pretty involved past, according to that.

HERMANN GOERING: I am just calling the most glaring things to your attention. Do you remember the beginning of the year 1933, and that we took over the government then, and that you got the central political office from the Fuehrer, and that we discussed it for a

long time?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

HERMANN GOERING: You also told me that you wanted to become a member of the government, and I told you that I would try to help you. Do you remember that you moved to the Wilhelmstrasse, into the palace, which really belonged to me, as the Prime Minister of Prussia, but I enabled you to live there?

RUDOLF HESS: I don't know.

HERMANN GOERING: I visited you many times, and I handed it to you so you would have a house in Berlin. I turned the house over to you for your benefit.

RUDOLF HESS: I have been told that everything will come back at one time by a shock.

HERMANN GOERING: Just a moment. Do you remember Mr. Messerschmidt? You were well acquainted with him. He constructed all our fighter planes, and he also gave you the plane that I refused to give you, the plane with which you flew to England. Mr. Messerschmidt gave that to you behind my back.

RUDOLF HESS: No; that is all black. That is all black. That is all blacked out. It is all beyond fourteen days, and everything then I have a slight memory, and nothing exact. They told me that people who suffered heavily in the war would get attacks like that.

HERMANN GOERING: Do you remember that the war started --

RUDOLF HESS: I know that there was a war, but I don't know how it came about.

HERMANN GOERING: Do you remember that you flew in a plane, you yourself, in this war, flew to England?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

HERMANN GOERING: You used a Messerschmidt plane. Do you remember that you wrote a long letter to the Fuehrer?

RUDOLF HESS: About what?

HERMANN GOERING: What you were going to do in England, that you were going to bring about peace.

RUDOLF HESS: I have no idea of it.

HERMANN GOERING: I have come to the end. I cannot ask him any more.

COL. AMEN (To Hermann Goering): All right. You move over here. (At this point DR. KARL HAUSHOFER enters the room).

COL. AMEN (To Rudolf Hess): Do you know this man?

RUDOLF HESS (To Dr. Karl Haushofer): Pardon me, but I really don't know who you are.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: Rudolf, don't you know me any more?

RUDOLF HESS: I don't know you.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: I am Haushofer.

RUDOLF HESS: Are we calling each other by our own first names?

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: We have called each other by our first names for twenty years. I saw your family and your child, and they are well.

RUDOLF HESS: I was asked about your name today, and I don't know you.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: I saw your family, and your boy is nice. (At this point Dr. Karl Haushofer and Rudolf Hess shake hands).

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: May I shake your hand? Your boy is wonderfully grown. He is seven years old now. I have seen him.

HERMANN GOERING (To Dr. Karl Haushofer): Tell him again that you have known him for twenty years.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: We have known each other for twenty years.

RUDOLF HESS: In order to calm down an old friend, I can only assure you that the doctors tell me that my memory will all come back to me. I can't remember you. I just don't know you, but it will all come back to me, and then I will recognize an old friend again. I am terribly sorry.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: I am sure that it will come back again. Anyway, I can tell you that your son is very well. I saw him. He is a nice boy. And I said goodbye to him under the oak, that has your name, which you yourself chose, that is on Harzhimmelhof, where you were so many times. Don't you remember that there was the view on the Zugspitze and the branches of the trees that hung low down?

RUDOLF HESS: That all doesn't mean a thing, it doesn't mean a thing.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: Don't you remember Heimbach, where you were so long, where you lived so long?

RUDOLF HESS: This is very peculiar. I don't know you. I want you to know how this could happen. All I can say is that it has all gone away. I don't know that it will come back.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: I am sure it will come back. I have known such cases with old soldiers. I have seen many such cases. Your whole memory will come back to you almost with one shock. You have got to have hope that the same thing will happen to you. I can see how those four years have worried you. Rest assured that it will come back. We have been friends for twenty-two years. You were in our University to become a doctor. That is as true as that your memory will come back. You will see that it will come back. I also see the light in your eyes like in the old days. Best of all, I know that your wife and your son are well on the farm, and that your boy has grown, has developed into a fine young man.

HERMANN GOERING (To Dr. Karl Haushofer): Please mention the name of the farm itself to Hess.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: The Harzhimmelhof. And then from the Harzhimmelhof we traveled by car into the country.

HERMANN GOERING: Do you know that you lived in Munich, Hess?

RUDOLF HESS: No.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: Don't you know where Munich is?

RUDOLF HESS: Of course, I know it is a town.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: Don't you remember the flower beds with the waterflowers? It is all still there.

RUDOLF HESS: I don't know anything about waterflowers. It may be

right, but I don't remember it.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: It is like that. Just imagine, your little boy, he has grown so high (indicating). He is seven years old, and he looks half like you and half like his mother.

HERMANN GOERING (To Rudolf Hess): Do you remember your boy?

RUDOLF HESS: Of course, I do remember them, because I looked at a picture of my wife and my boy all the time. It stays in my memory.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: Your boy is this tall (indicating).

RUDOLF HESS: He is not a small boy?

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: Like yourself, he is a big boy, and he is seven years old now. He is going to school and he is a wonderful little man. He is well-developed, and he is well taken care of, just as well as it is possible. I saw them two weeks ago. And I said goodbye to him under the oak, which you yourself chose.

RUDOLF HESS: Of course, that is long ago. My memory for that period of time is gone.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: It will all come back. How far back can you remember?

RUDOLF HESS: Possibly ten days or fourteen days, but I don't know anything further back than that.

DR. KARL HAUSHOFER: You wrote me a letter one time, by devious routes, which got to me finally, and you wrote to me about the long walks that you were taking, and you told me about the hay and the smell of the flowers, and that you were allowed to take walks of two hours'

(At this point Colonel Amen entered the room. Evidently this was the noise that was heard a few moments previously)

QUESTIONS BY COLONEL AMEN TO THE WITNESS HESS (Through an Interpreter)

Q Do you still think that you will be better off at the trial if you refuse to remember anything?

(Conversation inaudible due to unexplainable noise)

Q Well, as far as the things you are charged with are not subject to any defense.

A It is all the same whether I say anything or not.

(Conversation inaudible)

Q There is nothing wrong with your logic, it is just your memory, isn't that it?

(Conversation is drowned out by paper rustling and other noises)

Q You did write it afterwards. That is what everyone says who was with you. You think you wrote it before you left Germany?

(At this stage in the prodeedings telephone rings and drowns out all conversation)

THE WITNESS HESS: I don't know. I didn't know what I was accused of.

Q Why did you try to justify it?

A How should I know? I said that I had no idea.

Q Well, I thought you said a little while ago you thought you wrote it before you left Germany, that you must have written it before you left Germany.

A I don't know whether I said that but I don't remember about it now.

Q Do you think it is a justification for what you did before you lost your memory?

A I can't answer, I don't know, I can't answer it because I don't remember.

Q If I give it to you and if you read it through, could you tell me after that?

A Yes, I will read it over there in the prison.

Q Well, you would know if you read it, wouldn't you?

A I wouldn't know what was in it unless you give me the paper until I go up before the Court.

Q If you read it tomorrow, if you read the pages you could then tell me what you have found therein, couldn't you?

A I will be able to tell you about it later if it is not too complicated.

Q This is something you wrote yourself. You say you have lost your memory.

A I can't imagine out of my memory with the condition it is in now that I was in a position to write a thing like that.

Q Well, would you like to read some of it tomorrow?

A I would very much like to read it, yes.

Q Maybe Goering can read it too. Maybe it will help to bring back your memory about what happened and about what you were writing about.

A Of course, I agree.

Q Is it written in your handwriting?

A I didn't have any typewriter so I guess it must have been written by me.

Q How long is it?

A I don't know.

Q How long did it take you to write it?

A Don't ask me questions when you know I can't answer it.

Q How do you know you didn't have a typewriter?

A Oh, just by accident I can remember that. My memory goes back that far.

Q It reaches just about where you want it to reach.

A I want it to reach back as far as possible.

Q How about the letter you wrote to the Fuehrer? Have you got a copy of that in the package with you?

A I don't know what was in that package.

(Loud noise drowns out conversation)

Q Well, if your memory is so short, you don't remember from one day to the other whether you are going to remember the day before or not.

A I thought I could remember back to England.

(Loud noise drowns out conversation)

Q You do remember I asked you a lot of these questions before, don't you? Isn't that right?

A I don't remember.

Q You remember that very well, don't you?

A I remember them only too well, that is why I am so excited and mad at you for asking them again.

Q That is why you are getting mad?

A Yes.

Q Why don't you exert some of that energy trying to think back before the time when you left England?

A Nobody has given me the prescription as to how to do that.

Q Well, we will have to start giving you the shocks then, I guess.

A Oh yes, please, and also the papers that you promised to give me.

(Recording inaudible)

A Could I please have another look at the indictment to see what I am accused of. There must be some reason for bringing me here.

Q Don't you have any idea of that? What is the use of reading the indictment if you have no memory of what is set forth in the indictment.

A That is why I would like to have it and try because it is possible that one or two things in the indictment might come back to my memory.

Q You were to succeed the Fuehrer, were you not?

A Not the successor but the deputy.

Q At one time was Goering going to succeed?

A I don't know.

Q You had some discussions with each other.

A I don't believe it.

Q I am interested in this indictment business. Where did you get any idea about that?

A I thought that was possible and probable and that is why I mentioned it and that it would specify the accusations against the particular criminals named in the indictment.

Q Well, you ought to know there is no such thing as an indictment in Germany. Where did you get the idea about written down charges?

A Well, I thought to myself there must be some sense to my coming here.

Q What good would it do you to read the indictment if there were such a paper?

(Recording inaudible)

Q What makes you think that the Americans are making any charges against anyone?

A I don't know.

Q What gives you the idea that the American courts have had anything to do with this?

(Recording inaudible)

Q That is your only source of information?

A I can't think of any other this morning.

Q As a matter of fact you don't even know the war is over, do you?

A Yes, I know that. That became clear to me.

Q Do you believe these things you hear? You do not seem to believe a lot of things I tell you.

A I believe him.

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Q As a matter of fact you don't even know the war is over, do you?

A Yes, I know that. That became clear to me.

Q Do you believe these things you hear? You do not seem to believe a lot of things I tell you.

A I believe him.

Q How do you decide who to believe and who not to believe? You have no memory to go by.

A I admit it is much better not to believe anyone.

Q Well, Goering tells you a lot of things that you don't believe, isn't that so?

A Oh, he told me nothing that I don't believe.

Q Well, how about all the other friends that were over here the other day?

A I have no reason to doubt that it was true what they told me.

Q Well, that is not the position you took when they were here.

A Well, may I ask what my attitude was?

Q You can ask anything but you are supposed to answer the questions.

(Recording inaudible)

Q I asked you where you got the idea that people had rights either to ask questions or not to ask them.

A They were questions which exceeded my present intelligence and thus I could not answer them.

Q What you had in mind was that there was some kind of law that said a person had a right to ask a question; is that what you had in mind?

A No, but I think we have the power to ask questions and the laws --

Q You know what those laws are, don't you?

A Yes, I know.

Q You put out a whole book of them, didn't you?

A Yes, a whole book of laws.

Q And that is the book you wrote and that is the one you want to read, isn't it?

A Yes, I would like to read it.

Q And you remember perfectly well what was in that book, don't you?

A No, I don't know.

(At this point Hess was led out of the room by his guard. Goering then proceeds to give an account of his interview with Hess to Colonel Amen, which actually sets forth the conversation as it took place and also Goering's observations. Colonel Amen then ordered Goering led out of the room and general conversation ensues between those present.)

Statement by RUDOLF HESS,
taken at Nurnberg, Germany
on 19 October 1945 by
COLONEL JOHN H. AMEN, I.G.D., OUSCC.
4:46 p.m. to 4:48 p.m.
Reporter: Nancy M. Shields, B.C.V.
Interpreter: Pfc. Richard W. Sonnenfeldt.

COLONEL AMEN TO WITNESS THROUGH INTERPRETER:

Q You have now been served with a copy of the indictment in this case, in which you are accused, as the defendant, of the commission of various crimes.

A Yes.

Q It is expected that you will continue to be interrogated from time to time unless you expressly object thereto?

A I believe that, practically, there would be no purpose to that.

Q Please state whether you have any objection to being further interrogated or whether you consider that your interests will be better protected by refusing to be interrogated further.

A In my opinion, there is no difference either way because nothing will ever come of it. I read the indictment and to me it is completely insignificant. It does not mean a thing to me. However, if the gentlemen desire to put questions to me, I will be glad to listen to them.

Q In other words, you have no objection to being further interrogated from time to time?

A No.

COL. AMEN: That is all.

* * *

APPROVED:

Interrogator

Interpreter

Reporter

Testimony of Rudolf Hess, taken at Nurnberg, Germany, on 30 October, 1945, 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, by Colonel John H. Amen, IGD., OUSCC. Also present: Major Teich, F. C., Major Kelly, D.M., Pfc. Ruppert Waare, Pfc. Harold Fredland, Pfc. Richard W. Sonnenfeldt, Interpreter; and Frances Karr, Court Reporter.

QUESTIONS BY COLONEL AMEN TO THE WITNESS THROUGH THE INTERPRETER:

Q What is your full name?

A Rudolf Hess.

Q And when you came up to Nurnberg, you brought with you various papers and documents?

A I do not know that.

Q You don't know whether you brought any papers and documents with you?

A No, I don't know that.

Q You told me the other day that you had?

A To this gentleman here (pointing to Colonel Amen)?

Q Yes.

A I don't even know that I ever saw the gentleman before.

Q You mean you do not remember that you ever saw me before?

A No, as a matter of fact.

Q Do you remember being questioned at all since you have been up here?

A Well, I must have been interrogated before because amongst my papers I found the statement, which in substance was something like this: According to yesterday's interview

I stated that I didn't want a defense counsel, so I must presume I had been asked, that is, that I could not name one.

Q Don't you still remember leaving England to come up here?

A Yes, I know that I came here from England.

Q And you don't recall what has happened since you have been here, after you left England?

A Well, I know that I am in a cell over there.

Q Don't you remember that I have questioned you many times since you have been up here?

TO THE INTERPRETER: You mean the gentleman that is confronting me now, putting questions to me.

Q Yes, right in this room.

A I don't know that.

Q Your memory is getting worse instead of better, is that right?

A I can't say whether it is better or worse, I do not know that.

Q But you do not remember ever having seen me before?

A No, to the best of my knowledge I do not remember that.

Q And you do not remember whether you brought any documents and papers with you when you came here from England?

A No.

Q Well, now I am going to show you a lot of papers and see if that helps you remember whether they are papers and documents which you brought with you from England.

A Yes.

Q Before I do that, I want to ask you again what you said about somebody telling you, that you were not entitled to any counsel?

A I have a document over there concerning the trial and in it is contained the statement that I am free to name a counsel if I want to, but I don't have to.

Q That is right. Now I will show you some documents and ask you whether they are documents which you brought over here with you from England? Here is one, being a package, sealed with seven red wax seals. I ask you to look at that and tell me whether you know what it is?

A It says on the back of the envelope that its contents are medical pills which contain materials in them that is harmful.

Q Do you recall ever having seen that envelope before?

A No. If my name was not there and if that was not my handwriting I would not have the faintest idea that it was mine.

Q Did you bring any poisoned articles with you from England?

A No. Well, what do you understand by poisoned articles?

Q I do not know what is in the envelope. I am trying to find out whether you do.

A "Articles" is a wrong expression to use here. If you mean whether I brought any poisoned pills, that is something different.

Q Did you?

A I can't state anything outside of what I read here on the envelope. I have no idea that I brought anything like this along.

Q And you don't know what is inside the envelope?

A No. No idea.

Q How about this envelope, indicating an envelope with five wax seals thereon, four of them being purple and one of them being green, on the reverse side thereof.

A I don't know what that is. Probably it contains the same but I don't know.

Q You never saw this before?

A At any rate I am not conscious of it; probably just as I saw the other envelope, but I don't know that anymore.

COLONEL AMEN: I ask to have this marked for identification as Exhibit"A"(Hess) as of today's date.

(Package referred to marked for identification Exhibit "A" (Hess) 10/30/45)

A (continuing) This is the seal of the Swiss Legation in London,(pointing to the seal appearing between the 2 purple seals on one end of the reverse of the envelope).

Q How do you know that?

A Well, I see it here. It says, "Legation de Swisse a Londres", which is the French for Swiss Legation in London.

Q You never saw the envelope before?

A At least I am not conscious of it at this time.

COLONEL AMEN: I ask to have this marked for identification as Exhibit"B" (Hess) as of today's date.

(Document referred to marked for identification,Exhibit "B" (Hess) 10/30/45)

Q I hand you another envelope bearing five red seals on the reverse side. I ask you whether you have ever seen this before?

A No. The same applies, I am not conscious of it.

Q Did you bring that with you from England?

A That I don't know.

Q You never saw it before, so far as you know?

A No, I have not.

COLONEL AMEN: I ask to have this marked for identification as Exhibit "C" (Hess) as of today's date.

(Document referred to marked for identification,Exhibit "C" (Hess), 10/30/45)

Q I hand you another envelope, bearing two red wax seals, on the reverse side, and an inscription in the lower left hand corner, "Legation de Swisse", I ask you to tell me whether you have ever seen this before?

A At any rate I am not conscious of having seen it before.

COLONEL AMEN: I ask this be marked for identification as Exhibit "D" (Hess) as of today's date.

(Document referred to marked for identification as Exhibit "D" (Hess) 10/30/45)

Q I show you another envelope, being a small, plain blue envelope, with no seals or other identifying marks appearing thereon, and ask you whether you have ever seen this before?

A I am not conscious of having seen it before.

COLONEL AMEN: I ask this be marked for identification as Exhibit "E" (Hess) as of today's date.

(Document referred to marked for identification Exhibit "E" (Hess) 10/30/45)

Q I show you another envelope, marked in crayon "Hess"; underneath is the printed caption "On his Majesty's Service", which envelope contains handwritten material, and I ask you to look at the envelope, as well as its contents, and tell me whether or not you have ever seen any of these papers before?

A It says here, "I landed in Scotland on the 10 of May, 1941 in the evening."

Q Well, is that your own handwriting?

A Yes, this is my handwriting.

Q Do you recall having written it?

A No, not in any way.

Q And do you know whether you brought that with you from England?

A No, I do not know that.

Q Do you remember having written it?

A No.

Q Do you know whether anything contained in it is true or not?

A What I read so far was the beginning. I can't remember any more that I landed on the evening of the 10 of May 1941, in Scotland.

Q Suppose you read the first two paragraphs and tell me whether you remember anything stated in those two paragraphs?

A Yes. Well, I can remember nothing at all of this.

Q Suppose you read the last part of it and see if you remember that.

A This is an incredibly story.

Q What does it say?

A It says here the "outside of a medicine which would cause a toothache, there was also a strong laxative contained in there, unmistakably, and also a poison which would damage the mucous membranes" and it says further more, "the last thing caused, that blood would congeal in the nose and thus stop it up; that bleeding would be caused in the mouth and that the intestines would burn like fire."

Q Do you remember having written anything like that?

A No, not in the least.

Q But this entire document is in your own handwriting?

A As far as I saw it, so far it is, yes.

Q So you must have written it?

A Yes, of course.

Q Do you have any objection at all to my reading it?

A No, of course not.

Q And you have no objection to my having it translated into English?

A No, not at all.

Q And there is no doubt in your mind but what you wrote it?

A No, there is no doubt about that, that is my handwriting.

Q Do you remember when or under what circumstances you wrote it?

A Well, since I can't remember writing it at all, I can't remember under what conditions or when.

COLONEL AMEN: I ask to have this marked for identification as Exhibit "F" (Hess) as of today's date.

(Document referred to marked for identification Exhibit "F" (Hess) 10/30/45

Q I show you another brown manila envelope, with a War Department caption in the upper left hand corner and "Hess" written in pencil on the face thereof, and a note attached thereto in pencil saying "statements concerning First World War, atomic Bomb, reconstruction of Germany, protest against war trials, etc.", and ask you to look at this envelope and its contents and tell me whether you have ever seen any of these documents before.

A If I didn't see my handwriting here I would say at once, why are you submitting things like that to me.

Q But you do recognize your own handwriting?

A I have one question. Could I receive a copy of these documents in my cell so I can look at them?

Q Well, this is the only copy there is, so far as I know, and I was going to get it translated into English and then give it back to you, if that is agreeable to you.

A Yes, if I could only receive these documents before the start of the trial.

Q Yes.

A Because apparently they have significance with respect to the trial, that is as far as I can see from looking at them now.

Q What good do you think it would do you to have them before the trial?

A In order that I can memorize what these documents contain.

Q That would be quite a job, wouldn't it, without any memory?

A Yes, of course, but at any rate it would be better to read them than go into the trial without starting to read those documents.

Q In any event then, you have no objection to my getting these papers translated into English and then returning the originals to you before the trial?

A No, I have nothing against that.

Q What do you know about the atomic bomb anyway?

A I don't know, but it sounds like it must be some special kind of bomb.

Q But you do not know what kind?

A No, that I do not know.

Q You never heard of an atomic bomb before?

A No.

Q And yet you recognize almost all of this material is in your own handwriting?

A Yes.

COLONEL AMEN: I ask this entire envelope be marked for identification as Exhibit "G" (Hess) as of today's date.

(Document referred to marked for identification, Exhibit

"G" (Hess) 10/30/45)

A (continuing) at any rate it seems, I was very productive.

Q Very prolific.

Now, I show you a large package marked "Hess", containing a number of packages, all wrapped in brown or blue paper, most of which contain wax seals, either green or purple, together with a large, sealed white manila envelope marked "Rudolf Hess" on one side and on the other side, "newspaper clippings", and also a package wrapped in newspaper, and I ask you to look at this and tell me whether you have ever seen any of these packages or know what they contain?

A At any rate this could not be very precious (indicating what is in the newspaper wrapping).

Q Apparently not.

There is also contained herein, on the bottom, another brown envelope, marked "Rudolf Hess" in crayon and in the upper left hand corner it says "conference and "--

THE INTERPRETER: "Kladde", which I d o not know what it means in German and apparently the witness does not either.

A "Kladde"is a slang expression, which we had at school and we used to call a file by that name, where we would keep rough copies of things we worked out.

Q Do you recall ever having seen these packages or envelopes before?

A No.

Q Do you know whether you bought any of them with you from England?

A No.

Q Have you any objection to our examining the contents of these various packages and envelopes?

A No.

COLONEL AMEN: I ask to have the entire package marked for identification as Exhibit "H" (Hess) as of today's date.

(Package referred to marked for identification, Exhibit "H" (Hess) 10/30/45)

Q Now, you say you do not remember ever having brought with you from England any of the packages or envelopes or documents or other data which I have shown you this morning, is that correct?

A Yes, that is right.

Q And do you recall making a request, when you arrived here, that these papers be kept intact for your own use?

A That I do not know.

Q And do you remember being assured that when these packages and documents were opened or taken from you, that you would be allowed to be present at the time?

A No, that I do not know.

Q But in any event, you realize they were opened in your presence and shown to you today?

A Well, they were submitted to me but as far as the seals on them, they werenot opened.

Q Do you want to open them?

A I would be interested to see at least one, so I can get an idea what is in it.

Q Well, go ahead.

Did you tie these up yourself?

A That I do not know. At any rate if I did, It was a good passtime. (indicating) This is "kakao" (Coco) and it says "it will cause headache."

Now, these are tablets containing iron and it says, "it will cause shutting of the intestines. "

THE INTERPRETER: There is a list of contents herein, contained in a blue envelope, and identifying the various small packages contained within the larger blue wrapping paper.

A (continuing) At any rate, there are somethings in there which I would appreciate. It says there is poison against the heart, poison for the brain.

MAJOR KELLY: Why do you carry these poisons around?

A Well, if I knew that--

(Colonel Amen continuing)

Q Do you want to have any more of these opened in your presence or would you let us open them and tell you about it?

A I attach no further value to that. The gentlemen may open them on t heir own.

Q Now, do you intend to retain counsel for the trial?

A It is a matter of complete indifference to me because I believe a counsel could not do very much.

Q Well, do you want to consult any counsel before telling me that it is all right for us to get those documents in your own handwriting translated?

A No, that is all right with me in any event.

COLONEL AMEN: That is all for now.

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APPROVED: _____
(Interrogator)

_____
(Interpreter)

_____
(Court Reporter)

(HESS) (END)

Testimony of:

RUDOLF HESS
MISS INGEBORG SPERR
MISS HILDEGARDE FATH

Taken at Nurnberg, Germany, on 16 November 1945, 1450-1550, by

COL. JOHN H. AMEN, JAGD, OUSCC.

Also Present:

Col. Paul Schroeder,
Majr. Douglas Kelley,
Hon. Claude Pepper, Senator from Florida,
Leo Katz, Official Interpreter,
John J. Murtha, Court Reporter.

(In a hearing room at the end of the Interrogation Corridor, in the Palace of Justice, the following transpired between Miss Ingeborg Sperr and Colonel Amen, with the reporter and interpreter present. Miss Sperr was not sworn.)

COLONEL AMEN TO MISS SPERR:

Q You are Miss Sperr, are you?

A Ja.

Q Do you speak English?

A (Through the Interpreter) No.

Q You are Fraulein Sperr?

A Sperr.

Q And you were Mr. Hess's secretary?

A Ja.

Q For what period of time?

A From the 1st of May, 1934, until the end.

Q And was Miss Fath there at the same time that you were?

A Yes.

Q Did you work together or separately?

A We also worked together, partially.

Q Would you have any objection to talking to Hessand seeing whether you can do anything to help him remember?

A I do not understand that question.

Q Have you any objection to talking to him and helping him to see if he can bring back his memory about any of the things he used to know, as to which he now hasn't any memory?

A No; if I can help him, of course.

COLONEL AMEN (to the interpreter): Tell her that Miss Fath is going in first and as soon as they get through we will have her go in.

THE INTERPRETER: Yes.

Q And you might be thinking, in the meanwhile, of anything you could say to him which might help to bring back anything.

A I shall try.

(Colonel Amen then proceeded -- accompanied by court reporter and interpreter -- to the hearing room in which Mr. Hess was already seated, manacled to a guard. It was in this room that Colonel Schroeder, Major Kelley and Senator Pepper also came in upon the proceeding. This took place at 1455 hours.

(A few minutes transpired and then a woman entered the room. As she approached Hess, to this reporter she showed unmistakable signs of recognition. Hess and the woman greeted each other and proceeded to converse in

German with each other. The woman, who by this time was identified to the reporter as Miss Hildegarde Fath, showed some snapshots to the prisoner. The prisoner showed definite signs of recognizing the pictures.

(At this point Colonel Amen, in answer to Miss Fath's question, told her that Hess might keep the photographs.)

MISS FATH: Except that I would like to keep this one (indicating a larger snapshot).

(Further conversation ensued, in which the reporter caught a reference to some medical doctor in Freiburg.)

(At this point, at 1503, Colonel Amen left the room. The conversation between Miss Fath and the prisoner continued.)

MISS FATH: I write, yes?

MAJOR KELLEY: Do you want to write the address? Yes, you may.

(Some more conversation took place between the two. At this point Colonel Amen came into the room, accompanied by Miss Sperr. Miss Sperr warmly greeted Miss Fath. Miss Sperr and the prisoner met; to this reporter there were obvious signs of recognition.)

(The conversation ensued among the three persons, during which this reporter caught the expression "34.")

MISS FATH (addressing Colonel Amen): Can't we afterwards speak together?

COLONEL AMEN: Yes, you two women.

MISS FATH: Yes, she is not kept in our prison.

COLONEL AMEN: You can talk together, in another room, while the guards are there.

MISS FATH: Yes, for a while.

(These questions to Miss Fath were put by Colonel directly in English.)

FORMAL QUESTIONS DIRECTED TO HESS BY COLONEL AMEN:

Q You remember these young ladies, don't you?

A No, no; I do not remember them.

Q You never saw either one of them before?

A As it is stated to me, it seems to be so.

Q What seems to be so?

A It has just been stated in the conversation with these two young ladies that I have seen them before.

Q They worked for you for years?

A Yes.

Q But you say you don't remember?

A No.

Q And you don't remember any of the pictures that were shown to you?

A No.

Q And you don't remember any of the pictures that were shown to you?

A No.

Q Are you glad to see them?

A Yes. I am always glad to see Germans, Germans who tell me of my family.

Q What makes you think those are pictures of your family?

A The ladies told me that, and besides, I have a picture of my son in my cell.

Q Well, it is not the same as that one.

A No, no; he is younger in that picture.

Q You believe what the young ladies say, do you?

A I have not the least cause to think that Germans do not tell me the truth.

Q But you can't tell the difference between either of these young ladies and any other German young ladies, is that right?

A Not as a matter of course, but these two young ladies told me they were working for long years with me, in which case they are distinguished from other ladies.

Q Except that you don't know it is true or not.

A I repeat that I have no cause to doubt that Germans do not tell me the truth.

Q Do you think all Germans will tell you the truth?

A Yes, with all Germans with whom I am closely acquainted. Of course, there are some in all countries that do not tell the truth and who are not honorable.

Q How do you know they are German young ladies?

A According to the language, I have got the impression that they are not Americans.

Q Well, there are other people besides Americans in Germany, aren't there?

A Yes, I acknowledge that fact.

Q When was it that this young lady worked for you (indicating Miss Fath)?

A I do not know that.

Q She just told you, didn't she?

A But this has not left such an impression that I could repeat it by heart. But, at any rate, she was with me before I took off from Germany.

Q Well, how about the other young lady (referring to Miss Sperr)?

A The same way.

Q Were they with you at the same time?

A I do not know that.

Q Did they do the same kind of work?

A I do not know that.

Q Did they do any work?

A I hope so.

Q Do you think so?

A I have the impression.

Q Where did you get that impression from?

A I don't know how a scientist would express that. I can't express that in any other way.

Q A scientist?

A I assume that there are scientific definitions for this, that I do not know, but I believe it, that they were working for me.

Q Did you tell one of these women that she could work for you again, later on?

A Yes, yes; she was to rely on the fact that at one time she would be able to work for me again.

Q What do you have in mind about that?

A I consider that it has been told me that formerly I had a high position in the National Socialist State and that at one time that will be again the case.

Q You mean you are going to have a high position in the Nazi State again?

A Yes.

Q The same position?

A I do not know exactly what that position was, and in the same way I cannot know about the future position, what that will be.

Q You have those plans for after the trial, is that it?

A Yes.

Q Andwhat kind of work do you expect her to do for you?

A That I do not know. I somehow think that work will correspond to the type of work made before.

Q What was that?

A That I do not know. I know merely that they were working for me and that they will be similarly occupied again.

Q What makes you think you can give them the same kind of work, if you don't know what kind of work they did before?

A I merely said that one cannot express that in a literal way. I merely assume that they will be again working for me as they have been, as they have done before.

Q Your previous work was that of being Deputy Fuehrer, wasn't it?

A Yes.

Q But now there isn'tany Fuehrer.

A It does not necessarily mean that I will be again

Deputy to the Fuehrer. I merely want to say it will be again a high position in the German Nationalist State.

Q How will you obtain that position?

A I cannot say that at this time, but I have the impression that it will be again such -- not impression, but the feeling.

Q And where do you get that feeling from?

A I do not know that. That is a matter for scientists and professional people to find out, where one gets such a feeling.

Q But in any event you are perfectly willing to employ both of these girls again, and you believe that everything they have said to you is true, is that right?

A Yes, of course.

Q And yet you have never seen either one of them before?

A I have already stated that I cannot recall having seen them before, but according to what the ladies have told me, I must have seen them before.

Q You mean if they are telling the truth?

A I do not know how often I should repeat that I have the conviction that Germans tell me the truth. But perhaps the gentlemen might take cognizance of that fact.

Q I could bring a lot of Germans in here that won't tell you the truth.

A Yes, especially out of a prison where usually there are criminals kept.

Q Such as Goering, for example?

A No; this man did not understand me correctly. I said

especially out of a prison where, as a matter of course, criminals are kept.

Q And I said "Such as Goering"?

A That is quite evident that I did not mean that.

Q Well, is Goering a criminal?

A Yes, but an honorable criminal, a war criminal.

Q How do you know what kind of a criminal he is?

A Because he is the same type of criminal that I am.

Q But you don't know anything else about him, do you? You don't even know he is Goering, do you? That is what you told the gentlemen who were here yesterday.

A Even by raising your voice you cannot say that I did not say yesterday that I knew Goering from this time, and from the fact that I walked with him every day.

Q I am asking you, how do you know he is not a criminal? How do you know he isn't a pickpocket or a thief?

A I assume that the gentleman is trying to provoke me, but I cannot be provoked.

Q I am only asking you how you know that it is. I am not trying to provoke you. What I want to know is, if you have no memory, which is what you claim, how can you possibly know that Goering is not a pickpocket or a thief or some other kind of criminal?

A Perhaps it is known to the gentleman that I have over there an indictment in which Goering, myself and other people are named.

Q Well, forget about his being a war criminal. I am not talking about that. I am talking about how you know he isn't some other kind of criminal, like a thief, or a pickpocket or a murderer?

A I am convinced of the fact that in Germany no pickpockets and thieves and people of that type are elevated to high ranks -- at least in Germany.

COLONEL AMEN: All right, that is all.

(To the guards) You can take him out and leave the girls.

(At this point, 1532 hours, the two women bid goodbye to Hess and gave him a photograph and a book. Hess left the room. The two women remained.)

MISS FATH: Is he not allowed to stay?

COLONEL AMEN: No, but you can talk here for a while, if you want to.

(Here the official interpreter announced that this expression was used by Hess when the two women said goodbye to him, "You can be proud of the fact that you are prisoners. I am not going to write.")

(The interpreter also stated that the other girl said, "Well, I will ask for permission." Hess, on parting with the two women, the interpreter stated, said, "Heil, euch." This expression means "Hail to you," which is a corruption of the formal greeting.)

QUESTIONS ASKED OF MISS SPEER BY COLONEL AMEN:

Q Did you not believe that Hess recognized you when you first came in the room?

Q Did you not believe that Hess recognized you when you first came in the room?

A No.

Q What?

A I am sorry, no.

Q You don't honestly think so.

A No.

Q You don't think he recognized you?

A No, I don't think.

Q Are you sure?

A I am very sorry. I am sure -- I am afraid -- I am sure. I should prefer it would be otherwise.

Q What was the first thing he said to you?

A Pardon?

Q What was the first thing he said to you?

A He said to me -- I don't remember.

Q You don't remember?

A But he looked friendly.

Q He looked friendly all right?

A Yes. I expected that perhaps he would be worried, but he looked friendly.

Q Don't you really think he recognized you?

A No -- you see, I am very sad. (Tears came to the witnessm's eyes.) Excuse me.

COLONEL AMEN: All right, all right. You two

ladies can talk now.

(At this time it was 1520 hours. The two women began conversation.)

QUESTIONS PUT BY COLONEL AMEN TO MISS FATH:

Q Do you remember when I was questioning Hess, you said, "Well, I will show you something that will help you to remember," and you started to show him one of these pictures?

A While I showed him the pictures?

Q No, while I was questioning him and he said something about not being able to remember, you said, "I will show you something that may help you to remember."

A I said --

Q You said to Hess?

A It was a little boy.

Q You were going to pick up a picture and show it to Hess. Do you remember that?

A I remember that I gave him that.

Q Well, you started to. You did not. He said, "No, no." Right?

A I do not know the details.

Q At any rate you didn't show it to him; he didn't take it.

A He didn't take it.

Q Don't you remember that?

A Yes, yes -- I remember that I gave him, but I don't quite remember the occasion.

(There was something said here in German by one of the other American army officers present.)

A (Continued) I am sorry; I can't remember.

Q You can't remember what?

A What he did then.

Q You remember that he didn't take it, don't you? You had it in your hand and you started to give it to him, and you didn't give it to him, right?

A I didn't _-

Q He didn't take it.

A He didn't take it, yes.

Q Don't you remember what he said that kept you from giving it to him?

A (Upon the question being interpreted for her) No.

Q Do you realize that you are under oath? Didn't you take an oath to tell the truth?

A Yes, of course.

Q And you still say you don't remember what he said?

A No, I am very sorry -- I was quite assured to hear all, but I don't remember what he did. Perhaps if you tell it to me, perhaps I can remember.

Q Well, I say, while I was questioning him he said something about not being able to remember and then you said, "Well, I will show you something that may help you to remember." And you picked up one of the pictures and started to hand it to him.

A Yes, I know on one occasion I said so.

Q Don't you remember he said, "No, no, no," and didn't take it?

A No, that is --

Q What was the phrase? He took his left hand and said, "No, no, no."

A No, I am sorry. (Something from the witness in German.) I am really sorry about this matter which seems to be important, and after I did not pay close enough attention.

(At this point, 1550 hours, the interrogation ended, and the two women were permitted to converse with each other in the hearing room.)

Approved: _____
Interrogator

_____
Court Reporter

_____
Interpreter