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RECORDS OF THE UNITED STATES NUERNBERG WAR CRIMES TRIALS:  
NG SERIES, 1933-1948

Introduction

Reproduced in this microfilm publication are the records in the NG Series, 1933-48, with a few documents of earlier date. Documents in this series were assigned numbers NG-001 through NG-5890 at Nuernberg and are now part of the National Archives Collection of World War II War Crimes Records, Record Group 238.

The NG Series is one of several Nuernberg documentary series assembled by the staff of the Office of Chief of Counsel for War Crimes for use in the 12 trials of war criminals conducted by the U.S. Government from 1947 to 1949, subsequent to the trial of major war criminals before the International Military Tribunal at Nuernberg.

Each Nuernberg documentary series is reproduced as a separate microfilm publication. Within each series the record items are filmed in numerical sequence and consist of a register card, a mimeographed Staff Evidence Analysis (SEA) form, the original or a reproduction of the document, and an English translation if available. Some SEA forms and translations are barely legible because of poor mimeographing.

The register card shows the number assigned to the document, place of origin, date, author and title, subject, the language used in the document, whether or not there is a translation and exhibit number(s) if the document was introduced in evidence. On many register cards there are references to certifications of reproductions but the certifications have been reproduced in this microfilm publication only in those instances where they served as substitutes for illegible SEA forms.

The SEA form, which was devised to establish reference control over the great influx of documents into the Office of Chief of Counsel, gives the title, date, and source of the document; names of persons and organizations implicated; cross-references to related records; and a summary of content emphasizing data potentially applicable as evidence.

There are English translations for the majority of the documents in the NG Series. Not all translations indicated on register cards or SEA forms were available for microfilming nor are the translations always complete.

When the register card was filmed with the related documents it was stamped with the number of the roll and the number of the beginning frame on which the record item was filmed. On the concluding rolls of this microfilm publication the register cards were filmed again in numerical sequence by NG Series number, each accompanied by its SEA, to serve as a microfilmed finding aid pending eventual publication of a printed finding aid.

Also reproduced on the rolls containing the microfilmed finding aid are the affidavits of Maj. William H. Coogan and Lt. Fred Niebergall, U.S. Army officers in charge of the Document Control Branch of the Evidence Division, Office of Chief of Counsel for War Crimes. The affidavits, introduced as exhibits in

each of the 12 U.S. war crimes trials, describe the seizure of records and procedures for filing, reproducing, analyzing, and translating documentary evidence for the Office of Chief of Counsel for War Crimes.

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