

The nuremburg trials: dominance and preconception



**ASSIGN
BUSTER**

In 1945-46, in Nurnberg, Germany, the International Military Tribunal held a series of trials in which former Nazi political leaders, military work force, medicinal experts, investors, and law specialists responsible for the roles they played in the Holocaust and in World War II. These people involved were charged and tried as war criminals and were charged with four counts in the trials. The historical notability of the Nuremburg Trials was what? This essay will detail why the Nuremburg Trials were a fundamental effort to attain lawfulness out of an unthinkable circumstance, wherein a horrendous penalty was to be paid for all the destruction and outrageous behavior devoted for the sake of dominance and preconception.

Not long after Adolf Hitler came to control as the German chancellor in 1933, he had his Nazi government to start executing tactics intended to oppress German-Jewish individuals and other anticipated adversaries of the Nazi union. Over the span of about 10 years, these tactics became progressively suppressive and brutal and developed, before World War II ended, from 1939-45, in the deliberate, state-supported murder of approximately 6 million European Jews. There were also anywhere from four million to six million non-Jews (History. com Editors).

In December 1942, Joseph Stalin of the Soviet Union, British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, and the leaders of the United States, had given the principal joint declaration authoritatively taking note of the massacres of European Jews and taking steps to indict those answerable for viciousness against populations.

Stalin had at first advised the execution of fifty to one-hundred thousands of some German staff leaders. Winston Churchill argued the plausibility of summary execution, which is the execution without a trial, of high-positioned Nazis, yet was convinced by the leaders of America, that a criminal trial would be progressively compelling. Among different favorable circumstances, criminal procedures would require documentation of the crimes charged against the defendants and avoid later allegations that the respondents had been censured without proof (History. com Editors).

In 1944, when possible triumph over the Axis powers appeared to be likely, President Franklin Roosevelt requested that the War Office devise an arrangement for bringing war criminals to justice. Before the War Department could think of any type of plan, the Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau sent his own thoughts regarding the matter to the President's work office. Morgenthau's proposition recommended summarily shooting numerous unmistakable Nazi leaders when they were caught and banishing others to far away corners of the world. Under the Morgenthau plan, German prisoners of war would be compelled to modify Europe. The Treasury Secretary's point was to wreck Germany's staying industrial base and transform Germany into a frail, rural nation (Linder, Douglas O.).

Secretary of War Henry Stimson did not see things the same way as Treasury Secretary Morgenthau. The counter-proposition Stimson supported, drafted basically by Colonel Murray Bernays of the Special Projects Branch, would bring the Nazi leaders to court to have them tried. The War Department plan marked outrages and pursuing a war of animosity as war crimes. It proposed regarding the Nazi establishment as a criminal plot (Linder, Douglas O.).
<https://assignbuster.com/the-nuremburg-trials-dominance-and-preconception/>

In April 1945, two weeks after President Roosevelt's death, Supreme Court Justice Robert Jackson had Samuel Rosenman at his home in Washington. Rosenman then asked of Jackson, for President Truman, to turn into the head prosecutor for the United States at a trial for war crimes that were to be held in Europe not long after the war was over. Truman needed someone who was well respected, a man of well-known principle, and someone who was an exceptional public speaker. This person was needed to speak for the United States. Justice Jackson, Rosenman stated, was that perfect person for the job. After three days, Jackson accepted the position. On May 2, 1945, President Truman officially chose him head prosecutor (Linder, Douglas O.).

Many leaders of the Nazi party had got out of going on trial and receiving any type of punishment. Adolf Hitler was one of the leaders who never got put on trial and received punishment for the atrocities he put the Jews through. Hitler was afraid of being captured and took a shot of cyanide and shot himself in the head on April 30, 1945. After the suicide of Hitler, Heinrich Himmler, who was looked at as one of the most terrifying people of the Nazi organization, took a part of a cyanide crystal while he was being looked over by an English doctor and was dead with minutes (Linder, Douglas O.).

The trials started after Germany had surrendered in June 1945. There was a commission of four unified countries that met in London, England to compose a sanction. These countries were The United States, Soviet Union, France, and Great Britain. These powers were known as the International Military Tribunal and this tribunal was responsible for administering the trials of Germany's leaders. There were numerous lawful and procedural troubles <https://assignbuster.com/the-nuremburg-trials-dominance-and-preconception/>

to conquer in getting the Nuremberg trials to begin. There was no point of reference for a worldwide trial of war criminals (History. com Editors).

The court was given the power to see any person as guilty of the commission of war crimes and to pronounce any group or association to be corrupt in character. On the off chance that an organization was seen as criminal, the prosecution could carry people to trial for having been individuals, and the criminal idea of the gathering or organization could never again be addressed. A defendant was allowed to get a copy of the indictment, to offer any pertinent clarification to the charges brought against him, and to be spoken to a counsel and given them the chance to cross-examine and confront any witnesses in the trial.

The town of Nuremberg, otherwise called Nurnberg, in the German province of Bavaria was chosen as the area for the trials since its Palace of Justice was generally unharmed by the war and incorporated an enormous jail zone. Also, Nuremberg had been the site of yearly Nazi rallies that was known to give out information that was intended to mislead the people. Holding the trials after the war there denoted the emblematic finish of Hitler's administration, the Third Reich.

The first trials in Nuremberg had twenty-two men put on trial. Five of the people who were put on trial were military leaders and the rest were conspicuous German government or Nazi Party leaders. The Nuremberg trials focused on all of the German crimes related with World War II altogether, not the Holocaust specifically. As the trials continued, a great part of the evidence of the defendants' crimes was given by the German

people themselves, who had kept cautious records of the war and the large amount of the homicides of Jews and others in a report, which were read aloud in court.

The people that were on trial during the Nuremburg Trials were Martin Bormann, Karl Dönitz, Hans Frank, Wilhelm Frick, Hans Fritzsche, Walther Funk, Hermann Göring, Rudolf Hess, Alfred Jodl, Ernst Kaltenbrunner, Wilhelm Keitel, Konstantin von Neurath, Franz von Papen, Erich Raeder, Joachim von Ribbentrop, Alfred Rosenberg, Fritz Sauckel, Hjalmar Schacht, Baldur von Schirach, Arthur Seyss-Inquart, Albert Speer, and Julius Streicher (Linder, Douglas O.). All of these men were high ranking officials in the Nazi organization, ranging from being Adolf Hitler's chosen successor to the Head of the Nazi Party Chancellery to the Chief of Security Police to the Chancellor of Germany to the Leader of the Hitler Youth (The First Trial at Nuremberg).

Every defendant, nonetheless, submitted pleas of "not guilty," and all through the trial, they eagerly rejected any type of responsibility for the crimes they were charged with. They contended either that they had essentially followed orders (in spite of the fact that that defense had just been dismissed in Article 8 of the tribunal's charter) or that whatever acts they had completed were completed with no information or awareness that they were adding to the mass killings (The First Trial at Nuremberg).

On October 1, 1946, following months of many testimonies, cross-examination and examination of each of the defendants, and discussion by the judges from the four Allied forces who managed the trials, the verdicts were reported. Bormann, Streicher, Ribbentrop, Kaltenbrunner, Frank,

Göring, Keitel, Sauckel, Frick, Jodl, Seyss-Inquart and Rosenberg had all received death sentences. Raeder, Hess, and Funk were all given life sentences. Dönitz, Schirach, Speer and von Neurath had all received prison sentences ranging from ten to twenty years. The decisions by the judges for jail sentences instead of capital punishment were made in light of the fact that the judges felt either that specific conditions encompassing a defendant's actions justified a progressively merciful punishment or that the proof was not sufficiently able to help a capital punishment. The sentences were done with two special cases: Göring did not want to be executed, so he committed suicide by consuming cyanide of potassium covered up in a copper cartridge shell while lying on a bed in his prison cell. Martin Bormann was never found, so he could not be hanged. (The First Trial at Nuremberg).

As a death sentence, the Nazi leaders were all hanged in the courtyard of the Nurnberg jail. The vast majority of the executed men tried to show their courage, most were sharply disobedient and some firmly surrendered, while others asked God for kindness and compassion on their souls. Julius Streicher was the only one that made a reference to the Nazi ideology. His final words were that he yelled at the top of his lungs were " Heil Hitler" (Smith, Kingsbury).

The remaining men who were sentenced to death had to walk thirteen steps to be put to death. There were three wooden platforms that were setup in a gym. Two were mainly used to hang the convicted men and the third was used as a reserve. The platforms stood to be eight feet high. There were ropes that were hanging from a crossbeam bolstered onto two posts. The men were brought in one at a time. The men were all hung once the trap <https://assignbuster.com/the-nuremburg-trials-dominance-and-preconception/>

was sprung. The men dropped into the inside of the platform, which was blocked with wood on three sides and protected by a faint canvas drapery on the fourth (Smith, Kingsbury). This is when all of the executions were completed.

Data and analysis were used in the trials to prosecute the major Nazi figures. The first count was issued on October 28, 1945. The first count dealt with the men's participation in the arrangement or execution of an accepted idea or intrigue to carry out crimes against peace. It was read by Deputy United States prosecutor Sydney Alderman. This count asserted inter alia that of the 9.6 million Jews who lived in parts of Europe under the complete domination of the Nazi regime, it is moderately assessed that 5.7 million have died, the vast majority of them put to death by conspirators of the Nazi regime. The Chief Prosecutor, Robert Jackson, stated on November 21, 1945 during the trials, addressed "Crimes against the Jews" introduced an analytical discussion. He stated that out of the 9.6 million Jews who lived under Nazi domination, about sixty percent had died. He also stated that 4.5 million can't be reported by the normal death rate nor can they be reported by immigrating. They were additionally excluded among the uprooted people (Seltzer, William).

These people indicated the greatness as proof of a reason and an information regular to all defendants, of an official arrangement instead of a fickle approach of some individual person who was in charge, and to show such a progression of Jewish mistreatment from the ascent of the Nazi plot to its breakdown as disallows us to accept that any individual could be related

to any piece of Nazi activity without supporting this most prominent thing of its program (Seltzer, William).

Regardless of the continuous references to information all through the trials, the prosecutors utilized archives containing insights or statically depicting systems as shows in the early trials. A few variables needed to represent this. In the first place, the indictment needed to do its underlying examinations and set up its first cases in a restricted timeframe and in riotous conditions that existed in Europe in 1945. It had been seen that the most international tribunals face similar difficulties of time pressure and of turmoil and separation (Seltzer, William).

Second, the Holocaust was not so much piece of the first legal motivation of the Nuremburg court, despite the fact that throughout the principal trial it rose as a significant component. Third, the indictment was most likely uninformed of the potential benefit of taking a gander at insights and factual frameworks, not simply to portray the extent of the wrongdoing yet to give solid proof of the purposeful, efficient, and destructive nature of the murdering of the Jewish populace in Europe. These frameworks shaped an unmistakable and recognizable piece of the regulatory procedure used to characterize, concentrate, and destroy the Jewish people of Europe (Seltzer, William).

The Nuremburg trials were disputable even among the individuals who needed the significant criminals to be punished for the crimes that they were a part of. The disclosures of Nuremburg could have added to constructing a government of equality in Germany. The lawful instruments have not

protected populations that were innocent from infractions, however on account of Nuremberg, there is in any event a legitimate comprehension of what infractions imply, regardless of whether the international community still comes up short on a completely compelling methods for rebuffing it.

Works Cited

- History. com Editors. “ Nuremberg Trials.” History. com. A&E Television Networks, January 29, 2010. <https://www.history.com/topics/world-war-ii/nuremberg-trials>.
- Linder, Douglas O. “ The Nuremberg Trials: An Account.” Famous Trials, 1995. <https://www.famous-trials.com/nuremberg/1901-home>.
- Overy, Professor Richard. “ History - World Wars: Nuremberg: Nazis On Trial.” BBC. BBC, February 17, 2011. http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/worldwars/wwtwo/nuremberg_article_01.shtml.
- Smith, Kingsbury. “ Ten Nazi War Criminals Executed, One Committed Suicide after the Nuremberg Trials in 1946.” nydailynews.com, October 14, 2016. <https://www.nydailynews.com/news/world/nazi-war-criminals-executed-nuremberg-trials-1946-article-1.2831066>.
- “ The First Trial at Nuremberg.” Facing History and Ourselves. Accessed December 24, 2019. <https://www.facinghistory.org/holocaust-and-human-behavior/chapter-10/first-trial-nuremberg>.
- Seltzer, William. “ Population Statistics, the Holocaust, and the Nuremberg Trials.” *Population and Development Review* 24, no. 3 (1998): 511-52. doi: 10.2307/2808153.