

NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE - April 17, 1947

U.S. Court Finds Milch Is Guilty Of War Crimes

Nazi Field Marshal Faces Gallows; Recruited and Mistreated Slave Labor

NUERNBERG, April 16 (AP).—A three-man American court today convicted Field Marshal Erhard Milch of war crimes, including the recruiting and mistreating of slave laborers. Sentence will be imposed tomorrow. The court's verdict could carry the penalty of death on the gallows.

Milch, one of the builders of the Luftwaffe, was acquitted of charges of abetting fatal medical experiments on humans placed in low-pressure chambers and in freezing water.

An opinion by Judges Robert M. Toms, of Detroit, and F. Donald Phillips, of North Carolina, brushed aside contentions by Milch that he had to obey the orders of Adolf Hitler. If the Germans had won the war, the opinion said, persons like Milch would have been hailed as geniuses, and "this dependant would now be elbowing his way into the front row claiming to have successfully and victoriously carried out Hitler's orders and policies."

Milch, as a dominant figure of the Central Planning Board, knew about the entire slave program and tried to stimulate it, the judges added.

Expected "Cowboy" Occupation

NUERNBERG, April 16 (AP).—A witness at the de-Nazification trial of former Nazi financier Hjalmar Horace Greeley Schacht testified today that some Germans expected the United States to occupy the country "with cowboys."

Rudolf Diehis, former Prussian police official, said that Hans Bernd Gisevius, who fled the Nazi regime and worked with American intelli-

gence agents in Switzerland, had told him he knew about occupation plans and that "literally, the regime of Americans would be cowboys."

The scheduled appearance of Franz von Papen in court as a witness has been postponed. The former diplomat now serving eight years in a German prison for being a major Nazi, was stricken with a slight heart attack last night. He is sixty-eight.