

19 March 1946  
Nuremberg, Germany

*Air time*  
*5-48*

*JH.*

This is Pfc Jack Hooper from the Palace of Justice,  
Nuremberg.

Up until four o'clock, ~~the~~<sup>this</sup> day had been an ~~average~~ especially good one for the prosecution in their case against Hermann Goering, the Number Two Nazi, who stepped out of the small witness box temporarily, to make way for precise, elderly Birger <sup>DA-LAY-RUS</sup> Dahlerus, a ~~Swedish~~ Swedish engineer who served as intermediary between Goering and the British Government in the boiling-over days of August, 1939.

Brought to the trial ~~by~~ at Goering's own request, Dahlerus ~~showed~~ demonstrated from the beginning that his mission was not to protect Goering... instead, to present a carefully documented story that sounded more like a Hollywood "confidential agent thriller" than the recounting of last minute maneuvers and inner intrigues before the Nazis pushed off to Poland and World War Two. ~~R~~ Using his book, "The Last Attempt," as a basis for answers to questions submitted by Goering's attorney, Dr. Otto Stahmer, Mr. <sup>DA-LAY-RUS</sup> Dahlerus cited in English details of his frequent, ~~times~~ feverish trips between ~~London and~~ Berlin and London... of midnight meetings at the Reichschancery and tense sessions at Number Ten Downing Street in those last days of peace. The purpose of the questioning had been to show that Goering made frantic efforts to prevent war, and for a time the answers ~~to the questions~~ favored Goering. And then came the bombshell, and it was touched by the British prosecutor, mild-mannered, bald



18 March 1946  
19

after  
 Sir David Maxwell-Fyfe. It came ~~in~~ Sir David's first question  
 in the cross-examination, when Mr. Dahlrus replied: "I realize  
 that Goering's aims had been to split Poland and Great Britain,  
 and to occupy Poland with British consent." Goering and his  
~~law~~ counsel were astounded... but the witness, under skillful  
 questioning by the British prosecutor, never let up. ~~He~~ secret  
 "Not once during his role as a mediator was ~~he~~ told of Hitler's ~~secret~~  
 Polish war announcement to his military commanders on August  
 twenty-second," he declared. In fact, Dahlerus admitted, he was  
 so completely fooled about ~~German~~ <sup>Nazi</sup> intentions that he phoned  
~~London~~ the British Foreign Office from Berlin and told  
 them that the Polish Army had attacked Germany. "Naturally," he  
 smiled wryly, "they wondered what had happened to me."

The incriminating results of the cross-examination... ~~the~~ tense  
 throughout... left Goering sputtering. <sup>AS</sup> ~~While~~ the witness <sup>WAS SPEAKING</sup> ~~spoke~~  
 he <sup>WAS INDICATING</sup> ~~indicated~~ in his extroverted manner ~~his~~ clear-cut denials  
 to the answers of the witness, and he <sup>FURIOUSLY</sup> ~~scribbled~~ ~~furiously~~  
 notes for his lawyer. When Ribbentrop was accused of ~~sabotaging~~  
 attempting to sabotage a plane ~~that~~ <sup>DA-LAY-RUS</sup> in which Dahlrus was  
 to fly from Berlin to London... a statement he quoted Goering  
 himself as saying at a Berlin airport... the former foreign  
 minister whipped off his earphones, uttered what must have been  
 some four letter Anglo-Saxon word in German, and then realized he'd  
 made something of a scene. His neighbor in the prisoner's dock,  
 Rudolf Hess broke into a laugh, and Ribbentrop eventually joined  
 him. But for Goering, ~~the~~ <sup>DA-LAY-RUS</sup> testimony of Birgen Dahlrus was no  
 laughing matter.



18 March 1946

19

After a ten minute break, the former Reichsmarshal took for direct examination by Dr. Stahmer. a defiant stand in the witness ~~box~~ box. He denied the Swedish engineers' allegations, and made little effort to hide his scorn. The <sup>DA-LAY-RVS</sup> ~~Dahlbus~~ book which was to have been his defense, he

termed "subjective interpretations" and he charged that his ~~personal~~ personal ~~own~~ efforts to keep the peace failed because the Polish government ~~failed~~ wouldn't consent to negotiations for Danzig and the ~~Polish~~ Polish corridor.

Then Mr. Justice Robert H. Jackson, the American prosecutor, took the floor to continue his cross-examination which had been interrupted by the <sup>DA-LAY-RVS</sup> ~~Dahlbus~~ testimony. Justice Jackson quoted a ~~Goering~~ previous answer by Goering denying the practical existence of the secret Reich ~~Defense~~ Defense Council. He ~~asked~~ asked nodded to an assistant and ~~told~~ the witness if he could identify minutes of the Reich Defense Counsel... minutes ~~which~~ reporting a three hour speech by Goering himself on ~~the~~ Nazi rearmament aims. "Can you identify the minutes," Justice Jackson pressed. Goering started explaining... the prosecutor challenged him: "Answer in yes or no." Goering paid little heed, and Justice Jackson turned to the Tribunal: "I insist," he declared "that the witness be specifically instructed to answer questions directly." Goering clowned momentarily and the questions continued. Obviously trapped at one point on secret aims to rearm the demilitarized Rhineland, the ~~aggressive~~ ~~bellicose~~ bellicose former Luftwaffe commander entered into a long tirade over the proper translation of a word in the minutes. After saying his piece, he gloated... and his clowning spread to the

18 March 1946

19

prisoner's dock. Hess laughed at the antics of his long-time Party Associate, and it spread <sup>the laughter was taken up by</sup> to Ribbentrop, ~~xxxx~~ Frank and even the surly Alfred Rosenberg.

Mr. Justice Jackson faced the four nation Tribunal again. "I must insist," he pleaded, ~~that~~ "that the witness answer questions directly." "It is clear," he continued, "that Goering has assumed an arrogant and contemptuous attitude which is giving him the type of trial he never gave to any person, living or dead, in Germany." As the eyes of the courtroom refocused from prosecutor to Tribunal, Presiding Justice Geoffrey Lawrence announced that court would adjourn ~~for~~ ... for already it was after five o'clock.

But as the day ended with the suspense ~~xxxx~~ of a Pulitzer Prize second act, the <sup>talk</sup> ~~comment~~ among newspaper correspondents boiled down to a single comment: "Goering so far," they said, "has had his own way... it's high time someone stopped him."

This has been a report from AFN Correspondents Harold Burson and Jack Hooper in the Palace of Justice, Nuremberg. We return you now to the AFN Newsroom, Frankfurt.