

**Control Office for Germany and Austria and Foreign Office;
Legal Division: Trial of Fritz Erich Lewinski von Manstein
RG-59.021M**

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Archives
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Descriptive Summary

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Custodial History

Existence and location of originals: The original records are held by British Public Record Office, National Archives (Great Britain), Kew Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU, United Kingdom. Tel. 011 44 20 8876 3444. More information about this repository can be found at <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/default.htm>.

Processing History: Aleksandra B. Borecka

Biographical Note

Born (Fritz) Erich von Lewinski, Berlin, Germany, 1887; adopted by relatives and assumed von Manstein name; educated at the Lycée, Strasbourg; served in the Cadet Corps, Plön and Berlin, Germany, 1895-1906; Ensign, 3 Foot Guards, 1906; Lt, 1907; Battalion Adjutant, 1911; Senior Lt. (Oberleutnant), 1914; served in World War One, 1914-1918; Adjutant, 2 Guards Reserve Regt, 1914; served in Marne campaign, France, 1914; severely wounded on Eastern Front, Nov. 1914; Staff Officer, Army Group Gallwitz, Poland and Serbia, June-Aug. 1915; Capt., 1915; Adjutant, Headquarters, 12 Army, 1915-1916; Staff Officer, Headquarters, 11 Army, Battle of Verdun, Western Front, 1916; Staff Officer, Headquarters, 1 Army, Battle of the Somme, Picardy, France, 1916; Senior Operations Officer, 4 Cavalry Div., Courland (Estonia), 1917; Senior Operations Officer, 213 Assault Infantry Div., Western Front, 1918; General Staff Officer, Frontier Defence, East, Breslau, Germany, 1919; Staff Officer to Gen von Loss 1939-1940; commanded 38 (Infantry) Corps, German invasion and conquest of France, May-June 1940; Gen of Infantry, 1940; commanded 56 Panzer Corps, 4 Panzer Group, Army Group North, May-Sept. 1941; service in Operation BARBAROSSA, the German invasion of the USSR, 22 June 1941, and the advance on Leningrad, 1941; commanded 11 Army, Army Group South, USSR, 1941-1942; planned and completed German conquest of the Crimea, USSR, 1942; FM, 1942; commanded Army Group Don (later renamed Army Group South from Feb. 1943), USSR, Nov. 1942-1944; dismissed by Adolf Hitler, Mar. 1944; served with Führer reserve, 1944-1945; surrendered to British forces, May 1945; tried by British Military Court on seventeen charges of war crimes, Curio House, Hamburg, Germany, Aug. 1949; found guilty of nine charges of war crimes relating to neglecting to protect civilian lives, and sentenced to eighteen years imprisonment (later reduced to twelve years), Dec. 1949; released from prison, 1953.

Scope and Content of Collection

The collection consists of the court files and case registers for the war crimes trial of Fritz Erich Lewinski von Manstein, accused of crimes against humanity in connection with extermination of Jews during the war.

System of Arrangement

This collection is arranged thematically.

Indexing Terms

Manstein, Erich von -- 1887-1973.
Great Britain -- Foreign Office.
Great Britain -- Control Office for Germany and Austria, Control Commission for Germany (British Element) -- Legal Division.
World War, 1939-1945 -- Atrocities.
Executions and executioners.
War crime trials.
War crimes -- History -- 20th century.
War criminals -- Germany.
Criminal justice, Administration of.
War (International law)

CONTAINER LIST

Reel	Description
1	Control Office for Germany and Austria and Foreign Office: Control Commission for Germany (British Element), Legal Division, and United Kingdom High Commission, Legal Division: Correspondence, Case Files, & Court Registers 1944-58. Trial of Fritz Erich Lewinski von Manstein: Presidents Books. Contains shorthand notes of trial proceedings. Von Manstein is charged specifically with crimes committed against Jews, including his and the army's role in the extermination of Jews. Includes witness accounts of atrocities, references to supporting documents, number of Jews killed, and sentence of court. (1949). Files 1291-1299. Each file contains about 50-70 pages.
2	Control Office for Germany and Austria and Foreign Office: Control Commission for Germany (British Element), Legal Division, and United Kingdom High Commission, Legal Division: Correspondence, Case Files, & Court Registers 1944-58. Trial of Fritz Erich Lewinski von Manstein: Presidents Books. Contains shorthand notes of trial proceedings. Von Manstein is charged specifically with crimes committed against Jews, including his and the army's role in the extermination of Jews. Includes witness accounts of atrocities, references to supporting documents, number of Jews killed, and sentence of court. (1949). Files 1300-1312. Each file contains about 50-70 pages.
3	Control Office for Germany and Austria and Foreign Office: Control Commission for Germany (British Element), Legal Division, and United Kingdom High Commission, Legal Division: Correspondence, Case Files, & Court Registers 1944-58. Trial of Fritz Erich Lewinski von Manstein: Presidents Books. Contains shorthand notes of trial proceedings. Von Manstein is charged specifically with crimes committed against Jews, including his and the army's role in the extermination of Jews. Includes witness accounts of atrocities, references to supporting documents, number of Jews killed, and sentence of court. (1949). Files 1313-1330. Each file contains about 50-70 pages.
4	Control Office for Germany and Austria and Foreign Office: Control Commission for Germany (British Element), Legal Division, and United Kingdom High Commission, Legal Division: Correspondence, Case Files, & Court Registers 1944-58. Trial of Fritz Erich Lewinski von Manstein: Presidents Books. Contains shorthand notes of trial proceedings. Von Manstein is charged specifically with crimes committed against Jews, including his and the army's role in the extermination of Jews. Includes witness accounts of atrocities, references to supporting documents, number of Jews killed, and sentence of court. (1949). Files 1331-1345. Each file contains about 50-70 pages.