

**Fill in the gaps with the necessary words.**

## **NURNBERG TRIALS**

*Tribunals, an indictment, military leaders, were equipped with, defendants, mistreatment, crimes against humanity, civilian officials, had been forcibly deported, had committed murder*

The most important war crimes trials following World War II were held in Nurnberg, Germany, under the authority of two legal instruments signed by representatives of the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) in 1945.

On October 18, 1945, the chief prosecutors lodged \_\_\_\_\_ with the tribunal charging 24 individuals with a variety of crimes and atrocities (зверства), including the deliberate instigation of aggressive wars, extermination of racial and religious groups, murder and mistreatment of prisoners of war, and the murder, \_\_\_\_\_, and deportation to slave labour of hundreds of thousands of inhabitants of countries occupied by Germany during the war.

Among the accused were Nationalist Socialist leaders Hermann Göring and Rudolf Hess, diplomat Joachim von Ribbentrop, munitions maker Gustav Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach, Field Marshal Wilhelm Keitel, Grand Admiral Erich Raeder, and 18 other \_\_\_\_\_ and civilian officials. Seven organizations that formed part of the basic structure of the Nazi government were also charged as a criminal. These organizations included the SS (Schutzstaffel, German for "Defense Corps"), the Gestapo (Geheime Staatspolizei, "Secret State Police"), the SA (Sturmabteilung, "Storm Troops"), and the General Staff and High Command of the German armed forces.

The trial began on November 20, 1945. The judgment of the International Military Tribunal was handed down on September 30-October 1, 1946. With respect to war crimes and \_\_\_\_\_ the tribunal found overwhelming evidence of a systematic rule of violence, brutality, and terrorism by the German government in the territories occupied by its forces. Millions of persons were destroyed in concentration camps, many of which \_\_\_\_\_ gas chambers for the extermination of Jews, Roma (Gypsies), and members of other ethnic or religious groups. Under the slave-labour policy of the German government, at least 5 million persons \_\_\_\_\_ from their homes to Germany. Many of them died because of inhuman treatment. The tribunal also found that atrocities had been committed on a large scale and as a matter of official policy.

Twelve \_\_\_\_\_ were sentenced to death by hanging, seven received prison terms ranging from ten years to life, and three, including the German politician and diplomat Franz von Papen and the president of the German Central Bank Hjalmar Horace Greeley Schacht, were acquitted. Those who had been condemned to death were executed on October 16, 1946. Göring committed suicide in prison a few hours before he was to be executed.

### **Subsequent Trials**

After the conclusion of the first Nurnberg trial, 12 more trials were held and provided for war crimes trials in each of the four zones of occupied Germany.

About 185 individuals were indicted in the 12 cases. Those indicted included doctors who had conducted medical experiments on concentration camp inmates and prisoners of war, judges who \_\_\_\_\_ and other crimes under the guise of the judicial process, and industrialists who had participated in the looting of occupied countries and in the forced-labour program. Other persons indicted included SS officials who had headed the concentration camps, administered the Nazi racial laws, and carried out the extermination of Jews and other groups in the eastern territories overrun by the German army; and high military and \_\_\_\_\_ who bore responsibility for these and other criminal acts and policies of the Third Reich. A number of doctors and SS leaders were condemned to death by hanging, and approximately 120 other defendants were given prison sentences of various durations. The \_\_\_\_\_ acquitted 35 defendants.