

# IMT Decree Excludes Some from Amnesties

The so-called youth and Christmas amnesties do not apply to members of any organization found to be criminal by the International Military Tribunal. Officers of Public Safety Branch, IA&C Division, OMGUS, stated that persons in the following categories are excluded from these amnesties:

1. All persons who have been Reichsleiter, Gauleiter, Kreisleiter, Ortsgruppenleiter, or Amtsleiter on the staffs of the Reichsleitung, Gauleitung, or Kreisleitung who were appointed to or remained in such positions on or after 1 September 1939.

2. All persons officially accepted as members of the Schutzstaffel (SS) and members of the police force who were members of the SS, but excluding persons who were members only of the SS Riding Units, those who were drafted into membership by the state in such manner as to give them no choice in the matter, and those who had ceased to serve in the SS prior to 1 September 1939.

3. All members of the Sicherheitsdienst (SD) with the exception of members of the Abwehr (counter-intelligence) who were transferred into the SD and those who had ceased to serve in the SD prior to 1 September 1939.

4. All members of the Gestapo except: those employed in clerical, janitorial, or similar unofficial, routine tasks, Border Protection Personnel, or Secret Field Police unless they were also members of another section of the Gestapo, and those who ceased to serve in the Gestapo prior to 1 September 1939.

Pointing out that the International Military Tribunal ruled that membership in the Political Leadership Corps, SD, and Gestapo was at all times voluntary and that membership in the SS was entirely voluntary until 1940, the officials stated that the trials of members of criminal organizations will be entrusted to the public prosecutors and tribunals established under the Law for Liberation from National Socialism and Militarism. In

## Scene of Restitution



Neuschwanstein, Romantic palace built in 1869—86 for King Ludwig II of Bavaria, is the site of important restitution of cultural treasures since the war. The palace, which suffered no war damage, was one of the most important repositories of the Einsatzstab Rosenberg, including some of the finest of the Rothschild holdings. There were also a few Munich and Ansbach items recovered there. In three months in 1945 nearly 6,000 items were restituted from Neuschwanstein to Paris.

these trials procedural and substantive provisions of the law will apply insofar as they are consistent with the findings of the International Military Tribunal.

If in their trials former members of these criminal organizations are found to be followers or lesser offenders, such findings will not exempt the respondents from the sanctions provided by the law.

## Expedite Requests

Liaison and Security Officers are instructed by OMGUS to expedite the applications of fiancées to go to the United States, and to see that these applications reach the Combined Travel Board by 30 May. Law No. 471 expires 30 June 1947 and all approved fiancée applicants should be in the United States by that time.