



The Starting Place:

Washington State Law Library's quarterly e-newsletter

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Serving the legal information needs of the citizens of Washington State

The Doctors' Trial

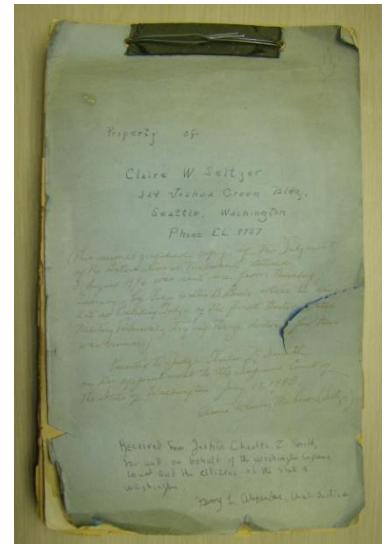
by Wendy Coddington

The Washington State Law Library is pleased to display material highlighting the work of former Washington Supreme Court Chief Justice Walter B. Beals during the Nuremberg trials following World War II.

In addition to the twenty-four high ranking Nazi officials who were tried by the International Military Tribunal, there were many others who held lesser rank in the Nazi regime who were tried in subsequent proceedings. One of those proceedings was the Medical Case, U.S.A. v. Karl Brandt, et al. (also known as the Doctors' Trial). The Medical Case was prosecuted in 1946-1947 against twenty-three doctors and administrators accused of organizing and participating in war crimes and crimes against humanity in the form of medical experiments and medical procedures inflicted on prisoners and civilians.

Justice Beals, first appointed to Washington's high bench on April 16, 1928, was nearing the end of an illustrious legal career when, at the age of 70, he received a call from the War Department asking him to serve as a judge on one of the newly formed military tribunals trying Nazi war crimes cases in Nuremberg, Germany. He took a leave of absence from his duties as Washington State Supreme Court Chief Justice in October 1946 and sat as presiding judge over Nuremberg Military Tribunal No. 1, the Medical Case.

After a grueling nine month-long trial, Justice Beals returned to Washington and resumed his duties as Chief Justice. He brought with him one of the few original mimeographed transcripts of the "Judgment of the International Military Tribunal for the Trial of German Major War Criminals," and the chair he used throughout the Doctor's Trial. Both will be on display in the Law Library's main reading room through the end of November, along with other materials from the library's collection on the Nuremberg trials. The chair is on loan from the University of Washington School of Law.



A few of the many online resources available regarding the Nuremberg Trials:

Harvard Law School Library, [Nuremberg Trials Project](#)

The Avalon Project at Yale Law School, [The Nuremberg War Crimes Trials](#)

Library of Congress, [Nuremberg Trials](#)

Marian Gould Gallagher Law Library, University of Washington School of Law, [Nuremberg Trials](#)

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Online Exhibitions:

[The Nuremberg Trials and Their Legacy](#)

[The Doctors' Trial](#)

You Are Invited!

Please join us for good food and conversation at our open house on October 2nd, from 2 – 4 p.m.

While you are here, check out our display on Justice Beals in the Main Reading Room (article above), and view our new legislative history tutorial in the Periodical Reading Room.

See you there!

Tech. Tip:

Is your workplace using Microsoft Office 2007? Can't locate a function that used to be so easy to find? There is help for you! Microsoft Office Online has interactive guides for [Word](#), [Excel](#), [Outlook](#), [PowerPoint](#) and [Access](#).

For example, the "Word 2003 to Word 2007" guide starts with the Word 2003 screen. Click on an icon and the screen demonstrates how to find it in Word 2007.

New Washington Practice Titles

Thomson/West has just released two new titles in their popular Washington Practice series.

Volume 32, [Washington DUI Practice Manual](#), covers DUI and related statutes, (including felony DUI), testing, and licensing issues, amongst others.

Volume 33, [Washington Construction Law Manual](#), includes an overview of construction law, permits and building codes, bidding, project delays... the list goes on!

These volumes are also on Westlaw, available at our public workstations.

For new additions to our collection, see the "Books Recently Cataloged" list (updated monthly) on our website at:

<http://lawlibrary.courts.wa.gov/screens/brc1.html>

Washington State Law Library

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Comments Welcome!