

## Nuremberg Trial 70 Years On

**In 2015 we commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Nuremberg Trials. The trial of the leading representatives of the National Socialist regime marked the beginning of the legal prosecution of National Socialist crimes which has continued until the present. For this anniversary, the Memorium Nuremberg Trials, an institution of Nuremberg Municipal Museums, has invited eye witnesses to talk about their experiences.**

Five years ago, Nuremberg added a further facet to its dealing with National Socialism and its repercussions – the Memorium Nuremberg Trials. Since the mid 1980s, but more so since the opening of the Documentation Centre Nazi Party Rally Grounds in 2001, work in Nuremberg has aimed to inform about the causes, the methods and the repercussions of the National Socialist regime of terror. The city's open and critical approach to dealing with its difficult heritage, has been very well received, both by visitors from all over the world and by experts. The tremendous response has encouraged the City and the Free State of Bavaria to continue on its path towards a culture of remembrance. Presumably in 2018, Court Room 600 will be "decommissioned" as a court room. This will create possibilities for new forms and methods of presentation in the museum.

The Nuremberg Trial, probably the world's most famous trial, was the dominant event in post-war Nuremberg. After it had been decided, on 21 July, 1945, that the Franconian city was to become the venue of the trial, comprehensive preparatory work was begun, and more and more people came here to take up their work in the Nuremberg Palace of Justice. On the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the Memorium Nuremberg Trials, together with eye witnesses looks back on everyday life, as it was in Nuremberg in 1945-46. This may be the last anniversary when eye witnesses talk about their experiences in Court Room 600. The event will be in English and German with simultaneous interpretation.

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### **Live Stream on the Internet**

Due to considerable demand and a comparatively small number of seats in Court Room 600, the event will be livestreamed with original sound without interpreting. Access to this livestream will be made available via the website of the Memorium Nuremberg Trials on the day of the event, at [www.memorium-nuernberg.de](http://www.memorium-nuernberg.de). This will allow interested people from around the world to go online and follow the conversation with the eye witnesses which will be held in the English language.

With the support of the German Consulate General in Los Angeles, California, the entire live event will be part of an expert conference on 20 November, marking the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Loyola Law School, Los Angeles.

### **International Guests**

On the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, three eye witnesses will be talking about their memories of the Nuremberg Trial. Two of them, Father Moritz Fuchs and Dr. George Sakheim, will be available for press interviews on 18 November, 2015.

**Father Moritz Fuchs** was born in Florida in 1925, into a family of Swiss origin, and grew up in Fulton in New York State, USA. In 1944, he went to Germany as an infantry soldier, where he was wounded and moved to a military hospital in Britain for some time. Back in Germany, the then 20-year-old was appointed personal bodyguard to US chief prosecutor, Robert H. Jackson. For 18 months, he was more closely linked to the US lawyer's everyday life than anybody else. In 1947, he left the army and became a Catholic priest, serving in this capacity until 2001. Today, the 90-year-old lives in Fulton, New York State, USA.

**Dr. George Sakheim** was born in Hamburg in 1923 as Ruben Gabriel Sakheim, son of the journalist and theatre dramaturg, Arthur Sakheim. His father died in 1931, and first George Sakheim and his mother moved to live with relatives in Berlin. In 1935, the family fled from National Socialist terror to Palestine, and from there, in 1938, George Sakheim moved to live with an aunt in the USA. In 1943, he joined the US Army, where he was first deployed in a medical corps and then as an interpreter. This is how he ended up as an interpreter at the Nuremberg Trial in 1945. After his return to the USA in 1946 he studied psychology and worked in this profession until 1989. Today he lives near Philadelphia, USA; with his wife.

As a further eye witness on the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary, **Dr. Yves Beigbeder** will be present as a guest in Court Room 600. He was born in Morlaix, France, in 1924. As a young lawyer, he became the assistant to French MIT judge, Henri Donnedieu de Vabres, his uncle. His tasks included preparing summaries of the interrogations of the accused for his uncle. In August 1946, he left Nuremberg, and first went to study at the University of Indiana in the USA. Back in Europe, Beigbeder later worked for various organisations of the United Nations, and wrote numerous books on the topic of war crimes. Today, the 91-year-old lives on Lake Geneva in France.



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The conversation with the eye witnesses will be introduced and moderated by **John Q. Barrett**, professor of constitutional law and history of law at the St. John's School of Law in New York City. As biographer of former Supreme Court Justice and American chief prosecutor in Nuremberg, Robert H. Jackson, he is very knowledgeable about the Nuremberg Trial and its environment.

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Professor Barrett is a renowned teacher, writer, public commentator and lecturer. He is author of numerous articles and chapters, including on Justice Jackson and Nuremberg. He is a graduate of Georgetown University and Harvard Law School and served as a U.S. Department of Justice attorney.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Date of the Anniversary Event**

Friday, 20 November, 2015, 7.30 p.m.

### **Admission**

Tickets for the event are no longer available. The event will be broadcast as a livestream on the internet, in its original language (eye witness conversation in English). The link will be available on the website of the Memorium Nuremberg Trials at [www.memorium-nuernberg.de](http://www.memorium-nuernberg.de).

### **Contact**

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### **Opening Times for Memorium**

Wed – Mon	10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Tue	closed

### **How to Get There**

Underground U1: stop Bärenschanze, exit towards Sielstraße,  
Fürther Straße, turn right after about 200 metres  
Cars: limited parking

For further information contact Memorium Nuremberg Trials:  
Phone: +49(0)9 11 / 3 21-7 93 72 as well as  
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