

Mistrial Declared In Ernst Zundel's Holocaust 'Heresy' Trial

From Ingrid Rimland
irimland@mail.bellsouth.net
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Good Morning from the Zundel site:

It is true that a mistrial in the Holocaust Heresy Trial in Germany has been declared.

That does not mean, apparently, that a second attempt will not be made by the German government which has agitated for two decades to bring Ernst Zundel to trial and sentence him, come hell or high water!

A brief comment: Apparently, the matter of a "mandatory" attorney is customary in Germany. This is, as far as I can tell, a court-appointed "watch dog" attorney who has the power to steer the defense in a direction that pleases the court. If this impression on my part is wrong, I would be grateful for a correction.

Here is my translation as best as I can do it, of the brief news item I received this morning from someone who was present in court.

(START)

As expected, Dr. Meinerzhagen has kept to his strategy of last week. All motions presented by the defense were declared as having no basis (!) and were rejected, and that meant that Mrs. Sylvia Stolz, the mandatory attorney (who was originally agreed to by the court), has lost her mandate (to be Ernst Zundel's attorney).

Since the court insists on a mandatory defense attorney, and since Dr. Schaller was also removed by the court, a new mandatory attorney has now been found who has the confidence of Ernst, and is acceptable by the court.

The trial was ended today after two-and-a-half hours. A new court date could only be set for mid- to end of February, since, naturally, the new mandatory attorney needs time to work through the mountain of documents.

The media, especially radio and TV, were sparsely present today, but the court room was packed, just like last week.

Security provisions were the same, which caused a delay of 35 minutes. In the courtroom there was triple the number of police to prevent applause as well as evidence of disagreement and to remove the "trouble makers" from the court room - which wasn't necessary, by the way.

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Erwartungsgemäß hat der Vors. Richter am Landgericht Dr. Meinerzhagen seine Linie der vergangenen Woche beibehalten. Sämtliche Anträge der Verteidigung wurden als

"unbegründet"(!) zurückgewiesen und damit war auch Frau RAin Sylvia Stolz ihr Mandat als Pflichtverteidigerin los.

Da das Gericht auf einem Pflichtverteidiger besteht, Dr. Schaller, Wien, ebenfalls vom Gericht abgelehnt wurde / wird, muß nun ein neuer Pflichtverteidiger gefunden werden, der sowohl das Vertrauen von Ernst Zündel hat als auch dem Gericht "genehm" ist.

Der Prozeß wurde heute nach knapp zweieinhalb Stunden ausgesetzt. Die Wiederaufnahme dürfte frühestens Mitte / Ende Februar erfolgen, da sich ein neuer Pflichtverteidiger logischerweise in die umfangreichen Dokumente erst einmal einarbeiten muß.

Die Medien, vor allem Fernsehen und Rundfunk, waren heute schwach vertreten! - Der gleiche Saal wie in der Vorwoche war indes wieder voll.

Die Sicherheitsmaßnahmen waren die gleichen, was erneute zu einer Verzögerung von 35 Minuten führte; im Saal war die dreifache Anzahl von Polizisten, um Beifalls- wie Mißfallenskundgebungen zu unterbinden und die "Störer" aus dem Saal zu schaffen, was indes NICHT erforderlich wurde.

(END)

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