Description:

At the Tehran Conference in 1943, Joseph Stalin proposed liquidation of the German general staff by summarily executing 50,000 German military officers; Stalin’s remark enraged Winston Churchill. Franklin Roosevelt tried to break the tension by jokingly offering up a “compromise” figure of 49,000; Churchill left the room. Stalin and Molotov pursued Churchill and persuaded him to return, but did not convince him Stalin’s comment was not seriously intended. Churchill’s vision, (and the rule of law), mostly prevailed, though, following the end of hostilities in Europe in 1945. Cordell Hull, a Tennessee lawyer and the longest-tenured U.S. Secretary of State (1933-1944), started, more or less, in Stalin’s camp, but later moved toward Churchill, and he guided the U.S. State Department while it helped shape the broad outline for addressing war crimes. Allied policy produced two sets of remarkable trials in Nuremberg, Germany during 1945—1948: the famous International Military Tribunal (or IMT, featuring Robert Jackson as prosecutor) and the less renown, but no less important, Nuremberg Military Tribunals (or NMT), twelve in number and featuring two Tennessee jurists: Winfield B. Hale of Rogersville (High Command Case panel) and Hu C. Anderson of Jackson (Krupp Case panel).

2016 marks the 70th anniversary of the verdict in the IMT and the 70th anniversary of convening the NMT. This seminar explores the history of all the Nuremberg trials using the important film Nuremberg: Its Lessons for Today, and through the involvement of three Tennessee lawyers, Hull, Hale, and Anderson, in the Nuremberg trials.

12:30 –1:00 p.m.  Registration and Lunch (Included)

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.  Introduction – The Rule of Law Meets International Politics

This session will explore how the IMT and the NMT came about, will introduce the IMT and its background, and will introduce the Krupp and High Command cases.

Speaker: Lewis Jenkins

2:00 – 3:45 p.m.  Nuremberg: Its Lessons for Today

In this session, we will view the film Nuremberg: Its Lessons for Today, made by Stuart Schulberg in the aftermath of World War II. Sandra Schulberg, film producer and daughter of Stuart Schulberg, will introduce the film and comment on the making and importance of the film.

Speaker: Sandra Schulberg

3:45 – 4:00 p.m.  Break

4:00 – 4:30 p.m.  Zwei Tennesseans in Nürnberg (Two Tennesseans in Nuremberg)

In this session, we will explore in more depth the role of Winfield Hale and Hu Anderson in the NMT, and the legacy of the High Command Case in international law.

Speaker: Lewis Jenkins