

XLIV

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION

(Research Office)

SECRET

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

No. 44

October, 1945.

THE GERMAN INDUSTRIALISTS AS ACCOMPLICES OF
THE NAZI CONSPIRACY

SENATOR KILGORE'S REPORTS.

(Summarized from papers furnished by the U.S.
Office of War Information)

On June 25th 1945, in connection with a meeting of the Sub-Committee on War Mobilisation of the U.S. Senate Military Affairs Committee, Senator Kilgore, Chairman of the Sub-Committee, released the following account of a secret meeting of German industrialists in August 1944, showing how German industry had co-operated with the Nazi party in planning a war of aggression.

"TEXT OF A REPORT ON A MEETING OF GERMAN INDUSTRIALISTS
TO MAKE POST-WAR PLANS, STRASBOURG, AUGUST 10 1944."

"1. A meeting of the principal German industrialists with interests in France was held on August 10, 1944, in the Hotel Rotes Hans in Strasbourg, France. Among those present were the following:

"Dr. Scheid, who presided, holding the rank of S.S. Obergruppenführer and director of the NEGE (Hennedorff and Schonburg) Companies.

"Dr. Kasper, representing Krupp.

"Dr. Tolle, representing Rochling.

"Dr. Sinceren, representing Messerschmitt.

"Drs. Kopp, Vier and Boerwanger, representing Rhinemetall.

"Captain Haberkorn and Dr. Fuhr, representing Bussing

"Drs. Ellenmayer and Kardos, representing Volkswagenwerk.

"Engineers Drose, Yanchew and Koppshem, representing various factories in Posen, Poland (Drose, Yanchew and Co., Brownboveri, Herkuleswerke, Buschwerke and Stadtwerke).

"Captain Dornbusch, head of the industrial inspection section at Posen.

"Dr. Meyer, an official of the German Naval Ministry in Paris.

"Dr. Strossner, of the Ministry of Armaments, Paris.

"2. Dr. Scheid stated that all industrial material in France was to be evacuated to Germany immediately. The Battle of France was lost for Germany and now the defence of the Siegfried Line was the main problem. From now on, also, German industry must realise that the war could not be won and that it

must take steps in preparation for a post-war commercial campaign. Each industrialist must make contacts and alliances with foreign firms, but this must be done individually and without attracting any suspicion. Moreover, the ground would have to be laid on the financial level for borrowing considerable sums from foreign countries after the war.

"As examples of the kind of penetration which had been most useful in the past, Dr. Scheid cited the fact that patents for stainless steel belonged to the Chemical Foundation Inc., New York, and the Krupp Company of Germany jointly, and that the U.S. Steel Corporation, Carnegie, Illinois, American Steel and Wire, and National Tube, etc., were thereby under an obligation to work with the Krupp concern. He also cited the Zeiss Company, the Leica Company, and the Hamburg-American Line as firms which had been especially effective in protecting German interests abroad and gave their New York addresses to the industrialists at this meeting."

(R/G/27/10 L)

"Following this meeting a smaller one was held, presided over by Dr. Bosse of the German Armaments Ministry and attended only by representatives of Hecho, Krupp and Rochling. At this second meeting it was stated that the Nazi party had informed the industrialists that it would continue until a guarantee of the unity of Germany could be obtained. German industrialists must, it was said, through their exports, increase the strength of Germany. They must also prepare themselves to finance the Nazi Party which would be forced to go underground as maquis (in Gebirgsverteidigungsstellen gehen). From now on the government would allocate large sums to industrialists so that each could establish a secret post-war foundation in foreign countries. Existing financial reserves in foreign countries must be placed at the disposal of the Party so that a strong German Empire can be created after the defeat. It is also immediately required that the large factories in Germany create small technical offices or research bureaux which would be absolutely independent and have no known connection with the factory. These bureaux will receive plans and drawings of new weapons as well as documents which they need to continue their research and which must not be allowed to fall into the hands of the enemy. These offices are to be established in large cities where they can be most successfully hidden, as well as in little villages near sources of hydro-electric power, where they can pretend to be studying the development of water resources. The existence of these is to be known only by very few people in each industry and by chiefs of the Nazi Party. Each office will have a liaison agent with the Party. As soon as the Party becomes strong enough to re-establish its control over Germany, the industrialists will be paid for their effort and co-operation by concessions and orders."

(R/G/27/10/L)

SENATOR KILGORE'S COMMENTS

Senator Kilgore commented on the above, that "the prohibition against the export of capital which was rigorously enforced until now has been completely withdrawn and replaced by a new Nazi policy whereby industrialists with government assistance will export as much of the capital as possible. Previously exports of capital by German industrialists to neutral countries had to be accomplished rather surreptitiously and by means of special influence. Now the Nazi Party stands behind the industrialists and urges them to save themselves by getting funds outside Germany and at the same time to advance the Party's plans for its post-war operation. This freedom given to the industrialists further cements their relations with the Party by giving them a measure of protection.

"The German industrialists are not only buying agricultural property in Germany but are placing their funds abroad, particularly in neutral countries. Two main banks through which this export of capital operates are the Basler Handelsbank and the Schweizerische Kreditanstalt of Zurich. Also there are a number of agencies in Switzerland which for a five per cent commission buy property in Switzerland, using Swiss clock.

"After the defeat of Germany, the Nazi Party recognises that certain of its best-known leaders will be condemned as war criminals. However, in co-operation with the industrialists it is arranging to place its less conspicuous but most important members in positions with various German factories as technical experts or members of its research and designing offices."

(R/G/27/10 L)

As an illustration of these methods, Senator Kilgore cited the preparation of the Krupp works for post-war use.

"Step One: The Krupp works were recently returned to "private" ownership. It is the hope of the Germans that under the conventional international law concepts "private" property would have an excellent chance of remaining untouched by the Allied occupation forces.

"Step Two: Germans anticipated that private ownership alone might not be enough. The occupation forces might be directed to take severe measures against Nazi ownership and control of industrial organisations. With this in mind, the Nazis are reported to have issued a decree prohibiting all Nazi Party officials and all persons who held government posts to which they have been appointed by the Nazi Party from holding any official or managing position in any business undertaking regardless of whether such position carried with it any remuneration or not.

"Step Three: Not wholly satisfied that property which was both privately owned and was not controlled or owned by Nazis would escape the Allied controls, a further precaution was taken to make assurances doubly sure that the really important industries would be saved from Allied destruction or control. Germans have reported on several occasions that Gustav Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach, the head of the great Krupp munitions combine, who was instrumental in bringing Hitler into power, was arrested for making defeatist utterances and for organising anti-Nazi resistance groups.

"Thus the Krupp works, one of the backbones of German aggression, is now "private property", owned and controlled by persons who not only are not Nazi Party members or government officials but who are seemingly in the disfavour of the Nazi Government.

"The Krupp example is but one illustration in a pattern of behaviour. The Krupp case is too obvious to fool many people - other cases will be less obvious. The underground which will keep the Nazi fire burning will be nourished and supported by the trustees of German heavy industry and the trustees of German economic and financial interests within and outside Germany. They are the true underground."

(R/G/27/10 L)

COMPLICITY OF THE INDUSTRIALISTS.

On October 3rd, in connection with a report issued by the Sub-Committee on War Mobilisation, Senator Kilgore released a further statement, in which he observed:

"The Tripartite collaboration of state, army, and industrialists has characterised the development of Germany since her rise as a modern nation. It has been cemented by numerous inter-marriages among the leading industrial families and the land-poor Junker aristocracy. The Junkers have long had a near monopoly of positions in the officers corps, as well as high positions in the civil administration both under the Empire and the Weimar Republic. Concluding that defeat was not due to failure of arms or military strategy but to a breakdown in the war economy, the three groups of conspirators resolutely went to work to strengthen Germany's economic position in the next war. Among the measures employed were modernisation and expansion of capacity in the industries essential to war, maximum exploitation of domestic raw materials, development of synthetic substitutes for those not found in Germany or nearby, stockpiling of critical materials, and economic piracy on an international scale . . ."

(R/G/27/10 D)

.

"In building up their power over the German nation, the army, industry, and the state assisted each other. When it was no longer expedient for the army and industry to preserve the semblance of the Republic, the leading coal and steel industrialists subsidised the rise of Hitler. The largest Ruhr coal syndicate swelled the Nazi party coffers by placing a small tax on every ton of coal mined by its members, who in 1927 were responsible for 80 per cent of German production "

(R/G/27/10 D)

On October 6th 1945, after the issue of the final volumes of the first series of the War Mobilisation Sub-Committee's hearings, Senator Kilgore issued a statement which said, in part:

"Of especial interest in connection with the apprehension and trial of war criminals is exhibit number 10 to the Treasury testimony which consists of the biographies of some 40 leading German industrialists. The facts here assembled clearly implicate these industrialists in the crimes committed against the peoples of many nations by the Nazis in their quest for world domination.

"They show further that these industrialists, far from joining the Nazi band-wagon in the last days in order to safeguard their persons and properties, were from the very inception of the Nazi Party its enthusiastic supporters. Their assistance made possible the Nazi seizure of power, they directed the conversion of the economy to war, and in governmental or semi-official industrial posts they managed Germany's production of the instruments for aggression.

"I note that of this group, only one name, Gustav Krupp von Bohlen, has so far appeared on the Allied list of war criminals to be tried at Nuremberg. I trust that the others will be included in subsequent lists, since their activities, though, perhaps, in some instances less spectacular than that of Krupp, place them definitely in the same category. They are by no means the "neutral" businessmen they would have the Allies believe.

"Herman Beucher served the monarchy, the Weimar Republic, and Hitler with impartiality. In 1933 he joined the Nazis, thereafter becoming intimately associated with the party's efforts and with the government's industrial and financial projects. He was a director of the Reichsbank and the Berliner Handelsgesellschaft and he has numerous important connections in the field of public utilities in Germany and abroad, including South America and, through AEG (Allgemeine Elektrizitäts Gesellschaft), with the General Electric Company in the United States.

"Dr. Alfred Hugenberg, sometimes referred to as the 'giant shadow over Hitler' was chairman of the board of the Krupp works during World War I, in which capacity he built up a world-wide espionage network for supplying the German general staff with military intelligence through the agency of Krupp representatives abroad. After the First War, he expanded this network through the acquisition of moving picture and publishing enterprises, including, in 1926, the New York book firm, B. Westermann, Inc.

"This firm, until its closure in 1941 by the United States Treasury Department, supplied the Nazi Government with strategic United States military information and disseminated German propaganda in this country. Hugenberg was one of the earliest of Hitler's supporters. In 1930, he publicly declared 'I am happy to know that Hitler's party, which symbolises the coming Germany, has won such a brilliant electoral victory . . . now we are close to our goal. It will not be long before Germany awakens.'

"Dr. Max Ilgner, head of I.G. Farben's financial department was one of the original group which planned its world-wide organisation. He specialised in world patent and cartel agreements and organised foreign markets for I.G.

Farben's development and penetration into other continents. Ilgner is only 46 years old, maniacal on the subject of German domination and reportedly one of the men who laid careful plans for Germany's post-war industrial rearmament."

LIST OF MAJOR INDUSTRIALISTS. (+)

(R/C/27/10 E)

In another release to the Press, dated October 9th, Senator Kilgore gave the names of 40 German industrialists, with a brief note on each who had been specifically named in exhibit 10 of the Kilgore report: viz:

"Count Hans Bodo von Alvensleben - Junker nobleman and landowner, in 1932 president of the Herren Club of Berlin.

"Dr. Friedrich Flick, operator and head of one of Germany's largest industrial combines, Dusseldorf.

"Alfred Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach, head of the Krupp organisation, succeeding his father Gustav.

"Dr. Gustav Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach, owns the great majority of shares of the Krupp combine, Germany's largest industrial and war production trust, and is considered to be one of the small group of industrial leaders largely responsible for bringing Hitler to power.

"Hermann von Hanneken, one of Germany's outstanding economic and organisational experts and one of the key planners of Germany's four year plan, particularly the iron and steel phase, also served as Under Secretary of State and chief of the industrial division of the Ministry of Economics.

"Dr. Hugo Henkel, succeeded his father as sole manager of Henkel-Werke in 1908, has led his company through two wars.

"Dr. Alfred Hugenberg," (see page 4).

"Dr. Max Ilgner," (see pages 4 and 5).

"Hans Kehrl, president of the large Phrix Synthetic Textile Combine, one of the key men in Nazi economy.

"Wilhelm Keppler, outstanding politician and industrialist. Held many offices under Hitler. Preceded Schacht as a financial expert for the government, was Under Secretary in the German Foreign Office, took important part in undermining of countries Nazis planned to invade.

"Philipp Kessler, for many years connected with the Siemens Schuckert group. Chairman of management committee of Bergmann Elektrizitaetswerke, A.G.

"Dr. Florian Klockner, wealthy industrialist, prominent in fields of coal and iron, an early contributor to the Nazi party.

"Johann August von Knieriem, a member of the I.G. Farben board, officially connected with two Farben affiliates, acts for the combine as chief counsel in charge of legal patent questions.

"Heinrich Koppenberg, associated with a number of aeroplane and automotive industries, a director of several Flick enterprises, connected with the Vereinigte Stahlwerke combine. A leader in the German war production programme.

"Karl Krauch, reported as Hitler's right hand man, head of the I.G. Farbenindustrie and director of a number of its subsidiaries.

+ A copy of this ~~was~~ list was sent to the UNMCC by the United States Commissioner.

"Fritz Lehman, important industrialist, associated with some 30 companies affiliated for the most part with Felten and Guilleaume, Carlswerke A.G., Cologne, which in turn is an important subsidiary of the Farben Konzern, Luxembourg, the third largest steel combine on the continent.

"Karl Lindemann, chairman of the advisory board of the North German Lloyd, a director of the Hamburg-Amerika Line, among outstanding shipping experts in Europe.

"Kurt Nobeling, very important figure in the industrial life of Saxony, holding positions with a long list of iron and steel, and heavy industrial enterprises. Seemed to stand high in the councils of the Nazi party.

"Alfred Olscher, member of advisory committee of Deutsche Bank, associated with a number of organisations closely identified with Nazi economy.

"Waldemar von Oppenheim, a partner of the 150 year old family banking firm, Sal. Oppenheim et Cie., Cologne, since 1921.

"Dr. Robert Pferdmenges, long associated with some of the most important industries in Germany, including electrical and coal works, Allgemeine Elektrizitäts Gesellschaft and Harpener Bergbau.

"Hans Pilder, active in Dresdner Bank's programme of expansion in Central Europe. Connected with various types of industry, among which were iron works, transportation facilities, public utilities, magnesium works.

"Paul Pleiger, prominent Nazi, one of two managers in mammoth enterprise, Reichswerke A.G. für Bergbau und Hüttenbetriebe, Hermann Goering.

"Ernest Poensger, associated with the Vereinigte Stahlwerke, since 1926 chairman of its management committee, one of the men responsible for swinging that enterprise to the Nazis.

"Guenther Quandt, owner of the Accumulatoren-Fabrik, A.G.

"Karl Rasche, prominent Rhineland industrialist, member of Free Masons, political group built up around Himmler, member of Nazi inner circle. Prominently associated with major enterprises producing steel, armaments machinery, chemicals and coal.

"Philipp F. Reentsma, general partner in cigarette concern of H.F. & Ph.F. Reentsma KG. Reentsmas were inveterate foes of the Weimar Republic, prosperous under National Socialism.

"Hermann Rochling, one of key men in Nazi war machine. Member of a powerful and active industrial family which controls an enormous sector of Saar-Lorraine heavy industry. Said to have participated in the construction of the Maginot Line.

"Kurt Schmitt, Germany's insurance expert.

"Dr. Hermann Schmitz, achieved outstanding success in industry, finance, government. Served with zeal every government in power. Finance king of I.G. Farben.

"George von Schnitzler, prominent member of management committee of I.G. Farbenindustrie, affiliated with Nazis since their beginning.

"Kurt von Schroeder, Germany's outstanding private banker and partner of the Cologne banking house, J.H. Stein, since 1921

"Hermann von Siemens, a director of the Deutsche Bank, closely identified with the giant Siemens electrical concern. One of Germany's most important industrialists.

"Dr. Heinrich von Stein, owner of the private banking house of J.M. Stein, Cologne.

"Paul Stein, prominently connected with several I.G. Farben subsidiaries, and affiliates, was one of initial promoters of Hitler.

"Hugo Stinnes, formerly known as coal king of Germany.

"Wilhelm Tengemann, active Nazi party member since 1930, SS leader, leader of the war programme, advisor of Prussian Prime Minister. Extremely prominent in coal industry. A Director of Commerz Bank, A.G., Berlin.

"Fritz Thyssen, former head of German steel trust, Vereinigte Stahlwerke.

"Albert Vogler, head of Vereinigte Stahlwerke, large steel combine.

"Kurt Weigelt, one of leading German bankers, reported to have financed Hitler in early days, managed Deutsche Bank.

"Baron Tilo von Wilmotsky, brother-in-law of Gustav Krupp, deputy chairman of Friedrich Krupp, A.G., and of several of its subsidiaries.

"Wilhelm Zangen, connected with Mannesmann Roehren-Werke combine, which has a long history of association with Germany's expansionist policies."
(R/G/27/10 F)

In the same release Senator Kilgore is quoted as saying:

"The facts here assembled clearly implicate these industrialists in the crimes committed against the peoples of many nations by the Nazis The Senator also noted that only one name on this list, that of Gustav Krupp von Bohlen, has appeared on the list of war criminals to be tried at Nuremburg."
(R/G/27/10 F)

Another name in addition to the above, mentioned in the release of June 25th 1945, was that of Eduard Houdremont, "Managing director of the Krupp armaments works, is also an official of the Ministry of Armaments and Munitions headed by Albert Speer, holding the post of special deputy for metal substitutes. In this post Houdremont is director for the co-ordination of all private, semi-public agencies (cartels, groups, etc.) engaging in finding substitutes for scarce metals."
(R/G/27/10 L)

APPENDIX I.

INDUSTRIALISTS AS INTELLIGENCE AGENTS.

Letters, constituting exhibits of the Kilgore Sub-Committee's report, illustrating the manner in which the I.G. Farbenindustrie assisted the German Army intelligence services in espionage abroad.

"(A). Letter dated March 15, 1943, from Piekenbrock, Colonel, General Staff, Counter Espionage Section one, Wehrmacht Supreme Command, to Dr. Georg von Schnitzler:

'Dear Herr Dr. von Schnitzler: I would like to inform you that I am shortly leaving Berlin and my present office to take over a command at the front. I feel particularly urged to thank you for the valuable co-operation which you have extended to my office. I shall always retain pleasant memories of the personal and official collaboration with you. I should like to take this opportunity of asking you to give the same support to my successor, Lieutenant Colonel Hansen. With many thanks and Heil Hitler, I remain, yours very devoted (signed) Piekenbrock.'

"(B) Letter dated March 24, 1943, from Dr. Schnitzler to Piekenbrock.

'Dear Colonel: I thank you very much for your kind note of 15 March and take liberty of expressing my best wishes for your front command. I and my colleagues working here at Frankfurt on foreign business have always considered it a duty of honour to be always at your disposal for your special tasks. This will of course be the same in the future after your successor, Lieutenant Colonel Hansen, has taken over. With cordial regards and Heil Hitler, I remain, yours very devoted, (signed) V. Schnitzler.'

"(C) Excerpts from letter dated March 30, 1940, from Dr. E. von der Heyde to Dr. von Schnitzler:

'As you know the OKW (Supreme Command of the Wehrmacht) has repeatedly expressed its request for all possible help in placing its "Vertrauensleute" (confidential agents) abroad. The OKW has approached us in regard to cases in which it was desirable to incorporate permanently into our foreign organisation a trustworthy person in regard to cases where temporary backing for confidential agents on individual trips abroad of limited duration was needed. As I explained at the last meeting of the Commercial Committee, not only the OKW but also the Reichssicherheitshauptamt (Reich Security Main Office) has such desire and pursues its specific aims in accord with the OKW.'

"(D) Excerpt from letter dated 3rd April, 1940, from Dr. von Schnitzler to Dr. E. von der Heyde:

'I recently had occasion in Berlin to discuss with Major Block of the OKW another matter pertaining to this subject, i.e. whether and to what extent the OKW wants to use the services of the "Gesellschaft für Verkaufsfoerderung" (Association for Sales promotion) which is under the Management of Messrs. Kunzler and von Puttkamer. This Company is particularly well suited for the intended camouflaging manoeuvres, since the failure of one of its emissaries will never lead to a catastrophe: If worst comes to worst this company might have to cease operating in some particular country and would have to confine its activities to other neutral countries.'

"(E) The following secret communication on November 9, 1943, is in the same vein, from the Wirtschaftspolitische Abteilung to Dr. Oberhoff of I.G. Farben:

"Lieutenant Colonel Bocher is shortly going to Spain on orders of the Abwehr (Wehrmacht Intelligence). However, since it is not supposed to be known there that he is attached to this agency he is to be camouflaged by becoming part of some firm. Since Bocher is a wool merchant by trade, it was first thought advisable to place him with a wool purchasing firm from Sofindus. For special reasons this is not possible, and the RMI is now enquiring whether the I.G. would not be able to find a place for Mr. Bocher."

(R/G/27/10 J)

APPENDIX II.

HITLER'S FINANCIAL BACKERS.

Extracts concerning German industrialists, from "Germany puts the Clock Back" by Edgar Mowrer, page 113 et seq.

"According to the conclusions of an investigating committee (Untersuchungsausschuss) of the Bavarian Diet, Hitler's financial backers in his early days included a reactionary industrialist, von Borsig, of Berlin, two leading figures in the Association of Bavarian Industrialists (Bayerish Industriellen Verband) and a high-born aristocrat, Prince Arenberg. According to the Berlin Welt am Abend (December 11, 1930), this first list should be completed by the addition of two more big industrialists, one baron, one count, Prince Henckel von Donnersmarck, Duke Ludwig Wilhelm of Bavaria and the Duke of Coburg. Is it to be supposed that such illustrious representatives of the ancient order of things would relinquish the money they knew so well how to get and keep in order to install "socialism" in Germany.

"In later years, the list of the alleged financial patrons of the National-Socialist movement became extremely long. Factory owners, managers, general counsel (Syndici), were as thick as they might be on the subscription list of the Republican National Committee in the United States. Here were no lack of interesting folk: a Frau von Prittwitz of Karlsruhe (Die Arbeiterstimme of Dresden, May 21, 1930); Bechstein of piano fame (Ostthueringer Tribune, of Gera, December 16, 1930). One of the biggest industrialists in the Ruhr District, Privy Councillor Emil Kirdorf, was frequently mentioned; the Lohusen Brothers of Bremen, who nourished the National-Socialist movement with money that was alleged to have belonged to the stockholders of the Nordrolle Concern until it went bankrupt under their able direction; and finally, Fritz Thyssen, that pillar of financial conservatism, who introduced Adolf Hitler to the Industrialists' Club in Düsseldorf (January, 1931) as the "saviour of Germany". On another occasion, Herr Thyssen was reported to have peddled among his friends admission cards to a National-Socialist political meeting at fifty marks a head.

"The large landowners seem to have discovered the value of Adolf Hitler somewhat later, but a fair number were signalled out as among his subsidisers. The Berlin Vorwaerts (August 27, 1929) mentioned a group of wealthy men in East Prussia who had found it useful to support the movement. Among them were a Baron Buttler and a Baron von der Goltz.

"Climbing a step higher one reached the circles of the deposed German sovereigns. Beside the Duke of Coburg, who seems to have got in at an early date, a later list (Die Weltbuehne, Berlin, April 30, 1932) mentioned the Duke of Brunswick, the Grand Duke of Oldenburg and the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg as financial backers.

"Hjalmar Horace Greeley Schacht, Reichsmark manipulator and chief "fixer" of the Reich's foreign creditors, deserved comment for other reasons. First, he was not a Nazi at all but an unlimitedly ambitious individualist; second, without his sheer magic in financing armament on a shoestring and conjuring up export trade for Germany in falling market, the régime might have collapsed. It would be a pity if the world ever forgot that this long-necked banker began political life as a democrat, evolved into Conservatism just when the Republic began to fail, hooked on to Hitler just in time to ride into history as the financier of the world's greatest conspiracy, Wehrwirtschaft."

In regard to Schacht, the following extract from "What about Germany" by L.P. Lochner, page 35, is of interest. (Lochner was the Bureau Chief of the Associated Press, in Berlin).

"Schacht, as his foreign friends learned to their dismay, became the financial organiser of Hitler's armed challenge to the world. A friend of mine who for many years had been a close collaborator of Dr. Schacht, but who severed his connections with the Reichsbank when he realised where his high-collared chief was headed for, ably summed it up:

"The wizard of National Socialism transformed the economic system of the Reich into a complete machinery for the preparation of war. A unique system of taxation, of monopolies, of currency manipulation was built up which enabled the German leader (Hitler) to use German labour, German purchasing power, German technical inventions, for an unprecedented concentration of national strength. Every action, every man, every idea served was purpose. If Hitler was the political organiser, Goering the military organiser, Dr. Schacht became the financial organiser of the attack of National Socialism on the European neighbours of the Reich."

XLV

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION

(Research Office)

SECRET.

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

No. 45

I.

October, 1945.

A.- ARRESTS OF WAR CRIMINALS.

in continuation of Summary of Information
No. 42.

(Mainly from Press Sources and P.I.D. Austrian
and German Personalities Series.)

+ A B E T Z, Otto:

Former German Ambassador in Paris, reported arrested in
French Occupied Zone.
(B.B.C. 26. 10. 45.)

A C K E R M A N N, Josef:

SA-Brigadeführer, Gauinspektor at Koblenz.
Reported arrested by U.S. authorities.
(Luxembourg Radio, 3.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

A M B E R G E R, Franz:

SA-Standartenführer, Kreisleiter Murau/Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31. 7. 45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

B A U E R, Fritz:

Kreisleiter and Landrat, Pettau/Styria
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31. 7. 45.)

(R/Au/28/9A)

B A U E R, Johann:

Former Chief of the Gestapo in Klagenfurt.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 1. 8. 45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

B E H R E N S:

SS-Obersturmbannführer, official of Reichssicherheitshauptamt
for preventing escapes by prisoners of war.
Reported transferred to a London reception camp for war criminals.
(Daily Express, 14.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

B E R N H A U E R, Conrad:

Professor of Chemistry at Prague, SS-Sturmbannführer.
Reported arrested at Rosenheim.
(Radio München, 3.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

B L U E C H E R, Wipert Karl Wilhelm von:

German Ambassador to Finland from 1935 to 1944.
Reported arrested at Garmisch Partenkirchen.
(Reuter, 31.7.45.)

(R/G/28/9.)

+ Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

B O M K E, Heinrich:

Mines manager; leading Ruhr industrialist.
Reported arrested at Dortmund.
(Daily Telegraph, 8.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

B R A B A E N D E R:

Lieut.-General, Commander of the 416th Inf. Division.
Reported from Oslo to be transferred to Germany in
connection with war crimes trials.
(NTB 31.8.45)

(R/G/28/9)

B R O H M, Bruno von:

Dr. phil.; author; connected with illegal Nazi movement
before the Anschluss.
Reported arrested at Bad Schallerback.

(R/Au/28/9 A)

+ C A R S T A N J E N, Helmut:

Dr., Head of the Styrian Gau Office for Racial Questions.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

C H R I S T I A N S E N, Otto:

Dr., Kreisamtsleiter for Public Health at Bruck a.d. Mur/Styria.
Reported arrested in the British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 14.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

D E B O E R:

Lieut.-General.
Reported from Oslo to be transferred to Germany in
connection with war crimes trials.
(NTB, 31.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

D E L F I N, Margarete:

Nazi Women's Leader.
Reported arrested by the U.S. authorities in Austria.
(Moscow Radio, 7.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

D E L P H I N, Werner:

Dr., SS-Sturmabführer, lawyer in Leoben/Styria.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Steirische Zeitung, 10.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

+ D I E T R I C H, Otto:

Dr. Political Economy, former Reich Press Chief.
Reported arrested.
(Times, 31.8.45 and 1.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

D O L L I N G E R, Johann:

Hitler Youth district leader in Styria.
Reported arrested in the British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 14. 8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

D O R M A N, Hans:

Dr., Ministerialrat in the Reich Ministry of Labour.
Reported arrested at Garmisch Partenkirchen.
(Reuter, 31.7.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

+ Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

E B E R T, Friedrich:

SS-Obersturmbannführer, official of SS- Central Office in Berlin.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 1.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

E B N E R, Karl:

SS-Obersturmbannführer and Oberregierungsrat in Vienna.
Reported arrested in the British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 14.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

E G G E R, Josef:

HJ-Bannführer at Spittal/Carinthia.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Steirische Zeitung, 10.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

E I G L, Adolf:

Dr., District Chief, Upper Austria.
Reported arrested by U.S. Military authorities.
(Linz Radio, 24.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

E I G R U B E R, August:

Former Gauleiter of Upper Austria.
Reported arrested by U.S. Military Police at St.Pankraz/Upper Austria.
(Linz Radio, 14.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

E L L E R B O G E N:

Former doctor at Buchenwald.
Reported arrested at Marburg in the U.S. Zone.
(Coventry Evening Telegraph, 17.9.45) ---

E N G E L, Armin:

SS-Sturmbannführer.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 1.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

E R H A R D, Emil:

SS-Hauptsturmführer in the Volkssturm office.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 1.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

E S T E R L, Erika (Fraulein):

Peasant Girls' Leader in the Gau Carinthia.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 28.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

F I K E N S C H E:

Professor in the Public Health Department.
Reported arrested at Garmisch Partenkirchen.
(Reuter, 31.7.41).

Note: Probably Prof. Dr. Fikentscher, Munich, Director of the
Gynaecological Clinic, Munich; there is another Prof. Dr.
Fikentscher, Hamburg, Chief of the Naval Medical Research
Institute. (R/G/28/9)

FIMMEN, Walter:

Member of the advisory board of the North-West German Coal Cartel.
Reported arrested by the British Intelligence Service.
(B.U.P. Sunday Dispatch, 16.9.45.) (R/G/28/9)

FLADISCHER, Franz:

District Chief of the Labour Front at Graz/Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

* GEBHARDT:

Former Doctor at Ravensbrück Concentration Camp.
Reported arrested.
(Daily Telegraph, 20.9.45.)

GECKL, Franz:

District organiser at Liezen/Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45) (R/Au/28/9 A)

GEUE, Siegfried:

H.J.-Hauptbannführer.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 18.7.45) (R/Au/28/9 A)

GIESLER, Hermann:

Prof. architect, father of Gauleiter Paul Giesler.
Chief of Labour Group 'Deutschland' in the Todt Organisation.
Reported arrested at Munich.
(Munich Radio, 13.10.45.) (R/G/19/10)

GLASOW, Arnold:

Former SA-Brigadeführer.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 18.7.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

GLUECK, Josef:

District Chief at Regen-Grafenau, Bayreuth.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 18.7.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

GOTTSTEIN, Ernest von:

Prof. Dr. Hauptbauleiter of the Todt Organisation.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 1.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

HAFNER, Walter:

Former Propagandaleiter; later employed under the Supreme
Commissioner in Trieste.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

* Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

H A I N Z L, Josef:

SS-Standartenführer, President of Styrian Chamber of Agriculture.
Reported arrested.

(Kärntner Nachrichten, 21.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

H A M M E R H O F E R:

Most probably Kammerhofer, Konstantin, Commander of SS-Abschnitt
XXXI (Wien and Nieder Donau/Nieder Österreich).

Reported arrested in Austria by the U.S. authorities.

(Moscow Radio, 7.8.45)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

H A N D L, Rudolf:

Commander of Gendarmerie in Carinthia.

Reported arrested in British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.

(Steirische Zeitung, 10.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

H A S S L A C H E R, Franz:

Nazi Industrialist in Carinthia.

Reported arrested.

(Kärntner Nachrichten, 12.10.45).

(R/Au/19/10)

H A S T A B A, Gustav:

NSKK-Obersturmbannführer in Klagenburg.

Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.

(Kärntner Nachrichten, 18.7.45)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

+ H A U S H O F E R, Karl:

Professor Dr.

Reported arrested by U.S. Military Authorities in Garmisch-Partenkirchen.
(Luxembourg, in German 26.7.45)

NOTE: Haushofer, Karl E. Nik., Professor of Geography at Munich University.
Was intimately connected with Hitler, through Hess. Writer on
geopolitical and colonial-biological theories. (R/G/28/9)

H E L F E R I C H, Josef:

SS-Sturmabführer, official of the Todt Organisation in Styria.

Reported arrested in British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.

(Steirische Zeitung, 10.8.45).

(R/Au/28/9 A)

+ H E L L M U T H, Otto:

Dr. phil., former Gauleiter of Gau Main-Franken.

Reported arrested by the U.S. authorities.

(Münchener Zeitung, 14.7.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

H E M M E R I C H, Gerlach:

Lieut.-General.

Reported arrested by U.S. Military authorities.

(Dana-Dienst, 27.9.1945)

(R/G/1/10)

H E S S E N, Prince Richard of:

Former NSKK-Obergruppenführer, brother of Prince Philipp von Hessen.

Reported arrested in Garmisch Partenkirchen.

(Reuter, 31.7.45)

(R/G/28/9)

Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

H O F F M A N N, Otto:

Lieut.-General of Waffen SS., probably identical with
SS-Obergruppenführer Otto Hoffmann, former Chief of SS
Race and Settlement Office.
Reported captured.
(Daily Telegraph 25.7.45)

(R/G/28/9)

+ H O F M A N N, Otto:

SS-Obergruppenführer and General of Police.
Reported surrendered to the Bavarian HQ of the U.S.
Military Police.
(Radio Luxembourg, 3.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

H R O V A T, Alois:

DAF-Kreisobmann at Spittal, Carinthia.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 1.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

H U B E R, Oskar:

HJ-Bannführer in Stein, Carinthia.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 18.7.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

H U E B E R, Hubert:

Dr., former Salzburg Gestapo Chief.
Reported arrested by U.S. Military authorities.
(Linz Radio, 28.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9A)

H U P P E N K O T E N, Walter:

SS-Standartenführer and former Head of Gruppe IV A in RSHA.
(SS-Reichssicherheitshauptamt).
Reported arrested in a P.O.W. Camp.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 5.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

I T T A M E I E R, Ernst:

District Leader of Dinkelsbühl and SA-Oberführer.
Reported handed over to the U.S. Authorities.
(Münich Radio, 13.10.45.)

(R/G/19/10)

J E U T L, Herbert:

Dr., Gau Economic Adviser.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung 31.7.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

+ K A I N D L, Anton:

SS-Standartenführer and Chief of Amt IV, SS-Wirtschafts-
und Verwaltungshauptamt (Administration of Concentration
Camps).
Reported arrested.
(Stuttgart Radio, 21.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

K A L M A N N, Heinrich:

High official in the Landesregierung in Klagenfurt.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 1.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

+ Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

K A L T E N B E C K, Ludwig:

SS-Hauptsturmführer, Gauredner of the Gau Styria.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 28.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

K A M E R, Edwin:

Former name Kamorovsky "Gaubmann für Danzig-Westpreussen".
SA-Oberführer and Oberreichsleiter.
Reported arrested by the Allies in Japan.
(A.P.S. 16.10.45.)

(R/G/19/10)

K A U E R T, Herbert:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian Coal Syndicate
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission.
(Times, 7. 9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

K A U T S C H, Kurt:

Former Deputy Commandant of LODZ Concentration Camp.
Reported arrested by British near Luneberg.
(Yorkshire Post, 4.10.45.)

K E S T E N, Wilhelm:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian Coal Syndicate.
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission.
(Times, 7.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

K N E P P E R, August:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian Coal Syndicate.
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission.
(Times, 7.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

K O B L E N Z, Franz:

SA-Standartenführer, District Chief of Labour Front at
Leibnitz, Styria.
Reported arrested in Styria and Carinthia.
(Steirische Zeitung, 6.9.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

K O T Z, Hans:

District Chief of Judenburg.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 18.7.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

K O Z I C H, Thomas:

SA-Brigadeführer, former Sports Gau Leader of Gau Vienna.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Steirische Zeitung, 10.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

K R A K A U, August:

Lieut.-General, former C-in-C of XVIII Gebirgskorps in Norway.
Reported from Oslo to be transferred to Germany in connection
with War Crimes Trials.
(N.T.B. 31.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

K R A N C K E, Theodor:

Admiral, former commandant of 'Admiral Scheer' and later
C-in-C Gruppe West.
Reported from Oslo to be transferred to Germany in
connection with War Crimes Trials.
(NTB, 31.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

K R A U C H, Carl:

Professor, Chairman of I.G.-Farbenindustrie.
Reported arrested.
(Daily Telegraph, 8.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

K R A U T L E R:

Lieut.-General.
Reported from Oslo to be transferred to Germany in
connection with War Crimes Trials.
(NTB. 31.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

K U E C H E N T H A L:

President of Brunswick State Bank.
Reported arrested.
(Radio Hamburg, 4.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

K U H N, Fritz:

Former Leader of the Nazi Bund in the United States.
Reported arrested by U.S. Officers at Bremerhaven.
(Daily Mail, Daily Express, 5.10.45.)

(R/G/8/10)

L A R C H E R:

Dr., Former Landrat at Toelz (Bavaria).
Reported arrested in Rosenheim.
(Radio München, 3.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

L E O N H A R D T, Herbert:

Oberregierungsrat, head of the Provincial Cultural Administration
(Landeskulturverwaltung).
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

L I B A L, Anni:

District Women's Leader at Wolfsberg/Carinthia.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 28.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

L O H M A N N, Adolf:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian Coal Syndicate.
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission.
(Times, 7.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

L O H M A N N, Albert:

SS-Standartenführer of SS-Standarte 94 in Leoben/Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

LOHMANN, Heinz:

Waffen, SS-Sturmabführer and Bataillons Kommandant im
23 Regt., 'Norge'.
Reported arrested by the British authorities in Austria.
(Radio Luxembourg, 3.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9A)

LUEBSEN, Georg:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian Coal Syndicate.
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission.
(Times, 7.9.45.) (R/G/28/9)

+ MANSSTEIN, Walter von:

Former Field Marshal.
Reported arrested.
(Times, 31.8.45 and 1.9.45.) (R/G/28/9)

MARK, Karl:

Standartenführer of 6 SS. Mountain Regt.
Reported detained by the British authorities in Austria.
(Radio Luxembourg, 3.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

MAYERHOEFER, Heinrich:

SA-Oberführer, District Chief and acting Landrat at Gilli
(Lower Styria).
Reported arrested in Styria and Carinthia.
(Steirische Zeitung, 6.9.45.) (R/Au/28/9 a)

MAYHOFER, Ernst:

Dr. Regierungsdirektor in the office of the Reichsstatthalter Styria.
Reported arrested in Styria and Carinthia.
(Steirische Zeitung, 6.9.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

MEISINGER, Josef Alfred:

Colonel Police Attache at the German Embassy in Japan.
Reported arrested in Japan.
(Times, 13.9.45.) (R/G/28/9).

NEUMANN, Karl:

Dr., initiator of pathological experiments on prisoners at
Buchenwald and Dachau.
Reported arrested by Americans at Shanghai, which he reached
by submarine in 1940.
(B.B.C. 24.10.45) ---

NEUMAYER, Rudolf:

Former Minister of Finance in the Seyss-Inquart Government.
Reported imprisoned in Vienna.
(Radio Moscow, in German for Austria, 27.7.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

PEIPER, Joachim:

SS-Standartenführer.
Reported arrested by the 1st U.S. Infantry Division.
(Reynolds News, 19.8.45.) (R/G/28/9)

+ Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

P E N D E L E, Max:

Adjutant to Air Field Marshal Milch.
Reported arrested at Garmisch Partenkirchen.
(Reuter, 31.7.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

P E S T E M O R, Maximilian:

Gaurichter and Head of Party Law Court at Graz/Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 21.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

P E T E R S C H I N E G G - G L O B O T S C H N I G, Lore (Frau):

Wife of the SS-Gruppenführer, who committed suicide.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 1.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

P E T E R S M A N N, Heinrich:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian Coal Syndicate.
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission.
(Times, 7.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

P F L E G E R L, Fritz:

Dr., Gau education office leader, Carinthia.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Steirische Zeitung, 10.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

P L A M M E R S, Josef:

District Leader of Nazi Welfare Organisation of Graz (District)/Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

P O L H E I M, Karl:

Dr. phil. Prof. of German Literature and Language at Graz University.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 28.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

+ P O R T S C H Y, Tobias:

Deputy Gauleiter of Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

R E A N T S C H N I G, Josef:

Bookseller, Chief of Gau personnel office.
Reported arrested in Styria and Carinthia.
(Steirische Zeitung, 6.9.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

R E H B E C K, Johann Adolf:

Hauptsturmführer with staff of SA-Gruppe Donau.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 1.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9A)

+ R E I N H A R D T, Fritz:

Secretary of State in the German Ministry of Finance.
Reported arrested at Garmisch Partenkirchen.
(Reuter, 31.7.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

+ Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

R E S C H N Y, Hermann:

SA-Obergruppenführer, Inspector of information service SA.,
Member of the People's Court.
Reported arrested in the Braunau district.
(Linz Radio 27.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

R E X E I S E N, Hans:

SS-Sturmabführer.
Reported arrested by British Military Government in Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 1.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

R I C H T E R:

Lieut.-General, Commander of the German Forces in Seeland, Denmark.
Reported from Oslo to be transferred to Germany in connection
with War Crimes Trials.
(NTB, 31.8.45) (R/G/28/9)

R I T T E R, Karl:

Professor, Film-production director with Universum Film AG (UFA).
Reported arrested by U.S. authorities in Rosenheim.
(Munich Radio, 1.9.45.) (R/G/28/9)

R U E B E C K E R, Anton:

May be identical with Dr. Anton Russeger, high official
of Agricultural Department of the Reichsstatthalter.
Reported arrested by U.S. authorities.
(Linz Radio, 25.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

R U S T, Arnold:

Former Police Director in Graz/Styria.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 28.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

S A G E R, Rudolf:

SS-Sturmabführer, High Police official in Styria.
Reported arrested in the British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 14. 8. 45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

+ S A L M U T H, von:

Col. Gen., Former C-in-C of 15 Army, Commander Northern France.
Reported captured.
(Daily Telegraph, 25. 7. 45.) (R/G/28/9)

S A X, Alexander:

Gauhauptstellenleiter in Graz.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

S C H A A R, Otto:

Kreishauptamtsleiter of Nazi Welfare Organisation at Feldbach/Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

+ Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

SCHAEFFLEIN, Hans:

Dr., President of the Provincial Court in Graz.
Reported arrested in the British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 14.8.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

SCHICK, Andreas Johann:

Dr., SS-Sturmabführer of the RSHA. (Reichssicherheitshauptamt).
Reported arrested at Castrop-Rauxel.
(Ruhr Zeitung, 27.7.45.) (R/G/28/9)

SCHIMPF, Arthur:

Head of Personnel Department of Labour Gau, Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

SCHMIDT, Gustav:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian coal syndicate.
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission
(Times 7.9.45.) (R/G/28/9)

SCHMIDT, Ruediger:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian Coal Syndicate.
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission.
(Times, 7.9.45.) (R/G/28/9)

SCHMUNDT, Hubert:

Admiral, former C-in-C of German Baltic Fleet.
Reported arrested by Austrian police at Voeklbruck and handed over
to U.S. Military authorities.
(Graz Radio, 8.8.45.) (R/G/28/9)

SCHULTZE, Moenting:

Read-Admiral, C-in-C North Norway Coast.
Reported from Oslo to be transferred to Germany in connection with
War Crimes Trials.
(N.T.B. 31.8.45.) (R/G/28/9)

SPRINGORUM, Otto:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian Coal Syndicate.
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission.
(Times, 7.9.45.) (R/G/28/9)

STAHEMER, Heinrich:

German Ambassador to Japan.
Reported arrested in Japan.
(Times, 13.9.45.) (R/G/28/9)

STEGMUELLER, Hans:

District Peasants' Leader (Kreisbauernführer) at Judenburg/Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.) (R/Au/28/9 A)

+ S T E I N, Walter:

Former President of Police, Danzig.
Reported arrested at Garmisch Partenkirchen.
(Reuter, 31.7.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

S T E I N G R U B E R, Josef:

SA-Obersturmführer at Kapfenberg/Styria.
Reported arrested in the British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 14.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

S T E L Z L, Wilhelm:

SA-Sturmabführer in SA of Styria, may be identical with
Stelzel, Dr. med, SA Group doctor Südmark at Graz.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Steirische Zeitung, 10.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

S T E N G E R, Herbert:

SS-Oberführer, former Adjutant to Hess and head of the Berlin
branch of the Führer's Chancery.
Reported arrested by the U.S. authorities at Hallein.
(Linz Radio, 29.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

S T I N N E S, Hugo:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian coal syndicate.
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission.
(Times, 7.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

S T O R E R, Eberhard von:

Former German Ambassador to Spain.
Reported taken into protective custody by the Swiss authorities.
(Die Nation, 6.6.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

T A E G E R, Wilhelm:

One of the 44 leading industrialists of the Rhine and Ruhr,
all members of the Rhine-Westphalian Coal Syndicate
Reported arrested by order of the British Control Commission.
(Times, 7.9.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

T O R K A R, Maria:

Kreisrätlerin of Villach (district)/Carinthia.
Reported arrested in British Zone of Austria.
(Kärntner Nachrichten, 28.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

+ U I B E R R E I T H E R, Siegfried:

Dr., former Gauleiter of Styria and SA-Obergruppenführer.
Reported arrested in Austria by the U.S. authorities.
(Moscow Radio, 7.8.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

V O S S :

Dr., Director of Hitler's private art collections.
Reported arrested by the U.S. authorities.
(Luxembourg Radio, 8.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

+ Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

W E I S S, Wilhelm:

Former chief editor of the Völkische Beobachter.
Reported arrested in Berchtesgaden.
(AFS, 11.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

W E I S S E N S T E I N E R, Anton:

Head of the Gau Labour Chamber of Styria.
Reported arrested.
(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

W E R N I T Z N I G G, Otto:

SA-Sturmabführer, i/c of training of SA in the Feldbach
(Carinthia) district.

Reported arrested in British Zone of Carinthia and Styria.
(Steirische Zeitung, 10.8.45)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

W I E D E M A N N, Fritz:

Former German Consul General in San Francisco.
Reported arrested by Allied Forces in China.
(News Chronicle, 26.9.45)

W O H L E S S E R, Peter:

District Peasants' Leader (Kreisbauernführer in Murau and
Neumarkt/Styria.

Reported arrested.

(Neue Steirische Zeitung, 31.7.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

B. MISCELLANEOUS.

+ B E H R, Kurt von:

Leading official of Rosenberg's looting organisation (see
Charges 849 French, and 797 Belgian); poisoned himself after
capture by the Americans (P.I.D. Report 119 of 18.10.45,
Documents Section GAD/C).

(R/G/23/10 D)

H O F F M A N N, Paul:

Former camp official at Auschwitz and Treblinka.

Trial reported soon to take place at Warsaw.
(Daily Telegraph, 20.9.45.)

K A M P I T S C H, Julius:

Former Landesstatthalter of Lower Austria.
Will be tried for high treason.

(Kärntner Nachrichten, 12.10.45)

(R/Au/19/10 C)

+ K L U G E, von:

Field Marshal.

Committed suicide. One reason for his suicide, as stated in
his letter to Hitler 18.8.44, was that his name was on the
list of war criminals.

(P.I.D. Report No. 111 of 11.10.45.) - Documents
Section GAD/C)

(R/G/15/10 E)

+ Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

+ L E Y, Robert:

Dr., Leader of the Labour Front; major criminal;
hanged himself at Nürnberg 25.10.45.

S C H E I D T E N B E R G E R, Edmund:

Dr. Born on 24.4.1880, former Mayor of Wiener-Neustadt,
SA-Sturmführer.
Reported wanted by Wiener-Neustadt Police for embezzlement
and war crimes.
(Vienna Radio, 18.9.45.)

(R/Au/28/9 A)

+ S P R E N G E R, Jakob:

Former Reichsstatthalter for Hessen.
Reported committed suicide near Kitzbuehel.
(Linz Radio, 21.8.45.)

(R/G/28/9)

N O T E:

It was semi-officially announced at USFET Headquarters in Germany, on October 19th, that about 80,000 persons (not including prisoners of war), presumably members of the former Nationalist Socialist Party or affiliated organisations, were in American custody. In the de-Nazification section of General Eisenhower's monthly report, 66,500 Nazis were stated to be in custody as on August 31st, 1945.

II. ...

+ Indicates persons already charged by United Nations.

II.

FAR EASTERN THEATRE OF WAR.

A. Mentioned in the Press as "WANTED".

S A T O S H I, Ole:

Lieut.-Colonel, suspected of massacre of Allied prisoners of war in Palawan (Philippines).

B. War Criminals Arrested up to October 1945.

I S O D A:

Lieut.-General, head of the Japanese "Hikari Kikan" organisation.
(Daily Telegraph 3.10.45).

XLVI

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION

(Research Office)

SECRET

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

No. 46

November 1945.

MATERIAL CONCERNING Dr. KARL HAUSHOFER

"Professor; Generalmajor (rtd.); President of Society for Geopolitics; Publisher of periodical Die Geopolitik."

"b. 1876, München; educated at cadet school, university and War Academy; served in Bavarian Army (artillery); for some time attached to Japanese Army; travelled in India, China Russia, Korea and Europe; 1914-18 war service; at some time in command of a division; since 1919 lecturer at München university; is the most important surviving exponent of German Empire expansionism and handed down this tradition to Nazi Party; Rudolf Hess, his favourite disciple, introduced Hitler to him in 1921; since then Haushofer's influence on Party politics has been considerable; Haushofer has never assumed official offices in the Party, probably because of the partly Jewish descent of his wife. LD July 1943."

("Who's Who in Germany and Austria, Part II")

SUMMARY OF NOTES COMPILED BY Dr. LENKIN

(Author of "Axis Rule in Occupied Europe")

The first section of these notes deals with the activities of Haushofer under five heads.

"General Karl Haushofer, the leading personality in the science of Geopolitics and the most versatile and skillful protagonist of National Socialism is a war criminal of a peculiar type and of a specially dangerous nature. Haushofer has acted behind the scenes most efficiently and has skillfully tried to camouflage his criminal activities under a scientific formalism, though actually carrying them on in research institutions, through "fifth columns", official and semi-official organizations in Germany, and by his services as an intimate advisor to Hitler, Hess and other policy-making Nazi leaders. Since he seldom appeared in public, few non-German people are familiar with his name and activities. Thus, in public opinion, his name was not associated with the commission of war crimes.

I

"As a teacher and personal friend of Hess and as advisor to both Hitler and Hess, Haushofer induced Hitler to accept his geopolitical programme and to integrate it into "Mein Kampf", as well as into public statements of policy by the Führer and Chancellor; this programme based on a distortion of geographical notions, on intellectual falsification of the relationships between population and space, and on incitement to unlawful territorial expansion and illegal war and annexations was

carried out literally in the years 1938 to 1945. In particular, Haushofer prepared a plan for a global illegal war, by working constantly for the conclusion of a tripartite pact between Germany, Italy and Japan; and to this end he provided military intelligence and strategic information, obtained through the working of his "Geopolitical Institute" and his agents in foreign countries.

II

"Haushofer has rationalized the doctrines of National Socialism as a world movement and has incited Nazi sympathizers in foreign countries to overthrow, by acts of violence, governments for the purpose of assuring foreign assistance to German plans of world domination and aggression.

III

"As president of the organization of Germans living abroad (Volksbund für das Auslandsdeutschtum), as plenipotentiary of Hess in the Institute of Foreign Affairs (Deutsches Auslandinstitut, D.A.I.), and as president of the Academy for Scientific Research and Fostering of Germanism (Akademie für Wissenschaftliche Erforschung und zur Pflege des Deutschtums) and acting in conspiracy with the German Government and the Nazi leaders, he trained fifth columnists and instructed Germans living in foreign countries for the purpose of disrupting the political, social, and economic structures of these countries, and of weakening them preliminary to their military, political or economic conquest by Germany.

IV

"As head of the "Ethnical German Council" (Volksdeutscher Rat), he conspired with the German Government and Nazi leaders in that he organized and prepared "Racial" Germans (Volksdeutsche) abroad to assume the role of advisors and participants in the administration and spoliation of the countries predestined for military occupation, in which they were later organized in special registers (Deutsche Volksliste) forming the nucleus of space-conquering Germanism.

V

"As a leading member of the German Academy of Law (Akademie für Deutsches Recht) which was called upon by the German Government to draft laws, orders, and decrees, he contributed to the commission of war crimes by means of criminal legislation for the occupied countries, consisting mainly in planning procurement of space for German settlement by mass deportations of the local populations, by confiscating their properties and by their reallocation to German settlers."

I. In discussing the first of the above heads the writer shows how Haushofer's teaching distorted the relationship between territory and population in order to find arguments in favour of military conquest. He demanded "living space" for Germany's surplus population; at the same time he argued that the large areas to be settled by Germany must be formed into a block, which would keep on continually expanding over still larger areas. The whole doctrine was essentially extra-legal, for it pre-supposed a natural "right" of Germany to more space. To fulfil these aims Haushofer looked for allies: Italy and Japan, especially the latter. "The matter", writes Dr. Lenkin, "of Germany's relations to Japan is a significant example of Haushofer's guidance of Hitler." The

arrangement of the Geopolitical-Historical Atlas, 1934, (reproduced in an Appendix) emphasizes the importance and isolation of Pearl Harbour, and the lines shown in the map converging on that port seem almost to invite Japanese attack, though they are cloaked in such disguises as "Directives of Japanese immigration".

Haushofer's influence in these matters was exercised directly on Hitler, and through Hess it is apparent in many passages of "Mein Kampf", where certain phrases constantly used by Haushofer and his followers have been incorporated in the text. Hitler's appreciation of Haushofer's guidance is shown by the fact that though the latter's wife was partly Jewish, she and her two sons were officially declared Aryans.

II. The discussion of the second of the above heads is based on Haushofer's booklet: "The National Socialist Idea in the World", one of a series of monographs published in 1933 by the Deutsche Akademie with the approval and personal participation of Hess, so that it is practically semi-official. Haushofer emphasizes the world-wide character of National Socialism, in contrast to Mussolini's theory that Fascism was not an "export article". He maintains that the geopolitical and ideological conditions in Japan and Italy are similar to those which gave rise to National Socialism in Germany. At the same time he examines the possibility of spreading National Socialism in countries where the conditions are different and unfavourable. In the case of India he recommends the promotion of a will for racial and religious unity and independence; in the case of America, Australia and South Africa he advocates the encouragement of social cleavages within their populations (he claims indeed, that the "German spark" has already ignited South Africa) and declares that the stupidity of Germany's adversaries will provide fuel for a national conflagration in those countries and that no amount of parliamentary White Papers will be able to arrest the National Socialist movement. "Here," says Dr. Lemkin, "is a clear incitement to the spreading of National Socialism, in disregard of the will of other nations, as expressed by their parliaments."

III. Under the third of the above heads the writer shows how Haushofer organised subversive activities through the following agencies:

a) The Volksbund für das Deutschtum im Ausland (VDA) (League for Germanism in Foreign Countries), which, since 1933, has been an entirely Nazi organisation. The task of the VDA was defined by its chairman, as the spreading of Germanism throughout the world; and the final goal to which he looked forward was the "truly entire German nation, which extends beyond and is superior to the state". The Fifth Column character of this league is revealed by the answer given in a pamphlet: "Why a strong VDA?". Because this outwardly independent organisation can carry out tasks when the Government or Party, for political reasons, have to remain behind the scenes.

b) The Deutsche Ausland Institut (DAI) (Institute for Germanism Abroad), disguised as a scientific research institute, was actually one of the most active propaganda and Fifth Column agencies. Foreign agents were trained for their subversive activities in special camps; files were kept concerning all Germans living abroad, particularly as to their reliability as Nazis; information was collected and contact was maintained with other countries by means of official and private correspondence. Moreover, there was a complete link-up between the DAI and the other Nazi organisations and also with the Foreign Office, for which, as Dr. Lemkin says, the DAI under Haushofer's leadership did scientific propaganda and espionage spade-work.

c) Die Deutsche Akademie zur Wissenschaftlichen Erforschung und Pflege des Deutschtums (German Academy for Scientific Research and Promotion of Germanism) was to a great extent linked up with the above-mentioned organisations. Its main task was propaganda and the expansion of Germanism. It was particularly active in East and South East Europe and especially in Austria, where Gauleiter Dr. Rainer stated at a meeting in 1943 that a close association existed between the local cultural organisations and the German Academy.

IV. The fourth of the above heads is concerned with Haushofer's activities as leader of the "Ethnical German Council". This secret organisation which was established by a confidential decree in October 1933, carried out the undercover work connected with the "Racial Germans" (Volksdeutsche), i.e. citizens of foreign countries who were of German extraction. These people were organised and prepared to take part in the administration and spoliation of their countries during the German occupation; their ranks provided the volunteers for the auxiliary police, "stool pigeons", "quislings" as well as administrative and judicial officials.

V. In discussing the fifth and last of the heads of his accusations, Dr. Lemkin shows the important part which Haushofer played as a leading member of the Academy for German Law, a body set up under the Nazi régime "to propose, examine, draw up and elaborate laws". Haushofer used his position in this Academy to apply his geopolitical theories to legislation concerning the conquered countries. The writer shows, for instance, how the wording of the decree of March 16th 1939, establishing the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia, repeats Haushofer's claim that these countries had always belonged to the living space of Germany. Again, Haushofer's conception of "earth and soil" as the foundation of the German nation and his doctrine of national expansion found expression in the decrees concerning Poland, the Baltic States, Lorraine and many other territories. All these decrees emphasize the importance of strengthening "Germanism" and the predominant part to be played in the policy of expansion by the racial German population. In practice this meant that the native population of some of the conquered areas had to be forcibly removed and their property confiscated in order to provide living space for German settlers.

The responsibility for these criminal orders and decrees rests upon Haushofer, because, as Dr. Lemkin observes, it was he who had laid down the criminal policies of which they were merely an administrative expression.

ANNEXE I.

FD 4734/45

This report has been translated by the Foreign Document Unit of the Foreign Office German Economic Department and is being distributed on behalf of F.I.A.T. (Economic Branch).

In this way the battle of the "scorched earth" began. In view of the imminent defeat, there was a sufficient number of fanatics in Germany ready to carry out this project. With the right experts as guides it would have been possible, even with the insignificant means available, to carry out total destruction.

The following records together with the data set down from memory reconstruct the course of the individual events which were to have lead to the destruction of the essentials of German life.

The following facts may be given for still better understanding:

There was a basic difference between the spheres of authority in Germany and in the occupied countries where operative events were concerned.

In the occupied countries an "Operationsgebiet" (operative zone) was established reaching far behind the frontline.

Within this zone the administrative offices (Militaerbefehlshaber etc. (Military Commandants etc)) exercised no authority or were subordinated to the military command of the operational forces and no longer bound by the general directives of their central offices.

The pioneer and technical troops were charged with the destruction of objects of material value. Occasionally available officials were included in the execution of these duties. I was therefore only able to suggest and not to order the preservation of industrial plants in occupied territories.

In Germany (inclusive of the districts administratively incorporated in the Reich during the war) Hitler changed the plan and intention to entrust the Generalkommandos der Wehrmacht (General Commands of the Armed Forces) with the executive in case of enemy actions after July 20th. By his order the Gauleiter as Reichsverteidigungskommissare (Commissioners for the Defence of the Reich) became fully responsible in the rearward battle zone even as concerns operative actions. Exclusive authority was conceded to the fighting troops in a small battle zone only (about 8 - 15 Km. deep).

(Regarding destruction and paralysation see note 1).

Explanation of names and terms to the memorandum "scorched earth" of 21st September, 1945.

to point 3) "Fuehrerprotokolle" After conferences with A. H. the various decisions were set down in writing for distribution to the authorities concerned.

to point 6) "Roehling" - President of the Reichsvereinigung Eisen (Reich Union Iron)

"Stuckardt" - Staatssekretaer Im Innenministerium (Secretary of State in the Home Office)

"Riecke" - Secretary of State in the Ernahrungsministerium (Ministry of Food)

to point 7) "Ruestungskommissionsvorsitzender" (President of the Armament Commission)
Chief of all the Branch Offices of the Mittelinstanz (Intermediate Authority) of the Speer Ministry.

to point 8) "Keitel" - Chief of the Oberkommando der Wehrmacht (Supreme Command of the Armed Forces)

/ "Borman"

- "Bormann" - Head of the Parteikanzlei (Party Chancellery) and Secretary to the Fuehrer.
- "Guderian" - Chief of the Army General Staff.
- "Rundstedt" - Oberbefehlshaber im Westen.
 Model (Supreme Commander in the West)
 Supreme Commander of an Army Group in the West.
- "Juettner" - Permanent Deputy of Himmler as Supreme Commander of the Heimaatwehr (Army in the Interior) (formerly Ersatzwehr) (Replacement Army) and Chief of Army Equipment.
- "Funk" - Reichswirtschaftsminister (Minister of Economics)
- to point 14) "Ruestungsinspektoren" (Armament Inspectors) Departments of the intermediate authority of the Speer Ministry.
- to point 15) "Reichslastverteiler" (Reich Load Distributor) (power) - distributed the quantities of power available to the various consumers.
 Bezirkslastverteiler (District Load Distributor) provincial offices.
- to point 17) "Schieber" - Head of the Ruestungslieferungsamt (Armaments Delivery Office) of the Speer Ministry and for Italy.
- "V. Poser" - Liaison Officer of the Army General Staff to the Speer Ministry.
- to point 21) "Schindler" - General, Commissioner of the Speer Ministry to the Supreme Command of the Western Districts.
- to point 22) "Backenkoechler" - Chief of the Marineruestung (Naval Armament) of the Supreme Command of the Navy.
- to point 23) "Verkehrsstab" (Transport Staff) - Entrusting of Speer with transport tasks (allocation of the transport volumes, reparation of the Reichsbahn installations etc. - Establishing of the "Verkehrsstab" under Speer's direction.
- to point 30) Weisungsbefugte Vertreter (responsible Deputies) of the Minister - "Ruestungsbevollmaechtigte" (Armament Commissioners)
- to point 34) "Frank" Staatsminister (Minister of State) in the Protectorate.
- to point 35) "Ruhrstab" - Office coordinating the tasks of the Speer Ministry for the Ruhr in the Ruhr area.
- to point 41) "Planungsamt" - In the Speer Ministry under the direction of Herr Kehrl.
- to point 46) "Lage" Military discussion of the situation with A.H.
- to point 47) "Geilenberg". Until May 1944 responsible for the production of munitions then entrusted with the repair of chemical plants (General Commissioner for "Sofortmassnahmen" (Immediate measures))

/ to point 75

- to point 75) "Jodl" Chief of the Wehrmachtfuehrungsstab.
- to point 81) "Seyss-Inquart" - Reichkommissar (Reich Commissioner) for the occupied Netherlands.
- to point 87) "Buhle" General, Chief of the Heeresstab (Army Staff) in the O.K.W. (Supreme Command of the Armed Forces) and finally Chief of the Wehrmachtruestung (Wehrmacht Equipment)
"Koller" General, Chief of the General Staff of the Air Force.
- to point 88) "Ganzenmueller" - Secretary of State of the Reichsverkehrsministerium (Ministry of Transport).

1. About August 1944

I verbally advised the head of the Organisation Todt on the Balkans, Vogl, to save the mine installations for chromium, molybdenum and other metal alloys, made accessible by the OT during the war from destruction as far as possible. It would be inexcusable to destroy these installations, the building of which has caused so much labour. Furthermore, the enemy's stocks of these metals were so great that possession of these mines could have brought him no great advantage for the further continuation of the war.

2. About August 1944

My point of view, that an extensive destruction of industrial installations in France would be undesirable was passed on to the authorities in Paris. As far as I know the industrial installations in France were indeed saved. With the further advance of the enemy into the Reich, measures had to be taken in the districts of German sovereignty. On my report A.H. decided immediately according to my suggestions:

3. 18-20th August 1944 (from the Fuehrerprotokollen)

Part 8: "The Fuehrer agrees to the measures suggested by us of paralysing instead of destroying industrial and power installations temporarily taken by the enemy". My argument, that the loss of plants would be only "temporary" was necessary to repute those who believed that in case of a final loss total destruction would be necessary. Variations of this argument will repeatedly appear in the course of this document. Because not only in official propaganda but also in the conferences with his military and political staff A.H. repeatedly expressed his conviction that the lost areas would be regained. But what is the point of "reconquest", when all is previously destroyed! Therefore every intention of destruction could be countered with his own arguments. After the success of the air attacks on German fuel production and the military events a re-occupation appeared impossible to me as my memorandum of 30.8.1944 on fuel production reveals.

4. 30th August 1944 (memorandum to A.H.) for the attention of: Keitel, General Staff of the Army, Model, Milch, Himmler, Backe, Dr. Goebbels for information.

".... At the same time the loss of carburettor and Diesel fuel has reached such an extent, that even the most energetic economic measures cannot avert incisive showing down of the mobility of the troops at the front. The basis for the mobility for the troops at the front is becoming so small that planned operations will no longer be possible in October.

/ On

On account of the fuel situation it is no longer possible to have offensive successes as the amounts of fuel necessary for supplies in successful offensive is no longer available. Owing to the break-down of command in the Western districts it became necessary to instruct my administrative offices available in the remaining Western districts too. Otherwise the danger arose that destructions would be carried out owing to lack of orders of the Oberbefehlshaber West.

5. 5th September 1944 (Letter to Gauleiter Simon, Chief of the Civil Administration of Luxemburg and Gauleiter of the District Moselland).

"Your consideration regarding the minette-iron ore mining and the steel industry of Luxemburg are in accordance with the directives I gave to my collaborators some days ago.

In any case care must be taken that the minette, the Luxemburg area and also the other industrial districts, as far as they should be captured by the enemy, will only be paralysed i.e. that work will be stopped for some months by taking away and later returning any mainly electrical, installations without destroying the installations themselves.

We must count upon the fact that we will regain the minette because taking a long view it is indispensable for us for the continuation of the war.

The experiences in Russia have shown that industrial works repeatedly changed hands without any destruction being carried out by the one or the other side and that the respective "owner" used the plants. The Reichsvereinigung (Reich Union) Iron and Coal will receive instructions accordingly"

Signed: SPEER.

Copies for information were sent to: Gauleiter Grohe, Gau Cologne - Aachen, Gauleiter Buerckel, Gau Saarpfalz, Dr. Rohland, Deputy President of Reich Union Iron; - with the addition: "Please give the same instructions for the Saar, Meurthe et Moselle etc." Pleiger (President of the Reich Union Coal) with the addition: "Please give the same instructions for the threatened coal mining districts of Belgium, Holland and of the Saar. The pump installation for the coal pits must remain in order".

6. On 11th September 1944

A conference takes place with Kelchner (President of the Ruestungskommission Saarpfalz) and Roehling. I establish again that under no circumstances even in the case of further advances by the enemy must destructions be carried out in the works of the Saar or of the remaining French districts.

At the same time the maintenance of the power stations for pumping service in the mines will be ensured and on this occasion declared that, current may be delivered even through the front, if it is necessary for the maintenance of the pumping service in the mines of the minette districts already in the hands of the enemy, which according to Roehling was carried out.

Back from my visit to the Western frontline (from 10 to 14.9.1944) I find in Berlin directives to the Reich Ministry for carrying out total destruction. The article of Suendermann regarding "scorched earth" in the "Voelkischer Beobachter" gives this tendency publicity. Staatssekretaer Stuckardt, Riecke and the Chief of my Central Office, Liebel, are very anxious about the new directives which have to be passed on to the threatened districts with regard to administration, agriculture and industry. Thereby the course I had taken of saving the industrial installations, was abolished.

/ In

In a conversation with Liebel I establish, that it is impossible for me to answer for the destruction of works and supply installations (water, gas and electricity). I immediately sent a teleprint on the same day to the Gauleiter of the Western district in which I order again only paralysation knowing it to be in opposition to the new course of action.

7. 14th September, 1944 (to Hoffmann, Schlessmann, Florian (Gauleiter Rhine-Ruhr), for information to the Gauleiter Buerckel (Saar-Pfalz), Wagner (Baden), Simon (Moseldistrict) Grohe (Cologne-Aachen) and to my Ruestungskommissionvorsitzer (Presidents of Armament Commissions) of the same districts, regarding the paralysation of works):

"The present situation makes it necessary to arrange individual measures for the eventual paralysation of works of the Rhenish-Westphalian industrial district. For the industrial district as for the South Western districts, the order holds good that essentially paralysing only is allowed. i.e. that work will be temporarily stopped by removing and later returning any, mainly electrical, installations without destroying the plants themselves. As it is not likely, owing to the concentration in these districts, that the parts essential for paralysing can be removed and dispatched from all works at the same time, it has to be arranged that the installations of the direct armament industry i.e. Geschosspressen (shell presses) gun workshops etc. are removed first. The actual raw material firms, the mining and iron producing industry, will come into consideration for these measures only in the second or third place.

I have installed the presidents of the Armaments Commissions as Commissioners for paralysation and evacuation and ask you to remain in touch with these commissioners on all questions on these matters." I try to obtain a new decision from A.H. favouring my line in order to legitimise subsequently these orders which are in opposition to the "scorched earth". As support I choose a (to me) new form of reporting, the "travel reports" and

8. on 15th September, 1944, as a result of my travels to the Western districts from 10 - 14th September 1944, I establish to A.H. (for attention of: Keitel, Bormann, Guderian, Rundstedt, Model, Himmler, Juettner, Funk, Hengl, General Staff of the Army), that the industry near the front line is of particular importance to the troops:

"The coking plants in the Saar are currently producing Benzol which is distributed to the various divisions to stretch fuel supply ..."

"It is a mistake if industrial areas are put out of commission too soon. It has been proved, that a relatively good production is still possible just behind the front line because the enemy concentrates his air attacks on the big shunting stations far behind the front (mainly on the right of the Rhine)"

Some examples are given which are intended to clarify the importance of these works behind the front line (coking plants of Aachen, power stations at Aachen, infantry munitions factory at Aachen)

At the same time it is established that:

"the lack of heavy arms for the troops on the Western Front is "catastrophic" and owing to the numerous battles of encirclement and withdrawals as completely intolerable, that a break-through is possible at nearly every point".

By strict orders of the Gauleiters it has been announced to the population of the threatened districts, that every inhabitant has to evacuate in face of an enemy advance and that persons remaining behind will be treated and punished as traitors.

I try to draw the attention to the consequences:

"You can see around Aachen the pitiable troops of evacuees on the tramp with small children and old men as in France (1940).

In Aachen itself there were still numerous people, who are ordered to take to the road.

If the evacuations take on greater proportions these apparitions will certainly increase. This demands caution in ordering evacuation.

Moreover, you did not see any political leader in this flow of evacuees, who have cared for the concentration, order and welfare of these masses".

Finally it is established:

"It seems necessary that the Fuehrer goes to the Western districts to be convinced of the facts there The people are waiting for the Fuehrer to come in person to the Western districts" (which did not however come about)

As my decrees of 14th September corresponded in no way with the "scorched earth" and the Gauleiter would hardly be satisfied with their tendency in the long run, an attempt to clarify the matter with A.H. is necessary. Therefore I send with the travel report a teleprint to Bormann, in which the confident attitude of A.H. is taken for granted. He has the choice: either to consider the districts as finally lost and therefore to reserve his optimism regarding the further military development or to agree with my opinion of saving the works.

9.) 15th September 1944 (Teleprint-letter to Bormann)

"I deem it necessary to issue, in my name, the following teleprint-letter, aiming at creating uniformity of views on industrial dispersal (Verlagerung) or paralysing actions respectively in the West-Gaus. I beg you to forward it, with a brief explanation to the Gauleiters:

To the Gauleiters Wagner, Buerckel, Simon, Grohé, Florian, Schlesemann, Hoffmann, Moyer (all Gauleiters in the West).

"The Fuehrer has laid down that he can effect within a short time the recovery of the territories at present lost.

As for the continuation of the war the Western Territories are of great importance for armaments and war-production all measures to be taken in connection with evacuation must be executed in such a way as to enable the industry of these territories to resume work in full measure after a short time. Far reaching acts of destruction are therefore to be prevented. As to details I have already conveyed to you through the chairmen of the Ruestungskommission, the directives which will be in force, and I recapitulate them briefly below:

1) In the districts endangered the stocks of raw-materials and semi-finished goods are to be reduced to the smallest amount necessary for keeping production going.

The products are to be sent away immediately from these territories as soon as they are finished.

2) I shall give permission for the evacuation of factories only in cases where their production amounts to more than 50% of the entire German output. (Translator's note: Presumably of one particular product) All the other factories must maintain production in the same place and premises until the last moment - because it is impossible to disperse these productions in their entirety to the Reich. It is more advantageous for a factory to continue armament-production for another four weeks in its old place, instead of being sent wandering about and - because of the shortage of factory-space in the remaining districts of the Reich - waiting for months to start production again. And in spite of this limitation the extent of the evacuation is so great that the existing transport facilities are hardly sufficient.

3) It is therefore to be ensured that these factories are supplied with the necessary power, gas and water for as long as possible.

4) The premature abandon or destruction of power-stations will, in addition, be to the detriment of the troops. It is to be borne in mind that the communication - network of the postal service even far behind the front depends upon the power-station of a town, so that the military communication-service would become in part impossible when the power station ceases to function.

5) The industrial plants will be rendered useless for a length period by "paralysing" the factories only at the last minute. In general, a factory is to be paralysed by dismantling and removing essential electrical aggregates which are to be accurately labelled and sent away.

/Destruction

9.) 15th September 1944 (Teleprint-letter to Bormann)

"I deem it necessary to issue, in my name, the following teleprint-letter, aiming at creating uniformity of views on industrial dispersal (Verlagerung) or paralysing actions respectively in the West-Gaus. I beg you to forward it, with a brief explanation to the Gauleiters:

To the Gauleiters Wagner, Buerckel, Simon, Grohè, Florian, Schlesmann, Hoffmann, Moyer (all Gauleiters in the West).

"The Fuehrer has laid down that he can effect within a short time the recovery of the territories at present lost.

As for the continuation of the war the Western Territories are of great importance for armaments and war-production all measures to be taken in connection with evacuation must be executed in such a way as to enable the industry of these territories to resume work in full measure after a short time. Far reaching acts of destruction are therefore to be prevented. As to details I have already conveyed to you through the chairman of the Ruestungskommission, the directives which will be in force, and I recapitulate them briefly below:

1) In the districts endangered the stocks of raw-materials and semi-finished goods are to be reduced to the smallest amount necessary for keeping production going.

The products are to be sent away immediately from these territories as soon as they are finished.

2) I shall give permission for the evacuation of factories only in cases where their production amounts to more than 50% of the entire German output. (Translator's note: Presumably of one particular product) All the other factories must maintain production in the same place and premises until the last moment - because it is impossible to disperse these productions in their entirety to the Reich. It is more advantageous for a factory to continue armament-production for another four weeks in its old place, instead of being sent wandering about and - because of the shortage of factory-space in the remaining districts of the Reich - waiting for months to start production again. And in spite of this limitation the extent of the evacuation is so great that the existing transport facilities are hardly sufficient.

3) It is therefore to be ensured that these factories are supplied with the necessary power, gas and water for as long as possible.

4) The premature abandon or destruction of power-stations will, in addition, be to the detriment of the troops. It is to be borne in mind that the communication - network of the postal service even far behind the front depends upon the power-station of a town, so that the military communication-service would become in part impossible when the power station ceases to function.

5) The industrial plants will be rendered useless for a length period by "paralysing" the factories only at the last minute. In general, a factory is to be paralysed by dismantling and removing essential electrical aggregates which are to be accurately labelled and sent away.

/Destruction

9.) 15th September 1944 (Teleprint-letter to Bormann)

"I deem it necessary to issue, in my name, the following teleprint-letter, aiming at creating uniformity of views on industrial dispersal (Verlagerung) or paralysing actions respectively in the West-Gaus. I beg you to forward it, with a brief explanation to the Gauleiters:

To the Gauleiters Wagner, Buerckel, Simon, Grohé, Florian, Schlesemann, Hoffmann, Moyer (all Gauleiters in the West).

"The Fuehrer has laid down that he can effect within a short time the recovery of the territories at present lost.

As for the continuation of the war the Western Territories are of great importance for armaments and war-production all measures to be taken in connection with evacuation must be executed in such a way as to enable the industry of these territories to resume work in full measure after a short time. Far reaching acts of destruction are therefore to be prevented. As to details I have already conveyed to you through the chairmen of the Ruestungskommission, the directives which will be in force, and I recapitulate them briefly below:

1) In the districts endangered the stocks of raw-materials and semi-finished goods are to be reduced to the smallest amount necessary for keeping production going.

The products are to be sent away immediately from these territories as soon as they are finished.

2) I shall give permission for the evacuation of factories only in cases where their production amounts to more than 50% of the entire German output. (Translator's note: Presumably of one particular product) All the other factories must maintain production in the same place and premises until the last moment - because it is impossible to disperse these productions in their entirety to the Reich. It is more advantageous for a factory to continue armament-production for another four weeks in its old place, instead of being sent wandering about and - because of the shortage of factory-space in the remaining districts of the Reich - waiting for months to start production again. And in spite of this limitation the extent of the evacuation is so great that the existing transport facilities are hardly sufficient.

3) It is therefore to be ensured that these factories are supplied with the necessary power, gas and water for as long as possible.

4) The premature abandon or destruction of power-stations will, in addition, be to the detriment of the troops. It is to be borne in mind that the communication - network of the postal service even far behind the front depends upon the power-station of a town, so that the military communication-service would become in part impossible when the power station ceases to function.

5) The industrial plants will be rendered useless for a length period by "paralysing" the factories only at the last minute. In general, a factory is to be paralysed by dismantling and removing essential electrical aggregates which are to be accurately labelled and sent away.

/Destruction

Destruction of the electrical equipment is less sensible, because the replacement of these electrical aggregates after re-occupation will only be possible under the greatest difficulties as the German electrical industry has suffered heavily from air-attacks.

6) In the mining-districts the electric power-works must be kept in working order to ensure that the drainage-system in the mine shafts functions normally. Should the pumps fail and the mines, be inundated, it would take months until work could be resumed in the pits again.

7) In planning the evacuation of mining districts care must be taken that these vital power-works can remain staffed and that the remaining factories which are not to be evacuated, should be kept working as long as possible.

(signed) Speer.

I beg you to ask the Fuehrer and make sure whether the premises of this letter - namely that these territories will soon again be in our possession again are right (!)

The loss, for instance, of the territory left of the Rhine, is, in the long run, hardly supportable for the armaments and war production. I think it therefore right that the three principles set out in this letter, namely that

- 1) production should be kept going until the last moment.
- 2) factories should only be "paralysed"
- 3) evacuation should be carried out only in important cases will be confirmed by the Fuehrer.

Please will you telephone me after receiving this teleprint." The teleprint-letter is approved. Only the wording of the first sentence is changed by A.H.:

"The recovery of part of the territories which have been lost for the time being in the West is by no means out of the question."

My letter is forwarded to the Gauleiters in official form.

10.) 16th September 1944 (Teleprint. from Bormann)

"Enclosed I send you a copy of the letter, which I have written and sent together with your letter Rob. Wagner, Buerckel, Simon, Dr. Meyer, Hoffmann, Grohe, Deputy-Gauleiter Schlessmann. Gauleiter R. ber Wagner etc. On the Fuehrer's order I am forwarding to you Reichsminister Speer's letter; to which strict attention is to be paid under all circumstances signed N.Bormann."

With that the policy of "scorched earth" is dropped in my sphere. A surprising success. So long as A.H.'s and, in the last resort, also the Gauleiter's confidence holds that the war might take a favourable turn, so long can this decision be adhered to.

/The Minister

The Minister of Food (Ernaehrungsminister), in his decree of 18-Sept. 1944, joins this decision; for if production is to be kept up until the last moment, no total evacuation can be carried out and in this case food-supplies must be ensured as well.

11) 18th September 1944.

(Decree of the Reichs-Food-Ministry to the Landesernaehrungsamter (Provincial Food-Offices) ABT. A (Dept. A) in Bonn, Koblenz, Kaiserslautern, Karlsruhe, Muenster, Frankfurt/M, for information to the Reichsverteidigungskommissare (Commissioners for Reich-Defence) in Muenster, Bochum, Essen, Duesseldorf, Koeln, Koblenz, Saarbruecken, Karlsruhe, Frankfurt/M.

"... The Reichsminister fuer Ruestung und Kriegsproduktion (The Reich-Minister of Armaments and War-Production) has, by decree of 16.9.1944, ordered that far-reaching destruction of industry is to be desisted from and that production should be maintained as long as possible in the same place and premises. Evacuation will accordingly take place only to a limited extent. - - Agricultural and food-supply-concerns are consequently, to be paralysed only in the interests of safeguarding the food supplies of the working population. Machinery and equipment are not to be destroyed. Factories essential for food-supplies, are to be kept running. In so far as there is no need to preserve them, they are to be paralysed. - Stocks for the current demands are to remain untouched. If necessary the stores are to be guarded, in order to avoid looting. signed i.V.Riecke".

Immediately after obtaining A.H.'s consent I asked Bormann on the

12) 16th September 1944 to communicate the decree to the other frontier-Gaus.

13) 16th September 1944 (teleprint letter to Bormann).

"I consider it necessary that the circular letter addressed to the Gauleiters of the West-Gaus, relating to paralysing of factories, which the Fuehrer has approved after you had submitted it, should also be forwarded, with an appropriate note from yours, to the following Gauleiters.

For the Eastern Gaus, to Gauleiter

"

"

"

"

"

Koch

Forster

Greiser

Bracht

Hanke

Schwede-Coburg
(see Note 1)

For the Souther front to

Oberster Kommissar
(Supreme Commissioner
"

Hofer

Rainer

(see Note 2)

/In the case

In the case of operations in Holland:
to Gauleiter

Wegener

and in the case of a landing in Jutland
to Gauleiter

Lohse
Kaufmann
Telschow
(see Note 3)"

Note 1: All Gauleiters in the East as far as the Oder-line.

Note 2: Responsible for South-Tirol and Istria.

Note 3: Gauleiter of the Nordseekueste
(North-Sea-Coast)

Bormann issues the letters required.

In this way the industrial destruction in a large portion of Germany is avoided, as long as the Gauleiters are still convinced that the territories are not definitely lost. Further relaxation of the directives on paralysing.

- 14) 19th September 1944: (letter to the directors of the Hauptausschuesse, Hauptringe und Produktionsausschuesse, (Main-Committees, Main Rings and Production-Committees) to the Reich-Minister of the Interior, to the Deputy of the Generalbevollmaechtigtter fuer die Verwaltung Beim Ob. West (Commissioner General for the Administration of the C-in-C. West) Reichs-Minister of Economy, Parteikanzlei (Nazi Party), to the Gauleiter Koch, Forster, Greiser Bracht, Hanke, Schwede-Coburg, Wegener, Lohse, Kaufmann, Telschow, Obersten Kommissar (Supreme Commissioner) Hofer (Alpenvorland) and Rainer (Adriatic Coast) Distribution A2.) "Following Teleprint-letter to the representatives of the Ruestungskommissionen (Armaments-Commissions) V-b, VI-a, VI-b, X, XII-b, to the Ruestungsinspektionen (Armament-Inspections) V-b, VI, XII-b, and to the Gauleiters of the Western Territories, is herewith brought to your notice. signed Dr. Fraenk.

The paralysing measures effected up to now have in various very important individual cases have been carried out prematurely.

I wish to point out again that the principle, to produce until the last moment, must be adhered to unconditionally. As I have already done in these individual cases I shall have to call to account those who, from nervousness carry out paralysing actions prematurely, for to take precautions for paralysing actions in those areas which can be reached by enemy troops advancing at the speed of the modern mobile war means that far too large areas are being covered by precautionary paralysation measures and consequently cease production prematurely.

When, for instance, the enemy advanced on Aachen, very important factories at a distance of 20 km from Aachen were closed on the Ruestungskommando's orders already days before the enemy had reached Aachen, and to-day, a fortnight, later, the enemy still stands near Aachen; the labour forces however are absorbed elsewhere and only with the greatest difficulty is it possible to bring these productions into commission again.

/In future

In future I shall rather blame a man for carrying out paralysing operations rashly and prematurely, than for giving orders too late so that the paralysing action cannot be carried out any more.

signed Speer".

With regard to power-plants (Energie-Anlagen) the orders are:

- 15). 22nd September 1944 (letters to the Vorsitz der Ruestungs-kommissionen (chairmen of the Armaments Commissions) V-b, VI-a, and VI-b, XII-a and XII-b and General Schindler, Gauleiter of the Gaus Weser-Ems, Westfalen-Nord, Essen, Duesseldorf, Koeln, Aachen, Moselland, Westmark, Baden and Elsass (Alsace) "Paralysing actions in Electric Power-Plants in endangered Territories.

Despite the principle that the Vorsitz der Ruestungs-kommission (chairman of the Armaments-Commission) can initiate (Ausloesen) the paralysing action should altogether be maintained, the singular situation of the electric power-supply justifies a special arrangement. In this connection I give the following directives:

Paralysing within the sphere of electric power works can only be started with the approval of the Reich-Power-Distributor (Reichslastverteiler). Orders for initiating the paralysing action must therefore be directed to the Bezirkslastverteiler (district-power-distributor) concerned, (in case orders are directed to the local power distributor, they are to be transmitted by him to the district-power-distributor) who - using all means at his disposal of communicating in the shortest time possible - will ask for the Reich-Power-Distributor's consent. Only after having been approved by the Reich-Power-Distributor may paralysing be carried out. In the case of imminent danger when it is not possible to contact the Reich-Power-Distributor for his approval, the district-power-distributors have been authorized by him to act on their own responsibility

In order to have no difficulties in the fighting zone either, (see prefatory note) the following has again, on my proposal, be laid down:

- 16). 21st October 1944 (Order by the C-in-C West, Oberquartiermeister (Chief Quartermaster) Qu 2. (Appended to QB.WEST/Q.Qu. 2205/44 secret).

"Directives for paralysing power-supply plants (Electric power, gas, water) within the sphere of competence (Befehlsbereich) of the C-in-C West.

Prefatory note: With the approval of the Generalinspektor (Inspector General) for water and energy and the Reich-Power-distributor, the following directives for paralysing power-supply plants within German territory in case of a direct threat of enemy-occupation will come into force - while contradicting orders are cancelled. In the territory of the Reichskommissariat Holland the measures in this connection are being decided by the armies, advised by their respective Energie-Beauftragte (Commissioner for Power-Supply) in co-operation with the Generalkommissar (Commissioner General)

/A. Basic principles.

A. Basic principles.

1.) Paralyzing actions are exclusively carried out in electric-power-and gas-supply plants. Fundamentally water supply installations are not to be paralyzed.

2.) According to the orders of Minister Speer, plants or parts of them are fundamentally not to be destroyed. Should however in one case or another military operations necessitate destruction, the army- or combat-commander concerned is to take a decision after hearing the advice of the Commissioner for Power-Supply. (Energiebeauftragter) the destruction will be executed by the troops.

3.) Before a full-scale or partial paralyzing action is started, the interests of the troops, of the population, of the armaments industry so far as it is perhaps still working, and of the long-distance power-transmission must be assured.

4.) Paralyzing actions should not be carried out prematurely, in order to enable the industry which is dependent on the supplies to keep up work as long as possible. Minister Speer will rather blame a man for paralyzing prematurely than for giving the orders too late.

C. Extent and Execution of Paralyzing.

3.) Paralyzing is to be carried out only to insofar as the

- a) supplies of the remaining population
- b) water-supplies
- c) water-regulation for mines and draining establishment remain assured...."

During a trip to the front in Italy I am informed that the Wehrmacht's intends to destroy all industrial plants and Versorgungsanlagen (power-gas-and water-works).

- 17). 22nd October 1944 (at the H.Q. of the Army-Group Southwest, with KESSELRING, together with SCHIEBER and v. POSER).

When pointed out to me that the Army-Group South-West intends to destroy all industrial and public-utility works on their retreat I call the attention of KESSELRING, the C-in-C of the Army-Group to the fact that such methods were, in my opinion, not compatible with a cultured nation. It is sufficient to destroy the factories which are producing directly goods for armament. -- As fighting at that time took place near BOLOGNA, I declared that there, for instance, was only one important factory, making infantry-ammunition, and that all the other works should remain undestroyed. We could not for instance, destroy the textile-factories on which the workers depend for their living, or municipal electric-power-works which serve the population. -- KESSELRING promised to act accordingly in the future.

In the further course of the conversation it was suggested by me that the big Italian electric-power stations in the Alps also ought to remain undamaged. If it was a question of making them unusable for a short time, the reservoirs could be drained. It would take half a year until they would be full again.

The discussion had been initiated by my BEAUFTRAGTER (Representative or Commissioner) in Italy, GENERALMAJOR LEYERS, who was apprehensive of the reactions on the output of the workers in the Upper-Italian works, to which the planned destructions might lead".

- 18). about November 1944.

In KATTOWITZ conference with SPRINGORUM (REGIERUNGSPRAESIDENT Upper-Silesia OBERSCHLESSEN) and MALZACHER, Chairman of the RUESTUNGSKOMMISSION Upper-Silesia, in the presence of GAULEITER BRACHT.

It is again established that in the Upper-Silesian industrial district no destruction but only paralysing actions, are to take place, but that the mines should not be paralysed either. The electric power works should be paralysed only to such an extent that sufficient power is available for the needs of the population and the draining of the mines. The Saar district is again threatened by the Allies' attacks. KEITEL, on A.H.'s orders, demands the destruction of the SAAR, although the district is of no immediate war-economic value for the enemy.

- 19). 5th December 1944 (Letter from KEITEL).

"Contrary to your directives that mines should only be paralysed, I consider it necessary that complete destruction should be carried out in cases where it is possible that the enemy, after repairs, will build up a steel- - and with it a war-industry - within short time. - This is the case especially with the Saar-coal, which must be of very great value to the enemy, in connection with the MINETTE-Ores. Please will you therefore amend your directives in such a way that coal-mines in the Saar-district are under no circumstances allowed to fall undestroyed into the enemy's hands. This is also in accordance with the Fuehrer's will.

signed: KEITEL".

To /

To make sure that no destructions should occur through military measures, I give the ruling on the same day, again as a reaction and precaution against KEITEL's letter :

- 20). 6th December 1944 (Teleprint-letter to KELOHNER, Chairman of the RUESTUNGSKOMMISSION SAARPFALZ)

"All orders which state that coal-mines are not to be paralysed but to be destroyed, are invalid. The Fuehrer has again today laid down a rule that he only wishes the coal-mines to be paralysed in the meaning as fixed by us.

signed: SPEER".

(In doing so, I did not ask A.H.)

Following my representations to KEITEL, my teleprint-letter of the 6.12.44 to KELCHNER is subsequently authorized. (LEGITIMISERT).

- 21). 10th December 1944 (a letter by KEITEL to the OBERBEFEHLSHABER WEST (Supreme Commander West) for GENERAL SCHINDLER, REICHSFUEHRER SS, Supreme Commander (OBERBEFEHLSHABER) of the UPPER RHINE (OBERRHEIN), OBERKOMMANDO HEERESSGRUPPE G - copy to the REICHMINISTER FUER RUESTUNG UND KRIEGSPRODUKTION).

"The FUEHRER has decided that industrial plants (mines, foundries, supply services etc.,) in the region of the HEERESSGRUPPE G are not to be destroyed but are only to be paralysed.

Any contradictory orders are cancelled.-

signed: KEITEL".

(typewritten signature).

The Navy has been given the order from A.H. to carry out the destruction of shipyards and harbour installations and will start in the OSTSEE harbours.

- 22). 12th December, 1944 (letter to DOENITZ).

"Taking into consideration the necessity of restarting production within the shortest possible time in all plants located in regions which had been given up in the course of the military events in recent months and which may be re-occupied, and in order to utilise them again for the purpose of armament and war production, I have ordered that, no plant, on principle the installation of which cannot be sent back to the REICH area, be destroyed but that its production capacity be paralysed by means of removing and dismantling vital parts of the installation in order to prevent the enemy from making use of these plants in the case of temporary occupation by the enemy. The enormously strained situation in the building sector would make it practically impossible to re-start production in armament factories which had been lastingly damaged by the destruction of buildings production installations (FERTIGUNGSEINRICHTUNGEN), and I have to make provision already today however, by corresponding orders for a possible and necessary expansion of our armament capacity - when occasion arises.

As /

As opposed to this, I am informed that a signal of the MARINEKOMMANDO OST (Naval Command East) dated 17th Nov. 1944 - No. 209911/44 gkds., orders the KUESTENBEFEHLSHABER (Coastal Commanders) to make all the necessary preparations for the destruction of shipyards in the course of the evacuation scheme. All the arguments I put before you particularly apply to shipyards which on account of the specialised character and the size of their installations would in the case of their total destruction represent a loss for an indefinite period. I therefore beg of you, my dear GROSSADMIRAL DOENITZ, to examine the expediency of the MKO. OST. signal mentioned in the light of these arguments and to give appropriate orders to the Naval Commands should you, too, come to consider the paralysing of shipyards an adequate measure."

DOENITZ gives up his intention of destroying shipyards and introduces my proposed paralysation measures (conferences with ADMIRAL BACKENKOEHLER).

Both the failure of the ARDENNES offensive and the fact that Russian units were approaching Upper Silesia combine to increase pessimism and with it the inclination of the GAULEITERS, to destroy everything asserts itself again.

- 23). 19th January 1945: Teleprint message addressed to the REICHsverteidigungskommissare (REICH Defence Commissars) through the PARTEIKANZLEI (Party Chancellery).

".... Attention is drawn to the fact that the order of the FUEHRER to carry out paralysing measures but no demolitions still stands. The possibility of re-starting concerns within a short period after having recaptured a region must be guaranteed. The SAAR region, for instance, shows that paralysed plants which a short while ago were still at a distance of 50 km from the frontline are today again doing valuable work. Experiences in Hungary prove (Bauxite mines), that the Russians do not carry out demolition.

For the present, paralysing measures will generally be carried out as soon as tanks units put in an appearance. Our military countermeasures include, of course, the possibility of repulsing these formations. In such a case, destroyed factories are of no value to me.-

signed SPEER.

(typewritten signature).

- 24). 19th January, 1945.

Conference in BRESLAU with GENERAL LEYKAUF, RUESTUNGSINSPEKTEUR (Armaments Inspector), GAULEITER HANKE, various industrialists and Lt.Colonel (OBERSTLEUTNANT) von POSER, - reiteration that the regulations I issued are valid also for the regions of Upper and Lower Silesia and accordingly only paralysing measures and no demolition are to be carried out.

- 25). 20th January, 1945.

At the HEERESGRUPPE (Army group) SCHOEENER at OPPELN I again explained in the presence of Lt.Colonel von POSER that the important fuel plants of BLECHHAMMER and HEYDEBRECK are to be paralysed only but not destroyed.

The intended tour to Upper Silesia had to be cancelled on account of a car accident.

26). /

26). End of January, 1945:

In view of the hopeless war situation offer to RIECKE to give food unconditional priority over armament. I await the necessary demands from him before issuing the relevant decrees.

In this connection I lay down that long term measures safeguarding the coming harvest are to be included.

In spite of the catastrophic plight of the armaments industry the following regulations are issued:

- 1) Regulation of the REICHSLASTVERTEILER (REICH power distribution) ruling that even in case of emergency, food is to be given priority over armament in regard to electric power supply.
- 2) Regulation issued by the REICHSVEREINIGUNG KOHLE (REICH Coal Association) ruling that coal required for the food economy is to be given priority over coal for the armament industry.

The whole situation is characterised by the following remarks:

27). 30th January, 1945 (Memorandum addressed to A.H. on the armament situation February/March 1945):

"After the loss of Upper Silesia the German armament industry will no longer be in a position either to cover frontline requirements for ammunition, weapons and tanks or to replace frontlinelosses or to produce the supply necessary for the formation of new units.

The material superiority of the enemy can no longer be balanced out by the valour of our soldiers."

28). 15th February, 1945.

In a conference with General BUSSE, Supreme Commander of the Sixth Army at FRANKFORT on ODER, it was settled that the intended destruction of the large power station FINKENHEERD near Berlin must not take place.

29). On the 16th February, 1945.

The control of all transport (VERKEHRSVOLUMEN) is transferred to me by a decree by A.H. At the same time I am made responsible for the re-construction of all REICHSSBAHN installations.

This appointment corresponded to my wishes as I could, from this central position, put all my basic principles into practice.

I immediately laid down in the VERKEHRSSSTAB (Transport Staff), that food is to be transported before armaments which on account of the acute lack of transport space had to affect the output, of for example munitions.

RIECKE was called upon to state his demands for food transports which were all met as far as air attacks permitted.

Regulations of a general nature give food definite priority over armament and raw material.

30). 20th February, 1945.

HEIDELBERG - Introduction of RUESTUNGSBEVOLLMAECHTIGTER (Armament Commissioner) KELCHNER in the presence of the armament inspectors (RUESTUNGSINSPEKTEURE) and other representatives of intermediate organisations. (ORGANE DER MITTELINSTANZ). It is laid down, that food transports are to have priority over armament transports and that at the present time the safeguarding of the population's food supply is the foremost task.

31). 21st February 1945.

WIENER NEUSTADT - conference with GAULEITER Dr. JURY who reports on the intentions of the GAULEITERS to carry out the destruction of industrial and public utility installations in the neighbouring ALPEN-GAUE.

The GAULEITER'S consider the war to be lost if the Allies enter Austria, and in this event, the motivation of the paralysation decree untenable, ordered HUPFAUER, Head of the ZENTRALAMT (central office) to establish with all Austrian GAULEITER'S again by sending them a copy of the decree that my general ruling on paralysing measures still stands.

Appointed Armament Commissioner LEITNER. Instructed him to safeguard priority of food over armament and discussed with him the question of the intention of the GAULEITER'S to carry out destructions and ways and means of preventing them.

32). 22nd February, 1945.

Conference held in the Hungarian mineral oil region. Established and agree with Army Group South (HEERESGRUPPE) SUD (GENERAL LOBERST WOELER) that the oil wells will be paralysed and not destroyed.

33). 23rd February, 1945.

Conference with Dr. MALZACHER, who is responsible for all armament in Upper Silesia, and his staff, in the presence of von POSER and HUPFAUER. I decide that the decree already laid down in the late autumn of 1944 ruling that only paralysing measures and no demolitions were to be carried out will also remain in force even for the former Polish region. I agree to a promise to the Polish miners to preserve their mining plants up to the very last day provided that they maintain on their part a satisfactory output.

34). 24th February, 1945.

Appointment of MALZACHER as Armament Commissioner for the Protectorate (Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia, the remaining regions of Hungary and Upper Silesia). Instructed him that no destructions are to occur in this region. Established in a conference with FRANK that no destructions are to be carried out in the Bohemian-Moravian sector. FRANK fully agrees with this principle.

35). About the 27th February 1945:

RUHRSTAB (special commission for the RUHR region)
KETTIG - on the tasks of the transport staff. (VERKEHRSSTAB AUFGABEN).

In the presence of: VOEGLER, Armament Commissioner for the RUHR region; ROHLAND, his representative; GENERAL ERDMANN, armament inspector for the RUHR region; ADAM, EINSATZGRUPPEN-LEITER DER OT.-RUHR (Labour group control leader of the TODT Organisation for the RUHR region,) - I instruct LAMERTZ, president of the REICHSBAHN and commissioner of the REICHSBAHN for the RUHR region, to give priority to food transports over armament requirements in the RUHR region also and to see that stocks are built up if possible. The LANDESBauernführer (Farmer's county leader) is to receive every possible support from armament representatives. - This is the time for all armament representatives to express their gratitude to the workmen for the great service the latter have rendered during this war by giving priority to the safeguarding of food requirements of the RUHR region over armament in spite of all possible consequences.

36). About 27th February, 1945.

I pointed out to the GAULEITER'S of the RUHR region (FLORIAN, SCHLESSMANN, HOFFMANN, MEYER) that I will use all the power I hold in the VERKEHRsstab in order to secure priority for all questions of food over armament.

In order to counteract the divided opinions held on the subject of destroying plants I order that factories continue working up to the very last minute. Factories should sooner fall into the hands of the enemy, undestroyed rather than the production should be sacrificed.

This entails a sharp controversy mainly with GAULEITER FLORIAN who wants to carry out large scale demolitions in his GAU. I deny the right of the administration to dispose of the nation's substance (VOLKSSUBSTANZ).

"If the war is lost it is because of the government has failed not because the people have failed. Therefore the government has forfeited the right to decide on the fate of the people."

37). Round 28th February, 1945.

FELDMARSCHALL MODEL promised me to evacuate the LEVERKUSEN works which are used as an artillery depot (STUETZPUNKT) and to ask the enemy to spare the plant. As a pretext it will be pointed out that the stocks of chlorine might entail gas poisoning and therefore constitute a danger to the troops.

38). Approximately at the beginning of March 1945.

On demand the plan prepared for the destruction of bridges in BERLIN is laid before me. It is intended to blow up some 100 bridge constructions and most of these are already mined. Amongst others the following were present at the conference:

OBERBÜRGEMEISTER of BERLIN,
STEEG, BERLIN'S STADTKOMMANDANT,
(G.O. 1/c)
STADTBURGER LÄNGER,
PIONIEROFFIZIER DES STADTKOMMANDANTEN,
REICHSBAHNPRÄSIDENT BECK,
Lt. Colonel von POSER.

After /

After wearisome negotiations the promise is given that bridges necessary for the maintenance of vital railway lines and arterial roads, which are singled out during the conference, will be de-mined and will not be destroyed in the course of a battle in order to safeguard BERLIN's vital needs for the time after the battle has ended.

As reason, the principle is accepted that the war cannot be continued without BERLIN's industrial potential and that, once the thesis of a "promising" war is accepted, it follows that BERLIN, after its occupation by the enemy, would be recaptured. The STADTKOMMANDANT agrees, subject to the acceptance of these terms by the Supreme Commander of the Army of the river WEICHSEL, GENERAL OBERST HEINRICI. A conference with the Supreme Commander is proposed.

39). Beginning of March, 1945.

I establish in a conference of the VERKEHRSSTAR that a reconstruction programme for REICHSEBAHN installations to be started which will not only provide for repairs of air raid damage but also for the re-construction of all its installations. Established thereby that the electrical industry is to give priority to orders which serve for the re-construction of the communication service as well as of the block and signalling installations (BLOCK UND SIGNALANLAGEN) of the REICHSEBAHN, over any armament orders.

Informed LUESCHEN, the chairman of the main committee for electrical engineering (HAUPTAUSSCHUSSLEITER FUER ELEKTROTECHNIK) that these orders are not to be considered from the point of view of the course of the war but as first orders in regard to post-war reconstruction and that they are to be treated according to their importance.

Moreover, various orders with priority over armament are placed, for instance for BRUECKENTRAEGER (girders). Transfer of labour forces, skilled in steel construction, from work on submarine construction and other armament production to railway constructions. - Exemption from all armament orders of all railway switch construction plants and full allocation of labour to such plants.

40). Beginning of March, 1945.

The REICHSEBAHN is in no position to carry out the distribution of seeds in good time.

In order to be able to distribute seeds for the next harvest 300 lorries and the necessary amount of petrol (about 300-400 tons) are, on my orders, diverted from armaments and made available for this purpose.

In order to provide for the next harvest the production and repair of agricultural machines is being given priority.

41). 2nd March, 1945. (Decree issued by the PLANUNGSAMT).

"The loss of the East which had a surplus agricultural output makes it imperative to use a sufficient number of agricultural machines at the right moment in the remaining territories of the REICH. For this purpose a special programme covering only absolute necessities has been worked out in conjunction with the REICHSMINISTER of Food and Agriculture under the title of "Special drive for agricultural equipment" which has to be carried out under all circumstances in order to safeguard the minimum food requirements of the German people for the current year.

All factories called upon to take part in the special drive for agricultural equipment (SONDERAKTION LANDWERKZEUGE) are named in the lists attached.

List No. 1. comprises all factories producing agricultural machines and spare parts including agricultural tools.

List No. 2 comprises factories producing agricultural tools among other items.

The following are classified as agricultural tools:

ploughshares
harrow prongs
grubber prongs
grubber shares
chain links
scythes
finger plates (FINGERPLATTEN)
hammered cutter heads (MESSERKOEPFEN)
scythe or shear backs (MESSERBRUECKEN)
Potato spinner shares
" " forks
chaff cutters (HAEKSELMESSER)

The factories mentioned in lists No. 1 and 2 will receive for the above mentioned production the same priority in regard to their supply of coal, gas and electricity as all food producing establishments (ERNAHRUNGSWIRTSCHAFT). The power requirements (ENERGIEBEDARF) of these factories are very small even in proportion to the present critical situation.

I ask you also to give priority to agricultural repair shops and country black-smiths."

At the same time repairs of air raid damaged food producing establishments are given priority.

42). 2nd March, 1945.

Decree issued to the AMT-BAU O.T. (building office of the TODT Organisation) and to EINSATZ GRUPPENLEITER O.T. (Labour group control leaders of the O.T.):

"In the critical food situation brought about by the enemy's occupation of the Eastern territories I must lay decided weight on it no avoidable interference with food production occurs in the rest of the REICH. The re-construction of all bomb-damaged food producing establishments which the REICHSERNAHRUNGSMINISTER (REICHSMINISTER of Food) regards as essential, is to be given priority within the frame work of the emergency building programme. The EINSATZGRUPPENLEITER are instructed to give priority to such building measures and to do everything in their power to carry them out within the set time limit. As its mostly involves a comparatively modest amount of work, it will be possible to carry it out in spite of the stringent shortage prevailing in the building industry.

I have asked the REICHSERNAHRUNGSMINISTER to inform me should his wishes in regard to re-constructions not be carried out within the set time limit."

Further decrees follow yet which are no longer at my disposal, making long term provision for food supplies. Under the prevailing circumstances all decrees to secure food relief will, of course, be only partly successful.

The /

The nervousness is growing. Leading circles are talking once more of "scorched earth". This time not as a defence measure against enemy advances but as a measure to destroy the substance of the people so that nobody is to "profit from the German people" after them.

In order to oppose this and to lay down my own line:-

- 43.) Approximately 10th March, 1945. (Speech to leading armaments men - chairmen of armaments commissions, chiefs of main committees and rings (VORSITZER DER RÜSTUNGSKOMMISSIONEN, LEITER DER HAUPTAUSSCHÜSSE U RINGE) collaborators in the Ministry):

"The workers had done their duty during this war. I shall, therefore, answer for it with my person and with my head against all other intentions, that the plants are not going to be destroyed but are to be maintained for the workers even if the situation should deteriorate further.

This would be only a part of our thanks to the workers.

Moreover in spite of all detrimental consequences for the armaments industry, the food supplies, even on a long term basis, must be given priority over armaments.

- 44.) Approximately 10th March, 1945.

Discussed the hopeless situation with GENERALDERST GUDERIAN and asked him to restrict, by a decree from the General Staff of the Army (GENERALSTAB des HEERES) the destruction of bridges to those cases which are of operational value. GENERALDERST GUDERIAN, who is one of the few who represents the truth in the presence of A.H., promises to support me.

A decree of the General Staff of the Army (GENERALSTABSCHEF des HEERES) to the General of Pioneers and Fortifications (PIONIERS u. FESTUNGEN) is being drafted:

- 45.) Approximately 12th March, 1945. (draft of a decree - CHEF DES GENERALSTABES DES HEERES - CHEF TRANSPORTWESEN/ GENERAL DER PIONIERS UND FESTUNGEN).

"Measures of destruction in one's own country are intended:-

- a) to strengthen home defence,
- b) to make it difficult for the enemy to follow up retreat and to hinder his supply,
- c) to stop a rapid utilisation of war important industrial installations and general undertakings by the enemy,

All measures of destruction which cause unnecessary difficulties regarding the quick utilisation of transport, industrial and public utility installations of re-occupied lost territories, or which hinder or make impossible the supply and provision of the civilian population generally, are insupportable and to be discontinued.

Apropos /

XIV

SECRET

UNITED NATIONS WAR CRIMES COMMISSION

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

NO. 14

Annexation of Occupied Belgian Territory and
Imposition of German nationality and German
laws.

Note: This document is not a report of the United Nations War Crimes Commission but one of a series of Summaries of Information prepared in the Secretariat regarding the connection of particular individuals with certain war crimes.

In future documents of the series will be called
"Summary of Information".

Attached are translations of two German decrees :

The first, that of May 18/20, 1940, declares that the Belgian districts of EUPEN, MALMEDY, and MORESNET, separated from Germany by the "Diktat" of Versailles, are not to be considered, even temporarily, as Occupied Territory, but are incorporated outright in the Reich. It is signed by HITLER, GOERING, FRICK and RIBBENTROP.

The second decree (May 23, 1940) gives effect to the former by converting certain categories of the inhabitants forthwith into citizens or "State-members" of the Reich, and by imposing the German legal code in the three districts. The latter measure has, presumably, rendered these inhabitants liable to German military service. It is signed by HITLER, GOERING, FRICK and LAMMERS.

Both these decrees appear to infringe the Hague Convention (Articles 42 and 43).

P.T.O.

Note on Precedents in regard to "re-acquired"
Territory.

The incorporation in the Reich of Polish territory, parts of which were "re-acquired", and the introduction of German laws in these areas, were the grounds of a Polish charge 342/P/G/31.

The imposition of German laws in Luxemburg, which was declared by Hitler to be ancient German territory^{*} was one of the grounds of a Luxemburg charge 256/L/G/1.

The argument implied in the Decree of May 18/20, 1940, - namely that the cession of territory by Germany under the Treaty of Versailles was not valid, because the Treaty was a "Diktat" - does not appear to have been officially maintained by Germany in regard to the ceded portions of Slesvig and Poland; or in regard to Alsace-Lorraine or the German colonies, all of which were likewise surrendered under the Treaty of Versailles. The Slesvig territory ceded by Germany in 1919 still remains under Danish sovereignty.

When Hungary in April 1941, invaded Baeska comprising former Hungarian districts, ceded to Yugoslavia in 1919, her Government decided, at first, to treat them as "Occupied Territory", and accordingly placed Administration and Justice in the hands of the Army. The special correspondent of the "Pesther Lloyd", in an evidently inspired article on 19.6.41, wrote :

ORIGIN, ORGANIZATION AND DUTIES OF THE MILITARY
ADMINISTRATION IN LIBERATED BACSKA

(Translated from "Pesther Lloyd" 19.6.1941).

"One frequently hears allusions to the conception: 'Military Administration' in reports and despatches from the recently liberated areas. It seems necessary to say something about this conception. In the first place, it must be stated that, if at this moment, scarcely two months after the liberation of the southern marches of the Hungarian kingdom, peace and order prevail in the re-acquired districts, that fact is due not only to achievements on the battlefield, but also to the organization set up by the Honved Army.

"Areas which are occupied by armed force are administered by the Military, conformably to the Hague Convention, which was ratified in Hungary by the Law XLIII of 1913"

(The rest of the article describes the system of administration).

(Note: A photostat of this article is filed in the Secretariat).

Subsequently Hungary abandoned this principle and re-incorporated the Baeska by a law of December 17, 1941.

* According to the "Basic Handbook for Luxemburg" Hitler ordered Simon on August 2nd, 1940 to "recover the former German Reichsland Luxemburg for the German Reich".

ANNEXE I

DEGREE OF MAY 20th, 1940. NO. 87

Headquarters of the FUHRER, 18th May, 1940

The territories separated from the German Reich by the "Diktat" of Versailles are once more in the possession of Germany. They have never ceased to be intrinsically (innerlich) German. They will, therefore, not be considered, even temporarily, as occupied enemy territory.

Accordingly, I now decree :

- 1) The territories of Eupen, Malmedy and Moresnet which were separated from the German Reich by the Versailles "Diktat", are again a part of the German Reich.
- 2) The aforesaid territories are allotted to the Rhine Province (Aachen District).
- 3) I propose to issue, in due course, executive instructions for giving effect to the present Decree.

Done at the Fuhrer's Headquarters, 18th May, 1940.

(Signed) Adolf HITLER, Reich Chancellor and Fuhrer

" GOERING, General Field Marshal, President of the Reich Ministerial Defence Council.

" FRICK Reich Minister of the Interior.

" von RIBBENTROP Minister for Foreign Affairs.

ANNEXE 2

EUPEN, MALMEDY, MOERESNET

Translation

A Decree by the Führer and Reich Chancellor for the Re-Union of the Territories of Eupen, Malmédy and Moersnet with the German Reich.

Dated May 23, 1940.

With a view to the execution of the Decree of May 18, 1940 (Reichsgesetzblatt I, p. 777), for the re-union of the territories of Eupen, Malmédy and Moersnet, I hereby decree :

I.

The territories named in para. 1 of the Decree comprise the former Prussian provincial districts of Eupen, and Malmédy, including Neutral Moersnet, and likewise the adjacent lands which fell to Belgium when the boundary was determined in pursuance of the "Diktat" of Versailles. Any further details as to the course of the Reich frontier will be settled by the Reich Minister of the Interior.

II.

Inhabitants of German or of kindred race in the territory specified in I. will become German "State-Members" (Staats Angehörige), subject to conditions to be laid down in further instructions. "Ethnic Germans" (Volksdeutsche) will become German citizens, subject to the conditions of the Reich Citizenship Law.

III.

1. The whole of the Reich laws and the Prussian provincial laws shall come into force in the territories named in para I.
2. The competent Reich or provincial Minister may order, in agreement with the Minister of the Interior, that the Reich laws, shall not come into force, or shall be subject to certain conditions. Such an order must be recorded in the case of a Reich law, in the Reich legal Gazette, or in the case of a Prussian law, in the Prussian Digest of laws.
3. Until August 31, 1940, the Reich Minister of the Interior, in agreement with the competent Reich Minister or Provincial Minister, may bring Reich law, or the Prussian law, into force by means of an ordinance.
4. Until the introduction of the Reich law, or the Prussian provincial law, the law hitherto in force shall remain valid so long as it does not conflict with the incorporation of the territories in the German Reich.

F.T.G.

IV.

1. Any regulations concerning estate law which may be requisite for the execution of this Decree shall be issued by the Reich Finance Minister in agreement with the Reich Minister of Interior.
2. Questions within the sphere of financial adjustments arising under the present Decree shall be settled by the Prussian Finance Minister, in agreement with the Reich Minister of the Interior.
3. The Reich Finance Minister shall be substituted to the Prussian Finance Minister in cases where action under I. or II. affects the Reich.

V.

1. The Reich Minister of the Interior will be the centralising authority for the re-union of the territories specified above with the German Reich.
2. The Reich Minister of the Interior will issue the necessary legal and administrative instructions for the execution and completion of this decree. In particular, he will adjust the organisation of the sub-districts of the General Provincial Administration and fix the administrative duties.

Done at the Führer's Headquarters, May 23, 1940.

(Signed) Adolf HITLER, Führer & Reich Chancellor.

GOERING, General Field-Marshal, President
of the Reich Council of Ministers
for Defence.

FRICK, Minister of the Interior.

DR. LAMMERS, Reich Minister and Head of the Chancery.

Apropos of this, the following explanation is given:

1. Road bridges are to be destroyed only where this is absolutely essential for home defence or for the delay of the enemy (particularly in blockaded zones). The destructions are to be reduced to a technical minimum.

Light or lasting disruptions are to be applied as far as they are sufficient.

(In this connection see also OKH/GEN D PI U FEST Az. 80 B/Abt. P1 (I/IV) Nr. 360 a/45 geh. v. 21.2.45 und II. Ang. v. 28.2.45).

2. With railway bridges the same methods are to be applied as with road bridges.

Measures of destruction, the reconstruction of which (including the construction of a detour) requires a longer time (approximately a fortnight), have to be sanctioned by OKW/Wfst or OKH/CHEF Gen. St. d.H.

In all cases, at least an interruption of all heavy traffic is to be ensured.

Tunnels, railway embankments, town railway arches, railway installations of all types (stations; railway blocking installations; shunting boxes, signal, reporting, watering and coaling installations) are to be destroyed only if this has been specially ordered by OKW or OKH.

Locomotives, in the case of abandonment of territory, are to be made useless if they cannot be removed.

The blocking measure (SPERRGRAD) will be ordered by the HEERESGRUPPENKOMMANDO (Army Group Command) responsible, or by special order, by an AOK (ARMEE OBERKOMMANDO, i.e. army command), if necessary after approval by OKW/Wfst or OKH/CHEF Gen. St d.H. The authority to order lighter interruptions and paralysing measures can be left to subordinated authorities.

3. Water transport routes are under no circumstances to be destroyed but only to be paralysed if necessary.
4. Industrial and other economic undertakings are not to be destroyed but to be paralysed only. Orders for the corresponding measures will be given by REICHSMINISTER SPEER to his subordinated authorities who are responsible for the expert execution of ARLZ-measures in the sphere of industry.
5. Living quarters of all types are only to be destroyed in exceptional cases if absolutely necessitated by the circumstances of battle.

Corresponding preparations are to be made accordingly. In addition, the lack of explosives and incendiary materials is to be taken into account regarding all destruction measures under consideration. This automatically prohibits extensive measures of destruction and restricts them to really important military objectives."

By /

By this decree, the blowing-up of bridges would have been cut down to a fraction and the destruction of bridges which was still necessary would have been carried out with common sense. (Preservation of piers, blowing up of parts of the bridges only). OKW must approve of the decree. KEITEL declines to accept the responsibility for GUDERIAN. A.H. ought to be asked.

46). Approximately 14th March, 1945.

In the present situation, and after Guderian's report, A.H. refuses absolutely any measures to preserve the bridges. A few days later, GUDERIAN, who makes his opinion quite clear at the "situation meeting", is sent on leave by A.H. as he is supposed to be "overworked". Thereby the only military collaborator who, under the circumstances, was ready to act in this situation, disappeared from A.H.'s entourage. His successor, GENERAL KREBS, fits in with the other "yes-men".

47). Middle of March, 1945.

Instruction to GEILENBERG and KRAUCH to reconstruct the nitrogen works damaged in air raids before the hydrogenation plants. (HYDRIERWERK).

This was done from the point of view that in the case of occupation the nitrogen works must soon be made to start work again in order to safeguard the food of the people, while it was open to question whether allied troops of occupation would give permission for the hydrogenation plants to work.

X X X

/48)

48. 18th March 1945.

It is reported to A.H. from the Western front that the population is trying to prevent the troops from fighting for villages.

A.H. is extraordinarily excited and orders the evacuation of the whole of the population of the Saar and the other territories West of the Rhine. In spite of my intimation that this would not be possible as the distances were too great and the people did not have the necessary equipment to march so far, it is decided that the Saar must be evacuated.

49. 18th March 1945. (Teleprinted letter from Keitel to Supreme Commander West,
Reichs Minister for Armament and War Production
(Reichsminister fuer Rustung u. Kriegsproduktion),
Chief (Leiter) of the Partei Kanzlei (Party
Chancellery),
General Staff of the Army, (Generalstab des Heeres)
Quartermaster General,
Supreme Commander (Oberbefehlshaber) of the Ersatz-
heer (Reserves)
Military District Headquarters XII, (Wehrkreiskommando)
Military District Headquarters V, (Wehrkreiskommando)
Commissioner General (Generalbevollmachtigter) for the
Reichsverwaltung (Reichs Administration),
Secretary of State Stuckardt (Staatssekretar)

regarding the evacuation in the Major Zones of battle West of the Rhine):

"The presence of the population in the battle zone threatened by the enemy is equally burdensome both for the fighting troops and for the population. The Fuehrer, therefore orders, contrary to previous instructions according to which evacuation was to be confined to the area behind the main battle zone or the Westwall back as far as the range of the enemy's artillery, the following:

"The Zone West of the Rhine and the Saar Palatinate respectively, beginning immediately behind the main battle field, is to be evacuated by the whole population.

Execution, according to the Fuehrer's decree regarding the order of priority, gives preference to those liable to military service, Youngest age groups and highly qualified armament skilled workers. Exceptions for German workers of war-essential factories still working can be made by the Minister for Armament and War Production (Reichsminister fuer Rustung und Kriegsproduktion).

Withdrawal in a general direction to the South East, to- and south of- the line St. Wendel-Kaiserslautern-Ludwigs- hafen. Details are arranged by Army Group (Heeresgruppe) G in co-operation with the Gauleiter. The Gauleiter are getting the same instructions from the Chiefs of the Party Chancellery. (Leiter der Parteikanzlei.)

This order is also very grave in so far that a short time before Staatssekretär Klopfer from the Parteikanzlei and Staatssekretär Stuckardt from the Innenministerium made a tour of the Western Territories with the Chief of m, Zentralamt, Hupfauer, and it was there determined that an evacuation of the area was no longer to be carried out,

/but

but that on the contrary everything must be done to secure the administrative basis for the life of the population even after the occupation.

This evacuation order is in direct contrast to the promises made. I ask the deputy of the Parteikanzlei for the "situation meetings", Zander, who himself regrets this order, to travel immediately to the operationally threatened Western areas, in order to prevent locally as far as is possible the useless evacuation.

50. 18th March 1945.

Just before departure I succeed in repeating my demand for a limitation of bridge destructions and forbidding damage to industrial plants.

In a memorandum of 15th March 1945, which I can now hand to A.H. personally, the ever increasing demand for the "scorched earth" is clearly contrasted with the preservation of the basis of life of the nation as the most important responsibility, since the war was lost.

In it two decrees were submitted to A.H. for signature. In the first draft of the decree another demand to preserve the railway system is made:

"The lines of communication must be preserved as long as ever possible. Their preservation is essential for the re-start of economic life. German production is no longer able to repair extensive destructions in the short time necessary.

I therefore order:

1. Railway bridges, road bridges or bridges of the inland waterways are only to be destroyed if thereby the tactical movements of the enemy are delayed on a decisive and large scale.

Total destruction of these structures must only be carried out by special order of the Chief of the General Staff of the Army (Chef Generalstab des Heeres) or the Chief of the Wehrmachtfuehrungsstab respectively (Armed Forces Staff). - Other offices of the Armed Forces, the Party (Volkssturm) (!) (sic) and the administration (Verwaltung) are not entitled to order or carry out the destruction of bridges or similar constructions.

2. Railway installations with their signal units, block works and other traffic installations as locks, cranes and communication installations etc. must not be destroyed. They should be paralysed in such way that, by removing single parts, they are rendered useless to the enemy for some weeks, but can be restored for use by us in a few days.
3. Ships must only be scuttled in exceptional cases. Tug boats and ship material must be immobilized by paralysation.

Directives for execution are issued by the Chief/OKW (Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces) Wehrmachtfuehrungsstab and the General Staff of the Army (Generalstab des Heeres) in agreement with the Reich Minister for Armament and War Production (Reichsminister für Rüstung u. Kriegsproduktion)."

A second decree is to prevent all Gauleiters and the Army from carrying out any destruction in the industry:

"Paralysation of industrial installations of all kinds must only be carried out on instructions by the Reich Minister for Armament and War Production. Destruction is prohibited.

The Reich Minister for Armament and War Production has strict orders from me to paralyse industrial plants only at the very last moment and to make sure that by removing single parts the plant is rendered useless for the enemy for months, but only for a few days for ourselves.

The Reich Minister for Armament and War Production issues the appropriate directives for execution."

The memorandum not only serves as a support of this decree, but will clearly remind the higher authorities (oberste Führung) of their duties, if a war is lost.

It reads as follows:-

51. 15th March 1945. (Memorandum to A.H. about the economic position March/April 1945 and consequences, - handed to A.H. on 18th March 1945).

"The enemy Air Force again focussed its attacks on the lines of transport. Consequently goods traffic has decreased considerably. The withdrawal of the front to the Rhine has resulted in the loss of rich brown coal districts and large brown coal power stations. The direct artillery effect on the Ruhr district and the increased air activity by day and night because of the nearness of the front, have caused more losses in the Ruhr. Whilst still in February supplies from the Ruhr amounted to 8,100 wagons of coal per day, to-day's delivery has fallen to 2-3,000 wagons per day. The despatch of coal from the remaining districts of Upper Silesia could not be increased.

The deliveries of quality coal therefore stand as follows, per day:

	at present:	against normal deliveries:
from the Ruhr	3,000	20,000
" Upper Silesia	3,700	24,000
" the Saar	1,000	24,000
	7,700	48,000.

With these supply figures, coal distribution for shipping, Reichs railway, Gas- and Electricity works, the Food Industry and finally, also the Armament industry, can in no wise be carried out. (see annexe 1 - report of the Reichsvereinigung Kohle of 7.3.45). Since the loss of Upper Silesia the economic collapse of the Reich is approaching ever more rapidly. The new decisive restrictions in coal supply have accelerated. The final break-down of the German economy must, therefore, with certainty be expected within 4 to 8 weeks.

Then neither an output of armaments will be guaranteed nor will the Reich railway or water transport be in a position to carry out any of the transports assigned to them - with the exception, perhaps, of operational transports.

/After

After this break-down, the war cannot be continued in the military field either.

X X X

During this war, the people have done their duty and carried out their tasks under circumstances which were by far more difficult than ever in any previous war. It is certainly not owing to their failing if the war is lost." (Remark: reproach against the leadership.)

"We, the leaders, have the responsibility of assisting the people during the difficult hours they must expect. Without regard to our own fate - we must ask ourselves soberly how this can be done even in the far distant future.

If the enemy intend to destroy the people and its basis of life, then he himself must carry out this work. We must do everything to preserve up to the last the basis of life of the people, perhaps even in the most primitive form.

X X X

Measures are to be taken in all spheres in order to carry out this point of view.

Local mischief can be avoided by clear directives. Nobody must be allowed to hold the view that the fate of the German people is tied to his own fate." (Remark: Unfortunately, many consider that the prolongation of their lives was more important than the fate of the people.)

"It must be laid down that it must be the noblest duty of the leaders during these weeks to help the people wherever possible.

X X X

For that part of German production and transport for which I am responsible, the following is to be done:

1. It must be ensured that, if the battle goes further into Reich territory, nobody has the right to destroy industrial installations, mines, electricity works and other supply installations as well as transport installations, inland waterways etc.

While up to now, factories were paralysed for one to two months by removing irreplaceable parts so that they could be used again at short notice after re-capture, this attitude must now also be adapted to instances in which re-capture does not seem possible." (Remark: the arguments of September 1944 are no longer believed by the Gauleiters.)

"The industrial installations and the basic industries are as much an essential part of the vitality of the German people as agriculture. And nobody would have the idea of using poison to make German fields barren for years to come. It is equally impossible for us to deprive the miner and industrial worker of their livelihood.

2. Preparations have been made on a large scale to blow up bridge works of the Reich railway or roads. It is obviously necessary to blow up bridges across the large rivers so long as further advances of the enemy can still be hindered. - But it cannot possibly be in keeping with

/the

the idea of waging war in the home land, to destroy so many bridges that, with the limited means of the post war period, years will be needed to reconstruct this transport system.

The blowing up of bridges as prepared for Berlin, for example, would mean that the city of Berlin would no longer be supplied with food, and that moreover, industrial production and the life of the people in this city will be made impossible for years to come. - These demolitions would, therefore, be the death of Berlin. If, in the Ruhr district, the many railway bridges across the narrower canals and valleys or the viaduct buildings were blown up, then it would no longer be possible for the Ruhr to carry out even those types of production which are necessary for the reconstruction of the bridges.

Only owing to the quick retreat in the Upper Silesian district were bridge demolitions probably kept within limits which will make it possible to resume work within a measurable space of time.

The pioneers (Pioniere) cannot be expected to understand the difficulties and their consequences for the future of the people caused by bridge demolitions carried out quickly. - For them, as for the local commands, the defended bridges are mere battle objectives whose demolition eases the fighting for hours.

A sharp order must ensure that neither the Wehrmacht nor the party, including the Volkssturm, have the authority to destroy bridges in the homeland arbitrarily.

This destruction of bridge buildings and transport installations must be carried out under extreme necessity only and in places which are suitable for outstanding and prolonged defence. They are to be started only by order of OKW or of Army groups.

The demolition of bridges to the extent planned would destroy transport installations more thoroughly than could be achieved by the air attacks during recent years. Their destruction means the removal of every further living possibility of the German people.

3. The distribution of all stores of clothes and other consumer goods, as far as they can be used by the civilian population, must be prepared immediately and carried out on receipt of a code word (Stichwort). The stocks are still large. Items missing as a consequence of transport difficulties have to be put up with.

Furthermore, an order is to be given also to the stores of the Wehrmacht - including food stores - to prepare such a distribution to be carried out on receipt of a code word.

Distribution of civilian and Wehrmacht stocks can somewhat help the people to overcome the hard times they must expect.

4. It is self-evident that, under present circumstances, the safeguarding of food for Germany must be in the foreground of every effort - also for the distant future. It has, therefore, already been ordered that, regarding both transport and all other spheres of food distribution the necessary measures are to be carried out.

/The

The devastation suffered by German cities in this war can only be compared to that of the 30 Years' War. It cannot be foreseen whether the events following a defeat would lead to a decrease in population similar to that of those days. The people will have to bear a very heavy burden, which will lead to a severe selective process, and thus in the distant future, to the survival of the flower (Einen Guten Kern) of this unsurpassable (Einmaligen) nation. We have not the right in this phase of the war to carry out acts of destruction ourselves which could strike at the life of the people.

If the enemy wish to destroy this nation which has fought with unsurpassable bravery, may this historical ignominy be exclusively their own". (Argument of our propaganda, that the enemy will destroy everything after his victory!).

"It is our duty to leave to the people all those possibilities, which in a more distant future, could serve to assure its reconstruction".

Apparently members of his inner circle, with whom I had repeatedly discussed the contents and the necessity of this memorandum, had already informed him on it.

After A.H. had accepted the memorandum without having read it he declared, that he did not agree with the principles of its contents.

In a letter dated 29.3.45 addressed to A.H., which was not delivered to him, I had placed on record his statements on "Scorched Earth" policy:

"You made statements to me from which, if I have not misunderstood you, the following clearly results:

If the war is lost, the people will be lost as well. This fate is inevitable. It would not be necessary to have any consideration for the fundamentals which the nation needs in order to continue its life on the most primitive level. On the contrary, it is better to destroy even these things. For the people had proved to be the weaker ones, and in this case the future belongs exclusively to the stronger Eastern people. What remains after the struggle is after all only of inferior quality, because the good men have all been killed."
(From a letter to A.H. of 29th March 1945).

Finally A.H. states - that this time he would also give me an answer in writing to the memorandum".

After having handed in the memorandum, visit to the western front which, owing to General Patton's push, has started to move towards the Saar.

52. 19th March 1945.

Discussion of the situation with Kesselring and Westphal at his headquarters, on which occasion I communicated to

/him

him the general contents of the memorandum. As apparently an attack was being made on the H.Q. of the Commander in Chief West, I burned the memorandum of 15.3., so that the intention to re-discuss it in detail with Kesselring in the afternoon could not be carried out.

53. 19th March 1945.

Discussions with the Commander in Chief of the Army Group G von Hauser (Southern Army Group of the West Front). Informed Hauser on the economic situation, and requested him not to blow up any more bridges than was absolutely necessary for operational reasons. Hauser promised, on his own responsibility, to blow up as few as possible.

54. 19th March 1945.

Conference with the Gauleiter of the Saar district and the Palatinate, Stoehr, at which I pointed out to him, that A.H.'s evacuation order must not be carried out. Stoehr likewise declines to evacuate. I offer to take the responsibility for the non-execution of the evacuation order. He however wishes himself to take the responsibility for sabotaging the order.

The population will remain in the Saar.

55. 20th March 1945.

Discussed the general situation with Field Marshal Model at Army Group H.Q. At that moment the Fuehrer Order of 19th March arrives which I consider to be the "answer in writing" to my memorandum. - After having taken note of this order, immediately interrupted the continuation of my journey to the Ruhr, and returned to Berlin.

The Fuehrer-Order reads as follows:

56. 19th March 1945.- Adolf Hitler (OKW/WFst Op/Qu. 2 Nr. 002711/45 gKdos) on measures for the carrying out of destruction in the Reich territory).

"The struggle for the existence of our people forces us to exploit, also within the Reich territory, all means which serve to weaken the fighting power of our enemies, and to hinder his further advance. All possibilities of causing directly or indirectly the most serious damage to the enemy's offensive power must be exploited. It is an error to believe that not totally destroyed but only temporarily paralysed transport, communications, industrial and supply installations can be re-utilised for our purposes when areas lost to the enemy are recaptured. When he retreats, the enemy will only leave us scorched earth and will drop all consideration for the civilian population.

I therefore order:

1). All military-, transport-, communications-, industrial- and supply- installations, as well as Sachwerte (any objects), of which the enemy can make use for the prosecution of his attacks, immediately or in the near future, are to be destroyed.

2). Responsible for the destruction of these objectives are, inasmuch as they are of a military nature, including transport

/and

and communications installations, the military commands, and so far as all industrial and supply installations as well as any other Sachwerte are concerned, the Gauleiter and Reichverteidigungskommissare (Reich Defence Commissioners).

The Army will render the Gauleiter and Reichverteidigungskommissare the necessary assistance in the execution of their task.

3). This order is to be brought to the notice of all Commanders as quickly as possible, contradictory instructions are invalid.

signed: Adolf Hitler

signed: Winter Lt. General.
and Deputy Chief (illegible)

This orders "Scorched Earth" policy in its most severe form.

Not only the industrial plants but also all supply installations (gas-, water-, electricity works, including those belonging to small towns), are to be destroyed.

The responsibility for the execution of these measures is passed on to the Gauleiter. I am left out. My orders are cancelled.

If these measures are carried out, all possibilities for existance of the German people will be destroyed.

In Berlin I find that there is no hope of an amendment of this order, which is of far reaching importance, not only for the existance of our own people but also for the still occupied Polish, Czech, Slovak, Austrian and other territories.

I decide, in order to force a decision, either with regard to the matter or to my own person, to openly sabotage the execution of this order.

Many officers of my Ministry and collaborators in industrial circles are prepared to take the same steps. Shortly afterwards A.H. gives the order to evacuate ruthlessly the population from the threatened areas.

57. 23rd March 1945. (Martin Bormann to all Gauleiter). -
Order in respect of the reception of displaced fellow citizens etc. from evacuation areas:

"I transmit the following by order:

The Fuehrer has issued on 19.3.45 an order for the execution of demolition operations which has already been communicated to you or which you receive herewith. At the same time the Fuehrer orders in an equally unequivocal manner:

Territories which we cannot at present hold, and whose occupation by the enemy must be anticipated, are to be evacuated. The Fuehrer holds the Gauleiter of the front Gaue bound to do everything humanly possible to safeguard the total evacuation, that is the complete withdrawal of all fellow citizens.

After having been repeatedly informed in this respect the Fuehrer is conversant with the enormous difficulties connected with this demand.

/The

The Fuehrer's demands are based on clearly defined, conclusive deliberations. There can be no discussion at all on the unavailability of the evacuation.

Quite as difficult as evacuation and transport, is the accomodation of the fellow citizens in the inner German reception Gaue. This apparently impossible reception of the fellow citizens from the evacuated territories must however be achieved. The Fuehrer expects, that the inner German Gaue will show the necessary understanding for the peremptory demands of the hour.

We must master the present situation by all means of improvisation in every field."

The phrase "clearly defined, conclusive deliberations" strengthened the Gauleiter's belief that miracle weapons were going to be used. It is believed that in order to protect the population, they are to be evacuated before employment of these weapons, and the Gauleiter will therefore act according to orders.

58. About 23rd March 1945.

In order to reduce the stocks of explosives in industry which would be available to the Gauleiter:

Instructions to Kehrl, Chief of my Rohstoffamt (Raw Materials Department) to stop immediately production of explosives for civilian purposes (mining, building), in order "to be able to increase the production of explosives for ammunition."

In addition supplies to the mining industry are stopped.

The object of this was to achieve the result that, after the expected rapid consumption of the stock, which was in any case small, there would throughout the Reich be no more considerable stocks of explosives. Incidentally that could not increase the production of explosives for ammunition, because different preliminary products are concerned.

59. About 23rd March 1945.

I engaged von Malzacher as Ruestungsbevollmaechtigter (Delegate for Armaments) of Upper Silesia, the Protectorate, Slovakia, and Hungary, contrary to the Fuehrer's orders of 19th March not to undertake any destructions in his territories.

Malzacher promised to prevent by all means such destructions and to inform me should any difficulties arise.

60. 24th March 1945.

The airborne landing in Wesel has succeeded. This brings acute danger to the Ruhr. On arrival in the Ruhr (Kettwig) it is found that in pursuance of the Fuehrer order of 19th March 1945 Gauleiter Schlossmann has already ordered, that to-morrow morning at 6 o'clock the most important electric power stations in his area are to be destroyed. Further demolition units for coal mines etc. are being assembled.

By a telephone call to Schlossmann, I delayed the start of this operation by a few hours to begin with, until a personal discussion between Gauleiter Schlessmann and myself on the "interpretation" of the Fuehrer order of 19.3. had taken place.

61. 24th March 1945. (in the Ruhr district).

Rohland convokes on my instigation a few reliable men of the coal mining industry. Amongst othersm Springorum and Sohl put in an appearance. It is agreed with them that all Zündschnur (match) and Sprangkapseln (detonators) existing in the mining industry, are to be thrown into the sumps of the pits. The promise is given that this will be done immediately. I promised 50 Maschinenpistolen (tommy guns) with ammunition to the most important works, which are to be given to reliable members of the works staff so that if need be, they can prevent any attempts to destroy the plant.

(A few days later the tommy guns with ammunition are sent to the Ruhr).

62. About 28th March 1945.

Order to the OT, to send by rail the explosives located on the building sites and which are in the possession of the OT, to the explosive depots of the Army (Heeresmunas) -, although the Heeresmunas actually had no use for industrial explosives and further, under the prevailing transport conditions, these consignments would never arrive without a special priority code word.

63. 25th March 1945. (in the Ruhr district).

Gauleiter Schlessmann is persuaded not to destroy, but only to paralyse the electric power stations and even to likewise postpone the latter for the time being, in order to "further maintain production in the Ruhr." I "interpret" the Fuehrer Order as meaning that, as hitherto, production in the Ruhr is more important for armaments than destruction. Schlessmann withdrew his destruction orders in respect of the electric power stations.

64. 25th March 1945. (in the Ruhr district)

Meeting with Gauleiter Florian, Hoffmann, Schlesmann, together with Hupfauer. Florian reads his appeal to the population, in which he holds the people in his Gau bound by duty to destroy the houses which had escaped air raid damage also ! All objects of value (Sachwerte) in his Gau are to be destroyed. As a discussion with Florian on this subject appears useless, I refrain from it.

On my instructions, Hupfauer drives to Gauleiter Meyer in order to achieve a sensible interpretation of the Fuehrer order.

Instructions to Rohland, as representative of the Ruestungsbevollmaechtigger, to see to it by all possible means, that the destruction order of 19th March is not carried out. Rohland promises to do so.

The Einsatzgruppenleiter (Operational Group Leader) of the OT, Adam, is instructed to use up as quickly as possible large quantities of explosives which are kept in the Ruhr district for the construction of underground dispersal factories, and to safeguard them in such a manner that the executives of the Gauleiter cannot use the explosives for other purposes.

/Introduced

Introduced Adam to the overall situation and bound him by obligation to take action against the intended destructions.

At the same time I put the motor transport belonging to the Ruestung (Ministry of Armaments), which might be used by the Gauleiter for demolition operations, under the orders of Illg, Chief of my transport units in the Ruhr, and ordered that they must not be employed for demolition purposes.

/65)