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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

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TO : Chief, FDP DATE: 22 May 1951

FROM : []

SUBJECT: GENERAL- [] Talks with BAMBERGER, KRUPP Director
SPECIFIC- []

Report Made by: []

1. Attached herewith is single copy of a report by DEMANDANT on conversation with Ludwig BAMBERGER, for many years connected with the KRUPP munitions interests, on the occasion of [] recent visit to Stockholm. According to this report, BAMBERGER agrees to attempt to procure armament and metallurgical information from Alfred KRUPP and Eduard HOUDREMENT, KRUPP metallurgist.
2. No copy has been retained by []

[]

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FORM NO. 51-200
MAR 1949

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

SOURCE:

18 May 1961

RE: BAMBERGER, Ludwig,
VARVAARIN 5,
STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
KRUPP, Alfred von Bohlen und Halbach
HOUBER, Eduard,
GAHNSEN, Friedrich

1. [] during the course of his operations in STOCKHOLM, as set forth in his report dated 18 May 1961 entitled "PR KOP'OSKI- Secret ^{Techniques for the} ~~Method for~~ ^{invasion of Efficiency Builders} had occasion to meet and talk with BAMBERGER, Ludwig several times, developing the faith and confidence of BAMBERGER.

2. BAMBERGER, as has been heretofore described is an elderly gentleman of 70 years,- and has represented the KRUPP interests in various countries in Europe for "several decades". [] prior to leaving STOCKHOLM, visited him alone in his office in FORSOLSTRO 1, Stockholm Sweden, on 9 May 1961. [] carried the conversation to the KRUPP organization and BAMBERGER'S long association with it.

3. BAMBERGER in substance stated the following:

" You know that we old Directors of the Krupp interests are most happy to see the way the American's have handled the matter of the release of Mr. Krupp and his associates from imprisonment. All Germans have a profound respect for the just methods of American military control, and are now greatly impressed with McCloy. He is doing a wonderful job in Germany."

" Yes I have been a close friend of the Krupp family for many years. I was with the present Mr. Krupp's father in Germany for several years,- and of course am most intimately acquainted with Mr. Krupp today,- as a matter of fact not only KRUPP, but also all of his associates who were arrested and imprisoned with him. "

" It has been a long and difficult fight to obtain the releases of these men. However we never gave up hope and effort because we always felt that the Americans would appreciate the importance psychologically and politically upon the German people which the release would effect,- except for a small minority. This of course apart from the fact that we had absolute

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faith in American justice because we sensed the complete lack of vindictiveness, and the decent, honorable attitude of the Americans towards the German people, in aiding, feeding and clothing them after the war."

"KRUPP was ^{never} nor were his associates "Nazi minded". I wrote a letter to the High Commissioner on 13 November 1950 petitioning him for the release of those men, and am convinced that, as I said in the letter, they were victims of Nazi political pressure, - forced to enter the Party, - but always basically businessmen and not politicians."

I asked to see the letter, - and thus had the opportunity to draw SAMBERGER out on many points which were in substance expressed by SAMBERGER as follows:)

SAMBERGER STATED:

- " I am very close to the young Krupp, - and have seen him on several occasions since his release. Last month I was in Germany and was his guest. He told me that he has decided, as a matter of good policy and tactics not to circulate too much, and not to become at once active in his factories and management, - for at least another five or six months, - until the public and his employees, and his friends became accustomed to the idea of his release, and his restitution of all his properties. He confided in me that this policy would be substantially followed by his various associates who had also been imprisoned, - but that after a few months they would all gradually re-enter into active work again. "
- " I am most of all the close friend of Prof. HOUDRMONT, - who is perhaps the greatest metallurgist in Europe today. He is the man most responsible for the technical success of the Krupp interests. He has been with the company for more than forty years, - and while he is an old man he is in excellent health and very active. During his imprisonment he worked on several books and papers, and on various processes which he devised. "
- " Yes, - undoubtedly, HOUDRMONT must possess many important secrets of the Krupp people, - it was always he who devised, developed and installed the various techniques and processes of the factories. I have always been surprised that you Americans particularly did not handle this man differently. He would have been of great assistance, - as a great German scientist, in many of your manufacturing processes. "
- " Do I know whether he has important inventions or methods and processes on hand now which have never been developed?... I am certain he has, - after all he was the Director General of all Manufacturing in addition to his personal scientific contributions to the industry. No secret of Krupp did not pass his hands. He was the "supreme authority", - let us say. "
- " I saw the Professor (Houdrment) last month in Germany. I have invited him and his wife to come to Sweden this summer, - and he has accepted, - so he will probably be with us here for a few weeks. He is the dearest friend I have in the Krupp organization, - and we talked over old times with great joy. He too is "keeping quiet" for a few months. Of course his age keeps him from making too many extensive plans, but he will undoubtedly be of great value in KRUPP'S future plans. "

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" Yes, I believe that the young KRUPP will try to bring his factories back to a high level of production, - and that the great many thousands of workers and employees he had during the war, will over the next few years gradually get back on the job. KRUPP wants to stay out of munitions and such, - and is determined too. But who knows what America will ask the German nation to do in the future. In any case, now that the Krupp factories are only slightly reorganized, - and have barely four thousand workers, the future for the company does not look too bad especially with Krupp and Prof. Houdremont going back on the job in a few months. Several of the other men, - like FRIEDRICH JANSSEN, for example, will also gradually filter back into work. These are the men who made KRUPP the industrial giant it was, and these men are now free, and have the ability and experience to re-organize and rebuild the industry back again to what it was."

[] then directly asked BARBERER whether he felt that PROF. HOUTMONT, with whom he was on such intimate friendly contact for "more than thirty years" could not be approached by BARBERER with a view to obtaining processes, techniques and inventions which until now have been held secret. BARBERER in effect replied:

" In my last conversations with Prof. HOUTMONT I received the distinct impression that there existed, as I have told you, a sort of "remaining fear" evidenced by the decision of all these men to "keep quiet" for a few months. I believe they are still, to a very large extent, considered "persona non grata" with the Americans, - and while he has not said so would probably feel embarrassed in pulling out secret scientific data at this time. I have not the slightest doubt that Krupp and Houdremont are in possession of many, many interesting things which would be of great value to America. But even I too can see a bit of difficulty in engaging in negotiations with these men for the sale of their important secret inventions and processes on a plain and open basis. Krupp and Houdremont would be afraid to touch at at this time, I think, - unless we can figure out a way."

[] then stated:

" Listen Mr. BARBERER, - you who have spent your life in foreign trade in the steel industry and machinery as representative of Krupp know better than I that there are ways to accomplish anything. Any reluctance which Krupp, or HOUTMONT or any others may have in such a manner can be understood, but I believe I am safe in stating that, if you, as an intimate friend of the Professor HOUTMONT, - and of Mr. KRUPP, - can sound out these men to determine whether they have anything of serious interest which can interest the Americans, the matter can be safely arranged, - and in such manner that the relative positions of these men can be fully protected. I believe that morally too, you might prevail upon them to make clear that the contributions they might make in fact accrue to the German people as well as to them since whatever they can do to facilitate the great American defense program is in effect a substantial contribution in the fight against Communism. In short, while they are in this moment filled with mixed feelings of chagrin, sufferings, - and confusion as to their loyalties, - and are not in a position to measure just what to do, I am confident that through you, - and through me they can be given all of the assurances they desire in exchange for their sincere cooperation and collaboration."

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MR. BARBER at this point manifested unusual interest and he in substance stated:

"There is no doubt that you Americans can do anything. I am sure, as you say, that they can be given a couple of their positions would not be adversely affected, - and of secrecy, their collaboration and cooperation might

on this matter, -
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replied:

"That is absolutely correct. Now the companies which I refer to as I have told you I am not authorized to divulge, are companies who in America, occupied to a certain extent a position to that which the Krupp interests occupied in Germany. These in America have the necessary contacts to be able, if Krupp can reveal something of interest in new inventions, machinery, and technicalities, to make all the arrangements necessary to carry them out completely.

"In the near future, BARBER, - you personally must see these men and encourage them to appoint you their agent in this matter, - have them in you their innermost feelings and desires, - and permit you to press to me any new ideas and inventions which until now have remained under You must also place the matter on a moral basis not allowing them to forget their duty to do all they can to combat Communism. You should also remind them of the advantages which might accrue to them in beginning to lay the foundation to acquire the full faith and respect of the Americans. It is never too soon for them to begin to do this.

BARBER replied:

"Yes, I shall try to obtain information on what they have which may be of interest to you. I hope to go to Germany again soon, before HUNTER and his wife come to Sweden as my guests. And then we shall see what comes of this."

"I need not repeat my assurances that all of these matters are of the strictest confidence and secrecy.... and by the way, may I have a copy of this letter of yours to the High Commissioner?... just to give my people an idea of how close you are to those Krupp men?... thank you so much...."

When gave his personal business address to BARBER and requested him to advise him at once of any progress he would make in the matter.

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