

NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT

SECRET/NOFORN

EGF-2865

SUBJECT - DGB INTERNAL DISCUSSIONS

SOURCE []

3. ON 3 MARCH 1958, THE DGB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAD AN INTERNAL DEBATE ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE ORGANIZATION SHOULD PUBLICLY DEMAND THAT THE CONDITIONS OF THE ALLIED DECARTELIZATION LAW BE CARRIED OUT BY THE KRUPP WORKS.² MOST OF THE DGB LEADERS AND FUNCTIONARIES APPEAR TO FAVOR A PUBLIC STAND BY THE ORGANIZATION, BUT OTHERS FEAR THAT SUCH A STAND AT THIS TIME WOULD NOT BE POPULAR WITH THE GERMAN POPULATION, WHICH PROBABLY FEELS THAT THE ENFORCEMENT OF ANY ALLIED RULING OF THE IMMEDIATE POST-WAR PERIOD IS BEST FORGOTTEN. THOSE IN FAVOR OF A POSITIVE STAND ARE DISCOURAGED BY WHAT THEY CONSIDER THE LACK OF INTEREST ON THE PART OF THE UNITED STATES. THEY ARGUE, HOWEVER, THAT MANY GERMANS AS WELL AS MOST ~~XXX~~ ALLIED NATIONS WOULD APPROVE AND CITE THE ADVERSE REACTION IN AUSTRALIA TO ALFRED KRUPP'S PROJECTED VISIT. THEY CONTEND THAT GERMANY PROMISED TO OBSERVE ALLIED REGULATIONS WHEN THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC WAS ESTABLISHED AND MUST HONOR SUCH AGREEMENTS IF SHE EXPECTS TO TAKE HER PROPER PLACE IN THE COMMUNITY OF FREE NATIONS. A FURTHER ARGUMENT IS THAT IF THE DGB CAN WIN THE KRUPP CASE IT WILL BE ABLE TO FORCE THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT TO TAKE SIMILAR STEPS AGAINST OTHER LARGE INDUSTRIAL COMPLEXES WHICH HAVE EVADED THE STRICT REQUIREMENTS OF THE ALLIED DECARTELIZATION LAW. WHETHER THESE ARGUMENTS WILL BE MADE PUBLIC IS NOT CLEAR, SINCE THE DGB EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IS STILL DIVIDED WITHIN ITSELF. THE ISSUE IS EXPECTED TO BE RAISED AGAIN AT FUTURE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

2. FIELD COMMENT - KRUPP WAS GIVEN UNTIL SOME TIME DURING 1958 TO ACCOMPLISH DECENTRALIZATION AND SEALING OFF OF PART OF HIS STEEL-PRODUCING ENTERPRISES.

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