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PERTINENT INFORMATION

Extract from Att B to CGPA-21199, Contact Report #58/5 on 3 Mar. 58:

10. Discussion During Supper:

a. Attitude Toward Krupp: Both [ ] and Identity 1 were quite excited over the question of the dissolution of the Krupp Iron and Steel empire. They were both very vehement in their belief that both the letter and the spirit of the allied control regulation on decartalization of German industry should be accomplished. They pointed out that Krupp had been given time to accomplish what was required by the regulation, but that his time was up in 1958. They felt that it was absolutely necessary for Germany as a new member of the free world community to show its good faith by seeing to it that the decartalization regulation was carried out. They both felt that this decartalization and consequent deconcentration of economic control of German life was an absolute necessity if German democracy were to survive. The Krupp case, in their view, was extremely important because it could pave the way for decentralization in many other areas. Krupp, they said, was very famous, in fact notorious, in Europe and in the world today, and it was therefore more practical to concentrate on such an individual first to obtain the enforcement of this regulation rather than to attempt to hit all of the big industrialists at one time. They argued that this concentration of economic power made it possible for a handful of men to dominate and control the government in West Germany, citing as an example, their belief that the entire tax structure of the Federal Republic was determined by six or seven individuals and that it was not possible to change this structure by parliamentary action. Both of them were concerned about the confusion on this subject which exists within their own organization. There had apparently been a discussion on this matter for some time prior to meeting me and they wished to continue with it. You will note that I have made no attempt to distinguish the views of [ ] from those of Identity 1 on this issue because there was actually no distinction. They were not arguing with each other; they were merely repeating to each other identical arguments. When asked my advice on the matter I tended to hedge, but suggested that if they believed so strongly, they ought to do something about it. I agreed with their statement that there seemed to be a considerable lack of interest in this problem on the part of the former enemies of Germany,

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particularly in the United States. It was quite obvious from this dialogue between [redacted] and Identity 1 that each of them was representing the SPD point of view on this issue. As a matter of fact Identity 1 said he had "fallen in love" with the SPD and more or less felt that party's program was the correct one; he is apparently not a member. The final conclusion that was reached was that they should attempt to get their own organization to take a public stand favoring the enforcement of the decartalisation regulation.

Ident. - 1 : Willy SCHLICHER