

Assenvis, 21 February 1948

To Counsel POHLE,

I shall make an effort to answer as accurately as possible the different questions you have addressed to me concerning the behaviour, with regard to the prisoners of the Dechonschule, of Herr von BUELOW, Fritz, Director of Krupp's factories at Essen.

1) I do not know whether Herr von BUELOW helped to improve the conditions of prisoners at this camp. After the air raid of 23 October 1944, which resulted in approximately 65 deaths among us, Herr von BUELOW came to make a speech expressing his sympathy. He mentioned future improvements in our conditions but alas! these improvements never materialized.

2) It is correct that I went to Herr von BUELOW to intervene on behalf of my friend de MERODE's transfer to hospital. He gave me a friendly hearing and, next morning, M. de MERODE was sent to hospital.

3) I remember Herr von BUELOW's visit after the air raid and his speech to us in French, but I do not recollect that he came again. I may have been at work during these subsequent visits.

4) Neither do I remember whether Herr von BUELOW requested the prisoners to state their complaints and objections. As regards efforts to mitigate the harshness of the system, we never noticed any improvements. I am prepared to believe that Herr von BUELOW intervened on behalf of an improvement of conditions, since on the two occasions when I saw him he seemed well-disposed towards us. If our conditions did not improve it was probably due to the Gestapo who did not allow

it.

I affirm on my honor and on oath that this statement is true.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours truly,

(signed:) E. de COUNE