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A f f i d a v i t .

I, Hans Rudolph, Essen, Gudulastrasse 31, at present at Obernkirchen (County of Schaumburg), Lange Strasse 38, am aware that by making a false statement I render myself liable to punishment. I herewith declare in lieu of oath that my statements are true and were made in order to be submitted as evidence to the Military Tribunal in the Palace of Justice, Nuremberg.

In the summer of 1943, the firm of Fried. Krupp, Essen, set up for the Gusstahlfabrik Essen a Central Office for Plant Relocation (Z.f.B.)

Owing to the destructions through the preceding air raids some plants of the Gusstahlfabrik had already been moved out of Essen. As far as I know, the Wehrmacht services which were the main customers, and the Reich Ministry for Armament and War Production insisted that damaged and imperiled strategical plants be quickly removed. Further relocations of Gusstahlfabrik plants were, thus, to be expected soon. The purpose of the Central Office for Plant Relocation was to obtain comprehensive information on all the plant relocations and to see to it that they were planned in accordance with official rules and carried out in keeping with uniform commercial principles. The plants which were to be relocated were to apply for the consent of the Central Office for Plant Relocations beforehand through their competent (federfuehrend) sales departments, to channel the necessary applications to the competent offices through it, and conclude lease contracts with the receiving firm following directives issued by the Central Office.

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For the actual carrying out of the relocations, however, the plants bore the responsibilities themselves and were not under the supervision of the Central Office for Plant Relocations. After their removal to the receiving places, they were not under the jurisdiction of the Central Office for Plant Relocations, neither what concerns the administration nor their operation, but were, as they had been before, subordinated to the various "Direktionen", from whom they had received their orders at Essen.

The purpose of the Central Office for Plant Relocations, thus, merely was to see to it that the relocations were carried out in an orderly fashion in accordance with sound commercial principles.

Obernkirchen, 20 March 1948.

(signed) Hans Rudolph.

(In handwriting):

No. 112 of the Document Roll for 1948.

The above signature of Direktor Hans Rudolph in Essen, at present Obernkirchen, known to me personally, was affixed in my presence

(reverse of the original)

which I hereby certify.

Obernkirchen, 22 March 1948.

(signed) Lodtmann
Notary.

Stamp:
Karl Lodtmann
Notary in Obernkirchen

Value: RM 3,000.--
Fees, Par. 39 RM 4,12
incl. tax
(signed) Lodtmann.