

A f f i d a v i t .

I, Dr. Ing. Franz LASZLE, residing at 186 Park Street, West Brunswick, Melbourne, N. 12, Victoria, Australia, being aware of the significance of the oath and having warned that I shall render myself liable to punishment by making a false affidavit, declare the following in relation to the KRUPP case and on behalf of the defendant Professor Dr. Ing. Edouard HOUDREMONT, my statement may be used as evidence in Court, in particular before the American Military Tribunal in Nurnberg.

As my wife as well as I myself and, therefore, also my two children are fullblooded Jews, I endeavored since 1937 to get out of Germany. At that time I was the head of the laboratory No. I for the testing of materials of the Siemens-Schuckert-Werks, Ltd., in Berlin-Siemensstadt. After some other fruitless attempts I also asked Professor HOUDREMONT (it may have been in the spring of 1938) whether he could and would take steps in helping me to get a job outside of Germany. He said he would do his best. Although Herr Professor HOUDREMONT showed the utmost reluctance with respect to such a measure and declared it completely superfluous, I subsequently approached the then Director General of the Siemens-Schuckert-Works, Herr Dr. KOETTGEN and asked him to request Dr. HOUDREMONT on his part too so that Herr Professor Dr. HOUDREMONT would have some backing. Herr Dr. KOETTGEN then invited Herr Professor HOUDREMONT to Siemensstadt, and Herr Professor HOUDREMONT afterwards gave me a valuable tip by indicating that Herr Dr. KOETTGEN obviously had displayed the greatest interest for Dr. HOUDREMONT recommending a suitable successor for me in Siemensstadt.

At the end of 1948, the German Society for Metallurgy had

its main meeting in Munich, on which occasion Dr.C.H.DESCH,  
F.R.S. from London ( the then Superintendent of the Mining  
Deptartment of the English National Physical Laboratory) was  
to give a lecture as a guest

sent me to the Society for the Protection of Science and Learning in order to submit there an application for a position at the University of Melbourne (Australia), where I am working at present. The secretary of that society asked me for German references.

Among six names I also gave that of Herr Professor HOUDREMONT, but told the secretary that it would be possible that none of the six gentlemen would dare to reply to the inquiry. Some days later the secretary told me that my apprehensions had been unwarranted because Herr Professor HOUDREMONT had sent his answer by return mail. This service of Herr Professor HOUDREMONT proved to be of the utmost importance to me.

For the purpose of strain hardening of armature caps from non-magnetic steel for the rotating field magnets of turbo-generators, the firm of KRUPP has developed an excellent process on the basis of an idea of mine, and gave me also a remuneration for this idea approximately in 1932. In the spring of 1938, when I discussed with Professor HOUDREMONT my imminent emigration he authorized me to exploit this process abroad to my exclusive benefit after my emigration. (Actually I offered this process to an English firm in January 1939, although without results - and I have done nothing about it since then). It was quite unusual that Herr Professor HOUDREMONT was willing to help me economically in this manner. To be sure, we have been acquainted since 1922 or 1923 and have always maintained the best possible professional friendship. I have hardly ever met another German professional colleague who, in my opinion, had a better and more stable character.

( signed ) : Franz LASZLE

Sworn by the said Franz LASZLE who is personally known  
to me at Melbourne this 26th day of November 1947.

(signed): Maurice BROWN

A Commissioner for taking Declarations and Affidavits  
under the Evidence Act 1928.

A Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria  
and the High Court of Australia, Academic Secretary  
of the University of Melbourne, Australia.