

Reutlingen, 14 March 1948.

A f f i d a v i t .

I,

Dr. Habil Johann Jakob S o m m e r ,
Reutlingen, Achalmstrasse 3,
born in Danzig-Langfuhr on 6 December 1904,

after having been cautioned that by making a false affidavit I render myself liable to punishment hereby declare that my statement is true and was made in order to be submitted as evidence to the American Military Tribunal III in the Palace of Justice at Nuremberg, Germany.

On 7 April 1940 I was detailed to the Ministry of Armaments and War Production under Todt and also remained there after, in 1942, it became the Ministry of Armaments and Ammunition under Speer.

At first, until April 1942, I was assistant to Professor Garbotz, the Minister's deputy in the Ordnance Office with Wa. Chef. Ing. and Wa. Pruef. (Ordnance Engineering and Examination Group) and after this I was business manager of the Ammunition Committee under the direction of Prof. Wolff.

In this capacity I had the opportunity to witness how the Government, through the Ministries Todt and Speer, brought its influence to bear on the development work carried out in the armament sector and how it finally in close cooperation with the military instances (Ordnance Offices) assumed complete control over it, from the setting up of the so-called experience groups (Erfahrungsgemeinschaften) in 1940 to the establishment of the "Development Committees" in May 1942.

At the first discussions previous to the establishment of the Development Committee by Gen. Maj. (Brig. Gen.) Hartmann, which were held in April and May 1943 at the Ministry of War, it was decided that the committees were not to be occupied with the production and distribution of war materials but that their activities were to be limited to the development sector.

Serial production and the placing of orders to the various manufacturing firms were reserved to the Main Armament Committee (Hauptausschuss Waffen) under Dr. Fick. I do not know of any exception to the above rule.

(signed) Dr. Johann Jakob Sommer.

I hereby certify that the above signature of

Dr. Johann Jakob Sommer, Dr. phil habil., residing in Reutlingen, was sworn to and attached in my presence.

Dr. Sommer identified himself by presenting his identity card No. D 02497, issued at Reutlingen by the Landratsamt Reutlingen on 31 January 1946.

Reutlingen, 15 March 1948.

The Deputy of the District Notary and
Notary Public Sihler

(signed) signature.
Just. Insp.

Fee: according to Art. 39 ZGO Bl. 2.-
Notary Reg. No. 172/48

AV I/48 : 17

(LS)