

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, Achelnstrasse 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.

From my frequent presence at the meetings of the Armament Commission and on the basis of my personal relations with the various officials of the Army Ordnance Office I am qualified to venture an opinion concerning the position and activity of Dr. Mueller and the views held by the agencies in question regarding them.

I can state that Dr. Mueller never made use of his position as chairman of the Armament Commission to obtain development orders for the Krupp firm. On the contrary it must be said that Dr. Mueller took extraordinary pains in his efforts to avoid any semblance of favoritism with regard to the Krupp firm. For instance Dr. Mueller ~~never~~ presided over meetings in which development orders to be placed with Krupp were discussed, but relinquished the chairmanship in favor of a completely neutral instance, as for example, the representative of the Army Ordnance Office, who then would decide upon the matters in question.

It must be quite generally said that the view was prevailing, and was also discussed, among the Wehrmacht representatives that the Krupp firm did not show enough initiative in the armament sector. As for myself I had no doubts that the management of Krupp was rather reserved in this respect.

In his activities in the committee, Dr. Luessler took always pains to maintain correct working relations with the military agencies. In his decisions he observed the strictest objectivity, taking military requirements into account as far as possible.

In spite of this, his efforts caused him a great deal of trouble. There were frequently differences of opinion with the offices of the Speer Ministry, above all with FEL Saur, who knew how to carry his points in regard to his frequently diametrically opposed opinions.

From 1943 on, Dr. Luessler therefore began to keep himself more and more in the background, attended the meetings in Berlin only comparatively seldom, let his deputies represent him most of the time and retired almost completely after the setting-up of the sub-committees in the winter of 1943/44.

(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 attested in my presence. Dr. Sommer identified himself by presenting his identity card No. D 03497, 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
Justizinspektor.

Fee: Art. 39 RHO R. 2.-
Notary Reg. No. 172/48
AV 1/48 : 17

(LS)