

-2-

with the offices named, in so far as it had relations with them through foreign business, since the business intercourse was thus facilitated and expedited. At the end of September, or beginning of October, 1936, negotiations with the Greek Syndicate (Konsortium) and a Greek Purchasing Commission for Arms Supplies - in which several German firms including Krupp, with an offer of 8,8 cm flak, participated -, made it requisite that I, as representative of the War Materials Foreign Sales Department, remain in Berlin, not only on several week-days, as hitherto customary, but throughout the week.

Since I was ~~constantly~~ in Berlin from that time, and available at all times, it so happened that the War Materials Foreign Sales Department in Essen henceforth used my intermediary services almost exclusively in dealing with the Berlin offices, mentioned, more so since many trips of the gentlemen of the Essen War Materials Department were now superfluous. At that time, moreover, I had to handle orders of the other Essen works departments and of the Konzernsgesellschaften which were not themselves represented.

At the end of 1936 the Artillery Development Department under Dr. Erich Mueller also recognized the advantages of permanent agent in Berlin, and despatched Herr Winter there as its representative; Winter similarly opened an office in the Krupp building. It was his task to conduct negotiations with the Wehrmacht offices, chiefly the Ordnance Branch offices, to which the

Artillery Development Department had to refer.

Since my business transactions also brought me into contact with the same offices of the Wehrmacht in matters of arms export, the question was naturally often raised by the Wehrmacht offices: Why were the negotiations referred to conducted by two different Krupp departments? In a joint discussion with Herr Eberhardt and Dr. Mueller in Berlin, it was resolved that the Artillery Development and War Material Departments in Berlin should, for reasons of expediency,

-3-

be combined in a common "Armament" department.

When negotiations with the Wehrmacht were carried out on a broader basis, Dr. Mueller had a branch office of the Essen Artillery Development secretariate established in Berlin where all business matters were received in copy, and were simultaneously filed at the Essen secretariate, so that in case of need necessary documents would be immediately available in Berlin. This branch office was also used by War Materials Foreign Sales, since the Essen Artillery Development secretariate dealt with the correspondence of the War Materials department as well as that of the Artillery Development department.

At the same time the Berlin branch office was entrusted with the forwarding of Essen mail to Wehrmacht offices and its return, both in the development sector (AK) and in the sales sector (KI), since this would lead to more rapid forwarding and simultaneously would result in the best handling of secrecy provisions required by the Wehrmacht.

This Berlin branch office of the Essen Artillery Development secretariate was given the title of "R(Armament) Secretariate". In the course of time, this name was extended by the incorporation of War Materials Foreign Sales, under myself, and by the Artillery Development Agency, under Herr Winter, to the designation of "Armament-Agency" or "R-Agency," (Ruestungs-Vortretung).

The tasks within the scope of War Materials Foreign Sales for which I was competent, consisted substantially of the following:

- a) Contract negotiations with foreign representatives, usually purchasing/commissions.
- b) Negotiations with German industrial firms concerned in foreign deliveries either as sub-contractors of the Krupp firm or as/syndicate members (Konsortien), or, as chiefly the Rheinmetall-Borsig firm, as competitors.

-4-

- c) Negotiations with the Department for War Equipment which, as a self-administrative body of industry, was founded at the end of 1935 by highest Reich Authorities (namely, the Foreign Office, the Reich Ministry of Economics and the Reich War Ministry) and the task of which it was to direct the war equipment exports.
- d) Negotiations with the above-mentioned three highest Reich Authorities on the intended contract conditions for the foreign governments in question.
- e) Negotiations with the German Revision and Trustee Society concerning guarantees given by the Reich in case of losses for foreign transactions necessitating long-term credits.
- f) Occasional negotiations with banks in case of foreign credit transactions.

In addition in the case of intended visits of my superiors, Herr Pfirsch and Herr Eberhardt in Berlin I arranged for their conferences with the partners in the negotiations.

In as much as these talks also concerned my sphere - War Material Sales Abroad - I usually participated in them. These meetings always dealt with concrete questions in connection with the preparation, agreement and carrying out of certain export transactions.

In the negotiations which I had or in which I participated there was never any question of a coordination and supervision of military contracts, of the financing of military and industrial espionage, or of the establishment of confidential relations with military and military economic offices.

Nor have I any knowledge of confidential talks of this sort of the other gentlemen of the Krupp firm.

(signed:) Wilhelm Vaillant

-5-

No. 422 of the document files for 1948.

I hereby certify the above signature of Herr Wilhelm Vaillant,
Essen, Lohmsgrund 73.

Essen, 11 March 1948 -

(signed:) Rust

Attorney-at-Law

as official deputy to the

Notary Public Dr. Walter Ballas Essen

Seal

Costs:

Value: RM 3.000,--

Fee per. 144, 23,39 R.K.O. RM 4,--

Turnover tax 3% " -,12

RM 4,12

Deputy of the Notary Public:

(signed:) Dr. Rust