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I N T E R R O G A T I O N

o f

EDMUND VON THERMANN

June 6 & 7, 1945

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Before:

6 June 1945

FRANCIS A. MAHONY

Steno: MM

BY MR. MAHONY:

Q When you talked in May of this year with Lieutenant Warren Robbins, as I recall your remarks, among other things you told him that when you left Germany for Argentina to be Ambassador -- A Yes, first Minister. The first three years I was Minister; from 1933 to 1936 I was Minister. From 1936 to 1942 I was Ambassador.

Q The three, A, B and C -- A Argentine, Brazil and Chile, the Ministers were raised to Ambassadors.

Q From Legations to Embassies? A Yes.

Q You stated, as I recall it, that when you left Germany for Argentina, you had conversations with Hitler in which, among other things, he told you that National Socialism was not for export. A You see, it was one conversation. Yes, it was not for export, which was the usual reception given to any new Minister from Berlin, Minister for Foreign Affairs, from the Chancellor, which was Hitler, and the President, which was Hindenburg, that Nazism is not for export.

Q In other words, it was customary on the departure of a Minister or Ambassador for each of these three officials

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to tell him that. A Yes, and to give him instructions.

Q Did you have any other conversations with Hitler before you left? A Yes. I was received in 1936 as I came for the first time on leave to Germany and as I was promoted ambassador.

Q You saw Hitler then? A Yes, in April 1936 I saw him a second time.

Q Did you see him in 1933 when you left? A Yes, this was this conversation, and the second one was when I came back the second time in 1936 and was promoted ambassador.

Q In 1936 you had one conversation? A Yes, just one conversation. It was rather a short one. I had to report about the situation in Argentina, about the commercial and economic situation of our relations with Argentina, but it was rather a short conversation.

Q Did you make a report to him then on the commercial and economic situation in the Argentine? A Yes, very short, because we had made in 1934 a treaty of compensation which was the most remarkable thing during all these years. We made a compensation treaty with Argentina and then economic relations improved a little bit, you see, or increased.

Q In making your report to Hitler were you relying on your own first-hand information or was that information supplied by others? A No, it was only speaking orally.

Q The information that you gave him was something you had gathered yourself? A Yes, which I had collected myself from personal impression.

Q What did Hitler say to you on that occasion?

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A Well, he didn't say very much. He heard what I said and then he said, "Well, we have decided to promote the three legations to embassies, so I felicitate you as ambassador", and I was sent out.

Q Did he say anything to you about promoting the national socialist idea among the German colony in Buenos Aires? A No, he didn't ask me.

Q He didn't tell you not to do it. A He didn't speak about it. You see, he simply received me and I made my report about the situation political, as we always do. "The political situation is all right between Germany and Argentine. There are no differences and the economical situation is improved", and when he asked, "Is this by the treaty of 1934" -- he knew about this treaty of compensation, and I referred about this, and then he said, "We have now promoted the three legations to embassies. I felicitate you."

Q In 1936 whom else did you see in the official circles on that visit? A At this time it was done by Dr. Meissner, who was Chief of Chancellory. We sent a small report, "I am here on leave now and would you arrange a reception." But later on this was changed and later on I didn't want to see Hitler, because later on it was changed. We had to apply to Minister Von Ribbentrop and he didn't like to see us so we didn't see him.

Q Did you see Ribbentrop in 1936? A In 1936 I think it was still Neurath. I think it has just been changed in the summer of 1936 but I left in April, 1936.

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Q How long were you in Berlin in 1936? A Oh, very short. I was some weeks at home, you see. I was perhaps a fortnight in Berlin.

Q Did you receive any specific instructions from Hitler or anybody in the Foreign Office or any other government official?

A No special instructions. You know, there is always -- if you come as chief of such an office there are always some personal things. One man is removed and another is changed, routine things.

Q Administrative details? A Yes.

Q How much time went by between your visit in 1936 to Berlin and your next visit? A I was the next time in Berlin in 1938 because our regulation was after each four years we had a leave of five months, so as I came in 1933 my leave was due in the fall of 1937 and I went, in December 1937, I went on leave and I had five months of leave, but I didn't stay five months in Berlin. I went back because we had negotiations always about the compensation treaty. I had earlier to start because on the first of July it would have been to cancel, so I must already find out if Argentine were to go to the Consul with the treaty or not. So I went back already in May, I think.

Q May of 1938? A Yes.

Q Did you see Hitler again then? A No, this time I didn't see Hitler.

Q Did you see Von Ribbentrop? A Yes, I saw Ribbentrop this time.

Q How many times did you see him? A Let me see -- I don't think I saw him.

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Q Did you get any instructions? A No, I didn't get any special instructions. Naturally we always spoke with the Secretary of State if the Minister was not there. Weiszacker, I think it was. Let me think a moment -- no, I didn't see Ribbentrop because he was not in Berlin.

Q Was Weiszacker the only official in the Foreign Office you saw? A No, I saw Freitag, who was in charge of the South American Department.

Q Did he give you any instructions? A He gave me general instructions but nothing of a special nature.

Q What kind of instructions did Herr Freitag give you? A To go on with the commercial relations and --- you see, for instance, one big question was always the Argentine Government asked every year in renewing the treaty, the compensation treaty, that we should buy meat and the German Government didn't like it because the German population doesn't like this frozen meat. I think it is very good but, never mind, we didn't like it, and this was always a big question, how we could convince the Ministry of Economy and the Ministry of Agriculture to buy a small quantity of meat, let's say five thousand tons or ten thousand tons wouldn't mean anything for the German interior market, and I think just in 1938 we have been discussing this question with the other ministries, the Finance Minister, and so on, because my impression was that in 1938 we would not be able to renew the compensation treaty without taking at least a small quantity of meat, Argentine meat, and we took really, I think, fifteen thousand tons or twenty thousand tons, I can't say exactly, of meat.

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Q Was the treaty one which ran only for a year?

A Only for one year.

Q It had to be renewed every year? A It had to be renewed every year and could be cancelled on the first of October for the first of January, so we always had to find out some months before if the Argentine people intended to cancel or not because once cancelled it was much more difficult to renew it.

Q In either 1936 or 1938 when you were back in Berlin did you have contact with any of the Nazi party members?

A Oh, yes. I had to speak with Mr. Bohle, chief of the Ausland's Organization because there was always a lot of trouble.

Q That's the incident that you related to Lieutenant Robbins. A Yes.

Q Where you had to speak at the meeting and Hess and Ribbentrop were both to show up and neither one showed up, is that right? A No, this was later on, in 1940. During the war I was called to Berlin to reply to a big complaint of twenty points against me because I was not one hundred per cent. Nazi.

Q We will hold that a minute. In either 1936 or 1938 did you receive any instructions from party members or party officials? A No, I had nothing else to do with the party, only with Bohle because he was the chief of the Ausland's Organization.

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Q What did Bohle tell you? A Bohle was always anxious that the Embassy did not support sufficiently his organization in Buenos Aires and he tried always to put some people of his organization into the Embassy. So for instance in 1938 it was absolutely insisted that Sandstede should be my press attache of the Embassy.

Q Did that mean displacing somebody else? A No, I really had not a press attache until then but he insisted that he become press attache.

Q What actually did Sandstede do? A Before?

Q No, when he got in the Embassy? A As a press attache he arranged all relations with the press for the film and with the radio. He had this whole department.

Q Did he found the newspaper El Pampero? A Yes, I think this was his invention but this was only as the war broke out in 1939.

Q He also had another one, La Reconquista. A Yes, he had started first two, Reconquista in the morning and Pampero for the evening, but Reconquista didn't sell and so she was dropped. Then I was again in the same year, in 1938 I was still once in Germany for the Reichspartite. All the diplomatic representatives of Germany were called in 1938 to this meeting in Nurnberg.

Q A party celebration? A Yes, party celebration with military and all kinds of spectacles.

Q You were already there, weren't you, on your vacation?
A No, I went home and I had to come again.

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Q What do you mean, you went to Buenos Aires? A Yes.
The second time it was very short. I just returned for this week in Nurnberg and then I went back again.

Q At that time did you receive any instructions from party members? A At that time I had really to accept Sandstede. 'Til then I had refused but in the fall of 1938 in Nurnberg I had to accept him.

Q Who insisted upon that? A Bohle.

Q Did they insist on anything else? A Yes. There was still another question, for cultural attache. I had a somewhat older man, Dr. Keiper, who was cultural attache. He was a school teacher but he knew all about our schools. It was a great thing in Argentine. We had more than two hundred German schools in the Argentine and Keiper knew all the schools from the beginning because I think he was forty-five years in the Argentine. But the Nazis said he was not sufficient Nazi and that he had to be removed by the Government, and so I had to accept for Dr. Metzger.

Q How is the other name spelled, Keiper?

A K-e-i-p-e-r.

Q Did Bohle insist upon anything else? A No, just those two people. It was sufficient for me to change about one-fifth of my staff. I had not more than that -- it was one-fourth of my staff.

Q It made a substantial change in your staff? A Naturally.

Q After Sandstede came in as press attache and Metzger

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came in as cultural attache, did you have any control over what they did? A Oh, yes. Naturally, I had some control but I could not control what they did behind my back. I could control what they did in my office but I knew every evening they were together with other members of the Nazi party in Buenos Aires, so I could not talk openly with them. That was the trouble.

Q Did Metzger or Sandstede lead any Nazi movements in the Argentine? A Sandstede was the second chief of the Nazi party in Buenos Aires.

Q Who was the chief? A Alfred Mueller, he was the chief. He was in Germany too.

Q Was Mueller on your staff? A No, no. We are not very good friends, you know. It was Mueller who went in 1940 to Germany to complain about me.

Q Mueller was the man who personally complained about you? A Yes. You can't imagine such a thing. Just to give you an explanation.

(Discussion off the record was had at this point.)

Q Just put on the record there that the witness cited various instances of trivial occurrences in Buenos Aires which Mueller used as bases for complaints against him that he was not sufficiently Nazi. Then you went back again to Berlin in 1939? A Yes, in 1939 there was a conference called to Berlin of all the South American diplomatic representatives. I think there were forty in all, the Ambassadors and all the Ministers of Guatemala, Honduras, and so on, Mexico included.

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Q All the Latin American countries. A Yes, all Latin American states and this conference was called together just to regulate the troubles which had arisen between the official representatives of the Ausland's Organization. In all the countries there was trouble with the Nazi party. Not only in Buenos Aires but in Santiago and Rio.

Q Trouble between the local people and the Nazi party?
A Yes.

Q Because of these activities? A Because of activities and always trying to go into legations and embassies. All this kind of stuff which should be regulated in the conference and all representatives of Latin America were called to Berlin to speak the matter over with Bohle.

Q Did he address the meeting? A There was really only one meeting where Bohle was present and then the differences were so sharp that there was no possibility to come together, and Ribbentrop was too busy. He didn't -- he could not assist and he could not do anything and so we were, after having been three months in Germany, we were sent home in August.

Q Did you come to any understanding? A No, we didn't come to any understanding at all and things remained like they had been.

Q Did you see Hitler at that time? A No.

Q Did you get any new instructions? A No, we didn't get any instructions. In the month of August we were all called together and Weiszacker, as representative of Ribbentrop,

told us that we could go home. There would be no war.

Q Meaning go back to your post? A Yes, in the month of August.

Q Then you went down to Genoa and you had to go to Berlin again. A Yes, I went to Genoa and the boat didn't start. We were already on board and it didn't start and we had to leave the boat the next morning and then we went to the hotel and went back to Berlin the second time.

Q What happened when you went to Berlin? Did you see Ribbentrop again? A No, we saw only the chief of the personnel department and he told us that we shall wait and in the meanwhile was a question of general agreement with England. The diplomats who were going to their posts should be allowed to travel.

Q This must have been after the war broke out. A Yes, this was in September. Then in the end of September we started again on the AUGUSTUS to Buenos Aires. It was in the month of September.

Q Then when did you make your next trip to Berlin, was that in 1940? A I was called in the month of December, 1940. I was called to come to Berlin by an Italian plane.

Q The Lati Line? A Yes, the Lati Line.

Q Who summoned you? A The Foreign Office.

Q Whom did you see in Berlin? A I saw once Ribbentrop.

Q What did he say to you? A Well, first I saw Weiszacker who gave me this complaint of Mueller. It was a document like that (indicating), and told me I had to answer

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written -- I had to give a written answer. So I made my written answer and when I saw him in January, the 18th of January it was, and he talked the matter over with me. He said, "You have seen all the complaints which the party organization has made against you. I have seen your answer. The list is done with but you must arrange with the party."

Q Manage to get along with the party? A Yes.

Q He didn't give you any other instructions? A Oh, well, naturally we talked over the situation and what we could do very soon now, for Argentine importation was stopped completely.

Q At that time the British had instituted their blockade, had they not, of Germany, of German ports? A Oh, yes, it was all blocked, naturally.

Q Nevertheless some German goods were getting into Argentina. A Yes, but you see very few things; only by airway, this Italian airway.

Q Weren't boats getting in from time to time? A No.

Q How about submarines? A No, never came a submarine to Buenos Aires.

Q Did you discuss with Von Ribbentrop the difficulties of getting merchandise into and out of Argentina? A Yes, naturally, because this was a great point, if you could still get anything.

Q What did he say? A He said, "What can we send by air line, like glasses or things like that, or chemical products, we will try to send, but more we cannot."

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Q Did he speak about the other side of the picture, getting strategic materials from Argentina for Germany?

A No, because this was utterly impossible. There was still one question, I think, discussed at this meeting about this -- no, this was not with Ribbentrop. There was still one question about this -- Farben has made a treaty with Argentina to build a powder factory and now as the war broke out, naturally it was no more possible to send material and intelligence and all this through to Argentina. First it was tried, I think, from our part to send materials to Spanish or Portuguese ports and to take them over, but the British stopped that very soon, and later on I think one Argentine boat took some parts of it but the British stopped that too. I think this question has been discussed too.

Q So that at that time, as far as you are presently aware, the only way in which materials were going from Germany to the Argentine was by air. A Yes, only by air. Well, it may be that one Danish or Norwegian steamer had some things but this was never anything important, especially because all the goods we bought in Argentina were maize or wheat or oil fuels. It was of no value unless it was one hundred or two hundred tons.

Q Did you discuss anything else at this meeting with Ribbentrop in 1940? A Naturally the general situation, how the war was going on, but about Argentina, I don't think so.

Q Did he give you any instructions with respect to

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handling yourself in the Argentine? A No, no special instructions.

Q You still had at that time Sandstede and Metzger?

A Yes.

Q Did you see Hitler on this visit in 1940? A No, I was not received.

Q What time of the year in 1940 was this? A This was December and January, the end of 1940 and the beginning of 1941. I think I started in the first days of February.

Q Back to Argentina? A Yes, because there was some trouble with the planes. One plane had disappeared and then the Italians blocked the Lati Line for some time and so I was about a fortnight really waiting for --

Q You flew from Africa? A From Seville. I took the plane in Seville.

Q Where did you go, from Seville to Africa? A No, from Seville to the Cape Verde Islands. There was always a stop over night and one from there to Pernambuco, Pernambuco to Rio, Rio to Buenos Aires.

Q Well, did you get back to Germany again before 1942? A No, this was the last visit.

Q And your return in 1942 was occasioned by the breaking off of relations with Argentina? A No, no. The break off of relations was only in 1943. No, this was because the Argentine ambassador in Berlin was called back by the Argentine Government and so I had to be called back too, but only to report. It was not finished.

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Q Whom did you leave in your place? A Dr. Meynen. He was Chargé d'Affaires and he got the title of Minister later on.

Q Who was your Commercial Consul? A Dr. Burmeister. He was already long years in Buenos Aires. He had been five years with the Handelscommerz in Buenos Aires.

Q After your recall in 1942 did Sandstede -- A Sandstede was already before gone.

Q When did he leave? A He left in -- I don't remember exactly. It may have been November or December, 1941, two months before me. He had to leave because this Parliamentary Commission of the --

Q What? A There was a Parliamentary Commission put in to control the foreign --

Q Activities of foreign agents? A No, not foreign agents but foreign people. I mean fascistic people.

Q You mean the Argentine Government? A No, the Parliament.

Q The Chamber of Deputies? A This Commission had the intention to arrest Sandstede because they said, "We don't acknowledge that he is diplomatic, as attache from the German Embassy. We regard him as commercial man", because before for eighteen years he had been in shipping business for Casa Delfino, which is a shipping concern, and as they threatened to arrest him I had to send him away.

Q What about Metzger? A Metzger remained until the end. I think he must come now with the transport.

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Q Whom did you see when you came back in 1942? A Well, I saw first Weiszacker again, who was still Secretary of State, and the chief of our department, Freitag. It took some time until I saw Ribbentrop. Six weeks later I saw Ribbentrop.

Q What did Ribbentrop say to you? A I don't know. He didn't say very much. He just heard my report and said, "Well, let's see how it is going on." I had the impression he was not very interested. Otherwise I could not explain that he received me only six weeks later.

Q Did he give you any instructions? A Not at all.

Q Did Weiszacker give you any instructions? A No, because you see I was without any occupation really in Berlin.

Q They didn't say they were going to send you back? A No, certainly not. They said they will try to find an occupation for me if possible in the South American sector, but I never got anything.

Q Did Freitag give you any instructions? A No.

Q What is your status at this moment as far as the German diplomatic service is concerned? A You see, I was acting Ambassador, I mean, nominal Ambassador in Buenos Aires. On the 9th of November, 1943, I was put at disposition. That means at the disposition of the Foreign Office, so I belonged always to the Foreign Office, but I am not in active service. But I get my salary naturally, but naturally less than in active service.

Q Are you still getting your salary? A Yes, I get more in the pension and less in the active salary.

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Q When was the last time you received your salary?

A For the month of March, I think. For the month of April I didn't get.

Q You never received anything for April or May?

A I am already away since the end of April but I think for April I didn't get it because there was already trouble in Berlin. The Foreign Office left Berlin and the Cashier's Department had themselves already gone, and I think we were in the eastern part of Germany, Silesia, and we had to go away from the Russians when they came.

Q Where were you when you were taken into custody?

A I was in my familyhome, Gollma, near Halle, where I met first the American officer.

Q When you left Argentina in 1942 whom did you leave in charge of German interests in that country? A Well, we still have the Embassy left. I went alone.

Q Did you leave anybody else besides the formal Embassy people? A No.

Q Did you meet with the party members before you left to come back to Germany? A Well, I have seen them. They came on board to see me off, two of them, I think. I didn't give them any instructions because I was not entitled to give instructions to them. They got their instructions only from Berlin, from Bohle.

Q Did you form or was there formed a committee of German business men in Argentina to look after German interests

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while you were away? A No, there was the Chamber of Commerce always existing and going on, so there was no need to make a special arrangement, because the business was much less naturally as the whole importation and exportation stopped.

Q Did the Embassy itself have pretty direct relations with the leading German business firms? A Oh, yes. Burmeister had charge and had quite close relations to all the big firms.

Q Would he deal with a particular individual in each firm? A Well, I think he saw the directors, as a whole, because he came from the Embassy, and I think he saw the directors, but maybe he had special friends.

Q You don't know whether he did or not. A No, but you see, this was his job finally.

Q What kind of services would the Embassy call upon these different business firms to perform? Would they call upon them to make contributions to the party? A No, never, and I think they did not contribute to the party. You see, the party lived, as much as I saw it, from the fees of memberships because the party had about 2,000 members in Argentine, and these members paid a membership each according to their income, from one to about ten pesos, but it may be that some people paid more, but I count in the average they got five pesos.

Q Per member? A That means 10,000 pesos a month. They had to deliver to Berlin for each head of members one peso, so it means 2,000 pesos they had to give to Berlin, so there remained 8,000 pesos a month. That's a lot of money

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because they only had to pay the lodging, the telephone, light and so on, and of the people who were in the office, the greater part of the staff had their job; Sandstede in the Embassy, and Mueller was in a small factory, so they only came there eleven to one, and in the afternoon after five. They didn't get any salary so the expenses could not have been very high.

Q Did the Embassy call upon the different German firms in the country to contribute? A To contribute money to the Embassy? Yes.

Q What was that money for? A Well, you see, until October, I think, or November -- I can't say exactly -- 1941, we got as much money from Germany as we liked to have, but when this was regulated by the Argentine Government -- I don't know -- I suppose there was a protest from the British Embassy that every Embassy should have the same allowance, and this allowance, I think, was 200,000 pesos for the month.

Q In other words, that reduction to a fixed amount of 200,000 pesos per month was something which the Argentine Government required. I was under the impression that the Germans were cutting you down. A No, it was the Argentine Government that did it, and we protested against it naturally because it is not right when the income of an Embassy is restrained by a foreign government, and every Embassy should get as much money as we like to have.

Q What were you using the money for outside of the running expenses of the Embassy? A First naturally we had

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to pay all the salaries.

Q Aside from that were you using it for propaganda?

A Naturally we had to pay for El Pampero.

Q And radio propaganda? A Yes, I think a good part of this money went to Sandstede's department.

Q Did the Embassy call upon the German firms to gather up for it commercial and economic and financial information about Argentina? A Oh, well, this was always because, you see, for our treaty we needed always dates. How much would be exported in the next year. So we must have an idea what we could buy and what we could sell in Germany because it was a compensation treaty. We must have an idea what should be imported; what should be exported. And this information we got from the firms as a commercial service.

Q So you would know from time to time through these various German firms pretty much what the economic picture was in Argentina. A Oh, yes.

Q And you would send that to the Foreign Office.

A We publish too a paper. We publish a monthly periodical with all the shippers for export and import, all the shipping business done.

Q You would, of course, send this information on to the Foreign Office. A On to Berlin, Yes.

Q Did the Embassy place any of its own, not necessarily its own staff members but any of its own selected people in these German firms? A No.

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Q Never did that? A No, we hadn't people enough. We were only a small staff. It was of no use because they gave us information from themselves.

Q Aside from that, didn't they go out and hire people and have them put in these different firms? A No.

Q Did Sandstede do that, as far as you know? A No, I don't think so because he didn't have people enough for that and there was really no reason because we trusted absolutely these friends. You know, this contribution, I followed with interest what the British colony did because the manager of it, Mr. Limpany, I could remember very well from golf playing. They made a self taxation. Everybody would say I have an income of so much, so I can give to the British Embassy in B.A. so and so much money, but we didn't do that because I didn't like it.

Q You didn't do that. A No, we didn't do that. We made volunteer contributions.

Q How much was collected in that way each month? A I have just been thinking over it. I think I remember at about 100,000 pesos a month because it was the last month. I was there in October and I left in January.

Q You mean this only started in October, 1941? A Yes, and I left in February, 1942, so it was in the last month. I think it was about 100,000 pesos a month we needed.

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Q Did they raise that much? A Oh, yes.

Q So you would have about 300,000 to use? A Yes.

Well, we had a lot of people and a lot of dependencies were pensioners who were living there. I gave once a detailed account to the Argentine Government and the situation is different. For instance, other Embassies like the British or American Embassy, they had a Consul. We had no German Consulate in Buenos Aires but we had a Consular Department with about eight officials and we had to run this department too, and besides the difference was the British or American Embassy can always pay with pounds or dollars. If somebody comes over he brings fifty thousand dollars, but we didn't have foreign exchange money. That was the trouble for Germany. We had always to get foreign exchange.

Q Did the Embassy have any part in the activities of the party in raising funds from the German community?

A No.

Q That was done wholly aside? A Yes. No, we never mixed. There were two things. First I remember the membership fees were for all social work. For the party there was the Winter Help Fund and this was collected exclusively by the party.

Q You didn't have anything to do with it?

A No. We spent too for this but the whole administration

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was done by the party.

Q By Mueller? A No, this was by Follberg. He was the chief of the Winter's work and I think he sometimes pressed hard for German funds, because we had a lot of things, several homes for aged women.

Q The Winter Help Fund was sent to Germany?

A No.

Q Wasn't part of it sent over? A No, I don't think so. During the war certainly no more because we used it. In Germany itself it was handed over the greatest part to the Government but outside I think not.

Q What did you need that kind of money for in Argentina? A Well, we had a lot of homes for old people. We had an old women's home.

Q You had this all the time, didn't you? A Well, but naturally now as soon as the party took over all these institutions a lot of people retired from those things.

Q Wouldn't contribute any more? A Yes, because already when I came over there was a Mrs. Hirsch who was in the President's office of one of the societies --

Q And she retired from this? A Yes, all these wealthy people retired from it.

Q Did the Embassy, aside from these voluntary contributions by the German community which you say ran up

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to about 100,000 pesos a month, did the Embassy charge the individual German firms anything additional for propaganda purposes? A No, no. We collected simply the money and I said always to Burmeister, try to get the money from the big firms and not from the small because it is much better to get 100,000 pesos from twenty firms each giving five because it should be secret.

Q Did you succeed in doing that? A Yes, he succeeded. I can't say exactly if it was 100,000 or a little more or a little less. I really don't know but I have an idea because I have been thinking it over.

Q Actually you were in that way circumventing the regulations of the Argentine Government. A Well, it was ours. If we got more money from Argentina, we didn't need so much from Germany.

Q At the same time, if you had a certain amount of money to use as far as propaganda purposes are concerned and therefore as far as the British interests were concerned, it wouldn't make any difference where you got it from, whether Germany or the Argentine, isn't that so? A Yes, I imagine so.

Q Did the British ever complain about this? A No.

Q Didn't they know you were making these collections from the German firms? A Naturally.

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Q Didn't they complain about that? A No, they had quite openly taxed the whole colony so they couldn't complain.

Q Did the Argentine Government ever complain about it? A No.

Q How did you actually go about the business of collecting these funds? A Naturally it was done secretly.

Q Would they be paid into certain bank accounts? A I think it was paid into a bank account, yes, because it was not well to handle it open.

Q How did you pay out these funds that were collected? A This I really don't know. Sandstede got a part of it to pay his expenses but if they did it by check or cash, I don't know.

Q For what purposes were they paid out? A For all kind of propaganda. We had to pay for the newspaper and we had to pay for the film and the radio.

Q Now, who was in charge in the Embassy of paying out these funds or seeing they were paid for propaganda purposes? A Well, the distribution was in the hands of Burmeister. He had the money and naturally I ordered it. I told him, "Sandstede says he needs so and so much; give it to him."

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Q You told him how much to give to each person?

A Yes, to different departments, because this was already fixed all the time through, only before we got the money from Germany and now from Argentine. They were fixed expenses.

Q Did you ever overrule Sandstede or Metzger when they said they wanted certain sums? A Naturally, if I had the impression that it was too much, I would say, "We can't afford. We have to arrange with the money we have."

Q Would you give them less? A Yes, then I gave them less.

Q What happened to Burmeister? A Well, I don't know. Before yesterday I was interviewed by a Captain and a gentleman in civilian clothes, and he told me that Burmeister suicided in Buenos Aires. I was very astonished because Burmeister was a very quiet man and he lost one arm in the other war.

Q Who was Heinrich Follberg? A That's the Follberg who was chief of this Winter Work Fund. We mentioned him.

Q He had charge of collections? A He had charge of collections. He was in charge of economic things from the side of the Nazi organization.

Q Did the Embassy make any contributions to Follberg? A No.

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Q For any purposes? A No. Follberg was paid from home. He was not paid by the party organization in Buenos Aires. He was paid from home. I don't know, he had a kind of representation of chemical --

Q Company? A Not a company; a chemical union in Germany, but finally he had been in the Bayer Institute before but I think this was only to give him a large pay.

Q Who on your staff in the German Embassy in Buenos Aires was in charge of the various intelligence and counter-intelligence organizations in Argentina? A As much as we had an intelligence service, this was Neibuhr.

Q How long was Neibuhr with you? A Oh, I think he was all the time with me.

Q Was he there in 1933? A I think so. He was already there in 1933.

Q Was he there before you? A I think he was already there, yes. He must have come immediately in 1934, but I imagine he was already there.

Q Did Neibuhr report to you? A Oh, yes, naturally, but he reported to the Navy Department in Berlin. He was a Captain in the Navy.

Q You would see everything he sent out? A No, I didn't see everything. He had the right to send closed letters too.

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Q Was that in his position as Naval Attaché?

A Yes, it was in his position.

Q Some of the party members had the right to send closed documents? A Unfortunately, yes, they got the right to send closed letters.

Q Who else in the Embassy besides Neibuhr, and after a while these party members, could send closed messages?

A The Military Attaché too.

Q Who was that? A That was General Niedenfuhr. He had his seat in Rio de Janeiro so he was very seldom there.

Q Was he attached to the Brazilian and Argentine Embassies? A Yes, he was attached to both Embassies.

Q What kind of work did Neibuhr do? A Well, Neibuhr had to handle the shipping questions. There was especially a big question with the Graf Spee which was blown up before Montevideo and the internment of the crew, about a thousand people. He had to take care of all this, and before he had to look after the shipping interests. I think he was not so extremely busy before the war but during the war he was quite busy.

Q It would be up to him to acquaint his superiors in Berlin with the movements of ships in and out of Buenos Aires? A Well, in the harbor this was mostly Burmeister's

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job. If a British man-of-war came or an American man-of-war, he had to report about the ship and about the armament of the ship and about the impression it gives for motion, and all kinds of this stuff.

Q Was he also attached to the Brazilian Embassy?

A No, he was only for Buenos Aires. I think he was attached to Montevideo and to Chile and I don't know if he was still to Paraguay, but he was attached to two Legations in addition to Buenos Aires. I think to Paraguay too.

Q What use was made either by you or Neibuhr or any other members of your staff of the German firms in Argentina in the collection of intelligence or counter-intelligence? A Well, you see, I think there was really very little need for it because in Argentine everything was so public. You could see always in the papers that a British man-of-war is now here and after tomorrow it will be in Argentine. We saw it lying in the harbor there, and in peace time we were invited to cocktail parties. There was no great secret. I talked this question over with Lieutenant Robbins too and he said, "You must have some people of confidence." I said, "What for? We had fifty thousand German people in Argentine." For instance, let's say the British man-of-war had a big reparation. We like to know what is the origin of this reparation; has it had a sea

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battle anywhere; what is the matter. We had always people in the German community who were working in these firms that did the repair.

Q And you just asked them. A We just asked them. It was much better than working with "V" people, which means vertraum, or confidence.

Q What relations or contacts did you have with the leaders of the Argentine Army or military setup?

A Well, I had first a very close contact with General Molina.

Q You came over with him first. A He came over with me on the CAPARCONA. He was Military Attaché in Berlin 'til 1933 and he came on the same boat as I, which was purely accidental. But we were together sixty days and he told me lots of things about Argentine of which I had no idea because I never saw Argentine. I think too he was a very nice and charming man and his wife gave me Spanish lessons, so we got really good friends and he told me all about this revolution of General Uriburu.

(Discussion off the record was had at this point.)

Q Whom else besides General Molina did you come to know? A Several generals and officers who had been on commission in Germany. For instance, General Rodriguez, who was Minister of War as I came over; then General Pertine who was successor of Rodriguez as Minister of War; then General Pistarini; then General Ramirez, who later on

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was one of the dictators.

Q All of these had been trained in Germany?

A Yes.

Q Had you known them in Germany? A No. I knew only one in my regiment. I was in the regiment of the First Hussars. There was one, Gonzalez.

Q Did you know General Carlos Von der Becke?

A Yes, that was a brother-in-law of Molina.

Q Was that Carlos Von der Becke or was it Alejandro? A I really don't remember. There was only one General Von der Becke.

Q There was another one connected with Schering.

A Yes, there was one connected with Schering.

Q What relations did you have with these Generals? Was it social? A They were really only social relations. They invited me and I invited them and as Molina was sometimes commander of a school of young officers in Campo de Mayo, so I went there to visit and we went together horseback riding and had a cocktail and naturally I saw there others too.

Q Did you use them as sources of information? Naturally, if there was anything to ask, I asked him about the President or who would be the successor of President Justo. Naturally I asked him but it was information given in a cordial way.

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Q Did you use them as means of spreading propaganda for Germany? A No.

Q Or for the party? A No, not at all. I didn't use them for this at all. Naturally for information, if I want to know something.

Q Did you ever give them -- A Money? No.

Q Did you ever give them documents to be released in the press through them better than you could do it yourself? A No, we had a lot of people in our press department.

Q Did you have any relations with the Von der Becke who was connected with Quimica Schering? A I have seen him sometimes but no close relations at all.

Q Any business relations with him? A No. We had close relations with the Bayer representative of I. G. Farben, Casa Bayer, Dr. Homann. He was representative of I. G. Farben and we had a lot of conversation about the treaty on the powder factory.

Q Did you own any stock in or have any other investments in any of the German companies in Argentina? A No.

Q Never had any? A No, no investments at all.

Q And you say you had no business relations with Schering? A No. We had one but this was more personal really. I have been very busy finding out if the German

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industry could not invent something against angosta, these flying insects that come in heaps and heaps.

Q Locusts? A Locusts, yes. And I tried at first with I. G. Farben but they said it is too big a question, "we are not interested in it." And then finally Schering has invented a powder, an arsenic powder to kill the little ones coming out, not the old ones but the little ones just coming out of the earth, to kill them. This was a job where I have been speaking sometimes with Schering.

Q Whom did you deal with in Schering in connection with that? A I really don't remember because I think he changed. I really treated more with the Argentine Department of Agriculture, Dr. Carcano.

Q Outside of the military, what officials in the Argentine Government or what political figures in Argentina were particularly friendly or cordial with you? A You see, I told already to Mr. Robbins too, the trouble with me was I could not hope to apply to people of Parliament because we in Germany had just abolished the parliament. The Reichstag was no more.

Q You mean when you say you could not apply to them, you could not appeal to them. Isn't that what you mean?

A Yes, appeal to them because they say, "You are a representative of a totalitarian government. Why show interest in our government, because you in your country dropped it." So I really didn't try to get too close contact with them

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because naturally, as diplomat in a foreign country, you try to get in contact with people in Parliament because when I was in Washington, I tried as soon as possible to get in touch with the Committee on Foreign Affairs because it was very necessary.

Q You did get to know some of the people.

A Very few. I only knew Senator Sanchez Arando.

Q Outside of Parliament, what about the officials in the Cabinet, like the Finance Minister? A Naturally as a whole I know the chiefs of the Foreign Office. I knew only some people with whom I had to deal, the Sub-Secretary, and during the treaty there were several other members too but these were all official relations.

Q How about personal relations with any of these people, did you have any? A Well, we were on good terms with Garcia, the Sub-Secretary under Saavedra Lamas. He was Minister for Foreign Affairs as I came over and his Sub-Secretary was Mr. Garcia.

Q How about the politicians in Argentina, did you know any of those men who were not necessarily office holders?

A Well, I know, for instance, Fresco, who was a Governor of the State of La Plata, and I knew the President of the Police because we were officially invited, people like that but all official. There were no real personal relations.

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Q Do you know in Germany any of the officials of I. G. Farben? A Oh, yes. I know Dr. Ilgner.

Q Just hold that. A Dr. Frank-Fahle.

Q Anybody else? A I have been invited sometimes. I think I know more or less the whole staff.

Q Do you know Hermann -- A Von Schnitzler?

Q Do you know Hermann Schmitz? A Schmitz I have seen once only.

Q Do you know Carl Bosch? A No.

Q Was Ilgner the only one you had any contact with?

A Ilgner and Frank-Fahle came to Buenos Aires to conclude this treaty about the powder factory. They stayed some weeks in Buenos Aires.

Q Did Ilgner, so far as you know, have any direct connection with the Ausland's Organization? A No. He was a member of the party naturally, as all were, but I think in Buenos Aires he didn't care at all.

Q Have you heard of a thing called the Ilgner Bureau or Bureau Ilgner? A In Buenos Aires?

Q Any place in the German Government. A No.

Q Or in the German business community. A No.

Q What things did Ilgner discuss with you? A This treaty, this powder.

Q Is that all? A And the general situation. He told me that there had been a conference between the

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three great world concerns. I don't know the names of the chemical works in the United States and London. They came together shortly before in Buenos Aires. The British representative was Milsch.

Q Was it Lord McGowan? A No.

Q What company was it, Imperial Chemical? A I.C.I., and what was the American --

Q Dupont? A Dupont. They came together in Buenos Aires. Aspirin was given to I. G. Farben.

Q They divided up the world? A They divided up more or less the world.

Q That's what Ilgner told you? A Yes.

Q Did they meet in Buenos Aires? A Yes, in Buenos Aires, but before Ilgner came. Ilgner did not assist in this.

Q You knew about this? A Oh, yes, it was in all the newspapers, the gentlemen who came and so on.

Q Did you attend it? A No, I was not invited,

Q Did any of the people pay a call on you? A No.

Q Who was the German representative at that meeting?

A There must have been a representative but I can't think of it.

Q Was it the local Bayer man? A Yes, the local Bayer man, Dr. Homann.

Q Was he the man who attended this meeting in Buenos Aires for the Germans, the local man? A No, that is not right.

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Q You may think of it later. A I must think about it. No, it was not in Buenos Aires. The meeting was not in Buenos Aires. It was in Rio. I don't know if Ilgner on the way to Buenos Aires had attended the meeting before or if Schmitz had been there, but it was not in Buenos Aires. I am wrong there. But I remember shortly before there had been a great meeting because we were astonished. As non-business men you think it is not so easy to divide the world like that in a chemical way because they are all competitors.

Q Did Quimica Schering, S.A., manufacture its own products or did it import products from Germany? A No, I think they manufactured too.

Q Did both? A Yes. We had three chemical firms. There were Schering, Merck and Bayer, and they all imported and manufactured too because some things were too expensive, I think, to bring over there on account of duties and transportation. For instance, Bayer made aspirin, a coffee aspirin, in Buenos Aires itself.

Q Did you know of a firm in Argentina which went under the name of Arcofina, which was the initials or first letters of a name Compania Argentina de Comercio y Finanzas S.A.? A No, I didn't know that.

Q Arcofina doesn't mean anything to you? A No. You see, I myself am of a family that was never in business, cultural people. My father and grandfather were judges and

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were never in business. It is rather interesting, if I may mention this.

(Discussion off the record was had at this point.)

Q Does the name Chepha mean anything to you?

A No.

Q Does the name Forinvent mean anything to you?

A No. I remember the only name of a big holding company was, I think, Sofina. That was a Bemberg concern. That's the only one I remember. I have heard it once.

Q Did Quimica Schering during the war export Schering products to other companies in Latin America?

A Well, I don't know. I couldn't tell you. It may be but I don't know.

Q Do you know how it got its supplies during the war? A Well, I think some chemical things have been transported by this Italian Lati. I heard this, but finally it cannot be very much because we cannot take so much, but if it was just Schering or Merck or Bayer, I couldn't tell you.

Q Do you know a Dr. Wilhelm Neuman? A I think he was a doctor for children. There was a Dr. Neuman who treated our children.

Q Where? A A medical doctor.

Q In Buenos Aires? A Yes.

Q Was he connected with Schering at all? A That I don't know. I know he only came to our house and attended the children.

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Q Did you know any Dr. Wilhelm Neuman in Germany?

A I don't know if his middle name was Wilhelm because we never say the middle name.

Q Did you know any of the directors or other officials of German Schering, that is, Schering A.G.?

A No. In Germany?

Q Yes. A No, I didn't have any connection. I have visited once Leverkusen because I was to see my sister in Bonn, and on this occasion I thought I would go over to Leverkusen to see the director, Mann, I think, and he was once in Buenos Aires too and told me if you come once to Bonn, it is so close to Leverkusen, come to see the factory.

Q That was not Schering. A No, this is I. G. Farben. With Schering I didn't have any connection.

Q Did you have any dealings in Argentina with any of the representatives of the Spanish Falange movement?

A I know the chief of it.

Q Who was that? A That's the trouble, I can't get the name. I remember only the name of the second, who was called Amat, but it is too bad. I spoke just yesterday with the gentleman who came to see me about it. I can't come to the name. The first one, he was a Spanish secretary of the Legation in Chile as the Franco war broke out, and he came to Buenos Aires and organized the whole Falange there.

Q What dealings did you have with him? A He

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invited me once to see this Falange Quarter, the house where they lived and had the social things, sewing things for people and all this kind of social work, and I was once there at his invitation, and when Franco was victorious there was a big Te Deum at the cathedral.

Q There was a big Te Deum at the cathedral?

A Yes, and the Argentine Government was too represented.

Q Did you have any other dealings with him? A No, only social. I have invited him and Amat once, but this whole Franco movement in Argentine was headed by a lady, Mrs. Alonso de Drysdale.

Q Did you exchange any information with the Falangists? A No, we just talked about the whole situation.

Q Did you have any dealings with General Von Faupel? A Von Faupel was no more in Argentine.

Q In Stuttgart, wasn't it? A No, he was in Berlin. He was the chief of Ibero Amerikanisches Institut..

Q He was the chief of that? A He was the chief of that. He had been in the Argentine seven years as instruction officer of the Army, and then he was in Peru in the same position and when he came to Berlin he was Ambassador in Spain a short time, a year and a half I think, and then he became chief of this Ibero Amerikanisches Institut in Berlin. He invited me once to a reunion or assembly of the Institute. There was a young Spaniard referred about his time in the war with this Spanish Legion fighting in Germany, and general questions on fascism.

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Q This was in Berlin. A Yes.

Q When was this? A In 1942, after I came back.

Q Was that the only contact you had with Von Faupel? A Yes; I had no contact with him really.

Q Did all radio activities come under Sandstede?

A Yes, Sandstede was responsible for this, but we didn't have very much because, as I remember, it was very difficult to come into the radio because the radio was more or less hired for five minutes by this and this firm.

Q Did you have any station of your own? A No, we didn't have a station of our own.

Q But you bought time on other stations. A No, I think with Callao we had an agreement. He gave us always two minutes.

Q Each hour? A No, no, once in the morning and so on. Just to give an official report of the Obercommandant. I remember it was terribly difficult to come into radio.

Q Did you yourself prepare any of the material for the radio? A No.

Q Or did you supervise its preparation? A We got always a report of the Obercommandant and we gave this report, translated into Spanish, over the radio.

Q Do you know a man by the name of Adolph Arnold?

A Arnold? Yes.

Q Wasn't he the Gestapo chief? A I don't know.

To me he didn't but to other people he pretended. To me he never said it.

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Q What was he to you? A To me he was simply a party member of the organization, of the party organization, of the Landesgruppe. I have heard later on that he pretended to be a Gestapo man.

Q Did the Argentine Government issue an order for his expulsion? A No. He went away before he was arrested. He should be arrested, I think.

Q They issued an order for his arrest? A No, I think the police had an order to arrest him but it was not going over the Embassy. But I think he heard he should be arrested and so he went away to Montevideo.

Q Did he spend any time in your Embassy? A No, he had nothing to do with the Embassy.

Q Before going to Montevideo, he didn't stay in the Embassy? A No. Sandstede stayed several hours in the Embassy. I think half a night.

Q You knew, I suppose, Captain Fritz Weidemann?
A Oh, yes, he came on this trip to Shanghai. He passed through Buenos Aires.

Q Was this after he left the United States? A Yes, this was after he left San Francisco. This was in 1941.

Q Did he stay at the Embassy? A He stayed at the Embassy because this Parliamentary Commission had said in the papers that they were going to arrest Weidemann if he passed through Buenos Aires, so I had to protect him. So I took him

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into a room and I took him in my car. He had stayed in the Embassy.

Q He was safe. A Yes. I don't know if the Commission had the power to arrest him.

Q How long did he stay with you? A One week.

Q Then he went to Shanghai? A Yes, he took a Japanese boat to Shanghai straight away.

Q When you left Argentina in 1942, did you create a committee of any kind to take care of German relations?
A No, I just left. Everything was running so it was unnecessary to make a special committee.

Q Do you know Ricardo W. Staudt? A Yes, sure. He was one of the biggest German business men in Buenos Aires. He had Argentine nationality but he supported all German things, especially the cultural institution. We had a cultural institution there, German Argentine Cultural Institution, and Staudt was very interested in this, and we had a riding club.

Q Was he in the army, Staudt? A Staudt has been in the army in the other war, yes, as officer of reserve.

Q In the German Army? A In the German Army.

Q How about Wilhelm Krankenhagen? A He had been in the navy.

Q What firm was he with? A Yes, I think he was in the Staudt firm.

Q Was there a firm Bromberg? A Yes, but this was

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a sub-firm of Staudt.

Q Did you have any official relations with either of these two individuals. A I knew naturally Staudt and his mother already in Berlin. Staudt was a very well-known family in Berlin.

Q Did you have any official relation with him?

A Not official, no. First I think he was still Austrian Consul, so we had kind of official relations, but he resigned before the Anschluss came and then he was simply Argentine citizen, but we had quite cordial relations. He had a very nice house and gave a lot of nice parties.

Q What connection did you have with Fritz Mandl?

A No connection with him at all. He never called on me and I never called on him. I knew just what he was there.

Q He was one of the leading industrialists down there. A Of Austria, yes. He had a famous munitions factory in Hirtenberg, Austria.

Q Was there an incident in Buenos Aires in which Fritz Mandl was attacked in the newspapers and you came to his rescue? A No, I don't think so. We were naturally of different opinions, but he came with a lot of money and he had a good position.

Q Do you remember any incident in which Mandl was attacked in a newspaper and you subsequently protested to the newspaper and they retracted the charges? A Am I in it too?

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Q No, you were not mentioned, but you went to the aid of Mandl. A No, certainly not. I never had anything to do with him. He was strongly against us.

Q He was anti-Nazi? A Absolutely.

Q Do you know a Rudolf Hepe, supposedly with the firm of Delfino? A I think there was a Captain Hepe, yes, who had something to do with the shipping business, with the boats.

Q Did you have anything to do with him? A No.

Q Do you know Otto Rusche with A.E.G.? A No, I don't remember. As a rule I only knew the chiefs because I saw the chiefs at a dinner party or the Chamber of Commerce.

Q Did you know a Walter Grotewald? A Yes, he was representative of an air line.

Q Condor? A Yes.

Q Did you have any dealings with him? A Naturally if somebody was going to fly or if I myself was going to fly. He was brother-in-law of Sandstede. The two wives were sisters.

Q Did you have any other relations with him about finding out information about the Argentine air force or anything of that sort? A No, because we had our instruction officers and we had one officer who was in the flying corps.

Q So you knew everything about that. A Naturally. We didn't need any.

Q Do you know Joaquim Ufflembauemer? A Yes.

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I was just thinking. I think he was in one of the electricity firms.

Q Was that the firm of Afatudar or Siemens?

A I am not perfectly sure but I think he had something to do with electricity. He was a power line man.

Q A big man? A Yes, a very big man.

Q Did you have any dealings with him? A No, I saw him just sometimes at the club.

Q Do you know a Dr. Arnold Stoop? A Wasn't it Stoup?

Q Maybe it is Stoup. A I think this was the Swiss chief of the whole Siemens concern.

Q Did you have any dealings with him? A I knew him only because he was representative of the biggest firm there. I invited him for luncheon. No official relations.

Q Robert Mertig? A Yes. He was very busy in the organization of a kind of health resort. His idea was to build up a whole colony of small houses in the mountains where the German merchant men could go for a rest. He himself constructed one house for him and a second house in La Falda in the mountains of Cordoba.

Q What was his business? A I don't know. I think he was in the construction business.

Q Was there a firm down there known as the Bayrische Motoren Werke? A Yes, there was representation of Bayrische Motoren. He was a Bavarian.

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Q Did you know him? A I knew him because my second son bought one motor bicycle. He was a daring man. He tried absolutely to sell this motorcycle but he didn't come through and he made a lot of propaganda.

Q Did you know a Dr. Carlos Linck? A Yes, he was in insurance. Victoria was the name of the insurance company.

Q Wasn't he with I. G. Farben? A No, Linck was with Victoria.

Q Was there another Linck with Alemanas Anilinas? A Perhaps as a lawyer. Linck, I think, was a lawyer.

Q Did you have any dealings with that Linck? A I saw him because he lived in the same house where our office was and we met sometimes in the elevator but otherwise social. I was invited for the wedding of his daughter.

Q Did you know Wilhelm Schulenburg? A Yes. He must have been on an electrical job but I don't know in which casa he was, whether it was I. G. I think he was in the electrical branch.

Q Did you know a Mr. Petersen? Wasn't he with Banco Aleman Transatlantico? A He was the second gerente.

Q Did you know Ricardo Leute with the Banco Germanico? A I don't remember Leute.

Q Did you know a Dr. C. Ernesto Niebuhr? A There were two Niebuhrs. One was an engineer, an older gentleman, and there was another Niebuhr, a nephew of him.

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Q Was there any relation between those Niebuhrs and your Naval Attaché? A No, I don't think they had any relation, just the same name.

Q Did you have any official dealings with these Niebuhrs? A No. I think they were -- one at least was strongly anti-Nazi.

Q Did you know a Dr. Alfredo Koch? A No. There was a Captain of the Navy, Koch, but Dr. Koch -- no, there was a Koch in Mendoza who was German Consul. He was not a doctor.

Q Did you know a Dr. Theodor Von Bernhard? A Oh, yes. He was a German man you saw at social affairs.

Q Was he a rich man? A Yes, he was a wealthy man and he didn't do anything.

Q Do you associate the name Hanni Eisler with Theodor Von Bernhard? A I think he was once engaged with a Baroness Hanni Eisler.

Q Was Von Bernhard a regular contributor to the party? A Oh, certainly not. He was absolutely anti-Nazi. The whole family of Von Bernhard was absolutely anti-Nazi.

Q Did you know a Dr. Edlef E. Hosmann? A He was associate of Linck. They had a firm and they had this insurance company.

Q Did you know a Franz Von Bernhard? A Yes, he was a brother of the other Bernhard but one worked at the

estancia. The other was in Buenos Aires. He didn't do anything. He was a great singer. That's the only thing I remember.

Q You had no official relations with him? A No, just private.

Q Do you know an Erwin Pallavicini? A Yes, Pallavicini was in the Casa Staudt.

Q What type of business was that Staudt? A They had the biggest exportation and importation of whole South America, especially wool and leather. They bought all the leather, skins of cattle.

Q Did Pallavicini have any interest in a sugar business that you know of? A Well, I think so. I think Pallavicini has interest in a sugar business in Tucuman.

Q Is there a company called Hilleret? A I don't know. Do you know, this firm of Staudt has a lot of different firms like Bromberg, subsidiary firms.

Q Did you know Dr. Wolfgang E. Centner? A Yes. He was in a German firm. He tried to go home.

Q Was he with Siemens? A Perhaps he was with Siemens. He tried to go home for Japan and as he arrived in Japan, the war broke out with Germany and Russia, so he came back and now he could not go over because the Italian air line stopped, and I gave him some things for my children and he brought it back to me. He must be in the electric branch.

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Q Do you know Dr. Paul Mehlich? A No.

Q Do you know Dr. Hans Merzbacher? A Oh, yes, he was a doctor. He was first at the German hospital but then he went out from the German hospital. He was a private doctor.

Q Why did he go out of the German hospital? A I think he was not quite Aryan.

Q Who had charge of expelling those doctors?

A There was a hospital -- a union to support the hospital and as soon as the Nazis came over there they pretended they had the right to take over all these unions to get the presidency and they teased such a man until he went out.

Q Who would do that, this union? A Mueller and his party.

Q There were two Doctors Merzbacher, an older man and a younger man. A I remember only the older man who was some years in the hospital.

Q Did you know a Dr. Zeyen? A Zeyen? Yes. When I came over there he was Jugendfuehrer but he was thrown out from the party and dismissed absolutely.

Q Dismissed from the party? A Yes.

Q For doing what? A It was thought he was not a doctor and he had already been in jail in Germany. He was a bad type.

Q Did you know Dr. Walter Kossmann? A I can't remember. There were so many people in these big firms.

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Q Was there a former Consul of the German Embassy named Henn? A Yes, there was a former Chancellor but he died later on. I think he was quite an old man.

Q The name Kossmann doesn't mean anything. A No.

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INTERROGATION ADJOURNED

AND CONTINUED

ON

7 JUNE 1945

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Q Now, you say, Mr. Von Thermann, that you want to change a statement made yesterday with respect to the part played by the Embassy in the collection of the Winter Help Fund. A Yes.

Q Will you make your statement now? A The Embassy had to support by order of Berlin the Winter Help Fund by giving a certain percentage of the salaries, I think five per cent., to the Winter Fund, and the members were obliged to collect themselves; part of the funds were sent to Berlin but I don't know how much.

Q Who in Berlin issued the order for the collection by the Embassy? A The Ministry.

Q The Foreign Office? A Yes, and I think the reason given was that the Winter Fund was not only for social work of the party but for the social work of the whole German colony. For instance, the hospital got too

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something out of the Winter Help Fund, and other institutions who were not in direct dependency of the Nazi party.

Q Have you done any work in the Foreign Office since returning from Argentina in 1942? A No, sir.

Q You have not had any part in shaping German policy toward Latin America or toward Argentina? A No, not at all. My only occupations were I should go in 1944 to receive coming back members of the Embassy and the German colony, about three hundred people in Lisbon, but it didn't come out because I came with a plane only to Stuttgart and there we came in a big American attack and the engine was burned and my luggage was burned and so I could not go on without a hat or overcoat. I should receive them now in Sweden because they were expected to arrive in Sweden in the first days of May in Gotenburg and I should go there to receive them, but this never came out.

Q Since returning to Germany you have not done any work at all in the sense of -- A In politics? Not at all.

Q -- having any employment or any desk or anything of that sort? A Nothing with South America. I have been in Russia some time.

Q In Austria? A No, in Russia.

Q Since you came back? A Yes, in 1943.

Q What did you do there? A I was always interested in the Russian question since I have been a prisoner of war there. I studied Russian and learned Russian a little bit. So I could not be of any more use in the South American question, so I asked if they could use me in Russian things. The Foreign Office had only one post, one diplomatic post, in the Ukraine. That was Minister Von Zaucken who was representative of the Foreign Office on the staff of Mr. Koch, who was the Chief of Ukraine on administration. As this post was taken, naturally I could not get it, and I was promised to get the next post if there would be another. Gauleiter in the Caucasus, and awaiting this I asked to be sent anyhow to the Ukraine and so I was for some months in the Ukraine, in Kiev.

Q What kind of work did you do there? A Only for my personal information. You see, I had to get a military rank for this and I got the rank of a major because you could not travel with the trains if you were not a soldier, so I got the rank of major and I have been there. While I lived in Kiev I was close to the staff there and was traveling around through the Crimea just to see and to study Russian because I was expecting this post in the Caucasus.

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Q Who sent you there? A It was an agreement between -- Ribbentrop arranged this for me with Himmler.

Q With Himmler? A Yes.

Q Did you talk to Himmler about it? A Yes, I was once in headquarters when I saw Ribbentrop and later I saw him.

Q How many times have you talked with Himmler? A Perhaps ten minutes or a quarter of an hour.

Q Was that the first time you ever saw Himmler or talked with him? A No, I had seen him already before. He was once in Danzig.

Q On this occasion what did Himmler say to you? A He said, "If you like absolutely to go to Russia, Ribbentrop told me you like to go to Russia and I have nothing against that, and you may be a major in this formation there."

Q Were you an SS major? A Yes, I was an SS major, a real troop.

Q Whom did you report to? A I would like to report to Ribbentrop but I could not get to him. He never received me.

Q Did you report to anybody? A I saw the Secretary of State Steengracht, under Ribbentrop, and Sub-Secretary Henka, who has been himself in Russia. He was German Consul General in Kiev and he was naturally interested in what I told him about Russia.

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Q Did you have any definite assignment there?

A No. I had an assignment, you see, and I didn't get pay. Like an ambassador enters in such a thing, he remains always ambassador.

Q You drew your pay? A Always I got my pay from the Foreign Office. If you allow me one more remark, because naturally this is important about this SS, I never considered myself as a real SS man and for this reason, for instance, I always remained in the church. You know, Himmler --

Q You always remained what? A In the church. Himmler had forbidden to all SS men to remain in the church but I remained in the church because it was an honorary office for me and I remained in the church.

Q What church? A Protestant Church. I have only been a short time with a fighting unit on the retreat of Kiev to Lemburg. I have been a short time in the fighting units. It was a special group who was formed to cover the retreat and I took part, naturally not in the first line. I was in the staff.

Q You had to carry arms? A No.

Q Did you carry side arms? A No.

Q No guns or anything? A No, nothing. I had a pistol but I never used it.

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Q You speak of this SS group as covering the retreat. A Yes.

Q What did they do? A We were fighting against the Russian Army.

Q What was the relationship between this SS group and the regular troops of the German Army? A They were under the command of the regular army corps; the 13th Army Corps was under the command of General Hauffe.

Q What happened when you came back from Russia? A As I then reached sixty years old in the month of March 1944, I was promoted to the rank of colonel and I went home because I think I did now enough.

Q You came home from Russia? A Yes.

Q How long had you been there, about how many months? A Well, I had been there from January 1943 to March 1944 with great interruption. I was three months in the summer at home and I was in the fall at home, so in all I was perhaps seven months in Russia and six months of this time in Germany.

Q Did you report to Himmler? A No.

Q At any time? A No. I considered me always as a man of the Foreign Office, to report to the Foreign Office.

Q Did you report to anybody in Himmler's SS

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organization? A No. No, it was only, you see, I must have a military rank otherwise I could not travel; all the trains were reserved for men of the army. You know, I have honorary rank of brigadier. I got this already in 1942 as I was still in Argentina. This was still honorary rank but it does not count. I could not travel on this rank.

Q You had to have an army rank. A Yes, I had to have an army rank. SS was regarded as part of army. I asked first of army if they could give me a rank because I was Captain of Cavalry dismissed in 1919, but they said, "We are sending back all people approaching sixty", so they could not send me out at fifty-nine. They were ready to give me something in Germany but I didn't want to be chief of a prison camp or anything like that. I have been for years in such a camp. I didn't like to see barbed wire.

Q What, if you can generalize about it, was the policy of Germany during the war toward Argentina? A I think we tried to go on with friendly relations, but naturally we could export only the things that could be loaded on airplanes, so this was rather few, and we could not buy anything at all. There was the idea in the beginning of the war, I think it was in 1940 or 1941, that we should buy big stocks and put them down in Argentina to keep the interest of Argentine people on sales to Germany,

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but this proved impossible because you can't store maize. There was no place to store maize and the maize is eaten by a lot of insects.

Q Whose idea was it? A This was the idea of the Foreign Office. They proposed it to me but I said I thought it was completely useless because first there was no place. The Argentine people didn't know where to place the maize themselves and the payment would have been awfully difficult because the foreign exchange was very scarce in Germany.

Q What was the attitude of Germany toward the Castillo Government? A Well, we were in good relations with them, normal relations, but you know the Minister, Dr. Cantilo.

Q It was not Castillo? A No, Cantilo was the Foreign Minister.

Q Castillo was the President. A Yes, Castillo was President and Cantilo was his Foreign Minister. He was not at all a friend of Germany. Mr. Robbins asked me the question if we gave any promises or securities to the Argentine Government for the time after the war and I said I would not have dared to speak to Cantilo about this because he would throw me out. He would say, "We regulate our politics, not your politics", because he was anti-fascist and anti-German and pro-French because he had studied in France.

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Q The revolution was originally initiated by the group headed by Colonel Rawson. A I was already away then.

Q That was in what year? A This was in 1942, but after I left.

Q In other words, you were not -- A I had nothing to do with it.

Q You were not in Argentina when the revolution took place. A No, I was no longer there. It was several months later on.

Q When you left Buenos Aires -- A Castillo was still President and the Foreign Minister was Ruiz Guinazu. He is now Argentine Ambassador to Spain. Naturally the relations were a little bit spoiled by this trouble with this Parliamentary Committee, Taboda.

Q Although you were not there, what part did the Nazi party have in that revolutionary movement? A I don't think that they took part in it.

Q How about the members of the Embassy, Sandstede or Metzger? A Sandstede was away and Metzger was not the man for that. He was a school teacher.

Q How about Niebuhr, did he have any part in it? A I don't think so.

Q Or Burmeister? A No, certainly not. Burmeister certainly not.

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Q How long had Burmeister been there, did you say? A He was all the years with me. That means eight and a half years, and before he had already been several years there. No, I don't think he had any relation with revolutionary movement. There was a small revolution before, all the aviators in Argentine, but I think too they didn't have any relation to German people.

Q Who did you tell me yesterday was the man in charge of Latin American matters for the Foreign Office? A In the Foreign Office it was Freitag, and later on Reinebeck, who was Minister in Guatemala.

Q Were they on what you would call the Latin American desk in charge of all matters relating to Latin America? A Yes, all matters relating to Latin America.

Q Was there any individual in their department or elsewhere in the Foreign Office whose duty was exclusively to attend to Argentine matters? A No, it was for the whole sector, and after Reinebeck there was Ambassador Von Schoen, who was First Ambassador from Chile, and later on he was dismissed because he was married to an American lady and all members of the Foreign Office who were married to foreign born ladies had to be dismissed, and I really don't know who was there later on because this was just now in 1945.

Q Since your return to Germany, have you been called upon from time to time to advise anyone in official

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circles or business circles or elsewhere on matters relating to Latin America? A Well, the first time, yes. As I came over I was the first man to come over, you see, so I had to talk with the banks and great enterprises who had interests there. For instance, the firm of Staudt in Berlin appealed to me and I think some others too. But this was in the first months after I came back.

Q That was just in the beginning, not later on.

A No, it was just asking especially personal questions, how is this man, he was ill; is he back to the office, and so on.

Q Are there any of your former associates in the Embassy in Buenos Aires back in Germany at the present time?

A No, they are now all on the way. Nobody came back. They are all on the way now after the break-off of diplomatic relations and I imagine they must all be in Sweden now.

Q Were there any other persons besides those whose names you just gave, like Freitag, who were connected with Latin American affairs? A There was General Secretary Leisewitz who was Secretary of Embassy in Chile. He worked too in Latin American Department.

Q Anybody else? A I don't think so. I think there were only two people. You see, there were very few to it because there was no more communication, because I don't know in what moment the Argentine Government stopped the shipment of telegrams so we could not report very much.

Q Were there any other ministries besides the Foreign Office who were interested in Latin American affairs?

A Well, in all the treaty negotiations there was always the Minister of Finance, Minister of Economics and the Minister of Nutrition or Food.

Q Who was the Minister of Food, by the way?

A The Minister of Food was **Darre**, who was born in Argentine. I think at seven years he came to Germany, but later on he was put aside and Mr. Backe was made Minister of Nutrition until the end. I have seen in the papers he was arrested with this last group of German officials. We were naturally interested because a great part of this compensation treaty was about nutrition, maize.

Q Where are all these different people at the present time who have been interested in the Latin American picture? Are they in custody, do you know? A I have no idea. For instance, you see, I worked myself with a German bank, Banco America, which was one of the German banks, but I know only the building has been blown up by aircraft and I don't know where they are. You can't imagine how the situation is in Germany. You don't know where your own bank is.

Q What do you mean you worked with the bank?

A I got my salary.

Q You deposited it there? A The Foreign Office deposited my salary with the bank.

Q I thought you worked with them as an employee.

A No, but I don't know where they are. The building is blown up.

Q In the Nazi party organization who was principally concerned with Latin American matters? A There was Bohle, the chief of the Ausland's Organization, and specially in charge of South American Department was a man called Hubner. He was from Chile, I think.

Q Where was his headquarters? A At a big office on Fehrbelliner Platz in Berlin.

Q Anybody else? A No, I think Hubner was in charge of the South American Department.

Q You told us a little bit yesterday about your relations with Bohle. What were your relations with Hubner? A Hubner, not at all. I have seen him but if I had to do something, I only spoke with Bohle. You see, the trouble was, Bohle was at the same time given the rank of Secretary of State in the Foreign Office, so he really --

Q He was your boss? A He was a kind of chief of us, you see. That was the trouble with him. He was not only the chief of the Ausland, but he was in the Foreign Office. He had a room in the Foreign Office.

Q Did Hubner ever give you any instructions?

A No, no.

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Q Send any communication to you? A No.

Q Any instructions would come from Bohle?

A Always from Bohle, yes.

Q Did you have frequent instructions from Bohle?

A No. This was the trouble. Bohle gave his instructions to the Nazi party in Buenos Aires and when they came to see me, "We have an order from Bohle. You have to do this and this." I say, "I don't know anything about it. Please show me this order and arrange that I get the order because I can't do things just by hearing about them." This was always the trouble.

Q Who in the German Army was concerned with matters relating to Latin America? A That I don't know. You see, because our Military Attaché reported to the O.K.W. , Oberkommandowehrmacht.

Q Your Military Attaché, what was his name?

A One single time I have been speaking about a matter with S. Brauchitch. He was once chief of the German Army and once I have referred to him. This was the question of commanding officers to Argentine and commanding Argentine officers to Germany, but this was already in 1938 or 1937.

Q Who was your Military Attaché? A General Niefenfuhr, but he has his seat in Rio.

Q He didn't tell you who in the army was concerned with Latin America? A Oh, no. They kept always very secret. You know how military are.

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Q How about the Navy? A The Navy the same. I didn't know who was around. I have seen the chief of the Navy only once after my return. That was still Admiral Raeder because I spoke with him about the whole matter of the Spee.

Q What role did the Deutsche Ibero Amerikanische Institut play in collecting information and forming policy regarding Latin America? A That was an institute headed by General Faupel. I think they got their information especially by the Nazi organization because I know Faupel was on very good terms with Bohle because he never asked me. Since I came back he didn't ask me at all about the situation.

Q Bohle didn't? A Faupel didn't.

Q Was Faupel head of the Institut? A He was President, yes.

Q What was the purpose? A The purpose was to cultivate the relations to all Latin American countries, especially on a cultural basis, to send singers and to send film there before the war.

Q It was separate and distinct from the Ausland's Organization? A Oh, yes. It is much older. I think this Ibero Amerikanische Institut existed thirty or fifty years.

Q What were your relations with General Faupel? A Very few. I didn't have close relations with him because, I don't know, we were not friends.

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Q Did he visit Buenos Aires? A No. He had been there before in Buenos Aires and in Peru, but during my time he didn't come over.

Q You mentioned before -- A And naturally, you see, he had relations with all the Latin American Legations in Berlin, invited them for receptions and concerts and things like that.

Q You mentioned before that on your return from Buenos Aires you had contact with various companies in Germany which had subsidiary companies or branches in Buenos Aires. Can you name as many as you can recall? A Well, I think I saw two of the directors of Siemens. And then I think too of construction firms of Geope.

Q Was that Holzmann? A Yes, in Frankfort. They had a subsidiary firm called Geope in the Argentine.

Q Any others? You mentioned Staudt. A Yes, Staudt.

Q Any representatives of A.E.G., Allgemeine Elektrizitaetgesellschaft? A Yes.

Q And I. G. Farben? A Naturally I. G. Farben. They gave me a luncheon there once in the building.

Q In Frankfort? A No, in Berlin, and they spoke about the whole situation.

Q How about Merck? A No, Merck I don't remember; Neither Merck or Schering.

Q How about Behring? Weren't they connected with Bayer? In Argentina was there a biological laboratory called Instituto Behring? A That was an Argentine institute.

Q That was separate? A Yes. Behring was inventor of some important things in chemicals, especially tuberculosis, predecessor of Koch.

Q Can you think of any others? A There may be one or two others, but more numerous were the visits of the people who had personal relations. I think each day I received three or four people who spoke of their uncle or nephew or son.

Q Did you say you just had contact with them in the first month or so? A Yes, it was during the summer. You see, I came in April. I had a leave of two months. During this leave I was in Italy because I had bought a small property in Ischia for sunshine, bathing and things like that.

Q Did you make any formal reports to any of these companies? A No. I made a big report naturally to the Foreign Office. I answered just questions.

Q Did you keep a copy of the report you made to the Foreign Office? A Oh, no. It was not allowed.

Q Did you in turn receive any files or information from these companies that you visited on your return?

A No. I have only once received a report of I.G. Farben

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about their interests in Russia, in the Ukraine and the Crimea.

Q You don't have a copy of that report? A No.

Q Now, where were the Foreign Office files on Latin America kept, in Berlin? A In Berlin, yes. It was all kept in Berlin 'til in the month of perhaps September 1944 or maybe a little bit later, October. Then the Foreign Office was more or less divided. A part went to Silesia on account of air attacks; the building was partly destroyed. A part of the Foreign Office went to Silesia and other places closer to Berlin. Like the cashier department went east of Berlin. I don't know where they are.

Q Where were the Latin American files of the Foreign Office taken? A I think they were taken to Silesia, to a place called Krummhubel.

Q In terms of direction, north, east, south or west, what part of Germany is Silesia in? A Southeast.

Q Isn't that in the zones overrun by the Russians now? A Oh, yes. Silesia was one of the first overrun by Russia, so we went away naturally.

Q Did you take the papers away? A I imagine but I don't know if they could. The Russian attack came very quickly.

Q Where would they have been taken to? A I have no idea.

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Q Let me ask you the question directly, do you know at the present time where the Latin American files of the Foreign Office are? A I don't know where the whole office is. I have heard they have been taken partly. This was perhaps in the month of December. A part of the Foreign Office was taken to Thuringen; one part was in Bade Berka and another part was taken to Muhlhuesen but I don't know if they are the South American files.

Q These last two places, whose area are they in now? A They are American. Naturally everybody tried to get out of the Russian zone to the American zone.

Q What about the files of the Ausland's Organization, do you know anything about where they are now? A I have no idea.

Q They used to be kept in Berlin? A Yes, they used to be kept in Berlin but the building was more or less destroyed in the month of February.

Q What about the files? A I think a great part has burned.

Q What about the files of the Ibero Amerikanische Institut? A I have no idea. I don't know if the building has been spoiled. The building was a little bit outside Berlin, in Lankwitz, but I really don't know. I have not been there since 1942.

Q Have you received any reports from Argentina since your return in 1942? A I just got short telegrams

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from the Embassy, congratulations for my birthday; that was all.

Q Some time before you left Argentina, was there a committee of German business men established to supervise German interests after you left? A No, because we had the Chamber of Commerce. All the firms were members of the Chamber of Commerce. I think we had about four or five hundred.

Q Was Ricardo W. Staudt a party member? A No.

Q He was not a member of the Nazi party? A Not at all and certainly he never supported the party; he was absolutely against it.

Q How about Carlos G. Linck? A I think not. He was an Argentine citizen.

Q He was not a party member? A Oh, no.

Q What about Walter Kossmann of Geope? Do you know him? A I can't remember. You asked me yesterday. I have been thinking about Kossmann. I can't recognize him.

Q What about Rudolf Hepe of Delfino? A Hepe may be a member of the party but I don't know exactly because, you see, we didn't wear badges. It was forbidden to wear badges.

Q There were two thousand members of the party; did you know all two thousand? A Oh, no, certainly not, and this was the maximum, this two thousand. As I arrived in 1933 there were about five hundred. It was increasing

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because people were arriving from Germany and if you want a chance, you have to be a member of the party, so it creased all the time.

Q How about Max von Buch of Siemens? A He was in the electric -- Siemens. He was first in Montevideo and he has been building there a big overland central conduit of electric force. He was not a member of the party.

Q What about Henrich Homann? Was he a member of the party? A Yes, I think he was a member of the party.

Q And Alfredo Moll, was he a member of the party? A No, he was absolutely against it, absolutely anti-Nazi. He was an Argentine citizen.

Q He was with what outfit? A Anilinas Alemanas. He was chief of the Anilinas Alemanas and Linck was the lawyer of the Anilinas Alemanas.

Q Anilinas was a subsidiary company of I. G. Farben? A Yes, but rather independent. They were very independent, I think. So was Homann. I think he didn't have anything to say to Mueller.

Q How could Moll hold the job of being superintendent of I. G. Farben subsidiary company in the dye stuff business in Argentina without being a member of the party? A Because he was considered an Argentine and he was an Argentine citizen.

Q What about Alejandro von der Becke, was he a party member? A I don't think so.

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Q Count Karl Friedrich von Zedlitz, A Count von Zedlitz?

Q He was a party member? A I don't think so. Zedlitz was only traveling for Argentine and later on he went to Peru and he has written a book about Peru. He was a writer.

Q Was that his profession? A Yes.

Q He was not connected with any business? A No, I don't think he was connected with any business at all.

Q Was he employed by Dr. Goebbels' ministry? A No, I don't think so. He was rather reserved, I think.

Q He was a German national? A Yes, he was a German national. I think he went out from Germany because the Nazis were more or less --

Q Is he back in Germany now? A I have no idea. The last thing I have seen was the book, and read it.

Q On Peru? A Yes, on Peru.

Q How about Friedrich von Schultz-Hausmann? A I suppose he is a member of the party.

Q Who was he? A He was first in Chile as representative of the North German Lloyd and then Staudt called him to be a partner of Staudt in Buenos Aires, but this was the last time of my stay in December 1941.

Q Emil Tjarks? A He was the owner of Deutsche La Plata Zeitung, a German newspaper.

Q Is that a daily newspaper? A It was a daily

newspaper.

Q It was pro-Nazi? A It was pro-Nazi but he was not a member because he was an Argentine citizen.

Q Richard Leute of the Banco Germanico de la America del Sud? A Maybe he has been a member.

Q Did you know him? A I have seen him in the bank but naturally I treated all my affairs with the director.

Q Did the German Government have an organization in places outside Germany like Argentina similar to the organization they had in the United States called the German American Bund where the local citizens would belong? A In Argentina it was a Nazi organization.

Q What was it called? A The Landesgruppe.

Q I have asked you with respect to a number of these people whose names I just gave you whether they were party members, and you say no, he was not a party member; he was an Argentine. A He was an Argentine, yes.

Q Did the Nazi party have an organization to which those pro-Nazi Argentines belonged? A No, in Argentina it was not the case. I know in the States we had it but it was really forbidden. Bohle had forbidden to take the non-German citizens into the organization and in Argentina it was not the case.

Q Did these men whose names I mentioned to you before, Staudt and Linck and Kossmann and so forth, have

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any regular contacts with the Embassy? A Not regular, but there were always dinner parties given by the Chamber of Commerce and things like that where we met.

Q They were not honorary vice consuls? A Oh, nothing of this kind.

Q Did they regularly gather information for you and bring it in to you? A Not regularly.

Q Or to any member of your staff? A Occasionally but not regularly.

Q What relations did you have with Fritz Mandl?
A Not at all.

Q You knew him, did you not? A Personally, no.

Q Have you ever met him? A I never met him.

Q You have never seen him? A I have seen him once in the jockey club. I saw him at a table and some people told me it was Fritz Mandl but he didn't care to know me.

Q Did you have anybody who served as intermediary between you and him? A No, because he has been arrested in Austria.

Q Didn't Mandl have some negotiations with the Hermann Goeringwerke about 1940? A I don't know exactly how his relations have been because finally he got allowance to leave Austria to go to the Argentine with a lot of money, so he must have made an arrangement, otherwise he would not have got this permission.

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Q He was non-Aryan? A Yes. He was the proprietor of this great ammunition factory and it is possible he handed this over to the Hermann Goeringwerke and therefore he got the permission to go out.

Q But you don't know the facts? A No, I don't know the facts.

Q When he came over to Argentina, did he take out Argentine citizenship? A I don't know, but I suppose after one year -- you must be one year in Argentina to get citizenship -- I don't know but maybe.

Q He set up in business down there? A Yes, immediately. He started immediately several companies because he had evidently a lot of money with him and he took a very nice house in the Alvear, one of the nicest buildings there, and received a lot of people. He played a role immediately.

Q Did he set up a munition works? A No, not ammunition.

Q Who was Heinrich Doerge? Do you know him?
A I don't remember the name.

Q What about a man by the name of Count von Luxburg? A Count von Luxburg lived close to Buenos Aires together with his brother-in-law that was the German ex-Minister in Argentina, Busche. They were both married with Argentine born ladies of a great

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family there. They had a property close to Buenos Aires and ~~and~~ Luxburg had been German Minister in Argentina during the other war and he had made some things which the Argentine Government didn't like at all and at least he was interned on an island there. He was not very much loved -- always if he came back from Germany. He went every two years more or less because he had a property in Bavaria too.

Q But he spent a lot of his time in Argentina?

A Yes, he was more in Argentina than in Germany.

Q What relationships did you and he have? A I didn't have any relationships because he was completely anti-Nazi against the war.

Q Did he go back to Germany? A No, he stayed in the Argentine.

Q He went back to Germany after Hitler was in power, after 1933? A I think he was in Germany several times. He went nearly every two years. He went to his property in Bavaria.

Q Was he known to be anti-Nazi then? A Yes.

Q Didn't they do anything to him in Germany?

A They didn't like him very much and there was the question, I think, to take his property for the party. I suppose today it will have been taken.

Q Did he have any relations with any of the members of your staff? A No. We just met him, you see,

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in the house of his brother-in-law, Busche. He was ex-German Minister there and I knew him from the Foreign Office because I have worked as young attaché under Busch, so we had social relations only.

Q You say Luxburg had been German Minister to the Argentine? A In the other war.

Q Had Busche been German Minister too? A Yes, much later. Busche was, I think, in the end of 1925 or '30.

Q Was he anti-Nazi too? A He was anti-Nazi, yes. His eldest son became an American citizen, of Busche.

Q Is C. Ernesto Niebuhr the same Niebuhr you were talking about yesterday? A Ernesto is the old professor.

Q He is not the Naval Attaché? A Oh, no.

Q It just happens to be the same name? A Just the same name.

Q C. Ernesto was a professor? A I don't know if it was Ernesto or the other one. One was a professor of engineering and the other was a man of accounting.

Q This is the accountant. Did you know him? A Yes, I knew him, yes, because he was everywhere, to all the meetings of the banks, and so you met him.

Q Wasn't there another one that worked with him, Fernando Ellerhorst? A I think Ellerhorst was in his office.

Q They were accountants for a large number of German firms and banks? A Yes. I think Niebuhr had to look

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over the accounts of the Winter Help Fund, or perhaps it was Ellerhorst, but I think one or both. They made controls of it.

Q Did they audit the accounts of the Embassy?

A The accounts of the Embassy? No, we did that ourselves.

Q By the way, did you have an inspector come out from the Foreign Office periodically to check the Embassies?

A No. In the long run, yes, but during the eight years, no inspector came around.

Q Getting back to Niebuhr and Ellerhorst, what were their relations with the Embassy and with you? A Well, no close relations at all. I have seen them.

Q Did they act as -- A Niebuhr was certainly Argentine citizen, Ernesto.

Q Did these two men act as means of transmitting to you and to the Embassy economic and financial information about these companies? A No. Niebuhr was a very tight man. He didn't speak very much. He made just his job.

Q Were they ever employed by the Embassy to check into the finances of the various German firms whose accounts they audited? A No, the firms called them themselves to do this.

Q Were they ever asked to check on these firms to see whether they were contributing their quota to the Nazi party funds? A I don't think so.

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Q Now, what German firms in Argentina did you permit to use the diplomatic pouch in corresponding with their home offices in Germany? A Oh, this was done very seldom.

Q In what cases? A Well, if they had for instance important personal questions, if somebody had died and we had to take somebody else, or if somebody resigned and we had to choose another one. For instance, I remember a case in the German Bank, the Banco Germanico, there resigned the chairman of the board, Meyer Pellegrino, and they wanted to replace him and we sent a letter to the home office, but this was open. This was an exception.

Q Why should anybody want to send a letter like that through the pouch instead of sending it by regular mail or boat mail or airmail? A When the war broke out it was still the airmail. Airmail went through the Italian air line and we couldn't know what would happen to the letter.

Q You didn't want the Italians to know? A They went first to Italy.

Q Why wouldn't you be willing to send it that way? A On account of discretion. It is possible the letter would be opened and there may be something of interest to Italian firms, and I think this was the only reason.

Q Were there any other types of cases in which private firms were allowed to use it? A It was very seldom.

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Q Who were some of the firms? A The chief of a bank resigned and we sent a letter.

Q What bank was that? A The Banco Germanico. It was very seldom. As a rule we declined.

Q Did you do it regularly for anybody? A Not at all, no.

Q On the other hand, after a while the party used to send -- A The party has the right to send closed letters.

Q Not only to send them through the pouch but to send them closed. A They had the right to send them closed, and every pouch they sent letters.

Q Was that a pouch carried by your own courier? A No, we didn't have couriers.

Q You didn't have couriers who traveled with the pouch. You just gave them to the pilot? A Just gave them to the pilot, only occasionally if somebody went he would be the courier, but we had no real couriers.

Q Were any of the German firms in Argentina permitted to send sealed messages through the pouch? A No.

Q Never? A No, never.

Q Did you permit any firms of other nationalities to use the pouch? A No, never.

Q Did you ever obtain permission from other countries for German companies in Argentina to use their pouches? A No, never. Maybe they did it themselves.

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Q But you never did it? A Never by us, no.

Q Now, do you know a Cipriano Pons? A Pons? Well, he was an Argentine Consul General to Berlin. I have met him once or twice. I don't know where he was before. In Berlin he was only a short time.

Q Did you know him in Buenos Aires? A I met him in Buenos Aires. I didn't meet him in Berlin. I met him once or twice.

Q What were your relations with him? A Nothing at all. I met him in the jockey club.

Q Did he act as messenger or courier, or whatever you call it, for you in carrying messages to and from Argentina and Germany? A Not at all.

Q When did you last see Cipriano Pons, do you remember? A No. I think it was before the war because I think during the war he was no more over there.

Q Who in the Embassy handled funds collected --
A Burmeister.

Q Wait until I finish. Handled funds collected for charitable or political purposes? A These funds collected from German firms?

Q Yes. A That was Burmeister's job. I told you yesterday it was about 100,000, but I really would ask you to make it a point of interrogation, but I think at first it was only about 50,000 pesos a month and we all renounced 15% of our salaries so it was about five or seven thousand

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pesos, but I don't know exactly.

Q Did you use only one bank in connection with the handling of these funds that were collected? A We always referred to the Banco Germanico.

Q Did you use any particular person in the bank?
A No, the director.

Q Did you use any non-banking firms in connection with the collection of these funds? A No.

Q Did you in the Embassy or did the Nazi party in Argentina receive any funds for propaganda purposes from Germany through private companies? A No. We got our money officially to the Embassy.

Q In relation to that, did you ever receive funds from, say, Staudt who said, "This is from Berlin"? A No. We had our account with the Banco Central and we got our money from the Banco Central.

Q Was there an agency called the Office to Foster German Trade or some such title? A I think there was existing something like that.

Q Did you know, in connection with it or otherwise, a man by the name of Heinrich Follberg? A This was the same Follberg we talked about yesterday in connection with the Winter Help.

Q What was that agency? A It should really help to increase the German trade, but I think it was in the

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hands of Follberg who was a furious Nazi. It was more useful for him to look into all the things and handle that.

Q For Nazi party purposes? A Yes.

Q He used that as an excuse to get information about these firms? A I think it was more of a pretext, but I don't think it helped rule commerce at all.

Q Follberg was an ardent Nazi, I take it. A Yes.

Q What were his relations with the Banco Germanico?

A Follberg I think had no relations with the Banco Germanico. He used to be first in the Casa Bayer and later on he had the representative post of a chemical union in Germany. It must have been a big union of all the chemical firms in Germany.

Q Was he a representative for those chemical firms?

A Yes, he had the title. I think it was made for him personally. Before there was no such representative in Buenos Aires.

Q Didn't Follberg pay over certain sums of money to El Pampero, the newspaper? A I don't think so, only as advertising because as a rule the money was always given to the papers by advertising.

Q Was advertising used as a pretext to give funds to the paper? A Yes, in this way we got money.

Q Where would Follberg have gotten that money from, from these various chemical companies? A Yes, I

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think he got from the chemical companies or from Sandstede.

Q Who in turn would get it from the Embassy funds?

A Yes, Sandstede got it from us.

Q There was a company called G. Brandt and Company down there? A Wasn't it Bracht?

Q There was a Bracht Compania. But wasn't there a G. Brandt? A No, I don't remember.

Q Assuming it was Bracht Compania, did they --

A This was an Argentine banking and export and trading company.

Q Did they have relations with Follberg? A Not at all. They were absolutely against Nazis. I think Mr. Bracht didn't receive Follberg.

Q He wasn't a party member? A Not at all.

Q What about Hugo Stinnes Ltda.? A You know, there was this famous German industrialist Stinnes, and one of his sons, I think it was his youngest son, Edmund Stinnes, he had a firm in Buenos Aires. But it was not called Stinnes; it had another name.

Q Wasn't it called Hugo Stinnes Limitada? A Maybe.

Q Do you remember what the other name was? A No. But I remember Edmund Stinnes came once to Buenos Aires to look after his firm and this firm was going a shipping business, shipping oil from Venezuela.

Q What was the relationship between Follberg and the Stinnes firm? A No close relation, I think. This

was absolutely established as an Argentine firm.

Q The Stinnes people would be Nazis, wouldn't they?

A I think at home, yes, they were.

Q Do you know whether the Stinnes Company provided funds to Follberg to pay El Pampero? A I think certainly not, no.

Q What about Guillermo Scheckenbach and Georg Bein, do you know Scheckenbach and Bein? A Bein I remember. Scheckenbach I can't locate at the moment. Bein was in the party, I remember, yes, but I don't know what kind of business he had.

Q Do you know what relations he had with Follberg?

A Oh, yes.

Q Very close relations? A Oh, I think so; Bein certainly.

Q Do you know whether or do you recall whether Bein was active in raising these subsidy funds for El Pampero?

A I don't know, I think not. But certainly he was in quite close relation with Follberg to raise Winter Help funds and the organization of the party. Bein was quite a busy member of the party.

Q What was your relation to these various people like Follberg and Scheckenbach and Bein? A I saw naturally sometimes. For instance, Follberg came sometimes to me to report over the amount which the Winter Help work had given and things like that, and as a rule he came complaining

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about some firms who didn't pay enough or didn't pay at all.

Q What would he want you to do, get after them?

A I should help him, so there was always a lot of trouble. You know, as soon as a German firm had dismissed a man who was Nazi, Follberg immediately went to the chief and said, "You have dismissed this man only because he was a Nazi." The chief would say, "No, I dismissed him because he is away three days or he doesn't work", but Follberg would say, "No, you dismissed him because he is a Nazi."

Q Just a minute. I'll give you a list of names and ask you whether you recognize them as newspapers in Argentina. One is Deutsche La Plata Zeitung. A That was the paper of Emil Tjarks. He was the owner together with his brothers. I think he had several brothers. It was a family paper.

Q Did you have any particular relations with him?

A I knew him naturally and he came very often to see me and to ask me about use for his paper and so on.

Q Did you pay him any subsidies out of the official German funds? A No. The La Plata was supported by German firms by advertising. They had all big advertising so he got a lot of money out of advertising.

Q Did you in turn repay out of German Embassy funds to these various German firms the cost of their advertising?

A On the contrary, they have to pay.

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Q In addition to Tjarks, did you know anybody else on the Deutsche Zeitung? A Well, he had a whole staff. To me he came always himself. Naturally his men were in connection with the press department.

Q How about El Pampero, whom did you know on that? A I knew nobody because I avoided to know the people.

Q That was a pro-Nazi paper? A Oh, yes. The chief was a man called Osez.

Q How would you spell that? A O-s-e-z. He was a furious fascist. He thought already he was the fuehrer of Argentine.

Q Was the name of the paper subsequently changed? A No, it was Pampero from the beginning.

Q Did it become known as El Federal or was it always El Pampero while you were there? A As long as I was there it was Pampero.

Q Was there a paper called El Cabildo? A Yes, Mr. Robbins told me so but it was after my time.

Q Was there a periodical called La Clarinada? A This was quite an anti-Semitic paper.

Q Did you have anything to do with it? A I said, "We don't make anti-Semitism here."

Q Did the German firms advertise in it? A I don't think so.

Q Did you know anybody on its staff? A No, I have never seen anybody of the Clarinada because it was a very low paper.

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Q Did you furnish it with any funds or money?

A No. Well, I don't know if the Nazis --

Q The Embassy? A No.

Q How about La Fronda? A No, this was a paper of the Argentine radical group, Molina.

Q Molina and his fascist group? A This was a fascist paper.

Q Did you have anything to do with it? A They had money enough themselves.

Q Did you know anybody on it besides Molina? A No.

Q El Echo? A No.

Q Il Mattino D'Italia? A Yes, this was an Italian fascist paper.

Q Whom did you know on Il Mattino D'Italia?

A Nobody. I had very few relations with the Italian group, because I thought it was no use.

Q Were the relations between the Germans and the Italians in Argentina not particularly friendly? A No, very few. I have been only once. I was invited to go to the opening of a collection of pictures that were to be sold and there we met in the Florida and I was invited to come to the exhibition and the Italian Ambassador asked me to come there and I went there, but this was the only time I was in connection with the Italians.

Q There is a big Italian colony in Argentina?

A Oh, yes.

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Q More than Germans? A Much more. We counted about two million Italians in the Argentine and three hundred fifty thousand Germans.

Q Who in the Embassy supervised the activities of the Transocean News Service? A The Transocean News Service, there was a special man.

Q Who was that? A Doctor -- it was a German that came over from Berlin but already in 1935 or 1936. Doctor so-and-so. He was the man of Transocean Service and later on it was no more called Transocean. It was Deutsche --

Q Was it Deutsche Nachrichten Bureau, the successor to Transocean News? A I think that was the successor to Transocean News.

Q When did the Deutsche Nachrichten Bureau come into existence? A I think about 1937 or 1938; maybe 1937.

Q Did the same man continue in charge? A Yes.

Q You can't think of his name? A I will try to get the name for you tomorrow.

Q Was the man in charge of Transocean and Deutsche Nachrichten attached to the Embassy? A No, he was not attached to the Embassy but he was recommended by the Government to the Embassy. You see, the office in Berlin was in close connection with the Propaganda Minister, so he was semi-official.

Q Did you yourself have a lot of contact with him?
A Oh, yes, he came more or less every second day.

Q Did he make his office in the Embassy? A No, he had a special office.

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Q What kind of liaison was maintained between these two news agencies I have just mentioned and the Domei Japanese agency? A It may be they had occasional relations but no close relations at all, nor with the Italians.

Q None with the Italians, you say? A I never heard of it. It may be naturally they met sometimes to exchange news but I never heard about it and they didn't tell me.

Q What connection did they have with an outfit whose name was made up of the initial letters of a longer name, Andi? Do you know that agency? A Andi? Yes.

Q Standing for Agencia Noticiosa Argentina S.A.? A It was a news agency.

Q Was that an Argentine news agency? A I think it was an Argentine foundation.

Q What was the relationship of Transocean and Deutsche Nachrichten? A I think they had naturally relations but I don't know anything more.

Q That didn't come officially before you? A No, it never came to me. Andi existed, yes, I remember it.

Q Who was Juan Siegfried Becker? A Becker came from Germany and I think he was more or less of the Gestapo. He never said but I suppose he was.

Q What did he do? A I don't know what he did. He was all the time there. Then he went back to Germany and he came back to Argentine.

Q Where would he make his headquarters? A In the party.

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Q In the party office? A I think.

Q Would he have an office in the Embassy? A No, he didn't have an office in the Embassy, but I don't know if he had his office in the party or whether he had an office of his own. He was a shadow, like. He came sometimes and he disappeared and then he came back.

Q Did he use the pouch to send messages? A No.

Q Did you have any contact with him? A No. I have seen him at party things, like the 1st of May.

Q Did any of your Embassy staff have relations with him, as far as you know? A No.

Q Hans Hugo Burghardt, also known as Adolf Zweigert, also known as Fernando Poza, do you know him? A No.

Q All the one individual. Heinz Lange? A Maybe these were people on the staff of Sandstede.

Q I am asking if you know him. A No.

Q If I told you he had formerly been in Chile, would that refresh your recollection? A No.

Q Gustav Utzinger? A No.

Q Ludwig Meisz? A I think that was our Chancellor of the Embassy. That's the highest of the lowest officials.

Q He was on your staff? A Oh, yes. He was an older man. We call the oldest lower official the Chancellor of the Embassy. He is responsible for the running of the smaller things.

Q The administration details, like the clerks?

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A Yes, he had to run the clerks and all this kind of stuff, and telegrams; he had the control of telegrams coming in and going out.

Q He would have been a career man in the service? He spent his life in the service? A He spent all his life in the office. -

Q How long was he in Buenos Aires? A He was in Buenos Aires several years, perhaps five years.

Q Who in the Embassy would be Meisz's superior officer? A Oh, well, every higher official was the superior of any lower, especially Meynen, who was later on Chargé d'Affaires. For instance, distribution of rooms, Meynen treated this with Meisz.

Q Karl Freytag? A I think this was the secretary of the cashing department.

Q The cashier's department, to pay out the salaries? A Salaries and pensions and all this kind of stuff.

Q H. Sens? A He was in the Consular Department.

Q What did he do? A I don't know what he handled. We had a big Consular Department and I don't know if he handled economic or personal things.

Q Would they also handle passport matters? A Yes, but the passport man was Eisen.

Q Now, Hermann Metzger was the cultural attaché and Gottfried Sandstede was press attaché? A Yes.

Q Stephen zu Schaumburg-Lippe, who was he? A He

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was the second higher official. The first was Meynen and the second was Schaumburg.

Q What was his title? A He was Counselor of Legation. We have Counselor of Embassy and Counselor of Legation.

Q Who was the Counselor of Embassy? A Meynen.

Q And the Counselor of Legation was Schaumburg?

A He came from Rio and went to Valparaiso, Chile, as a Consul General.

Q What would his duties be, or what were his duties, rather, in the Embassy? A His duty was the German Department.

Q What does that mean? A That means all relations with the German colony. All the questions of the Germany colony would come to us, all relations to the Nazi organization.

Q He was the liaison man for the Embassy with the German colony and with the Nazi organization? A Yes.

Q Whom did he deal with in the Nazi party in Argentina? A With the chiefs.

Q Mueller? A Mueller and Sandstede.

Q Did he report to you on his dealings with the Nazi party? A Oh, yes.

Q What would he tell you from time to time? A He would tell me of his difficulties and the complaints he had to make.

Q Did Schaumburg-Lippe ever come to you and tell you that the German colony was complaining about the activities

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of the Nazi party? A Oh, yes, sure. There was sometimes big trouble because the greater part of the colony was anti-Nazi or not Nazi, at least.

Q Was Dietrich Niebuhr -- A Dietrich Niebuhr was our Naval Attaché.

Q You have told me about him. And Gerhardt Weiz? A He was the third secretary.

Q He was in charge of -- A National Argentine. Things like legislation, Chamber of Deputies, presidency and so on.

Q And Otto Erich Meynen was first secretary? A He was Counselor of Embassy.

Q And he was in charge of international matters? A Yes, international matters.

Q What was the role played by Thilo Martens and his company, Martens and Compania, in the collection of information for the Embassy and in paying out funds to individuals or companies in Argentina who were active in your behalf? A Martens was representative of North German Lloyd and he had a firm of his own, because naturally it was established as an Argentine firm. He had been during the other war in the Navy. I think he was in relation to Niebuhr.

Q Did he collect information for the Embassy? A I think so, from the shipping business. He was in

the shipping business.

Q Did he act as paymaster to any of these firms for the Embassy? A No. You see, because we had our first relation with the Hamburg Sud.

Q What was the role of A. M. Delfino and Company in the same connection? A This firm was representative of a great German shipping company, Hamburg Sud. It was a big shipping company and they had a lot of boats running to the Argentine.

Q Did they have relations with the Embassy? A Oh, yes. Naturally they had relations with us as they were representing a big German company.

Q Did they act as intermediary between the Embassy and other German firms? A No, because finally it was an Argentine firm, Delfino.

Q Did they ever receive money from the Embassy to pay out to Germans in the community? A I think rather they supported us.

Q I was going to ask you that question. Did they act as collection agent for you from other firms?

A No, this was Burmeister's job.

Q Who was Mario Amadeo? Do you know that name?

A I think I remember the name but I don't remember the man.

Q 'Do you remember what he did? A No.

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Q Carlos Ibarguren? A Ibarguren was rather a famous lawyer, or a man of a certain standard.

Q Did you have any dealings with him? A I met him socially in the club. I think he was rather on the side of the Argentine nationalists.

Q General Basilio Pertine? A He was Minister of War at the time we made the treaty about the powder factory.

Q What year was that? A From 1935 to 1938.

Q You were working on it? A Yes. He was too in Germany as officer.

Q What were your relations with him? A We were very cordial. Pertine was a very nice man. We were on good terms.

Q Were you active in trying to work out this contract? A No.

Q That was a Bayer job. A That was a Bayer job and then Ilgner came himself to the Argentine.

Q Did you see Pertine regularly? A I saw him regularly or not sometimes. He invited me to his home and I invited him to my home.

Q Did you ever place any funds at his disposal for German purposes? A Oh, no.

Q Juan Batista Molina? A He was the man we talked about. He was the leader of the nationalists group.

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Q He was not in the Peron group? A No, I don't think so.

Q Manuel Fresco? A Manuel Fresco was Governor of the Province of La Plata.

Q How much contact did you have with him? A Very few. I saw him once, he was once in the house, and then he invited me once to come to La Plata to see his new office. He had just built a new office.

Q Did he do any work for the German cause in Argentina? A Not at all. He was rather fascistic in his ideas but I think he was more connected with the Italian group.

Q Jose Maria Rosas? A No. There was a famous Dr. Rosas fifty years before.

Q Matias Sanchez Sorondo? A Yes.

Q Who is he? A I remember him quite well. He was a senator and he was a great lawyer at the same time, and he was a friend of Molina, so I knew him through Molina.

Q Not otherwise? A I have been invited in his house. He had a wonderful house.

Q Did you have him to your house too? A I had him to my house too invited, and when Sorondo went once on a trip to Italy and was invited to see the Duce, so I arranged that he was invited to come too to Germany and to be received by Hitler.

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Q Was he received by Hitler? A Yes, I think he was received.

Q What did you have to do that it be arranged that he be received by Hitler? A I just sent a telegram to Berlin and said Senator Sorondo was in Italy and I hear that he is going to be received by the Duce, and I think it would be useful to invite him to Germany too.

Q He, of course, would be in the nationalist group? A Yes, with a certain reserve. I think he was not so furious. He was a liberal man.

Q Did he do any propaganda work for the Nazi party? A No, not at all.

Q Did you know him on any other than a social basis? Did you have any business relation with him? A You see, we had a very great social circle of people whom we invited and who invited us, but this was only on a social basis.

Q Did you know him on anything other than a social basis? A No, it was only a social basis. Naturally I tried to get information from people, if there was an interesting question, like if the President Ortiz would come back to power. I would ask after dinner, "Did you hear anything about it?".

Q Enrique Ruiz Guinazu? A He was the Foreign Minister.

Q Did you have social and official relations with him? A Our relations were only formal and official.

Q What were his leanings? A He came from Rome but he was not fascist at all like his predecessor, Cantilo, who was also from Rome. He was not fascist at all.

Q Was Guinazu Argentine Ambassador to Rome? A Yes.

Q And Cantilo too? A Yes, and he is now Argentine Ambassador to Spain, Guinazu.

Q How frequently would you see Ruiz Guinazu? A This was special. If there happened something like trouble with the committee, I went twice a week to see him because I had things to discuss with him. Otherwise I went every fortnight to the Ministry and sometimes I didn't see him. I saw only the Sub-Secretary, Mr. Gache.

Q Alejandro Zubizarreta? A I think Zubizarreta was the brother-in-law of Sorondo. Their wives were sisters.

Q Did you know him? A I knew him by Sanchez Sorondo, not otherwise. When his wife died he disappeared out of the circle. I think he was a writer, or a piece of theatre he wrote once.

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Q Jose Coll? A I don't remember him.

Q Antonio Maura? A No.

Q Eduardo Aunos? A No, I don't remember him.

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