

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES  
RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH  
BIOGRAPHICAL REPORT

*General Donovan*  
RESTRICTED 53,045

Name: PIETZSCH, Albert

Nationality: German

Region: München-Golln, Hofbrunnstrasse 11

Positions:

Head of the National Economic Chamber (Leiter der Reichswirtschaftskammer), Berlin (1936-1944)

Member of the Executive Committee of the German Section of the International Chamber of Commerce (Präsident der Deutschen Gruppe der Internationalen Handelskammer)

President of the Munich Chamber of Industry and Commerce (Industrie und Handelskammer) (1934-1942)

Member of the Board of Directors (Aufsichtsrat) of the Siemens Schuckert AG., Berlin

President and Manager (Vorstand und Betriebsführer) of the Elektrochemische Werke, Munich (Since 1909)

Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors (Stellvertretender Vorstand des Aufsichtsrats) of Bayrischer Lloyd Schifffahrts AG., Regensburg

Member of the Advisory Board (Beirat) of the Deutsche Reichsbahn, Berlin and of the Deutsche Reichsbank, Berlin

Birth Date and Place: 28 June 1874, Zwickau (Saxony)

Education and Work History: Albert Pietzsch, son of Professor Wilhelm Pietzsch, attended the Realgymnasium at Zwickau until 1893, and subsequently received practical training in state laboratories and workshops. From 1894-1898 he studied mechanical engineering. He was Assistant Professor at the Electrotechnical Institute of the Technische Hochschule at Dresden in 1899 and 1900.

From 1900 until 1903 he was employed as engineer at the Chemische Fabrik Buckau at Amendorf near Halle, where he developed new electrotechnical procedures for the production of chlorine and potash lye. During World War I he served as an officer.

In 1909, together with Dr. G. Adolph, he founded the Elektrochemische Werke, Dr. Adolph, Pietzsch & Co. in Hüllriegelskreuth, near Munich, acting as President and Manager (Vorstand und Betriebsführer) of this firm, which, in 1928, was transformed into a stock company with a capital

Education and Work History, cont'd.: of RM 3,000,000, under the name of Elektrochemische Werke, München, AG. The company, owned almost exclusively by Pietzsch, specialized in the production of hydrogen peroxide and its derivatives, as well as persulfates and other chemical products.

In 1925, Pietzsch became one of the active supporters of Hitler, and in 1927 he joined the NSDAP. On 31 October 1927 he was appointed Economic Advisor to Hitler's Deputy (Wirtschaftsberater des Stellvertreters des Führers), and in 1934 he became head of the newly established Chamber of Industry and Commerce (Industrie und Handelskammer) of Munich. In 1936 he was appointed head of the National Economic Chamber (Reichswirtschaftskammer).

In 1944, Pietzsch was given by Hitler the title of "Pioneer of Labor", and in view of his age he was relieved of his post as head of the National Economic Chamber. (He was 70 years old then). In recognition of his service he was made Honorary President of the National Economic Chamber for life. He was also given the Adlerschild of the German Reich, with the inscription "To the Leader and Promoter of German Economy" (Dem Führer und Förderer der Deutschen Wirtschaft). This award is indicative of his influential position and excellent reputation in Nazi circles. In the regional level of the economic administration Pietzsch acted as head (Leiter) of the Industrie und Handelskammer and of the Wirtschaftskammer Bayern. After the reorganization of the regional chamber system into so-called Gauwirtschaftskammern (Gau Economic Chambers), Pietzsch temporarily remained head of the Gauwirtschaftskammer München-Oberbayern. Pietzsch's political influence enabled him to expand his business positions. He became Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors (Stellvertretender Vorstand des Aufsichtsrats) of the Bayerischer Lloyd Schiffsahrts AG., Regensburg (which is controlled by the Göring combine) and member of the Advisory Board (Beirat) of the Deutsche Reichsbahn, Berlin, committee. As member of the Executive Committee of the Association for Southeastern Europe (Präsidium der Südosteuropa Gesellschaft) in Vienna, he tried to promote the expansion of German trade in this area.

Pietzsch also became member on the Board of Directors (Aufsichtsrat) of the Siemens Schuckert Werke AG, Berlin.

The most prominent financial connections of Pietzsch were those with the Deutsche Bank, where he served as a member of the Advisory Board (Beirat), until in May 1943, he was advanced to the position of a Deputy Chairman (Stellvertretender Vorsitzender) of this body. In this capacity he acted as 'second representative' of the NSDAP (zweiter Vertrauensmann der Partei) in the administration of the Deutsche Bank.

Other positions held by Pietzsch, include those of Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors (Stellvertretender Vorstand des Aufsichtsrats) of the Bavaria Filmkunst GmbH., Munich, and of a member of the Board of Directors (Aufsichtsrat) of the Aktienbrauerei zur Löwenbräu, Munich.

Summary: As owner of a medium-sized industrial enterprise, and member of the board of directors of several important banking and industrial combines, as head of the National Economic Chamber and by virtue of the influential positions which he held in the regional administration of German industry and commerce for more than a decade after the Nazis gained control, Pietzsch must be held responsible for economic policies and measures adopted by the German government during that period.

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18 April 1945

This record is a summary of such intelligence (from one or more sources as indicated) as was available at the time of preparation. It may consequently be subject to amendment by additional or more recent intelligence. Index numbers and letters are solely for indexing statements in the report.

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