

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH
BIOGRAPHICAL REPORTS

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53.086
Region: M1 c

Occupation: 25F
27, 25 E

Political Attitude:
13

Name: TENGELMANN, Ernst

Nationality: German

Region: Essen, Vittinghostr. 51

Positions: President (Vorsitzender des Vorstands) and General Manager (Generaldirektor) of Essener Steinkohlenbergwerke AG (until 1944),

Chairman of the Board of Directors (Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats) of Chemische Werke Essener Steinkohle AG, Essen

Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors (Stellvertretender Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats) of Harpener Bergbau AG, Dortmund,

Member of the Board of Directors, Gelsenkirchner Bergwerks AG, Essen, Mitteldeutsche Stahlwerke AG, Riesa/Elbe, etc., etc.

Member of the Board of Directors, Rheinisch Westfälisches Kohlensyndikat, Essen, and of Benzin-Benzolverband (B.V.), Bochum,

Member of the Executive Committee (Präsidium) of Reichsvereinigung Kohle.

Birth date and place: 14 January 1870, Somborn near Dortmund.

Family History: His father, Friedrich, was an industrialist. Subject is married to Louise Romberg. They have two children, K. Herbert (born 1896) and Ernst (born 1901).

Education: Ernst Tengelmann attended the Bergschule (Mining School) in Bochum, and subsequently worked in several mining enterprises. In 1898, he became a manager of the Hercules mine belonging to the Essener Steinkohlenbergwerke AG.

Work and Political History: Ernst Tengelmann, who in recent years was identified primarily with the Flick combine, rose to a position of prominence in the German coal industry through his connection with the Essener Steinkohlenbergwerke AG. He became Executive Director of this company in 1906, served as its General Manager since 1913 and subsequently became President (Vorsitzender des Vorstands) of the firm. At the same time, Tengelmann was President (Vorsitzender des

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Grubenvorstands) of two mines - Gewerkschaft Victoria (belonging to Harpener Bergbau AG ?) and Gewerkschaft Prinz Friedrich, Essen. Before 1930, he was represented, furthermore, on the Board of Directors of such leading companies as

Henschel and Sohn AG, Kassel, manufacturers of heavy machinery,

Rheinisch Westfälisches Elektrizitätswerk AG, Essen, Ruhrchemie AG, Essen, etc.

In 1939, the Essener Steinkohlenbergwerke AG, which had remained Tengelmann's chief interest throughout these years, was merged with the Gelsenkirchener Bergwerks AG, the largest unit in the Steel Trust (Vereinigte Stahlwerke AG), but was revived three years later, and shortly afterwards came under the control of Flick, who acquired 35 % of the stock from the Steel Trust. (In 1939 the Essener Steinkohle ranked fifth among German coal producers). From this time on Tengelmann became more and more closely connected with the Flick combine. It is said that Flick found Tengelmann's close relations with Göring useful in promoting his own interests under the Nazi regime. Reportedly it was Tengelmann who had introduced Göring to Thyssen. By 1942 Tengelmann held leading positions in many of the enterprises directly or indirectly under Flick's control. He was Chairman of the Board of Directors (Vorsitzender des Aufsichtsrats) of

Chemische Werke Essener Steinkohle AG, a subsidiary of the Essener Steinkohlenbergwerks AG,

and Deputy Chairman of the Board of Hochtief AG für Hoch-und Tiefbauten, Essen, likewise affiliated with Essener Steinkohle.

He was Deputy Chairman of the Board of Directors of Harpener Bergbau AG, Dortmund, the third largest German Coal producing firm, in which Flick, through the Mitteldeutsche Stahlwerke AG, acquired a controlling interest in the early thirties from Rheinisch Westfälisches Elektrizitätswerks AG, Essen.

He was a member of the Board of Directors of Anhaltische Kohlenbergwerke AG, Berlin, which had formerly belonged to the Jewish Petschek combine (headquarters Prague) and in which Flick acquired a share from the Göring combine in 1938.

Mitteldeutsche Stahlwerke AG, founded by Flick in the middle twenties, and the major concern in Flick combine,

Hochofenwerk Lübeck AG, Lübeck Herrenwyck, controlled by Mittelstahl,

Siegener Maschinenbau AG, Siegen, likewise controlled by Mittelstahl,

Wasserwerk für das Nördliche Westfälische Kohlenrevier Gelsenkirchen, affiliated with Essener Steinkohle.

Outside the Flick combine Tengelmann was a member of the Board of Directors of:

Gelsenkirchener Bergwerks AG, Germany's largest coal producing company belonging to the Steel Trust,

Dynamit AG, vormalis Alfred Nobel & Co., Troisdorf Köln, the largest German manufactures of dynamite, explosives and other chemicals,

Deutsche Tafelglas AG (Detag), Fürth-Bayern, manufacturers of Sheetglass.

Tengelmann was a member of the Advisory Board of Rheinisch Westfälisches Elektrizitätswerk AG, Germany's most powerful public utilities holding company, and of Ruhrgas AG, Essen.

According to one source, Tengelmann resigned his position as President of the Essener Steinkohlenbergwerke AG in 1942, to devote most of his time to Flick's other coal interests. 2/

Tengelmann's influence over the coal industry was increased greatly by his position in the Rheinisch Westfälisches Kohlensyndikat and the Reichsvereinigung Kohle. He had been a member of the Rheinisch Westfälisches Kohlensyndikat since the twenties. This syndicate was the oldest and most important of the German coal cartels, controlling the production of all the mines in the Ruhr area, which accounted for about three-fourths of the entire German Coal output.

The Reichsvereinigung Kohle was the first of the super-cartels organized by the Nazis in 1942 to further centralize control over German industry. Tengelmann was a member of the Executive Committee (Präsidium) (?). He was furthermore, a member of the Board of Directors of Benzin-Benzol Verband (B.V.), the most important coal by-products cartel.

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Since 1922 Ernst Tengelmann had been President of the Industrie und Handelskammer (Chamber of Industry and Commerce) in Essen, later transformed into a Gau Economic Chamber. He was also head of the Aussenhandelsstelle für Nordwestfalen und das Ruhrgebiet (Office of Foreign Trade for Northern Westphalia and the Ruhr Area). In January 1944 he was appointed honorary President of the Gauwirtschaftskammer, (Gau Economic Chamber), Essen.

Tengelmann received the rank of Wahrwirtschaftsführer, a title which is granted only to keymen in the German War economy who are in excellent standing with the Nazi Party.

Summary:

By virtue of his business positions in the Flick combine and as member of the Board of Directors of Gelsenkirchner Bergwerks AG, Dynamit Nobel AG, etc., as well as by his membership on the Board of Directors of the Rheinisch-Westfälisches Kohlen Syndikat and on the Executive Committee of Reichsvereinigung Kohle, Tengelmann shares in the responsibility for determining and executing Nazi Economic policies, particularly in relation to the German coal industry.

Sources:

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