

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

**SECRET**

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1 August 1945

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lt. Comdr. James O'Malley, Jr. 53

FROM: John W. Jackson

SUBJECT: Interrogation of Edmund Von Thermann

Three additional lines of inquiry based upon examination of this transcript have been suggested by the Director:

1. Ascertain the probability of learning from the witness his first knowledge of a war purpose,
2. Obtain information as to the working arrangements within industry in supporting Hitler in that purpose,
3. Determine if any inducements were held out to industry as to its place in a new order.

Several portions of the transcript are referred to below having the above three points in mind. It is noted that Von Thermann, former Minister and later (1936-1942) Ambassador to Argentina stated on page 1 that in one of his conversations with Hitler upon his departure for Argentina he was told that National Socialism was not for export. However, the transcript is replete with descriptions by the witness of Nazi activity in Argentina directed from Berlin. For example, as shown on pages 7, 8 and 9, Bohle, Chief of the Ausland's organization required the witness to have a Press Attache and a Cultural Attache attached to his embassy and named by the Nazis. In addition, of course, the witness described the propaganda work and the Nazi Party work independent of, and in connection with the embassy in Argentina.

It may be in order to require the witness to reconcile this extensive Nazi activity in Argentina with his earlier advice from Hitler, et al that Nazism was not for export. For example, the line of inquiry may be presented as to whether German foreign policy had changed, and if so, for what reason; and whether the reason for Nazi activity in Argentina was in contemplation of or preparation for war, i. e., whether it was a kind of softening up process so as to assist the Nazis in case of a war, whether it immediately involved Argentina or not.

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