

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH
BIOGRAPHICAL REPORT

RESTRICTED

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Name:	REICHERT, Jakob Wilhelm	
Nationality:	German	Regions: J 1 b
Region:	Berlin-Kahlew, Michelstr. 42 a	Occupation: SA, 25F
Positions:	Geschäftsführer (Manager) of <u>Wirtschaftsgruppe Eisenschaf- fende Industrie</u> (Economic Group Iron Producing Industry), Publisher (Mitherausgeber) and editor of <u>Stahl und Eisen</u> , Düssel- dorf, etc.	Political Attitude: 2 - 13
Birth date and place:	13 March 1895, Boxberg, Baden	
Family History:	Reichert was married in 1920 and has three children.	

Education:

Reichert attended elementary school in Boxberg and high school (humanistisches Gymnasium) in Wertheim a/S and Mannheim from 1897-1904. He studied law and economics at the Universities of Heidelberg, Munich, Rostock, and Berlin from 1904 to 1908. He has travelled extensively throughout Europe.

Work and Political History:

J. W. Reichert has been active in industrial organizations of the iron and steel industry since the days before World War I. A member of the Deutsch-nationale Partei (Conservative Nationalistic Party) and a representative of this party in the Reichstag from 1920 to 1930, Reichert placed his experience in industrial organization at the disposal of the Nazis, becoming one of the top leaders in the Nazi administration of German business.

Until 1912 Reichert worked as consultant (Wissenschaftlicher Hilfsarbeiter) and syndikus (legal adviser) to the Duisburg-Ruhrort Chamber of Industry and Commerce. In 1912 he became Chief Manager of the Association of Iron and Steel Industrialists (Hauptgeschäftsführer des Vereins Deutscher Eisen und Stahl Industrieller), which - counting all major German iron producing and processing concerns among its members wielded considerable influence in determining industrial policies. From 1914 to 1924 he also served as Reich Representative of the Office of Foreign Trade in Iron and Steel products (Reichsbevollmächtigter bzw. Vertrauensmann der Aussehndelsstelle für Eisen und Stahlerzeugnisse).

In 1920 the management of the Association of Iron and Steel Industrialists was merged with the management of the Wirtschaftsgruppe Eisenschaffende Industrie des Reichsverbands der Deutschen Industrie (Trade Group Iron Producing Industry

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of the Federation of German Industrial Organizations), and Reichert then became manager of both leading organisations of the German iron and steel industry. Between 1918 and 1938 the Reichsverband der Deutschen Industrie was the strongest industrial organization in Germany, promoting the interests of German industry and exerting considerable political pressure in questions of social and economic policy. In addition to his position as manager of the Trade Group Iron Producing Industry, Reichert was a member of the Hauptauschuss (Central Committee) of the Reichsverband der deutschen Industrie. Until its dissolution (1933) he was a member of the Reichswirtschaftsrat (Reich Economic Council), which represented all major economic groups (industry, banking, agriculture, etc.) and had the right to review economic legislation passed by the Reichstag as well as to initiate such legislation. Reichert, furthermore, Manager and a member of the Executive Committee of the Working Committee of Industrialists belonging to the Conservative Nationalistic Party (Geschäftsführendes Vorstandsmitglied des Arbeitsausschusses Deutscher Industrieller).

Reichert has published a considerable number of works on economic questions, particularly in relation to the iron and steel industry, such as: Rathenaus Reparationspolitik, Aus Deutschland's Waffenschmiede, Die Stahlwerke in ihrer Volkswirtschaftlichen und Seeleitung etc. For many years he had been publisher of the trade magazine, Stahl und Eisen (Steel and Iron).

When in 1933 the Nazis dissolved the former German industrial organizations and established in their stead the system of corporative organization of business. Reichert was appointed manager of the Wirtschaftsgruppe Eisenschaffende Industrie (Economic Group Iron Producing Industry), which forms part of the Reichsgruppe Industrie (National Group Industry). In this capacity Reichert exercised organizational control over the entire German iron producing industry.

In addition, under the Nazi regime, Reichert became head of the Deutsch-Bulgarische Handelskammer (German Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce), and of the Deutsche Weltwirtschaftliche Gesellschaft (German Society for World Trade), Berlin. He was a member of the Nationalsozialistischer Juristen Bund (US Lawyer's Association).

Summary

By virtue of his position in the Nazi administration of German business, particularly as manager of the Wirtschaftsgruppe Eisenschaffende Industrie (Economic Group Iron Producing Industry) Reichert has played an important part in determining Nazi economic policies particularly in relation to the German iron and steel industry.

Sources: Wenzel, Deutscher Wirtschaftsführer, 1929
Reichsverband der Deutschen Industrie, 1933
Deutsches Wirtschaftslexikon, 1935
Reichsverband der Deutschen Industrie, 1933

16 May 1948

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