OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH
BIOGRAPHICAL REPORT

Name: ROHLAND, Walter
Nationality: German
Region: Krefeld, Vluyer Platz 6; Also Berlin

Positions:
Member of the Management Board (Vorstand) of Vereinigte Stahlwerke AG,
Member of the Board of Directors of Deutsche Eisenwerke AG, Mühlheim, and other companies owned by Vereinigte Stahl AG,
Member of the Board of Directors of Vereinigte Oberschlesische Hüttenwerke AG, Gleiwitz,
Deputy Chairman (Stellvertretender Vorsitzender) of the Reichsvereinigung Eisen, etc.
Head of the Hauptausschuss Panzerwagen und Zugmaschinen (Main Committee Tanks and Tractors) of the Reich Ministry of Armament and War Production,
Deputy Head (Stellvertretender Leiter) of the Hauptring Eisenzeugung, (Main Ring Iron Manufacture) of the Reich Ministry of Armament and War Production,
Member of the Central Planning Office (Planungsamt) under Speer

Birth date: 1898

Work and Political History: Walter Rohland is one of the younger leaders of the German steel industry, who, in recent years, has held powerful positions in the Nazi administration of German business.

Rohland's business interests center mainly in the Steel Trust. He is a member of the Management Board (Vorstand) of the Vereinigte Stahlwerke AG, one of Germany's most powerful industrial concerns, owning the Gelsenkirchner
ROHLAND, Walter

Work and Political History, (cont'd.):

Bergwerke AG, Germany's largest coal producer, the Hochofen Verein für Gusstahlfabrikation and a large number of other important companies in the coal and steel industry.

Rohland is a member of the Board of Directors of leading subsidiaries and affiliates of the Vereinigte Stahl AG, including:

- Hüttenwerke Siegerland AG, Siegen,
- Deutsche Eisenwerke AG, Mülheim,
- Bergbau and Hütten AG "Friedrichshütte," Neuerford
- Dortmunder Union Brikettbau AG, Dortmund,
- Sandeisenwalzwerke AG, Duislaken,
- Ruhrgas AG, Essen

The other major German Steel combine with which Rohland is connected is the Ballestrem concern. He is a member of the Board of Directors (Aufsichtsrat) of Vereinigte Oberschlesische Hüttenwerke AG, Gleiwitz, the main unit in the Ballestrem combine, which has had a considerable part in the economic exploitation of Polish Upper Silesia since its annexation by Germany. As of 1943, he is reported to have been a member of the Board of Directors of Bayerische Motorenwerke AG, a large Bavarian motor and machinery producer.

Since the outbreak of World War II, Rohland has been appointed to major positions in the Reich Ministry of Armament and War Production under Speer. He was head of the Hauptausschuss Panzerwagen und Zugmaschinen (Main Committee Tanks and Tractors), one of twenty-one Main Committees under Speer, controlling the production of every type of war equipment. The Main Committee Tanks and Tractors has at least eight subcommittees covering all phases of Tank and tractor production. At the same time Rohland was Deputy Head of the Hauptring Eisenzeugung (Main Ring Iron Production), which controls the output of iron and steel needed in the manufacture of war equipment. In the spring of 1944 Rohland was appointed a member of the newly created Central Planning Office operating directly under Speer, which is believed to be the Supreme German planning agency for war production. Rohland was removed from the Committee late in 1944, however.

Rohland derives further power over the German Steel Industry from his position as Deputy Chairman of the Reichvereinigung Eisen, one of the Nazi super cartels established in 1942 to further centralize control over German industry. The Reichvereinigung Eisen controls nearly all phases of the steel industry from the mining of ore to the wholesale of finished products. Its functions include rationalization and increase of production, procurement and allocation of raw materials, market regulating, price fixing, etc.

Summary: As a member of the Management Board (Vorstand) of Vereinigte Stahlwerke AG, and as member of the Board of Directors (Aufsichtsrat) of other large companies of the steel industry, by virtue of his positions in the Reich Ministry of Armament and War Production (Head of Main Committee Tanks and Tractors, Deputy Head of Main Ring Iron Production, Member of the Central Planning Office).
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Summary, cont'd:

Office) and as Deputy Chairman of the Reichsvereinigung Eisen, Rohland has an important share in determining and executing Nazi economic policies.


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