

Rail Leaders, OGC Files
 _____ Field (RI)

Consolidated Information Summary.

Institut f. Zeitgeschichte
 München
 ARCHIV

1348/56

NAME: ROHLAND, Walter, Direktor, Dr.-Ing.

BORN: 1896

ADDRESS: Krefeld, Vlayner Platz 6.

PRESENT LOCATION:

a) Public or Semi-public Positions:
 (Unless otherwise specified from WT 1941/42)

Deputy Chairman:

of the Reich Association Iron. (Reichsvereinigung Eisen) (OSS R & A 3020)

Head of:

Main Committee Tanks and Tractors of the Reich Ministry of Armament and War Production. (Hauptausschuss Panzerwagen und Zugmaschinen). (OSS R & A 3020).

Deputy Head:

of the Main Ring Iron Production of the Reich Ministry of Armament and War Production. (Hauptring Eisenverzeugung). (OSS R & A 3020).

Member of:

the Central Planning Office under Speer. (Zentrales Planungsamt) (OSS R & A 3020).

b) Industrial Positions:

Member of the Board of Directors:

Vereinigte Stahlwerke A.G. Dusseldorf.

Member of the Supervisory Boards:

Bayerische Motorenwerke A.G. (OSS R & A 3020)

Rheinisch-Westfälische Eisen- und Stahlwerke A.G., Düsseldorf

Bergbau- und Hütten A.G. "Friedrichshütte" Herford.

Deutsche Eisenwerke A.G., Mülheim.

Dortmunder Union Eisenbau A.G., Dortmund

Hüttenwerke Siegerland A.G., Siegen

Krupp A.G., Essen

Siegerländer Eisenbahnbedarf A.G., Siegen.

Vereinigte Oberschlesische Hüttenwerke A.G., Gleiwitz

Member, Supervisory Board (and later Chairman, Supervisory Board):

Deutsche Rohrenwerke der Dortmunder-Eisen- und Stahlwerkeverein A.G., August Thyssen Hütte A.G., Duisburg. (Frankfurter Zeitung, of the 17 May 1943) (New 20 October 1943).

Westfälischen Union A.G. fuer Eisen und Stahl Industrie (BRUNN, French Source).

Member:

Hannoversche Maschinen A.G. vorm. Georg Egerstoff (Kölnische Zeitung, 3 June 1943).

Scientific Committee of the Union of German Industrialists. (French Source)

Information: 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. As a member of the Board of Directors (Vorstand) of Verbindete Stahlwerke A.G., and as member of the Supervisory Board (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 Rm Iron Production, Member of the Central Planning Office), and as Deputy Chairman of the Reichsvereinigung Eisen, Rohland has an important share in determining and executing Nazi economic policies.

Was made Knight of the War Merit Cross (Berliner Borsen Zeitung, 1st September 1943). He was known in Germany as "Panzer Direktor", he was the tanks expert of Germany. (French Sources).

OSS Source reference:

Berlin Radio, 27 May 1943 (VOC-Br. 28 May 1943).

Wardenträger im Dritten Reich, 1943

Wer Leitet, 1941-1942.

Who is Who in Nazi Germany, 1944.

OSS Source D, 5 July 1944.

OSS Source S, 27 January 1945.

OSS R & A 1910, 25 July 1944.

OSS CID # A-48341.

Party member since: 1 May 1933; Party - # 2 267 484.

OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH
BIOGRAPHICAL REPORT

Institut f. Zeitgeschichte
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1948/56

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in Report

Region: M 1d, J 1a

Occupation: 6A, 25 F

Political
Attitude: 13

Name: ROHLAND, Walter

Nationality: German

Region: Krefeld, Vluyler Platz 6;
Also Berlin

Positions: Member of the Management Board
(Vorstand) of Vereinigte Stahl-
werke 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 Hütten-
werke AG, Gleiwitz,

Deputy Chairman (Stellvertretender
Vorsitzender) of the Reichs-
vereinigung 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 Eisenerzeugung, (Main Ring Iron
Manufacture) of the Reich Ministry of Arma-
ment 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

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

Bergwerke AG, Germany's largest coal producer, the Bochumer 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, Muhlheim,
Bergbau and Hütten AG "Friedrichshütte," Werford
Dortmunder Union Brückenbau AG, Dortmund,
Band-Eisenwalzwerke AG, Dinslaken,
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 Bayrische 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 Eisenerzeugung (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 Reichsvereinigung Eisen, one of the Nazi super cartels established in 1942 to further centralize control over German industry. The Reichsvereinigung 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

Summary, cont'd:

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

Sources: OSS Source D, 5 July 1944
OSS Source S, 27 January 1945
OSS R & A 1910, 25 July 1944.
OSS CID #A-48341
Berlin Radio, 27 May 1943 (FCC -Br, 28 May 1943.)
Wirdenträger im Dritten Reich, 1943
Wer Leitet, 1941-1942.
Who is Who in Nazi Germany, 1944. 25 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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