German Cartel Revival
Peril Unfolded in House

Voorhis Lists Story of Sofina Co. as Current Example

By ELIZABETH DONAHUE
P. N. Burum
WASHINGTON, May 22.—The serious threat of a revival of the German cartel system has been placed before the House by Rep. Jerry Voorhis (D., Cal.), who predicts it will take "all the earnestness and determination of patriotic Americans to prevent another throttling of world commerce by the Germans and another building of Germany's power to make war.

In a speech on the current and recent plans of German businessmen to promote and nourish their industrial system through neutral and allied nations, Voorhis declared "if the cartel structure is allowed to stand, Germany's war potential will be re-built, and her Junker general staff prepared as if for a well treated and in many instances generously pictured by the American press — will be ready in another generation to make war on the world."

Piecing together news excerpts, State Dept. documents and Congressional hearings on the German industrial influence throughout the world and in wartime, Voorhis warned that "for the past two years at least the Germans have been engaged in building enterprises under their own direct control in Spain, Sweden, and other countries."

Evidence

Here is some of the evidence on which Voorhis built his case:

"Daniel Heineman, an American citizen and chief representative of the Sofina Co., was a moving figure in a meeting which took place in Lisbon, Portugal, in June, 1944," Voorhis said.

"Sofina," he revealed, "is a huge public utility company founded in Brussels, registered in Panama City, keeping its books in Cuba, its managerial staff in New York, its technical staff in Lisbon."

Voorhis disclosed that among the German companies which attended the meeting were: "I. C. Farben, Rhein Metall, Roechling, and Krupp."

"Some of the largest of all American concerns were represented," Voorhis added. "Hitler, one week before the Brussels invasion, provided a special guard to get Heineman away from Brussels carrying important documents, securities, and large amounts of cash," the Congressman charged.

On D-Day Eve

"It is significant," Voorhis told the House, "that the meeting was held just prior to Gen. Eisenhower's landing in Normandy and just in the nick of time to enable the Germans to complete their arrangement for the operations from such a vantage point on Spain and to keep their cartel agreements intact."

Unfolding the postwar cartel plot of the Germans, Voorhis observed that "there has been no hesitation on their part in making plans to turn surrender into preparation for the next war.

Stressing Spain's importance to the German cartels, Voorhis said, "it appears that as much as 40 per cent of the entire industry of Spain is at present in the hands of Germans and that German industry owns or controls approximately 500 subsidiaries and affiliates in the four European neutral countries, Spain, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland."

"The property situation in occupied countries has become so confused," Voorhis declared, "that only the greatest vigilance will be able to prevent the eventuality which I warn against."

While Voorhis was warning the House to pass legislation requiring all American companies to register and disclose their cartel agreements to the U.S. Government, Chairman W. S. S. Rogers of the Texas Co. and director Laurence B. Levi of the Socony Vacuum Oil Co. were testifying in a Senate committee against such legislation.

Levi told Sen. Joseph C. O'Mahoney's oil investigating committee that "American companies must be in position to meet existing conditions abroad."

Rogers described legislation requiring the registration of cartel agreements as "a spy system which would benefit other nations."

Both industrialists vigorously protested the evils of the cartel system, but with equal vigor opposed any attempt by Congress to force their companies to disclose the facts of the agreements they make with foreign concerns. The measure has been endorsed by Attorney General Biddle and others."
This is a reminder to call somebody at Customs about Heineman who expects to leave on the clipper to Lisbon either Monday or Tuesday. Jim Messer also has something he would like you to take up with Customs at the same time.
DELIVERY RECEIPT
Date: April 24, 1944

From: Lawrence S. Lesser
War Refugee Board
164 Main Treasury Bldg.

To: Mr. Dennis Heineken
Mayflower Hotel.

Received by: [Signature]

Return this Delivery Receipt to Room 306.
Dear Mr. Heineman:

You have indicated your earnest desire to aid the Board, during your forthcoming visit to Spain, in the solution of many of the grave problems confronting it. Having every confidence that you can and will lend invaluable assistance to the Board in its humanitarian efforts, the Board fully approves of your visit to Spain and warmly welcomes the opportunity to avail itself of your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

(\[\text{Signature}\]

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

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Mr. Dannie Heineman,
Carlyle Hotel,
35 East 76th Street,
New York, New York.

I hereby certify that the above is the true and authentic signature of J. W. Pehle inscribed in his own hand.

\[\text{Signature}\]

Assistant Executive Director
War Refugee Board

Subscribed and sworn to before me a Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia this 14th day of April, A.D. 1944.

(\[\text{Signature}\]

Notary Public.

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April 14, 1944
Dear Mr. Heineman:

You have indicated your earnest desire to aid the Board, during your forthcoming visit to Spain, in the solution of many of the grave problems confronting it. Having every confidence that you can and will lend invaluable assistance to the Board in its humanitarian efforts, the Board fully approves of your visit to Spain and warmly welcomes the opportunity to avail itself of your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle
J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Dannie Heineman
Carllyl Hotel
35 East 76th Street
New York, N. Y.
April 13, 1944

Dear Mr. Heineman:

I have your letter of April 11 and will be delighted to see you at 10 A.M. on Friday, April 14. My office is in Room 288½ Treasury Building.

Thank you for sending me the photostatic copy of the Jefferson letter.

Very truly yours,

(autographed)

J. N. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. D. H. Heineman,
c/o Skyscraper Hotel,
Washington, D. C.
April 11, 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle,
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I hope you had a comfortable return trip.

I am leaving Thursday evening for Washington and shall stay at the Mayflower until Saturday afternoon when I shall return to New York.

It would be very useful if I could see you on Friday for an hour or if possible longer. Would you please leave a message for me at the Mayflower letting me know when you would be free to see me on Friday morning or afternoon, as I have another appointment to which I am obliged to give priority and the time of which will only be set Friday morning.

The principal point I wish to discuss with you is the possibility of getting the refugees out of the occupied territories after the door to Spain has been opened. I mentioned this to Mr. Lesser who replied that some of the German guards are less adamant than others. I feel sure that some measure can be taken to facilitate the passage from one territory to another.

Please find enclosed the photostatic copy of the letter addressed by Jefferson to Alexander von Humboldt which I promised to send you.

Sincerely yours,

D. N. Heiman

H:YJ enclosure
MEMORANDUM

The Board is prepared

1. To finance reception centers for refugees which the Spanish government might agree to establish, and otherwise to assure the support of refugees while in Spain.

2. To assume responsibility for the speedy removal from Spain of refugees, especially of stateless refugees and those not under the protection of any government. To encourage the voluntary movement of refugees to Camp Lyautey near Fedala in North Africa and elsewhere; if necessary, to effect the removal of refugees from Spain on a compulsory basis.

3. To appoint a full-time representative in Spain responsible to the U. S. Ambassador, with authority to carry out the Board’s policies and program, to aid in the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of refugees, and to assist American, foreign and international agencies, both public and private, operating in Spain in this field.

4. In order to encourage and facilitate a greater flow of refugees from France, to finance, maintain, and supervise three reception centers to be established near the Spanish border (perhaps at Figueras, Finillo and Tolosa), so as to reduce to a minimum the time during which the refugees would be on the hands of the Spanish authorities; to staff these centers either with employees of U. S. Government or with representatives of private American welfare agencies, whichever procedure is preferred locally. Refugees would be directed by Spanish authorities to proceed to nearest reception camp who would provide them with travel permits valid to that point only. From the centers, the refugees would be moved on to North Africa with a minimum of delay.

Baksinip 6/12/44
1 and 2: "With the object of establishing a moving belt which will carry refugees from occupied areas through Spain to refuge elsewhere, the following concrete proposals have been agreed upon by the Board. (1) In view of the establishment of a camp in North Africa which is ready to receive refugees, a substantial number of refugees now in Spain can be moved to such camp and the transfer should be facilitated. (2) In order to take care of new refugees, particularly stateless refugees and those lacking the protection of their government, who will arrive in the future and to effect their removal from Spain on an involuntary basis if necessary, the Spanish Government should be asked to maintain reception camps in which future arrivals will live. As a basis for obtaining the necessary action by the Spanish Government they should be advised (a) that the War Refugee Board will make the necessary arrangements for financing the maintenance of the camps in Spain and the support of the refugees, and (b) that the War Refugee Board will assume responsibility for removing as rapidly as possible from Spain the stateless and unprotected refugees in the camps, emphasizing that arrangements are presently being made for the prompt removal from Spain of a substantial number of such refugees to the camp already established in North Africa. In this connection, the recent evacuation of refugees to Palestine may also be recalled."

Draft of cable to Madrid, sent to State Feb. 10, 1944
Also see State's 463 to Madrid Feb. 18, 1944.

"War Refugee Board wishes to make clear to you that Camp Lyautey will not be the only haven of refuge to which refugees can be removed from Spain. The Board is currently carrying on negotiations for other havens, and you should assume and may advise the Spanish Government that all refugees entering Spain from occupied areas will be taken on to other places."

Draft of cable to Madrid, sent to State March 20, 1944.
See also State's 799 to Madrid, of March 23.
The Board proposes to appoint .........., representative of the American Friends Service Committee in Madrid, as the Special Representative of the Board with the designation by the Department as Special Attache to the Embassy on war refugee matters."

"You should advise .......... that:

(a) He is charged with the duty and responsibility of carrying out the Board's policies and program in Spain;

(b) He is responsible to the Ambassador and should discuss his activities and problems with him regularly and fully;

(c) He shall work with and give all possible assistance to public and private agencies operating in Spain in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, foreign or international;

(d) He shall develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of refugees."

Draft of cable to Madrid, sent to State Feb. 16, 1944. Also see State's 530 to Madrid, Feb. 25, 1944.

"The Special Attache to your Embassy would supervise under you all the Board's operations in Spain, including the establishment and maintenance of refugee camps. He will have assigned to him a small staff which might include Transportation, Supply and Finance Officer. It is planned that the attache and his immediate staff base their operations in Madrid. In addition to the Madrid staff, should the volume of refugees so warrant, it is proposed that up to three reception centers be established along the Franco-Spanish frontier. Each of these centers would have a supervisor possessing experience in refugee work. Each supervisor would likewise have a small staff. At least one Medical Officer and possibly a small nursing staff would also serve at each of the centers."
"It is tentatively proposed that reception centers be established at Figueras, Murillo and Tolosa (or such other localities as may be agreed upon) as points readily accessible to all who cross the Pyrenees. The Board considers it desirable that these centers should be in frontier zones rather than in the interior of Spain for the following reasons:

(1) The nearness of the centers to the border would reduce to a minimum the time during which the refugees would be on the hands of the Spanish authorities."

"It is proposed that the frontier officials and police authorities direct the refugees to the centers, providing them with permits to travel only from the point of apprehension to the nearest center. We hope that the refugees will be advised by the Spanish officials that their presence in Spain will be tolerated only so long as they conduct themselves in accordance with this program. After arrival at the centers, it will be explained to the refugees that the Spanish authorities have released them into the care of the centers."

"The refugees would be kept as far as possible out of the principal population centers, particularly Madrid. It is felt that the remoteness of the proposed centers would minimize attention to the presence of the refugees in Spain."

"The location of the centers near to the frontier would permit close cooperation between their staffs and Spanish frontier officials. The refugees would remain in the reception centers only so long as is necessary to assure medical officers that they were in physical condition to travel, to permit preliminary security screening and to provide refugees with the necessary travel documents."

"The Board would appreciate your recommendation whether it would be more practicable for the personnel of the centers to be known to the Spanish Government as official employees of the United States Government or as employees of private American welfare services."
"It is proposed that border officials and police authorities in the frontier zones direct the refugees to the reception centers and provide them with a safe conduct pass valid only for travel from the point of apprehension by these authorities to the nearest reception center. At the time of issuance of these safe conducts, it is hoped that the Spanish officials will advise the refugees that their presence in Spain will be tolerated only so long as they remain in that country pursuant to this program. On arrival at the reception centers, the officers there would explain to the refugees that the Spanish authorities have released the refugees to their care."

Draft of cable to Madrid, sent to State March 20, 1944. Also see State's 799 to Madrid, March 23, 1944.
1. Dr. Robert Dexter  
Representative of the War Refugees  
Board in Portugal  
o/o The American Legation,  
Lisbon.

2. Samuel Sequerra  
Hotel Bristol  
Barcelona  
J. D. c. representative in Spain  
(Portuguese)

3. Joseph J. Schwartz  
J. D. c. Director for Europe  
London address:  
Central Council for Jewish Refugees  
Upper Woburn Place, London  
Lisbon address:  
242 Rua Aurea, Lisbon.
NEW YORK NY APR 11 810A 1944

LAWRENCE LESSOR, ROOM 164 TREASURY DEPT US TREASURY BLDG
15 ST AND PENN AVE

MR HEINEMAN WOULD LIKE ME TO TALK TO YOU OR PHELE BEFORE
MR PHELE DOES ANYTHING ABOUT ASKING FOR HIS PASSPORT AS
USUAL PROCEDURE IS FOR HEINEMAN TO APPLY TO RENEW HIS OLD
PASSPORT NUMBER OF WHICH I WILL HAVE THIS MORNING AND
PHELE CAN THEN ENDORSE APPLICATION IF NECESSARY. I WILL
TELEPHONE YOU OR PHELE FIRST THING THIS MORNING

DONALD DUNCAN.

APR 11 828AM