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During the years 1929 and 1930, Dr. A. Vögeler, President and Managing Director of the United Steel Works Corporation, was on the Board of Directors of Bank voor Handel en Scheepvaart. 17/

The present directors of the Bank voor Handel en Scheepvaart, N. V. are A. Den Bandt and Johann G. Groeninger. The managers are D. C. Schutte and H. J. Kouwenhoven. 18/

Kouwenhoven, a director of Union Banking Corporation, is on the Supervisory Board of the United Steel Works Corporation and is also a director of the August Thyssen-Bank, Berlin, Germany. (August Thyssen is the father of Fritz, Hans and Heinrich). D. C. Schutte is a director of the August Thyssen-Bank, as is also Cornelis Lievensse, President of Union Banking Corporation. 19/

Lievensse denies positive knowledge of the ownership of Bank voor Handel en Scheepvaart, but believes that it is now controlled by Baron Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza. Heinrich married into Hungarian nobility and acquired Hungarian citizenship, although he has resided for a long time in The Hague, Netherlands. During a Transatlantic telephone conversation after the outbreak of the war in September, 1939, Kouwenhoven told Lievensse that, whatever the ownership of Bank voor Handel en Scheepvaart might have been in the past, it was then in neutral hands. This conversation took place in connection with the seizure of certain assets in Canada of the Domestic Fuel Corporation by the Canadian Alien Property Custodian, and according to Lievensse probably meant that Baron Heinrich Thyssen-Bornemisza had taken over the control of the Bank voor Handel en Scheepvaart, since Hungary was at that time neutral.

Excerpts from the credit files of Brown Brothers, Harriman & Company, Chase National Bank, and Guaranty Trust Company re Bank voor Handel en Scheepvaart establish that the latter bank was organized and owned by the Thyssen family of Germany and was closely affiliated with the Vereinigte Stahlwerke A.G. of Dusseldorf, Germany. It has interlocking directorates with the latter steel combine and also the August Thyssen-Bank of Berlin, Germany.

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17/ Annual report of Bank voor Handel, APC File. (D-49-283).

18/ Ibid.

19/ 1938 report of August Thyssen-Bank A.G. (File D-49-283).