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Interrogation of . . . . . Ernst RANIS  
By . . . . . Lt Col T. S. Hinkel  
Time . . . . . 1 Nov 1945 - A. M.

Ranis' last position was manager of the "looting" department of the Roges Raw Material Company, a government subsidiary which was first under the Ministry of Economics then the OKW and then the Speer Ministry (in 1942). The duties of Ranis' department were to pick up the booty that had been captured by the army and which had been sent back to various distribution stations. There the materials were sorted over by representatives of the Wehrmacht, Navy, Air Forces and railroads and those materials which were not needed by any of the foregoing were then turned over to Ranis' representatives. These materials included oil, leather, timber, uniforms, machinery, household effects, etc. The materials picked up by Ranis' organization were later sold to various manufacturers in the Reich. Ranis stated that as of December 1944 a profit of 350 million Reichsmarks had been made.

The Roges Company began operations some time in February 1941, having taken over from a predecessor organization. The Company had two duties - one, to handle the materials obtained as booty, and the other, those obtained by purchasing. The booty was of two types, one, captured enemy materiel and the second, civilian property. When claims were made for compensation by civilians, they were paid - to the extent of 30 million Reichsmarks in France alone. On the eastern front the only property that was paid for was that taken from civilians in the Baltic States; the view was taken that there was no private property in Russia and therefore no claims could be made by Russian civilians.

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The various individuals through whom Ranis dealt were, for the OKW, General Thomas, General Becht and General Becker. A Professor Hetlager was in charge of the operations of the company for the Speer Ministry.

HINKEL