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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS BRANCH
BIOGRAPHICAL REPORT

53.056
RESTRICTED

Name:	REEMTSMA, Phillip F.	Index of Statements in Report
Nationality:	German	Region: A
Region:	Hamburg-Klein-Flottbeck, Parkstrasse 51.	Occupation: 25 A, 25B, 28, 6A
Positions:	Partner and manager of <u>H. F. and Ph. F. Reemtsma, Hamburg.</u> Member of the Board of Directors, <u>Deutsche Bank, Berlin</u> <u>Vereinigte Glanzstoff Fabriken AG,</u> <u>Elberfeld,</u> Head of <u>Fachuntergruppe Zigaretten-</u> <u>industrie der Wirtschaftsgruppe</u> <u>Lebensmittelindustrie (Special</u> <u>Group Cigarette Industry of the</u> <u>Economic Group Foodstuffs industry),</u> Member of the Advisory Board (<u>Beirat</u>) of <u>Reichsgruppe Industrie (National</u> <u>Group Industry),</u> <u>Wehrwirtschaftsführer</u>	Political Attitude: 13

Birth Date and Place: 22 December 1893, Osterholz Schambeck.

Family History:

His two brothers, Herman and Alvin were partners in the Reemtsma concern. Subject was married twice.

Work and Political History:

Phillip Reemtsma is known primarily as Germany's largest cigarette manufacturer. He was partner and manager of H. F. and Ph. F. Reemtsma AG, Hamburg, which is said to account for more than eighty percent of German cigarette output. He is said to have built up his business by ruthless methods of cut-throat competition, selling below cost until his competitors were forced to sell out to his concern. 1/

The Reemtsmas are said to have been "inveterate foes" of the Weimar Republic. 2/ At any rate, apparently a typical opportunist, the Reemtsmas prospered under the Nazi regime. According to his interview source, Phillip Reemtsma subsidized many political parties before 1933, as his main purpose was the promotion of his business interests. He is said to have maintained relations with Göring, to have made the personal acquaintance of Hitler, after 1933, to have joined the NSDAP and to have complied not only with Nazi regulations concerning the dismissal of Jewish personnel, but to have fulfilled the personal wishes of top Nazi leaders in joining financial agreements and ventures.

W_or k aai Political. History» cqnVcl;

They obtained a cigarette monopoly in Danzig and brought many t^all coa-
panies 5n Germany under their control»

Phillip, Reemtsmn in addition to his tobacco interest.3 was connected with
leading enterprises in other fields» He was a member of the Board of Di-
rectors of the Deutsche Bank, the largest German Bank» Reportedly under
indirect control" of the Deutsche Bank, waa the Vereinigte Glanzstoff
Fabriken AG, Germany*-3 largest individual rayon concern of which Reemtama
was a member of the Board of Directors,, In 191*0 he acquired the majority
of the stock of the German Afjrika steamship line»

Reemtsma held several important positions in the Nazi administration of
business» He was head of Fachgruppe 2&garottenindu3trie in der Wirtachaf~
;|ruppe Lebensmittelindustrie (Special Group"Cigarette Industry of the Economic
i}roup foodstuffs IndustryJ7~which feras part of the corporative organization of
German business established by the Nazis in 193Uo In this capacity lie exer-
cised control over the entire German cigarette proc'.uction.

Xeestsma was, fur.neraore-, a member of the Advisory Board (Beirat) o? the
Reichsgruppe_Industrie (National Group Industry), which played"an im-
portant part in controlling German industryo Reemtama was a member of the
Industrie und Handelskammer (Chamber of Industry and Commerce) in Hamburg
(taxich was later merged into a gau Economic Chamber) and a member of the
advisory Board (Beirat) of the Deutsche ReichsbanV:«,

Xeemtsaa received the title of Wehrwirtschaftafflhrer. which is granted only
to key&en in the German war economy who aro in excellent standing with the
Nazi Partyo

Summaryi

By virtue of his control over the German tobacco industry, as partner, and
iianager of the largest German tobacco company, H_a \\ and Ph.» Fc Reem'tama,
und as head of the Special Group Cigarette Industry of the Economic Group
Foodstuffs industry, by virtue cf hie business positions with such iaportant
firms as Deutsche Barky Vereinigte Glanzstoff Fabriken AQ. etc», Ressatsma
plays an important part in deteTmlning Nazi economic policies«,

SOURCE'S: 1/: OSS., BR, FU I, 6 Dec, ISkS A. 10-36: Business & personal acquaintance
I/i OSS, R St A 1910, ?S «July 1«U5. B, 1012: business acquaintance
3/: Die Zeitung. 12 December 19hM»
^•/i Würdenträger i»toltttenjteic-h,191,3.
Wer Leitet, l?,Ul"19uf

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This record is a summary of such intelligence (from one or mora sources as indi-
cated) as was available at the time of preparation«. It jnay consequently by sub-
ject to amendment by additional or more recent intelligence«. .Index numbers and
letters are solely for indexing statements in th'i report,