

AIDING NAZIS LAID TO OPTICAL CARTEL

Berge Tells Senate Group of Zeiss-Bausch, Lomb Pact on Military Devices

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7—An assertion that a secret trade agreement between Carl Zeiss of Jena, Germany, and the Bausch & Lomb Optical Company of Rochester, N. Y., operated to the advantage of the German military machine in the years between the two World Wars was made today by Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General in charge of anti-trust cases.

He told a Senate Military subcommittee on war mobilization, which is investigating international cartels, that under the alleged agreement secret United States military information dealing with range finders, bomb sights, periscopes and other optical gunfire control devices was furnished to the German company by Bausch & Lomb not only before but also after Hitler came into power.

Under questioning by Senator Harley M. Kilgore, subcommittee chairman, the witness said that the agreement provided reciprocal privileges for representatives of each company to visit the laboratories and designing rooms of the other.

"When Hitler came into power," he added, "the American company found the door to the Zeiss designing rooms closed to it."

Mr. Berge said that while information of what Zeiss was making for Hitler passed to Bausch & Lomb, Zeiss was kept informed "at least until well into the Hitler regime as to what was being ordered by our military departments."

"Bausch & Lomb's German representatives, August Lomb of Frankfurt-on-Main, acted as conduit for the information," he added.

Concluding his testimony with a plea for prevention of such a situation in the future, Mr. Berge urged that the United States Government take these steps:

Acquire German patents and technological data and make them generally available to American industry.

Insist that such German laboratories as are permitted to continue operation after the war do so in full view of the rest of the world.

Dissolve such firms as I. G. Farben, representing industrial power utilized for military conquest.

See to it that certain German firms are physically terminated and their laboratories reorganized on an international basis.

Senator Kilgore said that Mr. Berge's proposals deserved "immediate consideration by Congress."