In 1946, when the German High Command realized that it could not win the war, Otto von Thyssen was said to have been entrusted with the task of preparing a memorandum on steps to be taken to win the next struggle. Dispatches based on information gathered by the French underground and made available in Washington quoted him as follows:

“This does not mean a final defeat to us, if, because of the devastation of manpower and material which we still have been able to inflict on our enemies and neighboring territories, we have obtained a margin of economic and demographic superiority greater than before 1939.”

Thyssen’s message is recalled with extraordinary passion in the trial of Nazi war criminals held in Germany since the end of the war.

Of special importance is the German phase of the “Ministry Case” now taking place in Nuremberg before an American military government tribunal. In this case a number of high ranking officials of the Nazi government and party have been indicted on eight counts including crimes against humanity, as a result of which “millions of people were exterminated, tortured, starved, enslaved and robbed.”

The importance of this case from the Jewish point of view is the fact that it demonstrates clearly how the entire Nazi program and every facet of Nazi life played a part in the great conspiracy against the Jews of Europe. Involved were the Foreign Office, the Ministries of Interior, Finance, Food and Agriculture, the Chancellery of the President and Reich Chancellors, the Reich Press Chief and the Reichsbank. These cooperated with the SS, the police, “private” banking and industry to “wrest through Europe from East to West” and commits all Jews under their control to the crematoria, including those of Great Britain, Ireland, Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark, Spain and Portugal.

This aim is clearly defined in a captured Nazi document, the minutes of a November meeting held on November 20, 1942 to prepare the master plan for the final solution of the Jewish problem. This meeting decided: “Under proper directions, the Jews should, for final solution, be brought first for use as labor, in big camps; with separation of the sexes, the Jews capable of work are employed in rehabilitation, in which a greater part will fall out through natural diminution. The remaining remnant, with strongest resistance, must be treated accordingly, as these people are the core of the new Jewish problem.” Each of the Nazi agencies had its part to play and one fulfilled its role.
On March 23, 1943, State Secretary Beissel, a defendant, wrote that the German Foreign Office "had no objections" to the deportation of 6,000 Jewish and stateless Jews to Auschwitz. Hereinafter, another defendant, reported to the Foreign Office that Yugoslavia on December 25, 1944, that "German and Eastern settlements of the Jewish question in Serbia is the most urgent and expedient necessity." On April 15, 1944, he reported from Belgrade that "stabilizing the situation will be realized ... in a moment." In Munich, another employee of the department, issued by the evacuation of thousands of Jewish children in July, 1944, until "the end of the month when the action against the Jews in Hungary will be concluded for the first part and the intervention will have become pointless."

The Ministry of Finance is represented in The Ministry of Finance by the President of the General Staff, State Secretary from 1934 to 1942. In Prüf’s capacity he was equally responsible with the former for the introduction of the Inheritance Tax Law, and the supplementary decrees which he personally drafted. At the conference on January 10, 1942, he suggested compulsory sterilization of all Jews. Three years later he wrote: "One can consider the aim of the sterilization as already achieved ... It has brought about a preliminary solution of the Jewish problem and, at the same time, substantially prefigures the final solution."

The Ministry of Finance is included through Emile Schwerin-Kossack, Hitler’s Finance Minister, who was charged with collecting the billion mark fine levied against the Jews following the pogrom of November, 1938. His Ministry was the center of Jewish expropriation and a collection point for loot, including that taken from the victims of the extermination centers. In close liaison with the Ministry of Finance was the Reichsbank which, later, received 75 shipments of valuables from banks and businesses valued at 20 billion Reichsmark. This latter institution financed the so-called "Hitler industries" which were operated through the use of slave labor exclusively. In all these activities and, particularly in the over-all "organization" of Jewish assets in all occupied countries through organization, segregation and outright confiscation, the SS were supported by private banks, particularly the Dresdner Bank.

The Ministry for Food and Agriculture expelled Jews from every phase of German agriculture, and instituted a starvation program extending to the occupied territories, particularly Poland.

The heads of Hitler’s top agencies, German Foreign and President of the Weimar and Presidential Chancelleries, also contributed their share to the successful "solution" of the Jewish problem. The former was involved in the organization of the Criminal Jurisdiction against the Jews in the Eastern territories while the latter retained his power in such a manner as to continue all the crimes of the regime.
It was the task of defendant Streicher, Reich Press Chief and ultimately Hitler's private secretary, to shape public opinion for the persecution and liquidation of the Jews.

The United States Government has played an important role in bringing Nazi war criminals to justice. However, some weeks ago German newspapers in Berlin reported a "strong suspicion" among Americans themselves that German defense attorneys were being assisted by members of the War Crimes Prosecution Staff. In the trial of 18 leading officials of the Third Reich's Third Reich, a number of documents submitted by defense attorneys that had been first written in English and then translated into German. This practice has been turned over to advance to German lawyers who are often found to be familiar with supposedly secret evidential material. In many cases the defense has obtained photographic material which could only have come from the United States.

This trend of events has created a sense of unease among the foreign nations. It is being interpreted in the light of military government directives which have been passed over scores and scores of the Germans until they have been able to familiarize themselves with the United States against the Soviet Union, a nation which has received injuries from the fact that the German military strategy has been practiced upon with the rearmament of Germany's industrial potential. It has led to the conclusion that the concept of Germany's guilt as an aggressor nation is being relegated to the hop of discarded items along with the erasure of one field, the struggle against world reaction and the solidarity of all peoples.

Such a trend does not take account of the measure to world power which still lurks within the fascist forces of present-day Germany. To those who fear the correctness of this view, a careful reading of General von Strohmberg's famous memorandum is strongly recommended.