

Landeszentralbank
von Nordrhein-Westfalen
Hauptstelle Köln

Köln, den 18 January, 1949
Unter Sachsenhausen 1-3

Fernsprecher: 7 04 81 - 84

A. F a s s b e n d e r
Landeszentralbankrat
Assistant General Manager

D e c l a r a t i o n

The following lines are a true statement of the treatment the banking-firm Sal. Oppenheim jr. & Cie, Cologne, and its partners, especially Mr. Friedrich Carl Freiherr von Oppenheim, had found during the regime of the National Socialists.

My activity for many years with Bankers' Association in Rheinland and Westphalia r.U., Cologne, whose management was partly entrusted to me since 1939, allowed me to get an exact knowledge of the way of dealing of the organs of the NSDAP towards the above-mentioned banking-firm and its partners. From 1933 on, the banking-firm of Sal. Oppenheim was termed by the officials of the party, when talking about the banking business, in the daily papers as well as in speeches as Jewish banking-firm and chicaned. Organs of the NSDAP demanded categorically that in the usual notices in the daily papers of the banks of Cologne about joint closing the name of Sal. Oppenheim would not be mentioned. Similarly Baron Friedrich Carl von Oppenheim was not allowed to hold an office at the professional organisations in the banking line.

The then persons of power and the manager of the District Labour Office of Cologne always demanded that the firm Sal. Oppenheim in the first line be burdened when screening employees for compulsory service in the armament industry, for working at the Westwall and also when calling to the Volkssturm. It was always called a superfluous Jewish banking-house which did not need any consideration an which on account of its origin should have to bear injuries of the severest kind.

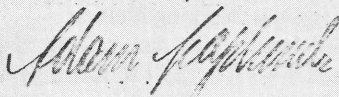
Baron Friedrich Carl von Oppenheim who during this time was excluded from public life and also from any conferences even professional ones, was treated in the same way. Also when the banking-firm of Sal. Oppenheim changed its style to Pferdmenages & Co. the behaviour of the responsible authorities remained the same.

p. t. o.

In the press as well as in speeches, it was always talked of the Jewish banking-house and its Jewish proprietors who would not merit any consideration. This method naturally grew stronger during the years of war and terminated in the detention of Baron Friedrich Carl von Oppenheim.

In the resuming I declare under oath that the banking-firm as well as Baron Friedrich Carl von Oppenheim had to suffer many prejudices and humiliations by the National Socialists.

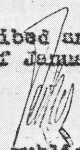
I beg to add to the above statement that in 1945 I have been appointed by the U.S. Military Government to Assistant General Manager of the Reichsbankhauptstelle Cologne, now Landeszentralbank Hauptstelle Cologne, and that in consideration of my anti-National Socialist attitude.



(Adam Fassbender)
Landeszentralbankrat.

U.S. Rolle № 145/1949.

The foregoing declaration was subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me this 24 th of January 1949 by Adam Fassbender.



Notary public