

Aug 22 - 49

Frey

Mr. Philip Murray.
Pres. United Steel Workers of America.
c/o STEEL LABOR
2457 E. Washington St.
Indianapolis, Ind.

U.S.A.-C.I.O.

AUG 26 1949

PITTSBURGH

Dear Sir:

The enclosed Brochure show clearly how the International Financiers work in order to gain their end of total control over Production and Labor.

They don't care how many thousands of human life's they destroy nor how many families they uproot and throw into misery and despair.

The english, the french, the Germans and the rest of the common peoples, have all, the one thing in mind and at heart - that of the welfare of their families and peace and a place to work.

Such actions on the side of the western Powers, drunk with victory, will drive these

people into the arms of the Bolshevik
Ideology which is communism.
In their bitterness they can't find no
other solution.

We are fighting a cold war against
Russia on the one hand and create an
Atmosphere of dis-illusion on the other.

Our Nation is dedicated to democratic
principles, Justice, freedom and Chaiity and
so is your Union.

How can these principles ever come to pass
when both parties (political) are dominated
by Wall-Street (our Super) Government?
Administrative?

Only their vigorous protest and the
alertness of the common peoples Leaders
could this state of affairs be overcome.

Respectfully yours.

(A. Frey)

The Gelsenberg dismantling case

Gelsenberg produces motor-fuels on the
basis of crude-oil, not of coal !

MEMO OF THE GELSENBERG BENZIN AKTIENGESSELLSCHAFT

WHY DISMANTLING GELSENBERG ?

May 1949

I. An uncomprehensible dismantling decision

Permit in September 1948

Start of production after Reconstruction in March 1949

Gelsenberg now bound for dismantling

By the 13th of April 1949 the Military Governments of the three Western Zones of Occupation published an agreement of the Allies on prohibited and limited industries.

This agreement, article VI, contains the following sentences:

"The production of petrol, oil and lubricants directly or indirectly from coal or brown coal by the Bergius hydrogenation process, the Fischer-Tropsch synthesis, or analogous processes shall be prohibited

All Bergius plants, except the Wesseling plant, shall as soon as possible be removed from Germany or destroyed. The whole Wesseling plant shall be retained and may be used for the refining of natural petroleum, for the hydrogenation of heavy residues from such refining and for the synthesis of ammonia and methanol."

By the 28th of September 1948 the Gelsenberg Benzin A.G. together with the Wesseling plant received the operating permission for the distillation of crude oil and the hydrogenation of residues.

At high costs for the reconstruction both plants resumed production in the course of March 1949; both plants now are refining crude oil at a monthly rate of 30 000 or 35 000 tons each (15 000 tons of residues resp.)

It might be mentioned that the first plans of British and German authorities for treatment of crude oil provided that the Gelsenberg plant alone was to refine the total amount of 60 000 to 70 000 tons of crude oil.

A. M. FREY

1482 CLYBOURN AVE.

CHICAGO 10, ILL.

"Security" Argumentation

The prohibitions and restrictions are deemed necessary for Security Reasons according to the agreement of the Military Commanders of the three Western Zones of Germany regarding the prohibited and limited Industries (Communiqué of April 13th, 1949). It seems unexplainable to management and workers overhere that two similar plants, working on the base of crude oil, are not equally treated: one of them is considered to be consistant with security, while the other plant has to be dismantled or destroyed.

Does this make any sense?

Equal rights are the basis of Democracy, also in the field of economy. The prohibition refers to the production of synthetic petrol from coal. The average citizen in the Ruhr and the workers of our plant cannot comprehend why the treatment of crude oil - which also applies in other refineries - is considered dangerous from the security angle, the more because the Wesseling plant is permitted to operate on crude oil base.

The Wesseling plant carries out crude oil treatment on the base of contracts of treatment with the German Shell Company (Subsidiary company of the British-Dutch Shell Concern) while the Gelsenberg gasoline plant signed similar agreements with the German Vacuum Oil Company of the two big American Oil Concerns Socony Vacuum Oil Inc. New York and Standard Oil Company New Jersey).

II. The following details may be of interest for the reader:

- a) It is one of the decisive fundamentals of ERP that the ERP countries are expected to make their best efforts for the mobilization on their own economic resources.
- b) The treatment of Arabian crude oil in Europe is integrant part of the ERP plan which provides that every country including Germany is bound to carry out the necessary crude oil treatment within the own boundaries.
- c) in Germany the treatment of crude oil requires the application of hydrogenation, because:

Hydrogenation provides the best yields of motor fuels,
" saves the largest amount of foreign currency
" -plants are available and can be operated
economically in Germany.

d) The stoppage of the Gelsenberg gasoline plant would prevent the successful realization of the crude oil plan which was decided upon 1948, for years in come. The import of finished products (becoming necessary instead) would make futile the expected saving in foreign currency, thereby increasing the deficit in foreign currency for Germany and hereby burdening tax payers outside Germany.

III. S u m m a r y: What would dismantling mean ?

a) Economical consequences

The invested property of 300 million Reichsmarks and more than 17 million D-Marks, after reception of permit, ~~were~~ spent for the repair of war damages, would be lost forever. It would mean a tremendous loss in national property. The German economy would be burdened with expenses for other capacities involving large sums and considerable quantities of material.

In the meantime a loss in foreign currency would be unavoidable. In view of the increased German requirement of motor fuels the experts estimate the loss in foreign currency with 70 million Dollars.

Last not least millions would have to be spent for dismantling expenses.

This amount of money could be used however for important German overall reconstruction purpose (e.g. the application of new house building methods).

b) Social and psychological consequences

3.000 Gelsenberg workers (more than 10.000 persons with families included) would become unemployed over night. It will be impossible for them to find another job in the Gelsenkirchen area which is overcrowded with Eastern German expellees. The industry, commerce and trade of the towns of Gelsenkirchen and Gladbeck will be hit hard.

The dismantling of the Gelsenberg plant will have negative consequences on the development of the Team Work Idea in the Ruhr and bolster radicalism.

G E L S E N B E R G B E N Z I N A. G.

F.W.Schulze Buxloh K.Balster P.Jacob

T r a n s l a t i o n .

The Bishop of Münster

Münster June 1st, 1949.

Dear Workers and employees
of the "Gelsenberg Benzin A.G."

To-day I have come to you because I know what deep a depression has taken possession for some days of the population of this part of my diocese. My visit to you shall be a proof for the fact that your troubles are also my troubles.

The workers of the "Gelsenberg Benzin A.G." that is to say 3000 workers and employees, with their dependents more than 10 000 people are faced with the danger of loosing their working places on account of the intended dismantling of their works.

Realising with what industry, with what planful consideration, with what patience, and with what zeal an industrial work has been rebuilt I am deeply impressed by the idea that everything that has been created here is now to be destroyed. Hardly had our people that had been so heavily afflicted by the war and its effects begun to breathe a bit more freely when it had again to fear to sink into misery once more because of the loss of its working places.

As the bishop of this diocese I feel myself obliged to appeal in this present serious hour to the conscience of those who have the power to decide upon the external destiny of this population. As we firmly believe it cannot be made consistent with the Christian principles and those of nature's law to bring about knowingly and voluntarily such a misery for thousands of people. In addition to this it must be mentioned that thus the belief into a social order in the world will for ever disappear preparing the ground for that dangerous radical attitude which it is true is refused by the workers in Germany and Europe who have an insight into the things, to which, however, despairing and misguided elements succumb only too easily.

It is for this reason that I warningly and urgently appeal to all sensible and Christian people who are concerned about the true welfare of mankind and about the peace of the peoples for God's and the nations' sake to do all that is in their power to avoid the distress threatening to come upon this population through the dismantling.

signed: Dr. Michael KELLER

T r a n s l a t i o n

Protestant Church of
Westphalia
Management
The Vice-president

Bielefeld, June 7th, 1949.
Stapenhorststr. 24.

General !

I thank you for your kindness to have accepted and passed on to the competent offices on higher level the telegram which I sent to you on May 22nd, 1949 in respect of the dismantling of the Gelsenberg A.G. at Gelsenkirchen.

Meanwhile eight more large firms of Westphalia have received the order to dismantle their works. It is for this reason that I ask for the permission of explaining to you in more details my great anxiety and my wishes which fill me with regard to these events that are of vital and decisive importance for many amongst us.

I write these lines as deputy of the head of the Protestant Church of Westphalia who on account of an invitation on the part of British Churches is at present staying in England, and in the name of two and a half millions of Protestant Christians of the Protestant Church of Westphalia.

The Church does not claim to interfere with economic and political decisions. This is not part of its duties. But it cannot forgo the right of raising its voice as soon as it realises that some of the members of its people are faced with gravest economic plight and serious moral danger.

Such a danger exists to a great extent not only for the economic but also for the most intrinsic psychical existence of ten thousands on account of the dismantling procedures ordered just now. In the case of closing down the Gelsenberg A.G. at Horst 3 000 workers would loose their working places and earnings. The village of Bergkamen which lost 1 200 men during the war and on account of a mining accident (with a total population of 9 000 inhabitants) would have to tackle the problem of unemployment as almost all surviving men would become unemployed if the Fischer-Tropsch works of that place would be closed down.

This means unspeakable misery for ten thousands who have not yet recovered from the terrible consequences of the bomb war. Unemployment is to-day despair. The greatest danger awaits those driven into misery, namely the danger of becoming the victim of a nihilistic ideology and revolutionary movements which with uncanny zeal set about all over the world and especially in the industrial areas.

German experts are unable to accord the execution of the dismantling ordered just now with the principles of reasonable economic considerations. It is only a few months ago that the Gelsenberg A.G. had received the permission to rebuild its works. Almost 20 million DM have since been invested. If now everything will be destroyed with one stroke of the pen that had been rebuilt with hope and devotion this causes the just growing confidence into the powers who decide upon our destiny to waver again. Nay, even, it shatters the belief of millions into a just world order and into humanity at all. Thus all laws of decency and morals are most severely endangered.

This is what we as the Church consider to be the real danger and the most serious menace not only for our people but also for the whole world. It is for this reason that we feel ourselves obliged to raise our voice in the last minute warning, begging, imploring.

We know that we are a people defeated by the nations and judged by God. We do not refuse to do penance which has been imposed on us by the master of all peoples, but we beg and warn all those whom it may concern: do not drive us into despair! Do not take us the last rest of the belief into a just order of the world! Leave to everybody who is a human being the right to live and to work! We ask to listen to the explanations of the German experts and to re-examine once more the ordered dismantling.

We shall not become tired of raising our hands imploringly to the master of all masters that he may fill the hearts of those who bear the responsibility with the spirit of wisdom, of humanity, and of mercy which alone serves the conciliation among the peoples and the peace of the world.

I firmly believe that you, General Bishop, will hear the words spoken in a serious hour and out of a great responsibility for the destiny of our people, and I ask you to convey them to those who have to take the decision in a vital question of our people.

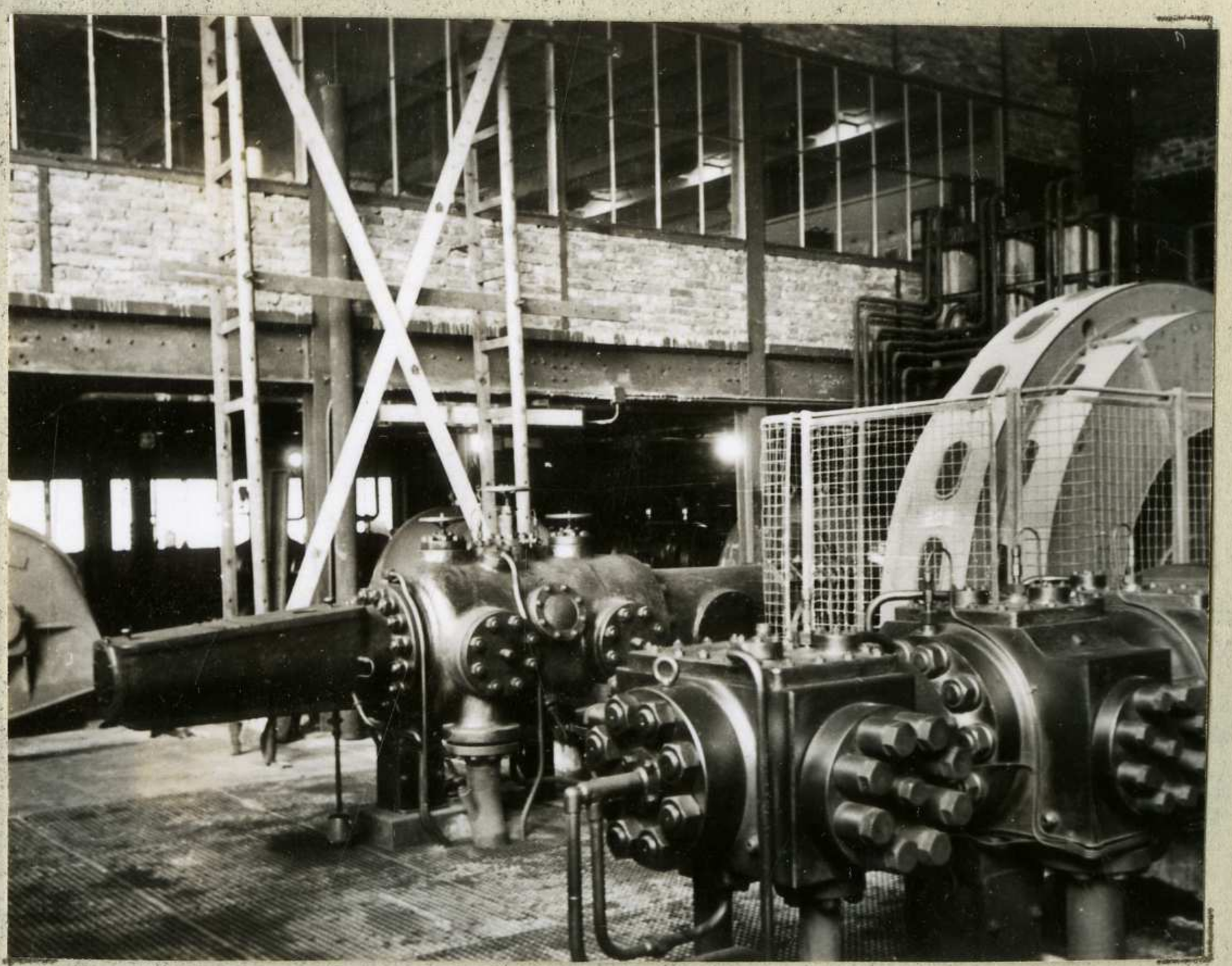
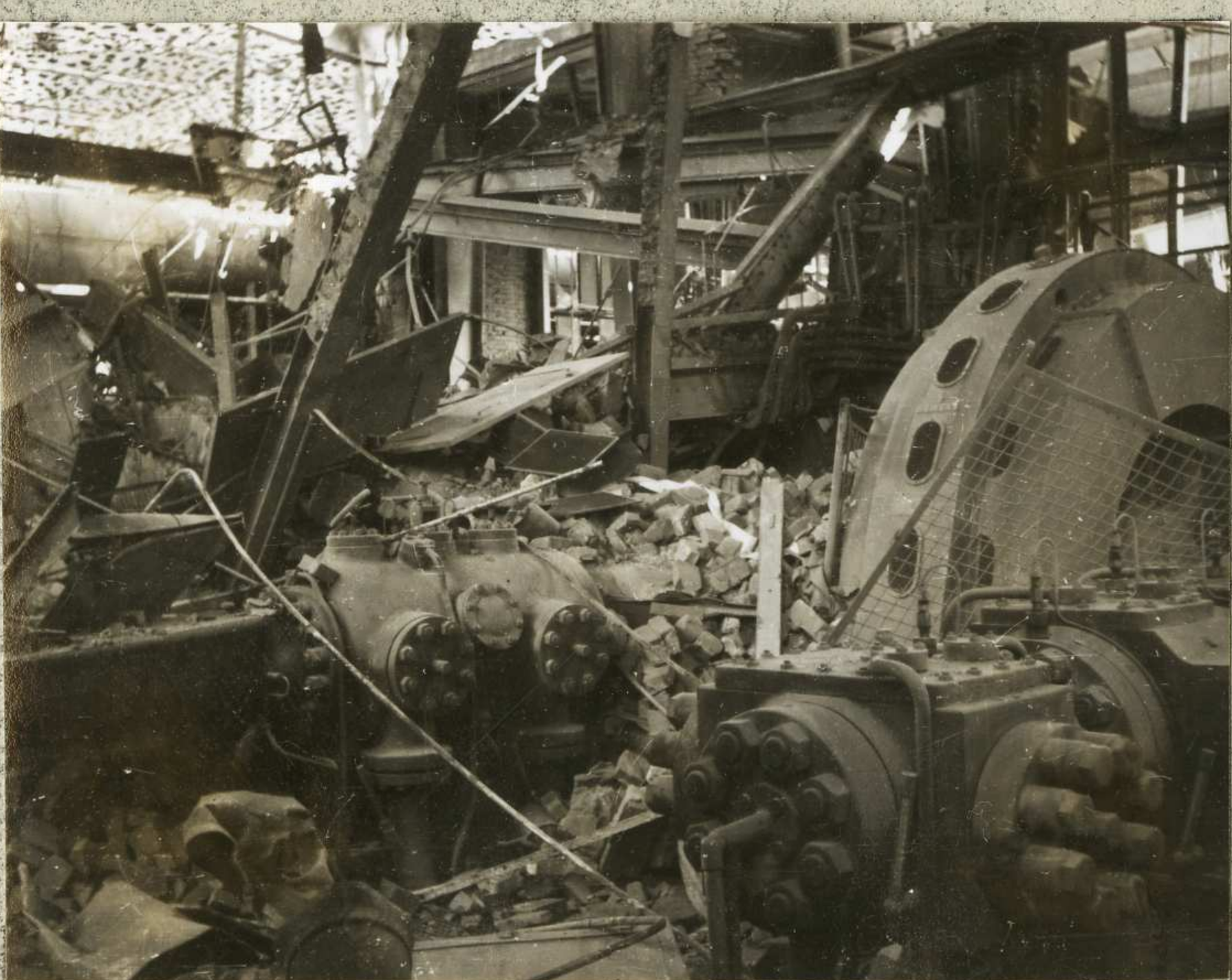
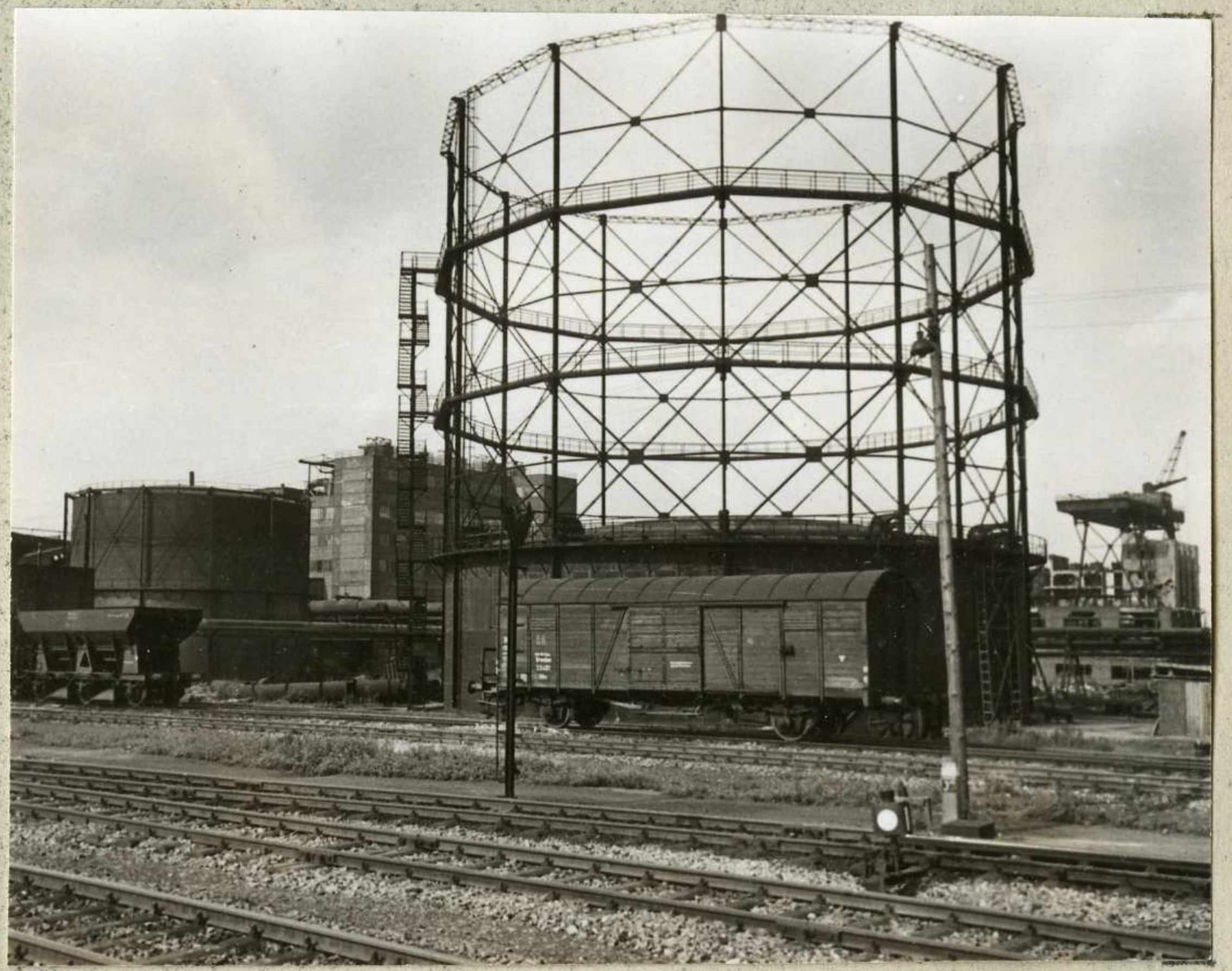
Very Sincerely Yours
LÜCKING Vice-president

At first : Reconstruction Then : Dismantling

Production-Permit by Mil. Gov. on Sept. 28th, 1948. Reconstruction-works during the winter 1948/49 with an expense of DM 17 Millions
New Dismantling-order.

Before Reconstruction

To-day



Common Sense ?

Economy ?

Gelsenberg backs ERP

Does it make a bit of sense Dismantling
at your own expense ?

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Common Sense ?

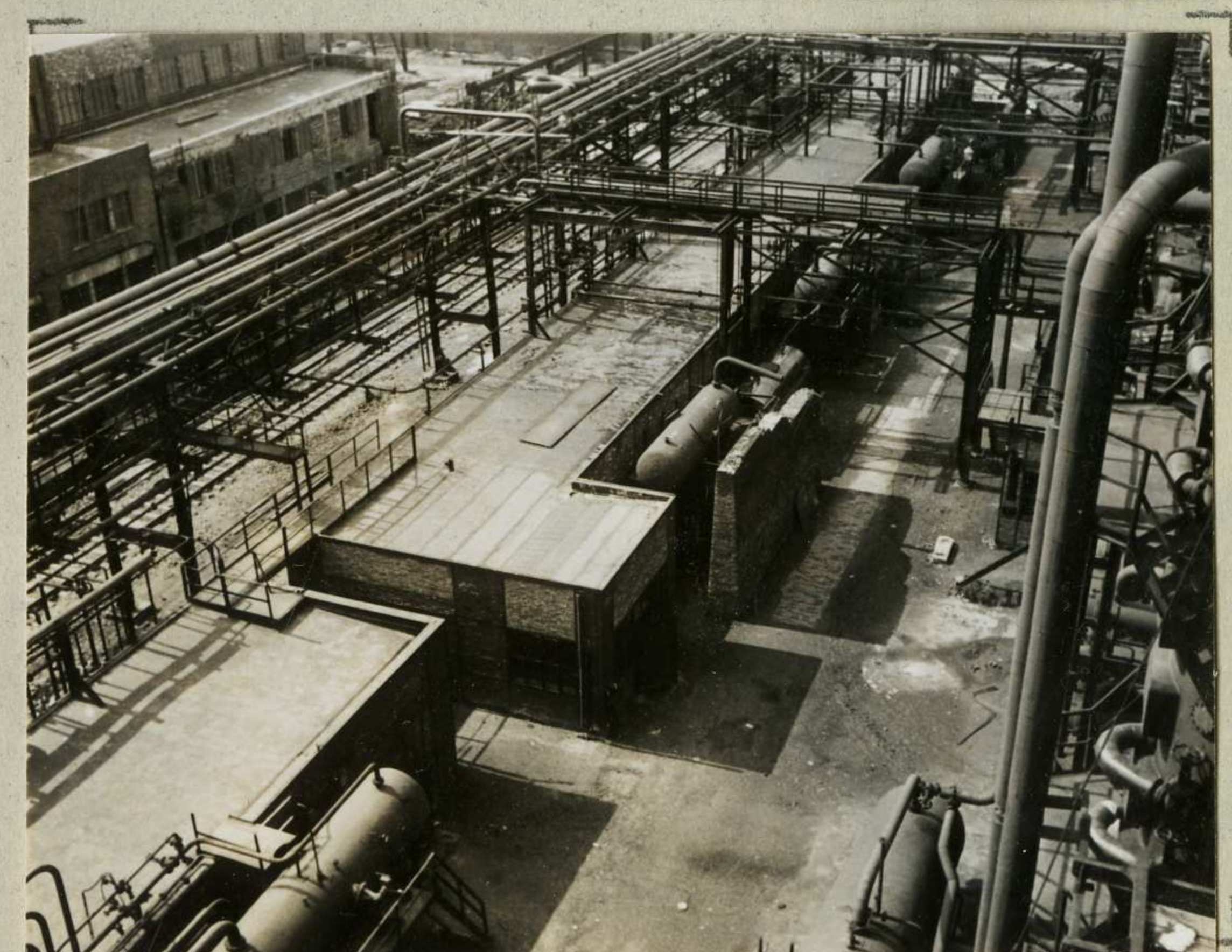
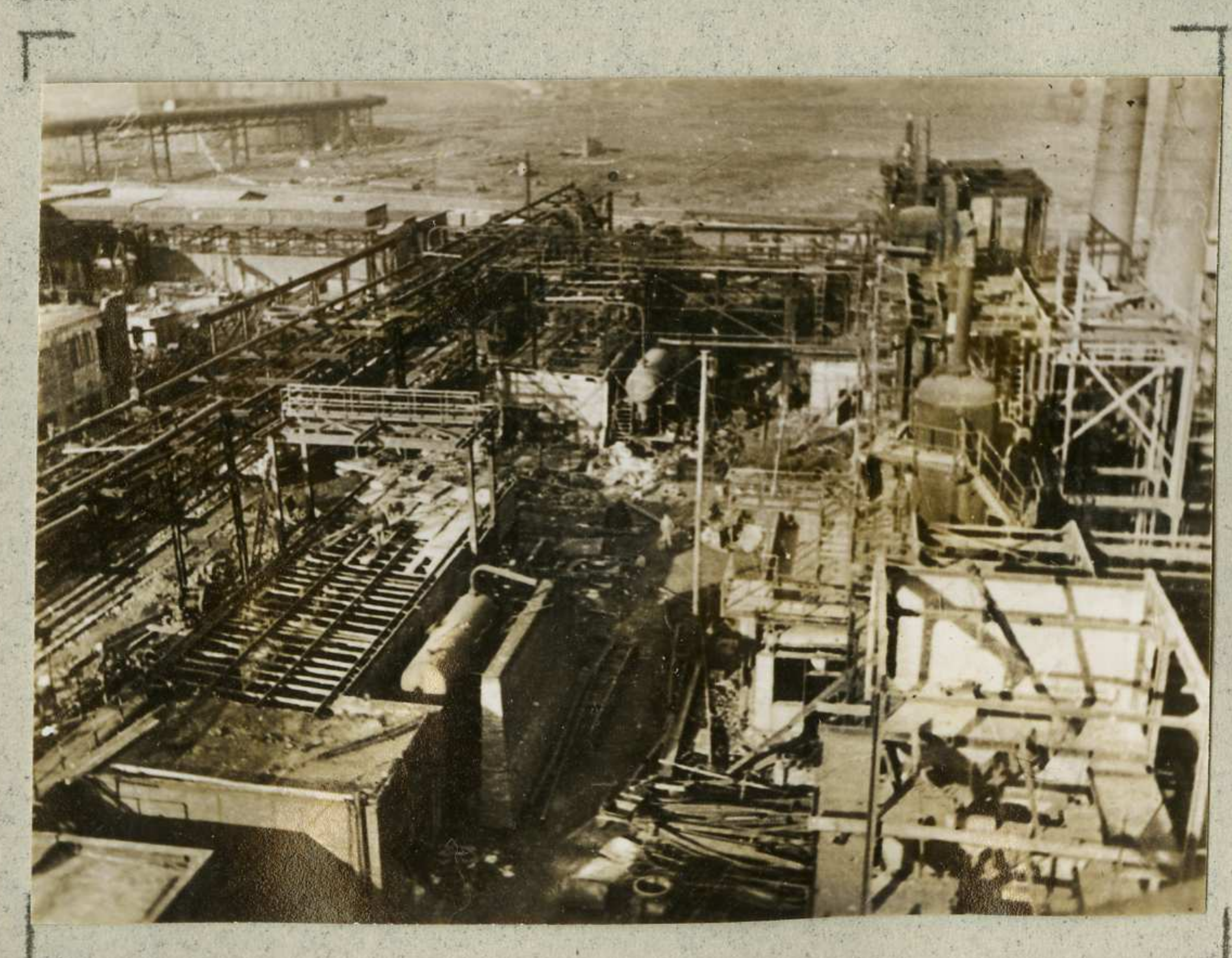
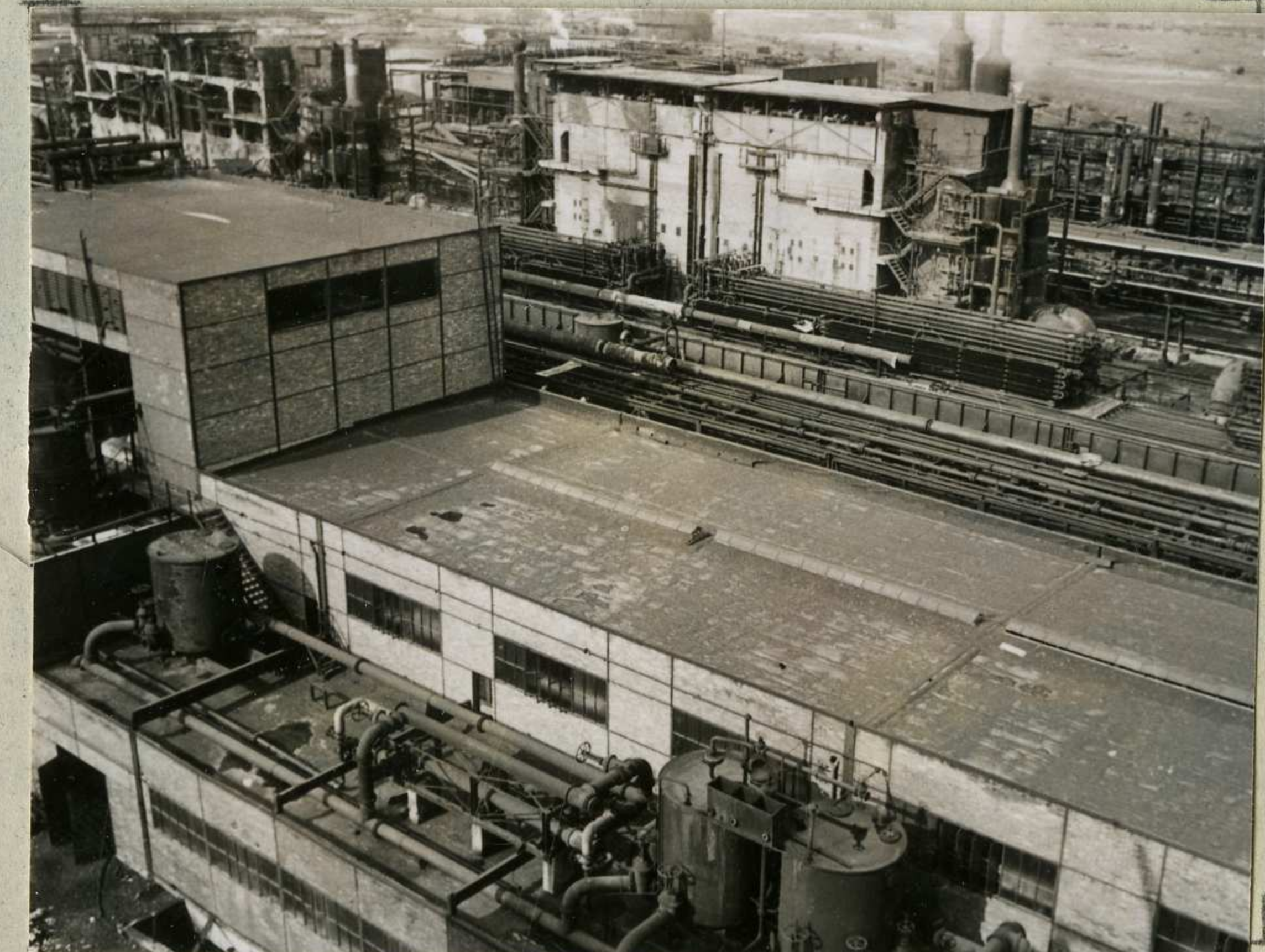
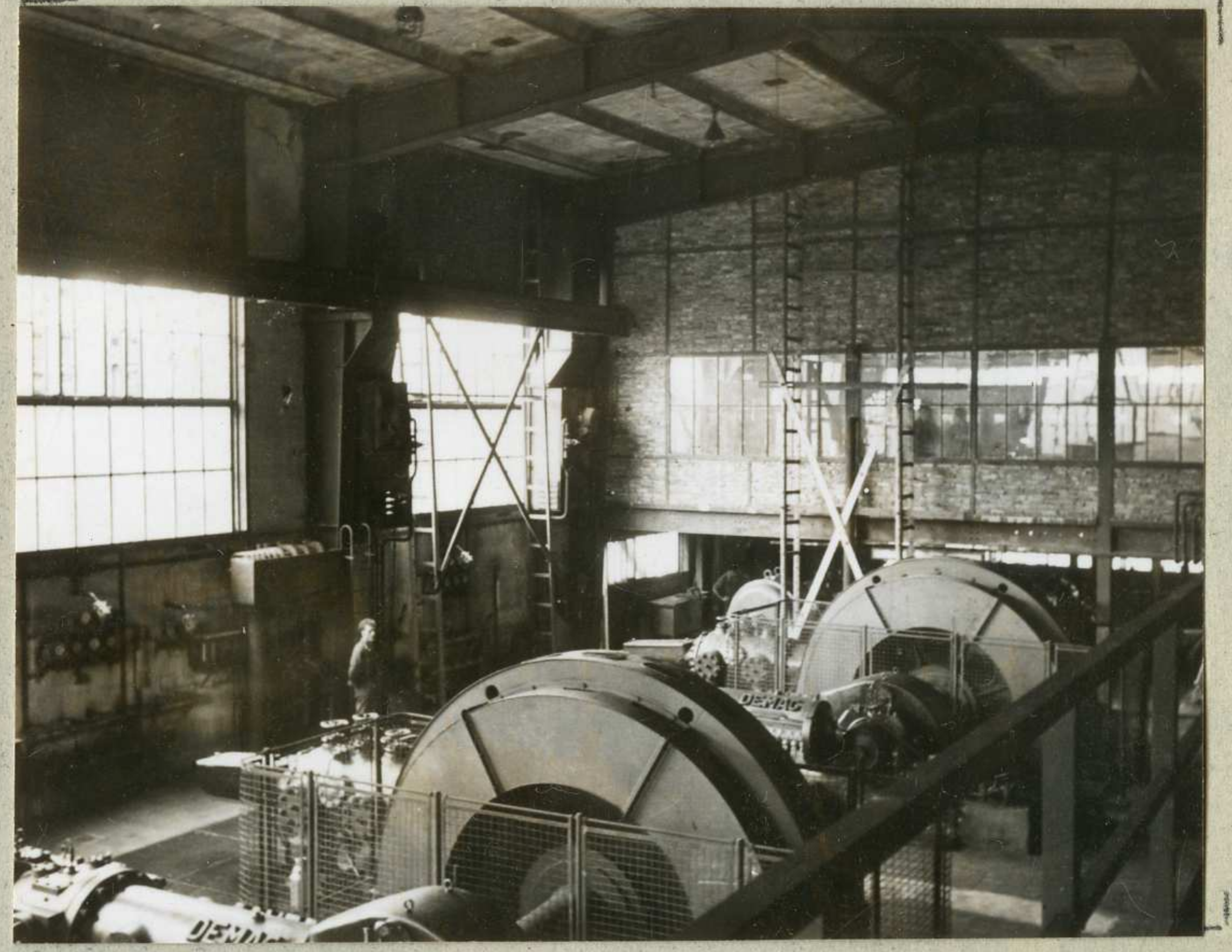
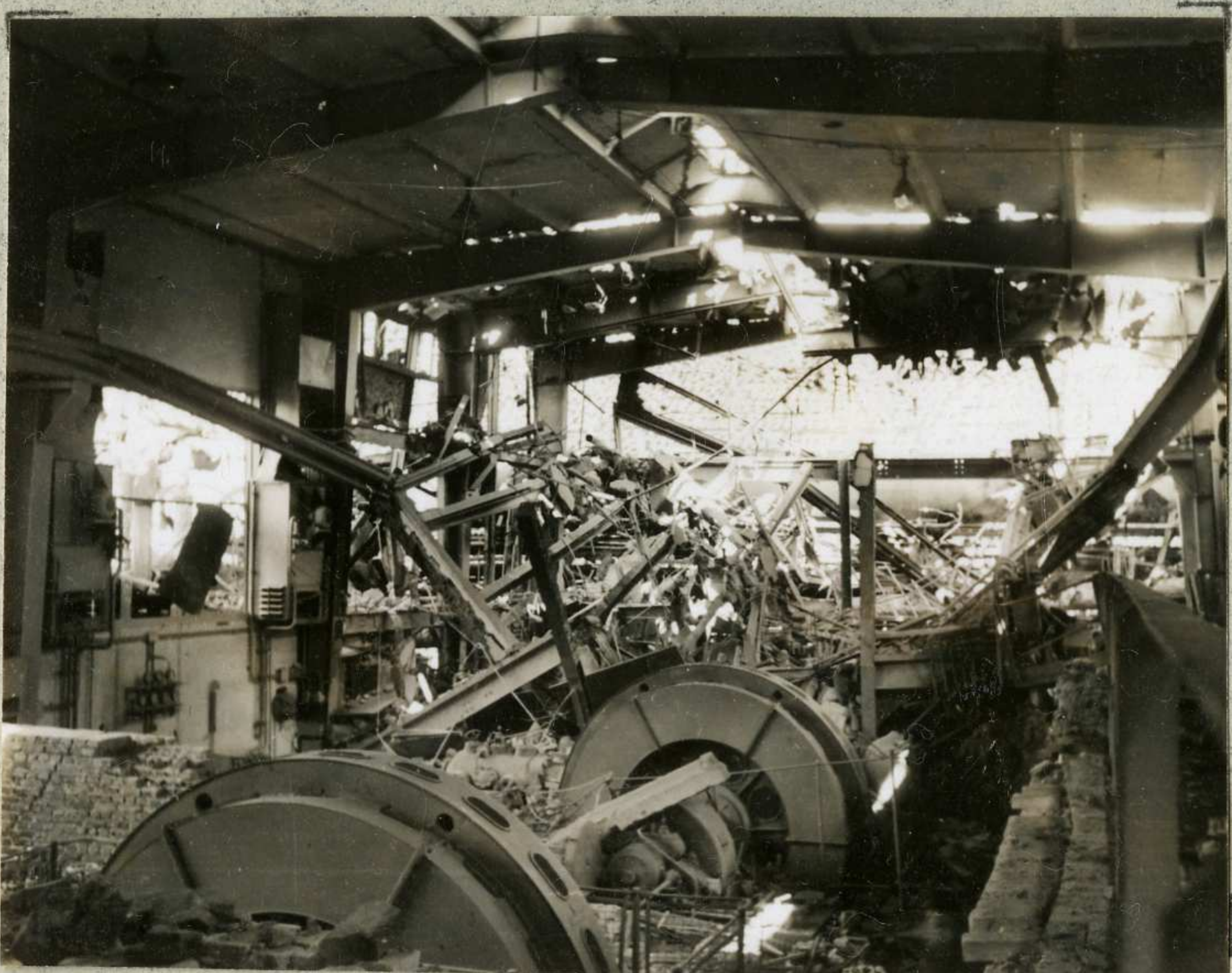
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Common Sense?

Gelsenberg backs ERP

Economy?

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Demonstration of the Workers and of the
Population against Dismantling on the 31st of May 1949



Chairman of the local
committee of the Ger-
man Trade Union
Mr. Scharley



Superintendent Kluge,
Gelsenkirchen, Repre-
sentative of the Pro-
testant Church



Representative of the
Federation of Miners
Mr. Jarreck



Vice President of the
Landtag North-Rhine West-
phalia Dobbert



Domkapitular Probst Wenker,
Gelsenkirchen-Horst, Repre-
sentative of the Roman-
Catholic Church.



sät
ft ernten

durch die Demontage
wird die Jugend
sexlich gemorbet!

Ehrenbürgergrüßen leben
für uns unsere
Arbeitsstätten!

Ein wirtschaftlich
gesundes Deutschland
bedeutet gesundes
Europa!

Auch unter d...
Sieme...



rieden.
mange
polsche

Wir wollen Frieden
u. Arbeit
daraus Schluß mit
der Demontage

Wollt Ihr die Jugend für
Demokratie
resignieren dann stoppt die
Demontage!

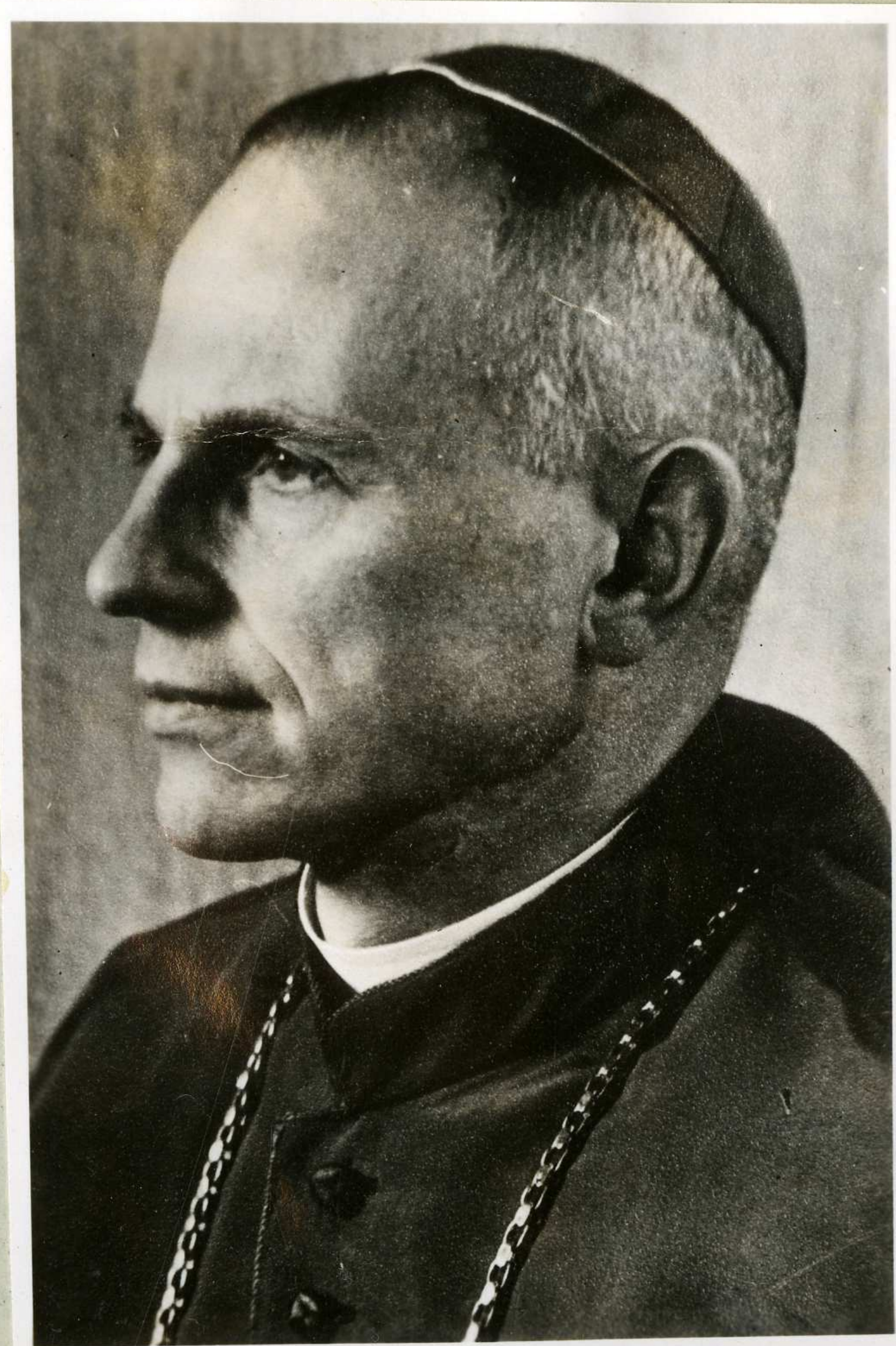
Bevin
stopp die Demontage
sonst gewinnt Ihr
den Frieden nicht!

Hal Wyschinski recht
Weitere 10000 brotlos!

Highest Representatives of the Roman-Catholic and Protestant Churches in North-Rhine Westphalia



**Vice President of the
Protestant Church in
North-Rhine Westphalia**



Bishop of Münster



Herbert R a m a c h e r , one of the 3000 workers,

57 year old,
worker at Gelsenberg gasoline plant for 10 years,
since 1945, member of Workers Council and now
chairman of the Betriebsgewerkschaft

says the following about the dismantling-question:

"I do not grasp the dismantling ideas. They ordered reconstruction and production, now they intend dismantling. I cannot imagine that judicious person the world over can back this nonsense. Yesterday, they gave the prosthesis to the ill German economy and now they want to cut off the other leg. We appeal to the commonsense of all Workers the world over".