

WESTERN DIVISION
2800 MITCHELL DRIVE
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA
415 • 488-7811

July 21, 1967

Dr. Otto Ambros
Kniabiscstrasse 14
68 Mannheim, Germany

Dear Dr. Ambros:

It is a great pleasure to comply with your recent request for a letter in support of your pending application for a visitor's visa to the United States.

I should like to review our past relations from two angles. Our first meeting in 1945 was solely in my capacity as a member of an investigating team for the Chemical Warfare Service of the U. S. Army. The following meetings were in my capacity as a Research Director for The Dow Chemical Company, later as Technical Advisor to the president of Dow and finally as a Consultant.

During the early part of 1945, I was on leave from Dow to serve as a member of a team which, under the auspices of the Chemical Warfare Service of the U. S. Army, was to study the chemical industry of Germany, more particularly, in so far as it could be of interest to Chemical Warfare in the still active war with Japan. I had spent a good part of the month of May and June on investigations in the northern part of Germany and had returned to our headquarters in London to write my reports. While there an order reached me during July to immediately proceed to Heidelberg, Germany, for investigation of the large I. G. unit at Ludwigshafen, formerly B.A.S.F., then under American occupation. Shortly thereafter, this area was turned over to French occupation, and on my arrival in Heidelberg, the U. S. Army Command furnished me a letter of introduction to the French Commander at Ludwigshafen asking him to give me any assistance in my mission. You will remember that on my arrival in Ludwigshafen, the French Commander, Col. Weiss, immediately introduced me to you, telling me that you would be in the best position to furnish the information I needed.

One of our first discussions concerned the development of rocket fuel. You referred me to Dr. Hausmann, the liaison agent between the government laboratories Peenemunde and the I. G. specialists, who arranged an interview with Lt. Col. P. R. Tarr, the chief of the Intelligence Division for Chemical Warfare in Europe and myself, which resulted in obtaining complete and satisfactory reports. The next item was Chemical Warfare's interest in ~~the~~ nerve gases developed and manufactured by the Germans,

Dr. Otto Ambros

- 2 -

July 21, 1967

You undertook immediate steps to summon all technical personnel engaged in this development for meetings with Chemical Warfare officers and consultants which lasted several days and were conducted at Carbage-Court-Center at Kohlhof near Heidelberg. Complete and detailed reports on the chemical and engineering phases of this development were written by two of my colleagues, Dr. J. Kern and Mr. G. Panero, which have never been declassified. Another item of interest in my mission was the problem of synthetic rubber (Buna) developed and manufactured in several locations. Nobody would have been better qualified than yourself in this matter since it was well known that you had been connected with this development at its inception beginning, with a study of natural rubber in Malaya. The reports we received through your efforts were of great value to the subsequent development of synthetic rubber in the United States.

In addition to these specific Chemical Warfare items, we discussed many chemical developments, and it was only natural for me to tell you in parting that I would look forward after conclusion of the peace treaty in continuing our relations as a representative of Dow.

I returned to Europe in September, 1949, on another government mission as a delegate to an international meeting on "Raw Materials for Atomic Energy" held in London. At the end of the session, I visited the continent on matters of interest to Dow and my first stop was at Ludwigshafen. Unfortunately, as a result of the outcome of the Munich trials, you could not be present, but owing to my acquaintance with B.A.S.F. personnel in 1945, I had a most cordial reception. Within one year my visit was returned by B.A.S.F. personnel at Midland, Michigan, and I believe I can say that already then the groundwork was laid for a closer relations between Dow and B.A.S.F., resulting in 1956 in the organization of a joint company, "Dow-Badische."

From 1952 on, I had the assignment of taking annual and even bi-annual trips to Europe in Dow's interest. Our pleasant relations were soon shared by other Dow personnel and many fruitful meetings resulted from it. Only last year, Dow was fortunate in having you as their guest in Sarnia, the seat of its Canadian subsidiary. Moreover, it is a well-known fact that a man of your attainments has many other national and international connections in the industry.

In conclusion, I wish to express my conviction that your cooperation was of great benefit to the U. S. Army and the United States Government immediately after the war and consequently to American industry in spite of the handicap of travel restrictions which I hope will be discontinued.

With personal regards.

Sincerely,


W. Hirschkind

WE/lr

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

6 Frankfurt, Germany

FILE: A 17 998 195

DATE: March 22, 1971

IN RE: Otto AMBROS

APPLICATION: Temporary admission to the United States pursuant to section 212(d) (3) (A), Immigration and Nationality Act

The applicant(s) has (have) been found by a ☒ consular officer☐ immigration officer to be ineligible to receive a nonimmigrant

visa under the following paragraph(s) of the Act: Section(s) 212(a) (10)

Nationality: German	Date and Country of Birth: May 19, 1901, Germany	Country of Residence: Germany
Occupation: Chemist	Employer: Self-employed	
Purpose in seeking entry into United States and destination: He has been invited by The Dow Chemical Company, Midland, Michigan, to present seminars in Midland, Michigan, and in Walnut Creek, California. He also intends to visit his son, Dr. Dieter H. Ambros, President of BASF System, Inc., Bedford, Mass.		
Plans regarding travel to United States and period of temporary stay: Enter on or about May 8, 1971, and remain one month.		
Basis for favorable action: Humanitarian reasons.		

ORDER: It is ordered that the application be granted for the above indicated purpose, subject to revocation at any time, valid as set forth below.

ENTRY: One, during May 1971.

PERIOD OF TEMPORARY STAY. One month.

CGP:so

Form I-194
(Rev. 5-1-69)Cecil Peterson
Officer in Charge

File Copy