

Bayer, Hoechst AG, IG Farben and Nazi Germany

By Matt Burg

In 1945 the German army surrendered to the allied powers ending World War 2 in Europe. WWII left Germany humiliated and economically devastated. The Nuremberg trials were conducted to punish those who had committed crimes against humanity. I.G. Farben, the corporation that provided the German army with the gas Zyklon B used to exterminate over 6,000,000 Jews (and among that number should be included included Poles, gypsies, dissenters and many others not of Jewish origin). The International Military Tribunal ordered the corporation to disband. The result of the disbanding of I.G. Farben was the creation of several smaller corporations. One of these corporations called Hoechst AG grew to become a prosperous company with many subsidiaries. Hoechst AG did not die like the court had intended.

In 1980 a group of French scientists accidentally synthesized a molecule that chemically resembles the hormone progesterone. This molecule has a unique ability to bond the progesterone receptor cells and block their normal activity. The result of the molecule's activity is to block the hormone progesterone, vital to maintaining a pregnancy. The drug was not invented with the goal of terminating pregnancy, however by the time it was synthesized there was the demand for a new and simplified abortion technique. (RU 486, Pg. 42)

The drug first entered the spotlight in 1982 and the controversy erupted shortly after. In 1988 after extensive testing the French government accepted Mifepristone for public use. The drug is now commonly known as RU 486, the name assigned by the inventor Rousell-Uclaf, a division of the chemical company Hoechst AG. The drug was removed from circulation in France only a month after it was released for public use. The drug was removed by Rousell's CEO Wolfgang Hilger; a devout Catholic after Rousell Uclaf was flooded with letters from outraged Roman Catholic doctors, and after Church-sponsored protests marched through the streets of Paris. The drug was returned to circulation after a group of Pro-Choice Doctors met in Rio de Janeiro and petitioned the French Government. Less than 48 hours later the French Government forced Rousell Uclaf to return the drug to circulation. (Pg. 42)

RU 486 will allow Rousell Uclaf, a division of Hoechst AG to increase the corporation's production in America. The company has deeper intentions than what is obvious. Hoechst AG a company with deep roots in the Nazi party intends to control the population of the world and eliminate the lesser races as Hitler intended through the use of RU 486 and the World Health Organization.

Rousell Uclaf Rousell Uclaf is a division of Hoechst AG, a large worldwide chemical corporation that was founded in 1863 in Germany. This small company, with only 5 employees, manufactured chemical dyes. In 1925, several German chemical companies merged into a single corporation with the name IG Farbenindustrie, Inc. (IG Farben) World War I created a demand for chemical products. After WWI, the devastated German government gave IG full government support by eliminating taxes and loaning the company funds. In 1925, the company changed its name to IG Farbenindustrie A. G. IG became one of the military industrial powers of the Ruhr, owning its own coalmines.

In 1932 IG gave Adolf Hitler its full support during the election and so Hitler was presented with the Chancellorship of Germany. Without the support of the IG and the rest of the German monopolies and cartels, Hitler could not have won his political fight. And the German industrialists could see that without Hitler their empires would crumble.

During WWII IG produced all of Germany's synthetic rubber, lubricating oil, synthetic gasoline, the greatest bulk of German explosives, 90% of plastics, and light metals. More than any other corporation IG sat at the center of a web of international cartel agreements. IG participated in the plunder of conquered countries including Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Norway, Holland, Belgium, France and the rest of Central Europe. IG took over control of every chemical plant of importance in countries conquered by the Nazi Empire. IG played an important role in adapting the industries of those countries to the purposes of the Nazi war machine. (Pg. 12)

IG Farben ran the Buna Rubber Works at Auschwitz by opening a corporate concentration camp known as Monowitz on May 21, 1945. IG Farben used slave labor extensively in many of their factories throughout the Nazi Empire.

IG was a big part in developing chemical/gas warfare. Toxic gases were produced at Hoechst, AFGA and Leverkusen plant.

IG produced fully 95% of the poison gases for Germany. It was called Zyklon B, a commercial form of hydrocyanic acid, which became active on contact with air. It was manufactured by a firm called Degesch which was largely owned by IG Farben, and it had been brought to Auschwitz in the summer of 1941 as a vermin-killer and disinfectant.

In 1945, when the International Military Tribunal was announced and began trying Nazi officials for crimes committed during WWII, the list of crimes which one could be indicted were as follows:

- (1) Conspiracy to commit charges 2, 3, and 4, which are listed here;
- (2) crimes against peace-defined as participation in the planning and waging of a war of aggression in violation of numerous international treaties;
- (3) war crimes-defined as violations of the internationally agreed upon rules for waging war; and
- (4) crimes against humanity-"namely, murder, extermination, enslavement, deportation, and other inhumane acts committed against any civilian population, before or during the war; or persecution on political, racial, or religious grounds in execution of or in connection with any crime within the jurisdiction of the Tribunal, whether or not in violation of domestic law of the country where perpetrated."

On July 29, 1948, sentences for mass murder and slavery were handed down at the Nuremberg trials to twelve Farben executives. The longest sentence dealt out was to Dr. Fritz ter Meer, a top executive and scientist on the Farben managing board was seven years. After WWII, IG Farben was liquidated and the companies like Bayer, Hoechst, BASF, and AFGA took its place.

In 1949, less than a year after the Nuremberg Trials had ended; Hoechst AG opened a branch in Brazil. The company offered the whole representation of products in Brazil by establishing Pontosan Productos Quimicos, Farmcuticose e Aniilianas and appointed Wilhelm Kurtz as President. The company rapidly expanded and manufactures products ranging from pharmaceuticals to welding and cutting equipment. In 1995 Pontosan Productos Quimicos, Farmcuticose e Aniilianas acquired the company Anilsud, formerly owned by Hoechst Argentina forming an Argentine branch. Today, Pontosan Productos Quimicos, Farmcuticose e Aniilianas renamed Hoechst Commercial is one of the leading companies for the distribution of chemicals in Brazil.

Hoechst International headquartered in Frankfurt, Germany with branches in Asia, Oceania and America. Hoechst employs more than 145 thousand people. Hoechst is one of the largest groups in the chemical industry, with sales of approximately US\$ 13158 in DM billions for the first quarter of 1997.

Methods of Action. Mifepristone resembles the hormone progesterone yet it has a far different effect on the progesterone receptor cells. Progesterone is a hormone secreted by the uterus when a female gets

pregnant. The hormone is vital to maintaining the pregnancy because it stimulates the endometrial lining to supply the embryo with nutrients. Mifepristone is given in 600mg doses. When mifepristone enters a progesterone receptor cell, the molecule blocks any further action of the hormone progesterone making the body act as if it were not even pregnant. The lack of progesterone causes erosion of the endometrial lining and so the embryo dies. Two days later Prostaglandin is taken which causes the uterus to contract and will expel the embryo in 97% of the cases. Mifepristone is effective for up to seven weeks after coitus.

Mifepristone has several side effects of varying degrees. Use of Mifepristone can cause heavy bleeding, nausea, vomiting, fatigue, and painful uterine contractions. About 2% hemorrhage and more than one in one hundred require hospitalization. Mifepristone effectively terminates pregnancy about 95% of the time. Researchers have found that mifepristone is 99% effective in preventing pregnancy when used as a method of postcoital contraception if used within 72 hours after unprotected intercourse.

Political Involvement

In 1983, clinical trials on the use of RU 486 as a method of early abortion began in the U.S. at the University of Southern California. Five years later, Mifepristone was "approved" by the French government forcing the entire country to choose a side on the moral debate. The outrage from members of the Roman Catholic Church brought Roussel Uclaf to their knees and prevented the drug from further circulation. Three days later, the combined efforts of various physicians convinced the French government to force Roussel Uclaf to return the drug to circulation. Anti-abortion forces threatened Roussel Uclaf's parent company, Hoechst AG, with economic reprisal if RU 486 was ever marketed in the United States. In March of 1989, Hoechst informed the anti-abortion forces that the company had no intention of marketing or distributing RU 486 outside of France. President Bush responding to his pro-life platform along with fellow anti-abortion congressional representatives enacted a ban on the importation of RU 486 for personal use.

In July of 1990 the Feminist Majority Foundation delegation met with Roussel Uclaf CEO Edouard Sakiz. Eleanor Smeal, acknowledged as one of America's rights advocates, and Peg Yorkin, a prominent feminist producer and philanthropist founded the FMF in 1987. The organizations with 150,000 male and female members stand up for women's rights (including reproductive rights), equality, and empowerment. Hoechst AG Officials argued that the U.S. political climate is not conducive to U.S. distribution because the current administration had banned the importation of the drug and as the current views of the administration on abortion, distribution was not possible.

In February of 1991, the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) endorsed the testing and use of RU 486. With the support of the AAAS, the FMF aggressively and successfully pursued endorsements of RU 486 from almost every scientific and medical organization in the country.

In July of 1992, the first direct challenge of the FDA import alert on RU 486. Last year a pro-choice group called Abortion Rights Mobilization decided to force a court challenge of the import ban imposed on RU 486 (Mifepristone) by the Bush Administration in 1989. The organization helped Leona Benton, a pregnant 29-year-old California social worker fly to England, obtain a dose of RU 486, then try to bring it back into the U.S. through New York City's Kennedy Airport. Customs officials seized the pills. The ensuing legal battle went up to the Supreme Court, which refused to order the government to return the pills. (The Pill that changes Everything, P. 52)

On November 4, 1992, Bill Clinton was elected President of the United States. The FMF immediately sent a letter to a Roussel Uclaf CEO Edouard Sakiz and Hoechst AG CEO Wolfgang Hilger informing them that with Clinton's election and the election of more women and pro-choice members of Congress the political obstacles to RU 486 in this country had "effectively been removed."

FMF is not alone in the legalization debate, other organizations who support mifepristone in America are Planned Parenthood Federation of America, a government funded organization specializing in sex and reproductive education. Planned Parenthood Clinics provide pregnancy tests, birth control and abortion services. The organization is also an avid supporter of reproductive rights. The National Organization for Women is another supporter of mifepristone in America. NOW is a strong supporter of Abortion and Reproductive rights. NOW has strongly urged the United States Government to approve mifepristone in America.

There are many organizations that strongly oppose mifepristone in America. The National Right to Life Committee is a strong force in the Abortion debate. The NRLC supports the right to life in all cases including Euthanasia and Abortion.

The National Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee for Pro-Life Activities is a group of eight active U.S. Cardinals who influence the government according to the doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church. They oppose abortion in all forms stating that life is sacred from conception to birth.

Hoechst and the United Nations

In October of 1996, the United Nations/World Health Organization Codex Alimentarius Commission met in Bonn, Germany to make changes in the rules governing dietary supplements for member nations. Codex is empowered by governments to set standards of operation for the health industry. Over 90% of the international organizations are allowed to send delegates to the meetings to represent large multinational pharmaceutical corporations. A proposal made by the German delegation and sponsored by Hoechst, Bayer and BASF the three corporations that were formerly IG Farben before they were ordered to disband after the Nuremberg Trials. The drug company backed proposals call for the following:

- 1) No vitamin, mineral, herb, etc., can be sold for prophylactic (preventive) or therapeutic reasons.
- 2) Natural remedies can be sold as food but they must not exceed the potency levels set by the commission. This means that consumer access to dietary supplements will be limited to the RDA dosage as a maximum limit for vitamins. Supplements without a RDA would be illegal to sell because they would become drugs.
- 3) Codex regulations for dietary supplements would become binding, eliminating the escape clause within the General Agreement of Tariffs and Trade (GATT) that allows a nation to set its own standards will be heavily fined by the World Trade Organization (WTO) creating the potential of crippling the entire sectors of that nation's economy.
- 4) All new supplements would be banned unless they go through the Codex approval process.

This policy has been enacted in Norway and Germany. This policy if approved would cause pharmacy regulation of many supplements and vitamins causing a significant price increase. Any country not following the policy would be subject to fines from the World Trade Organization.

The Codex process is now at "Step Five"- formalization and debate concerning the specific features of the policy. In two years, Codex could jump from step 5 to step 8 to finalize the restrictions.

Theory

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and eliminate the lesser races as Hitler intended through the use of RU 486 and the World Health Organization. Hoechst AG intends to get RU 486 approved for manufacturing and distribution in America and other countries worldwide so that they can use it to achieve goals further down the road. In 1949 with the disbanding of the formerly IG Farben Corporation into smaller corporations was not set back to Hoechst or any of the other corporations. The corporations could continue to business and the International Military Tribunal had almost helped the corporations out by making them split up.

This helped them in several ways, first the corporations were no longer known by the less than desirable name of IG Farben Corporation the former supporter of Hitler and the German army. Second of all, using the "divide and conquer" tactic, the smaller corporations quickly spread to other countries where they purchased small corporations and used the identity of the smaller corporations to increase sales and profits. The main example of this was the spread of Hoechst AG to Brazil. Less than a year after the Nuremberg Decision had been reached; Hoechst AG had already begun to rebuild in Brazil. This was the first evidence that the liquidation of IG Farben had not worked. The new corporation quickly began to purchase smaller corporations and added them to the increasing list of corporations owned by Hoechst AG International.

Hoechst is an extremely rich and powerful International corporation. The reason why they are building and expanding their branches in new countries is so they can market mifepristone in many countries worldwide. Hoechst will not only achieve financial gain through their expansion but they will also have more control over the countries that they supply with mifepristone.

Hoechst's real motive eludes the groups supporting RU 486 in America. Hoechst's attempts to market mifepristone in America through its subsidiary Rousell Uclaff could not have come at a better time. The company knew that the Clinton administration supported abortion and reproductive rights so they simply waited until the atmosphere in the country was a bit more to their liking. Using the support from groups like the Feminist Majority Foundation and the National Organization for Women Hoechst would not need Hoechst's ultimate goal is to increase production worldwide of RU 486 to gain representation in the Codex. Because Codex representation is based on nationality, the more countries that Hoechst manufactures in, the more representation in Codex they get. Hoechst can gain representation in the Codex and essentially can control the Global Health Market. Control over the global health market would allow Hoechst to gain control of Global Health Care.

The approval of mifepristone in several UN countries would make it much easier for Hoechst to distribute the drug worldwide. If the drug is already legal in the majority of the UN countries then Hoechst will have to do little convincing to get the drug approved in the other countries. This is why Hoechst is attempting to market mifepristone in America and is already manufacturing and distributing the drug in the United Kingdom and in China.

The money and power held by Hoechst could easily influence the World Health Organization which would allow Hoechst to dictate World Health Policy. The backup support of the World Trade Organization would make it almost impossible for any country to oppose the policies influenced mainly by Hoechst.

The corporation would become so powerful that they could regulate the use of mifepristone. They would be able to control who was allowed to use mifepristone and who was not allowed to use mifepristone. Hoechst, with their power and influence could bring the Nazi party back into power in order to continue Hitler's goal of establishing the "perfect race". No longer would they need to use Zyklon B to exterminate the "undesirables."

When a female got pregnant they could simply have her take a dose of Mifepristone and they would not have to waste the time or money to eliminate the "undesirables" by means of lethal force. Hoechst could simply make all of the races other than the Aryan race slowly deplete in number and then simply go extinct. The unfinished goals of World War 2 would be taken care of. There would finally be an end to the Jewish problem. The "perfect race" would rule the World for the rest of Mankind's existence.

Mifepristone could become a problem very quickly. Population control is the final explanation for mifepristone. Humans need to learn to be responsible for their own actions. In order to prevent history from repeating itself, we need to make sure that humans never become so irresponsible that an outside force such as Hoechst can come in and take control. Hitler did it once, let's not let it happen again.