

Non-opposition to a notified concentration**(Case No IV/M.740 — Krupp (II))**

(96/C 144/03)

(Text with EEA relevance)

On 2 May 1996, the Commission decided not to oppose the above notified concentration and to declare it compatible with the common market. This decision is based on Article 6 (1) (b) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 4064/89. The full text of the decision is available only in German and will be made public after it is cleared of any business secrets it may contain. It will be available:

- as a paper version through the sales offices of the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities (see list on the last page),
- in electronic form in the 'CDE' version of the Celex database, under document No 396M0740. Celex is the computerized documentation system of European Community law; for more information concerning subscriptions please contact:

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STATE AID**C 53/95 (ex NN 143/95)****Spain**

(96/C 144/04)

(Text with EEA relevance)*(Articles 92 to 94 of the Treaty establishing the European Community)***Commission notice pursuant to Article 93 (2) of the EC Treaty to other Member States and interested parties concerning aid which Spain has granted to Grupo de Empresas Álvarez (GEA)**

By means of the letter reproduced below, the Commission informed the Spanish Government of its decision to initiate proceedings under Article 93 (2) of the Treaty.

'In December 1994 and March 1995, the Commission received complaints concerning aid awarded to Grupo de Empresas Álvarez (GEA). GEA, one of the largest producers in the sector in Spain, manufactures and markets china, earthenware and glass tableware; it also produces bottles.

Until June 1991, GEA was wholly owned by the Spanish public holding group INI (Instituto Nacional de

Industria). INI then decided to privatize the enterprise. In order to leave GEA free of debts INI granted it aid amounting to ECU 24 million. That aid, although not notified, was approved by the Commission in 1992⁽¹⁾. Approval was justified by a substantial reduction in GEA's production capacity, the severance of its ties with INI and its location in Vigo, Galicia, an area where the standard of living is abnormally low and there is serious underemployment and which is therefore eligible for aid under Article 92 (3) (a) of the EC Treaty.

⁽¹⁾ Aid NN 15/92; document SEC(92) 1655.