



**NEW ZEALAND POLICE.**

*Subject :* GENERAL REPORT BY DETECTIVE STEVENSON DATED 23-7-37 COVERING  
GENERAL ACTIVITIES OF GERMAN CLUB IN AUCKLAND.

100,000/5/36-30241

Supplemented by report dated 17-12-37

Rules of German Club Auckland.

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NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland.

Date: 17 th December, 193 7

REPORT of Detective E.A. Stevenson, No. 2527

relative to DEUTSCHER VEREIN (GERMAN CLUB), AUCKLAND.

I respectfully report that there is not a great deal of additional information to report in connection with the above mentioned subject. However, what follows in this report comes from a source which I confidently believe to be reliable and well-informed.

I have attached hereto a copy of the present rules of the Club. It is probable, however, that these will be amended during the coming year. In connection with Rule 2 it is interesting to note how this differs slightly in outlining the objects of the Club, from the corresponding rule at the time of my original report of 12 th February, 1934 concerning the German Club... The rule re the objects of the Club is stated in page 1 of my report of that date.

Also attached, please see a newspaper extract giving the names of the present officers of the Club.. It will be seen that this list is very little different from the one supplied in my report of 15 th July, 1937.

The President, JONATHAN BLUMHARDT has been mentioned in previous reports. He appears to be a fervent "lip service" Nazi in his professed admiration for the Hitler regime in Germany, but my informant says that Blumhardt is not a member of the Nazi group. It will be recollected that Blumhardt, together with HANS WILHELM FROH visited Germany at the time of the last Olympic Games at Berlin, their fares being paid by the German Labour Front - a Nazi organisation in Germany.

HANS WILHELM FROH, referred to in previous reports (Secret 37/8), is still a fireman on the coastal vessel "Canopus". He now visits the German Club occasionally and continues to exhibit strong Nazi sympathies.. He may be a member of the Nazi Party but this seems unlikely as he is a naturalized British subject and as such would not be acceptable for membership of the Nazi Party.

WILHELM FREDERICH KERSTEN, also referred to in previous reports, went to Dunedin a month or so ago and is believed to be still there. His wife and daughter are still living in Auckland. Shortly before leaving Auckland Kersten left the Nazi group here owing to personal differences with KURT WILHELM SCHMIDT. However, he remains a good Nazi and in this connection he may be worth watching.. He is a leather expert and probably could be easily traced through inquiries at tanneries or similar industry.

GUSTAV BELIN, is another member of the Club's executive who has strong German sympathies, though he is not one of the Nazi group. He was born in Strasbourg, Alsace-Lorraine, so he is really of French nationality.

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The Chief Detective,  
Auckland.



ARTHUR RICHARD LEUSCHKE, another prominent member of the Club, who has been often referred to previously, remains strong in his German sympathies and in his professed admiration for the Nazi regime. He is not a member of the Nazi group, being a naturalized British subject. His bacon business is rapidly expanding. He is rather an ignorant type of man and he aspires socially rather than nationally. In short, he is a good Nazi in "lip service," so long as he is not required to do anything active or definite for the cause.

The membership of the Club is now about 70, of whom about 25 are German or have German blood connection, or have German extraction.

About 15 of this 25 are active, but none are particularly "German" in their sympathies or loyalties apart from those mentioned as such in this and previous reports, including of course, KURT WILHELM SCHMIDT and MAX GRAPENGIESSER, who are both fervent Nazis.

The great majority of the German members are more New Zealand than German in their sympathies, associations, friends, interests and thoughts.. They merely retain that natural regard for the land of their birth. In their minds and their German Club associations they dwell in the Germany of the past, the Germany that they knew or were told of many years ago... The Nazi Germany of today they are interested in as a topic for discussion so long as they are thousands of miles away from it.

Nazi activities within the Club are almost nil. There is definitely no systematic or organised propaganda work and no Nazi literature is circulated. Nevertheless there exists the framework of an inactive machine which could easily be made active to work in the interests of the Auslands Organisation of the Nazi Government in Berlin.

Max Grapengiesser, a former resident of Samoa (vide a previous report), corresponds regularly with Germans in Samoa... I am informed, not by him, that there is a definite feeling among German Samoan planters against the New Zealand administration and that they are hoping that Germany will again take over Samoa. The main reason for this is the difficulties the planters experience in connection with the shortage of cheap Chinese labour. There is a Samoan group of the Nazi Party which keeps in touch with the Auckland group through Grapengiesser.

It is thought by my informant that any reports that KURT WILHELM SCHMIDT - the leader of the Nazi group here - may have to make to the Nazi organisation are made through DR. WALTER HELLENTHAL, the German Consul at Wellington, who is the head of the Landegruppe of the Auslands Organisation in New Zealand.

Re the German sailor and lecture tourist VON LUCKNER.. I am informed that secret instructions have been received from the Nazi Government in Germany that Nazis abroad, as such, are not to assist or sponsor Von Luckner in his visit.

Germans who are loyal to the Nazi regime are to be most circumspect in the matter of any welcome to Von Luckner and are instructed not to risk offending against the prejudices or feelings of New Zealand..

I am informed that Germans in Samoa will not be pleased to see Von Luckner... This also seems to be the attitude of the majority of the Germans here in Auckland who are more or less disinterested in Germany from a national or patriotic point of view.



Von Luckner does not seem to be very popular with Germans. He is looked upon as one of the type of the old, overbearing Junker class, for whom the Nazis themselves have little regard.

I am informed that his visit here is not with the approval or assistance of the Nazi authorities and it is not meant to revive or stimulate an enthusiasm for Nazism.. It is thought to be a purely personal visit. No doubt Von Luckner has in view a money making lecture tour such as he has been engaged in for about the past 7 years in the United States of America.

An Auckland woman named Mrs Von Lubbe - the British wife of a deceased German has been trying to make arrangements for lectures by Von Luckner. It is not known if these will materialise.

An "At Home" or reception will be given in the German Club for Von Luckner to which prominent Aucklanders will be invited. Von Luckner must speak in English.

At present I have nothing further to report of any importance or interest concerning the German Club, but I feel confident that my informant is in close touch with what goes on in the Club and that I shall be informed accordingly.

Any open Nazi activities would be brought to my knowledge immediately.

*E. A. Stevenson.*

Det. 2627.

*Forw to Mr Supt*

*R. Ward*

*18/1/37 Supt*

*Forw?? to the Commissioner.*

*(162/37)*

*J. Till Supt  
29/1/37*



DEUTSCHER VEREIN (GERMAN CLUB) AUCKLAND, INCORPORATED.

R U L E S.

1. NAME: The name of the Club shall be "Deutscher Verein (German Club) Auckland, Incorporated."

2. OBJECTS: The objects of the Club shall be: to promote good fellowship and social intercourse, to encourage the teaching and study of the German Language and Literature; to encourage an appreciation of German Art; to foster a love for and appreciation of good music; to advance the general interests of Germans resident in New Zealand.

Political and religious demonstrations shall be forbidden in the Club. Offenders are liable to be expelled. The decision of the Committee in such matters shall be final and binding upon all members.

3. EXECUTIVE: The Executive of the Club shall consist of the President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, a Librarian, and three other elected members. All Members of the Executive shall act in a purely honorary capacity.

All members of the Executive shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Club in each year. Any or all of the above referred to Members of the Executive shall be eligible for re-election. Should a vacancy occur in the Executive during its year of office, then the Executive may itself fill the vacancy by the election of a new Member who shall hold office until the following Annual General Meeting.

Notwithstanding the provisions of the two preceding paragraphs of this clause 3, the Executive may in its discretion from time to time appoint one or two additional Members to act upon such Executive and to assist it in the conduct of the special functions of the Club. The Member or Members so appointed shall retain office during the pleasure of the Executive, or until he or they shall retire therefrom, or shall in any other way cease to be a Member or Members thereof.

Gentlemen of not less than twentyone years of age shall be eligible for election to the Executive.

Members of the Executive who absent themselves without sufficient cause for more than three consecutive meetings of the Executive shall automatically cease to be members of the Executive. Where any member of the Executive is unable to attend the meetings thereof for a considerable time, the Executive shall have power to grant leave of absence to such member, and, if it thinks fit, to appoint a substitute to act in his absence.

At any meeting of the Executive, five Members thereof shall constitute a quorum.

The property of the Club shall be under the control and management of the Executive.

The Executive shall have power to make, from time to time, such Bylaws, not being inconsistent with these rules, as they may deem to be necessary or expedient for the well-being of the Club; and they may from time to time, vary, amend, add to or rescind such Bylaws as aforesaid; and such Bylaws, whether original or amended, shall be binding on all the Members of the Club so long as the same shall continue in operation.

The President shall take the chair at all meetings of the Club and at all meetings of the Executive; in his absence a Vice-President shall take the Chair in his stead. Should there be neither a President nor a Vice-President at such Meeting, the Chair shall be taken by a Member of the Executive to be elected at the time and for the purpose of that particular meeting.

In the case of Voting being equal for and against a motion, the Chairman for the time being of such Meeting shall have a casting vote.

4. SECRETARY: The duties of the Secretary shall be to receive and reply to letters, to keep the Minute-book, and to keep a list of Members. All Minutes shall be confirmed by the signatures of two members of the Executive. It shall also be the duty of the Secretary to remind, at the right time, Members who are in arrears in respect of the payments of moneys due from time to time to the Club



5. TREASURER: The duties of the Treasurer shall be to keep the Books and Accounts as regards all income and expenditure of the Club. All payments to be made by the Treasurer shall be confirmed by the signature of two Members of the Executive. It shall also be the duty of the Treasurer to communicate to the Secretary, at the proper time, all details with respect to the outstanding payments of members.

A Bank account shall be kept at such Bank or Banks as the Executive may from time to time determine and shall be operated on by the Treasurer and by two other Members of the Executive appointed from time to time for such purpose by the Executive.

6. LIBRARIAN: The duties of the Librarian shall be to supervise books, magazines, and other papers belonging to the Club's Library, and to keep a full and detailed record of all Books lent from time to time from the Club Library, together with the names and addresses of the members to whom the same shall have been lent.

7. MEMBERSHIP: All persons of good repute, and of any nationality, who are at least eighteen years of age, may become Members of the Club. Every applicant for Membership shall be proposed and seconded by two financial members of the Club, and every application shall be submitted in writing to the Executive. It shall be the duty of the Executive to make enquiries concerning the applicant. Should the Executive have reason to decline the application, the proposer and seconder shall be notified of such fact. Otherwise, the election shall take place at the next meeting of the Executive of the Club.

A majority of the Members present at an Executive Meeting shall be necessary for the election of a New Member of the Club.

Persons of either sex who are under the age of eighteen may, if the Executive shall think fit, be admitted to Membership of the Club as Junior Members. The methods of application for Membership and of election thereto shall, in the case of Junior Members, be determined by the Executive. The sole privilege of such Junior Members shall be their right to take advantage of whatever facilities the Club may offer for the study of the German Language and its Literature.

Upon attaining the age of eighteen years, a Junior Member shall automatically become an Ordinary Member of the Club, unless within three months after the attaining by him of his eighteenth birthday he shall notify the Secretary in writing of his desire to relinquish his membership. If a Junior Member decides to continue as an Ordinary Member, he shall thereupon become liable to pay the annual subscription payable by Ordinary Members of the Club.

8. HONORARY MEMBERS: <sup>Honorary</sup> Ordinary Members may be elected from time to time by the Executive.

Honorary Life Members may be elected only by a ninetenths majority at a General Meeting which shall have been specially called for that purpose.

9. GUESTS: Persons who are visiting Auckland may be made Ordinary Honorary Members of the Club for a period not exceeding one month, provided that they shall have been introduced to the Club by a financial member.

Members of any other German Club, who are visiting Auckland, may be made Ordinary Honorary Members of the Club for a period not exceeding one month.

Each Guest or Ordinary Honorary Member shall sign his name and full address in the Guest Book kept for such purpose by the Club.

10. ENTRANCE FEE: Persons who join the Club before the 31st day of August 1932 shall not be liable to pay any Entrance Fee. All persons joining the Club on or after the 1st day of September 1932 shall pay an entrance fee of £1.1.0. There shall be no right of admission to the Club's premises on the part of any intending Ordinary Member unless and until he shall have paid his Entrance fee.



The Executive shall have power to reduce or remit the Entrance Fee of any person who joins the Club at a time when any other member of his or her family is already a financial Ordinary Member of the Club.

Former members who wish to be re-elected as Ordinary Members shall not pay any Entrance fee.

Persons seeking election as Junior Members shall not pay any Entrance fee.

11. ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: Except as hereinafter set forth, the subscription for Ordinary Membership of the Club shall be \$1.1.0 per annum. Such subscription shall be due and payable by an Ordinary Member immediately upon his election to Membership, and thereafter annually at the beginning of each financial year of the Club.

Where two or more Members of the same family are at the same time Ordinary Members of the Club, the one who was first elected to Membership shall be subject to the Ordinary rules as to the payment of subscriptions and the other or others shall pay only half the Annual subscription.

Ordinary Members whose domicile is situated more than twenty miles from the General Post Office, Auckland, shall pay only one half the amount of the Annual Subscription.

Any Member who is more than three months in arrears with the payment of his Annual Subscription shall automatically cease to be a Member of the Club, but the Executive shall have power to decide whether a Membership fee may be reduced or waived, if it is considered that a Member is in poor circumstances and is unable, for the time being, to pay such fee.

Members who intend to leave Auckland for more than three months shall notify the Secretary in writing of such intention.

Members of the Orchestra of the Club shall not pay any Entrance or Membership Fee.

Junior Members shall pay 10/6 immediately upon election, and thereafter while they remain Junior Members they shall pay 10/6 per annum at the beginning of each financial year of the Club.

12. GENERAL MEETINGS: Twenty members who are present at a General Meeting and who are entitled to vote shall constitute a Quorum.

Ordinary General Meetings shall be held at such time or times as may be determined by the Executive, provided that at least seven days notice in writing of the date, time and place of such meeting shall be given to all Ordinary Members.

A special General Meeting may be held at any time by direction of the Executive; and such a meeting shall be called by the Secretary within fourteen days after the receipt of a requisition to that effect signed by not fewer than seven Ordinary Members of the Club specifying the subject or subjects to be discussed at such meeting. At least five days' notice in writing of the date, time and place of a Special General Meeting shall be given to all Ordinary Members of the Club.

13. ANNUAL MEETING: The Annual General Meeting of the Club shall be held in the month of August in each year or so soon thereafter as may be reasonably possible. The principal business at such a Meeting shall be the election of the Officers of the Club, together with the Auditor or Auditors, and the other Members of the Executive. At such meeting the Executive shall submit its Annual Report and Balance Sheet. At least seven days' notice in writing of the date time and place of the Annual General Meeting shall be given to all Ordinary Members of the Club.

At all General meetings of the Club voting shall be by show of hands; but any member present may demand a poll. A member whose subscription is due and unpaid at the date of any General Meeting of the Club shall not be entitled to vote at such meeting.

No Junior member shall be entitled to vote at any general meeting.

14. SOCIAL FUNCTIONS: The Executive shall have the sole right to issue free tickets for admission to Socials and other functions or entertainments of the Club.

15. AUDITOR: The Auditor shall be elected at the Annual General



Meeting of the Club and it shall be his duty to examine the books, documents and records of the Club and to submit a report thereon not later than fourteen days prior to the Annual General Meeting following his last appointment. No member of the Executive shall be eligible for appointment to the Office of Auditor.

**16. CLUB PROPERTY:** All Club property, whether in the possession of the Secretary, Treasurer, Librarian, or any other member of the Executive or of the Club, must be handed over to the Executive on demand.

**17. RESIGNATION:** Members who wish to resign from the Club or from the Executive shall notify the Secretary in writing of their intention so to do.

**18. EXPULSIONS:** If the Executive shall at any time deem it advisable or expedient to expel a member from the Club, such member shall first be notified to attend before the Executive on a date appointed for the purpose, and he shall be called upon to show cause why he should not forthwith be expelled. He may if he so chooses, resign voluntarily. If he fails to show cause why he should not be expelled, the Executive may, after due consideration, adopt such course as may seem proper in the circumstances and they may forthwith expel such member from the Club.

Any member of the Club may be suspended by the Executive for unseemly behaviour, and such suspension shall continue for such period as the Executive shall determine. The decision of the Executive in such matters shall be final.

Members of the Club who shall be convicted of a criminal offence by a Court of Law in any Country shall immediately be expelled from the Club; and no person who has been convicted of such an offence as aforesaid shall be eligible for election to membership of the Club.

**19. ALTERATION OF THE RULES:** The Rules of the Club shall not be altered, added to or rescinded except by a resolution passed at a General Meeting of the Club by a majority of two thirds of the Members present and entitled to vote, notice of the proposed alteration, addition or rescission having been given in the notice of Meeting.

**20. GENERAL:** The Club year begins on the 1st August of the one year and terminates on the 31st July of the following year.

Any case not provided for in these Rules, or any question arising as to their interpretation, shall be decided by the Executive, and so long as such decision is not inconsistent with the general purport of the Rules, the decision of the Executive shall be final.

The notice required to be given by these Rules in connection with any General Meeting of the Club shall specify the nature of the business proposed to be transacted at such meeting.

The Rules shall be printed or duplicated in both the German and the English languages and shall be handed free of charge to every financial member of the Club.

**21. WINDING-UP:** In the event of the winding-up of this Club, the assets of the Club shall be used for charitable purposes.

**22. SUB-COMMITTEES:** The Executive may from time to time set up, and in its discretion dissolve, such Sub-Committees as it may consider necessary for giving effect to the objects and purposes of the Club. It may likewise prescribe, amend, add to, or cancel the functions, powers, and constitution of such Sub-Committees, and it may from time to time appoint such Members of the Club as it thinks fit to act upon such Sub-Committees as aforesaid. Members so appointed shall hold office during the pleasure of the Executive. Each Sub-Committee shall have power, if and when it thinks fit, to appoint its own Chairman, and it shall be the duty of such Chairman to furnish, when required by the Executive so to do, a report of the proceedings of his Sub-Committee.

**23. Common Seal:** The Common Seal of the Club shall be under the custody of the Executive, and shall be affixed to documents only in pursuance of a resolution of the Executive to that effect, and in the presence of two members of the Executive and the Secretary.



"Auckland Star"  
23/8/37.

GERMAN CLUB.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The annual meeting of the German Club took place in the club's rooms. After the annual report and balance-sheet had been adopted the president, Mr. J. Blumhardt, congratulated the club on its success during the year and stressed the amount of very useful work done by the executive, particularly Mr. M. Grapengiesser, honorary secretary, and Mr. K. W. Schmidt, treasurer.

Officers were elected for the coming year as follows:—President, Mr. J. Blumhardt; vice-presidents, Mr. W. J. McMillan and Mr. O. Hagen; secretary, Mr. M. Grapengiesser; treasurer, Mr. K. W. Schmidt; librarian, Mr. G. Belin; committee, Messrs. E. Langguth, A. Leuschke, H. Engel and P. Miller; ladies' committee, Mesdames Reimann and Williams and Miss W. D'O; emergency committee, Messrs. Reimann, Buckland and Rice; auditor, Mr. F. V. Donovan.

Mr. W. Pemseler, "Heidelberg," Tauranga, former patron of the club, was unanimously elected an honorary member of the club.

The Press was thanked for the way in which the functions had been reported during the year.

At the conclusion of business a beautiful bouquet was presented by the president to Mrs. K. W. Schmidt, who is shortly leaving for a trip home. Good wishes were also tendered to Mrs. Schmidt on behalf of the British members of the club. Wishes for a pleasant journey were also extended to Mrs. Jagusch, who is leaving for an Island cruise.

*Card destroyed d 16/8/82*



~~SECRET~~



NEW ZEALAND.

If any reply, please quote this number:

~~SECRET~~ 37/10/8

POLICE DEPARTMENT,  
WELLINGTON, 25 th November 1937

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police  
AUCKLAND

GERMAN CLUB - AUCKLAND

On the 15 th and 23 rd July last Detective Stevenson submitted a report covering the known activities generally of the German Club in Auckland. Please have a further report submitted covering the Club's activities since those dates.

For the Inspector  
(Detective Branch),

*J. Cunningham*  
Commissioner of Police

159  
37

*S. Gill*

Superintendent of Police.

*Mr Stevenson*  
*S. Gill*  
*18-11-37*

*The Chief Det*  
*R. Ward*  
*18/11/37*  
*Sup*

*The Chief Detective,*  
*Report attached.*  
*E. Stevenson*  
*18-12-37. Det. 2627.*

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NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police-100a.]

~~SECRET~~  
37 / 10/18  
POLICE DEPT. HEAD OFFICE

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland

Date: 23 rd July, 1937

REPORT of Detective E.A. Stevenson, No. 2627

relative to Deutscher Verein (German Club), Auckland, and  
suspected Nazi activities.

I respectfully report the following additional information received from a confidential source and partly supplementary to my report under the above heading, dated the 15 th inst.

On page 2 of that report I mentioned that there was periodical discord between some of the Nazi members of the Club and that Wilhelm Frederick Kersten was believed to have written to Berlin complaining about Kurt Wilhelm Schmidt... Further to this I am now informed that the reason for Kersten's complaint was that he was of the opinion that Schmidt was not pushing sufficiently the Nazi side of the German Club activities.

My informant also told me, what I believe is already known by the Commissioner, that a Landesgruppe of the German Auslands Organisation has been formed, embracing New Zealand and Samoa, and that the leader of the group is Dr. W. Hellenthal, the German Consul at Wellington.

As I have previously reported the leader of the Auckland group, or Stutzpunkt, is K. W. Schmidt.

I am informed that when the last German merchant vessel "Gera" visited this port some 4 weeks ago Schmidt entertained at his home several of the leading Nazi members of the ship's company.

*E.A. Stevenson*  
Det. 2627.

*Insp Ward.*  
*S.O. Hall*  
*by*  
23-7-37

*Ind to Mr Supt*

*24*  
*7*  
*37*  
*R. G. Ward*  
*Supt*

*Form?? to the Commissioner*

*(132/37)*  
*S. J. Gill*  
*24/7/37 Supt*

The Chief Detective,  
Auckland.

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NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police-100A.

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland.

Date: 15 th July, 1937

REPORT of Detective E.A. Stevenson, No. 2627

*relative to* Deutscher Verein (German Club), Auckland - and suspected Nazi activities.

I respectfully report the further additional information concerning the German Club, Auckland and those connected with it.

I may mention that this information has been obtained from a source which I believe to be both well informed on this matter, and reliable and trustworthy.

The Club now has from 100 to 120 members and probably over half of them are British. Of the members having German birth, associations or connections, the great majority have had lengthy residence in New Zealand and have very little sympathy or definite interest in the Nazi regime in the new Germany.... Even among the Nazi members no anti-British feelings have been openly manifested, at all events within the Club, which is the most likely place for such tendencies to be exhibited.

The "Reichsdeutscher" - which means a native born German, loyal to the present regime in Germany - does not agree to the principle of German clubs.

It is a fact worthy of note that the German Club welcomes British members and does not attempt to discourage their attendance at Club functions.

The Germans in Auckland who are definitely Nazis and are members of the Nazi Party are five in number. They have all been previously mentioned and are as follows - The leader, KURT WILHELM SCHMIDT and his wife HELA SCHMIDT, WILHELM FREDERICH KERSTEN, and to a somewhat lesser degree - MAX GRAPENGIESSER and JONATHAN BLUMHARDT.<sup>9</sup>

There is very little political discussion or Nazi lecturing in the German Club itself and no

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The Chief Detective,  
Auckland.

*See report of 17/12/37*



definite endeavours are made to link up Germans to the Nazi organisation.. Meetings of the Nazi group are not held in the German Club rooms but are held in the homes of the Nazi members.

Germans who have become naturalized citizens of other countries are not accepted into the Nazi organisation.

The following are the present Executive Officers of the German Club :-

J. BLUMHARDT	....	President.
K. W. SCHMIDT	....	Treasurer.
A. R. LEUSCHKE	....	Vice-President.
W. J. McMILLAN, J. P.	....	Vice-President.
PETER MILLER	....	Vice-President.
MAX GRAPENGIESSER	....	Secretary.
E. LANGGUTH	....	Life member.

In a small room adjoining the larger main room of the German Club rooms I have recently seen a framed photograph of the officers of the Club in 1934. The photograph is headed "Vorstand des Deutschen Verein, Auckland, 1934.

The photograph is a group of the following :- J. Jagusch, J. Blumhardt, M. Grapengiesser, H. Engel, P. Miller, K. W. Schmidt, E. Langguth, W. J. McMillan, and J. Henniger..

Of these Jagusch is now dead, Engel is a well known musical conductor in Auckland, and Henniger returned to Germany, vide previous report on this matter.

Also in this room are two large framed photographs, one of Hindenburg and the other of Hitler.

My informant says that there is periodical discord between the Nazi members previously mentioned and that they by no means always see eye to eye.. Kersten is said to have written to Germany complaining about Schmidt but the nature of his complaint I do not yet know.

Schmidt, who last visited Germany in 1934, will probably be going on another visit early in 1938. His wife may be leaving within a month or so from now. Ostensibly he will be going to his homeland on leave from Pacific Potash Ltd, the firm of which he is the Auckland manager, -vide previous reports.

GUSTAV BELIN, a member of the Club who is not



one of the Nazi group and who has resided in New Zealand for many years, is believed to be shortly applying for naturalization. He is also said to have a brother in the Diplomatic Service in Germany.

Concerning Secret file 37/8, re HANS WILHELM FROH, and my further report dated 12 th May, 1937.. I am now reliably informed that this man has not been in touch with the German Club in Auckland.. The Nazi members had heard of him at Dunedin, but they have no idea where he is. They also have some vague knowledge that Froh had had some connection with Communist activities, as was also stated in Secret 37/8. The Nazis here are disappointed with Froh's apparent lack of interest in Nazi activities, especially in view of the fact of his trip to Germany at the time of the last Olympic Games in company with J. Blumhardt, which was paid for by the German Labour Front..... This foregoing information is rather mystifying in view of the fact that on the S.S. "Canopus" on which he is employed as a fireman Froh is known as a most ardent Nazi supporter. It may be, of course, that Froh's ship has never been in Auckland on nights when German Club functions have been held.

Concerning Secret file 37/41, re paper known as "Anglo-German Review", and Secret file 37/10/6, re copies of magazine called "Deutsche Kolonial Zeitung". My informant has never at any time seen either of these publications in the Club or in the possession of any of the Nazis.. He says, however, that a magazine called "Die Brücke", (in English "The Bridge"), is regularly received in Auckland by Max Grapengiesser, who acts as the agent. Several copies are received. They come from Sydney, in which city they are also believed to be published. They are printed in German in one column and in English in the adjoining column.

I have been informed from another confidential source that Grapengiesser receives several flat packages of literature from Australia through the Post and which do not pay duty. They are sent to his residence at 2 Ward Terrace, Sandringham.



My informant is an alert and intelligent man, with a knowledge of the French and German languages. He is British and has been connected with the Club since its inception.. His reason for his interest in the German Club is that throughout his life he has had, from time to time, much to do with Germans, and he believes that if amicable relations between German and British persons will help to foster a feeling of friendship between the two countries, then opportunities in this direction should not be passed by.

Nevertheless, he says that he does not overlook the possibility of the Club being used to cover anti-British activities and he says that he is watchful for this, and that despite the fact that he is friendly with all the Germans and largely has their confidence he would have no hesitation in informing the authorities should he see signs of any such activities.

Any further information which I may receive will be reported as instructed.

*E. Stevenson*  
Det. 2627.

Insp Ward.  
S. O. K. A. C.  
Lynch.  
15-7-37

*Jwd. to the Supt*  
*R. Ward*  
*15/7/37 Insp*

*Forwarded to the Commissioner*

*132.*  
*37*

*S. Gill*  
*24/7/37 Supt*

Publicly released under the NZSIS Declassification Policy

*There are payments of gratuity of £500 to the informant 30-7-37*





If any reply, please quote this number:

~~SECRET~~ 37/98.

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WELLINGTON, C. 1. 8th June, 1937.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,  
AUCKLAND.

SECRET INQUIRIES IN AUCKLAND.

Detective Stevenson arrived here on the 7th instant, and was instructed to remain until the evening of the 8th idem before returning to Auckland.

Among secret matters which I discussed with the Detective was that concerning the activities of the German Club in Auckland. It is evident from information received that there is a decided pro-Nazi feeling being fostered among German subjects resident in New Zealand, and it is not unlikely that the Club is being used as an avenue for the dissemination of German political propaganda.

I wish this matter to receive close attention, and desire to be at all times fully apprised of all information that can possibly be obtained concerning it.

I appreciate that some difficulty may be experienced in obtaining the information, and the Detective will require to exercise considerable discretion. I shall be pleased if you will see that he gets full opportunity to devote any time to this particular duty which he may require.

*J. H. Cunningham*

Commissioner of Police.

*For Inspector Ward.*

*D. W. Stevenson*

*130  
37*

*H. Till  
14/6/37*

*Please note.*

*S. Hall  
Baker*

*14-6-37*

*The Chief Det  
R. Ward  
14/6/37*

*The Chief Detective,*

*Noted, and report attached.*

*E. H. Stevenson*

*Det-2627.*

*15-7-37.*

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If any reply, please quote this number:

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~~SECRET~~

POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WELLINGTON. C. 1. 1st June, 1937.

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,  
AUCKLAND.

SECRET INQUIRIES IN AUCKLAND.

There are certain phases of the secret investigations which are required to be made in Auckland which I wish to discuss with the officer performing those duties. It is not convenient to commit the full details of this matter to paper, and for that reason I shall be pleased if you will arrange for the officer concerned (Detective E.A. Stevenson No. 2627) to proceed to Wellington at your convenience and report to me on his arrival.

*W. Hemming*

Commissioner of Police.

*For the Inspector.  
When can Det. Stevenson go to Wellington.*

*180  
37*

*S. Till  
2/6/37 Supt*

*The Chief Det*

*R. Hara*

*2/6/37 Supt*

The Inspector,  
Unless otherwise directed, Detective Stevenson will proceed to Wellington by the Limited on Sunday, the 6th, instant, and will report at the Commissioner's office on Monday morning.

*S. Waell  
C/Det.  
2.6.37.*

*The Supt*

*2/6/37 R. Hara  
Supt*

*Forw<sup>ed</sup> to the Commissioner*

*S. Till  
2/6/37 Supt*

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