

NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

[Police-100a.

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland.

Date: 24 th May, 193 8

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

relative to German nationals in Auckland.

"Vide attached Memo".

I respectfully report the following additional particulars asked for in the Commissioner's memo attached.

JOHANN LANSINGER, born at Bayern, Germany, on the 30 th September, 1895.. Arrived in Auckland on the 7 th February, 1938.. Is here on a 6 months temporary permit, but will probably stay indefinitely.. As previously reported, he is a brewery expert and is employed by Dominion Breweries, Otahuhu.

JOHN GASS.. By further inquiry I have now ascertained that this young man is actually a British subject. He was born in England of naturalized British parents, who were formerly German nationals.. Early in his life John Gass was sent to Germany and was reared and brought up by a German aunt.. More than two-thirds of his life has been lived in Germany. He speaks English with a German accent and his outlook is more German than British.

He is living in Auckland with a brother, Frank Gass, who is quite British and has been in New Zealand many years. John Gass arrived in New Zealand from Sydney in the latter part of 1937 but I can find no record of his arrival in the passenger lists in Auckland.

RUDOLPH KRUISE.. This person has never existed at all. In my previous report I stated that a [redacted] had 'phoned the German Club and had said that she had a friend named Rudolph Kruiise who was ill and wanted contact with the Club... Not being able to gain any further trace of Kruiise I interviewed Miss Shirley Kruiise of 21 Denbigh Av, Mt. Roskill. After questioning her closely I am satisfied that "Kruiise" was merely the product of the imagination of a neurotic young girl, who lacking friends in real life resorted to inventing them in her own brain.

The Chief Detective,
Auckland.

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2/10/56
E.A. Stevenson.
Det. 2627.*

*Insp Wava
S. Hall
L. Hall
24. 5. 38*

*God to the Supt
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*Forward to the Commissioner
S. Hall
24/5/38 Supt*

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37/10/20

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POLICE DEPARTMENT.

WELLINGTON, C. 1. 2 nd May 1938

MEMORANDUM for

The Superintendent of Police,

AUCKLAND.

With reference to Detective Stevenson's report of 22 nd ultimo regarding German activities in Auckland please cause inquiries to be made from the Collector of Customs at Auckland, as to the identity of Lansinger, John Gass, and Rudolph Kruse. The Head Office of the Customs Department has no record concerning these men and it is probable that they landed under a temporary permit issued at Auckland.

Of the other persons referred to in the report Ludwig Schreider landed in Auckland on 29-3-38 and was issued with a permit to enable him to stay in the Dominion for a period of two years. He is described as a native of Germany, single, 34 years of age, engineer, employed by N.Z. Distributors Ltd, Auckland. In his statement to the Customs Department he stated that he wishes to remain in New Zealand to take up X-ray work.

Eggerking is probably identical with Hans Edward Eggerking, born at Bremen on 28-8-08, whose address in New Zealand is given as c/o Reg. G. Kain Ltd, Wellington. He arrived here on the Wanganella on 13-4-38 and was issued with a permit to remain six months. He states he is representing Hans D. Freymuth, Hamburg.

For the Inspector
(Detective Branch),

D. J. Summing
Commissioner of Police

Herb Stevenson.

S. O'Hare
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3-5-38

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S. Gill

Superintendent of Police:

3/5/38

The Chief Det

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R. Ward
Sup

The Chief Detective,
Report attached.

E. J. Stevenson.
Det. 2627.
24-5-38.

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37 / 10/20
POLICE DEPT. HEAD OFFICE

NEW ZEALAND POLICE. [Police—100A.]

Police-station: Detective Office, Auckland.

Date: 22 nd April, 1938

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

relative to DEUTSCHER VEREIN (German Club), Auckland,
further information re German and Nazi activities.

I respectfully report the following additional information concerning the German Club and matters and individuals in touch with it. Most of this information is unimportant and of little significance but I am reporting it in accordance with instructions.

✓ Re German named EGGEKING

Max Grapengiesser, the Secretary of the German Club received a telegram a few days ago from Kurt Wilhelm Schmidt at present in Sydney.. The telegram warned the German Club here against a man named EGGEKING, a German now in Australia but who is shortly coming to New Zealand. The reason for this warning is not yet known and cannot at present be conjectured. I have ascertained that the Customs Dept here have received no communication from, or about, this man.

Re possible member of German 'Gestapo' on SEE TEUFEL

In my reports of the 24 th ult and the 11 th inst concernin- g the matter of a member of the Nazi Secret Police being among the crew of Von Luckner's yacht "Seesteufel" the following may be of interest, although the vessel is leaving New Zealand within a few days.

I reported that if such an agent was on the vessel it was probably FREDERICH THIELE.

A few days ago Thiele was the German Club room and in a discussion it was mentioned that the Manager of Henderson and McFarlane Ltd, - the Shipping Company that has the agency for various German shipping companies' vessels visiting New Zealand - looked like a Jew.

Thiele appeared to attach some importance to this statement and he made a careful note of it in his notebook.

✓ Re FRIEDERICH THIELE and close friendship with MAJOR G. R. BLACKETT.

Friederich Thiele, mentioned above has been sleeping a great deal at the house of Major G.R. Blackett, 245 Tamaki Drive... Blackett is a Land Agent and well known here. There is no question of his loyalty as a Britisher and I cannot say that he has Nazi sympathies... He was in charge of the ship that took Von Luckner and other German prisoners back to Germany after the War. (I should say that he was the military officer in charge.

✓ Re DR. WALTER HELLENTHAL, late German Consul at Wellington.

Dr Helleenthal left Auckland on the German tourist liner "Reliance" on the 14 th inst on his return to Germany. On the 6 th inst he had charge of the plebiscite for the Austro-German union taken aboard the "Seesteufel".

✓ Re HANS WILHELM FROH.

Froh is back in Auckland and he visited the Club on the 20 th inst immediately his ship "Canopus" arrived.

See 38/469
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The Chief Detective,
Auckland.

Re German Consulate at Wellington.

Now that Dr Hellenthal has left New Zealand the German Consulate is in charge of H.KESSELS, the former secretary.

Re GUSTAV BELIN.

Gustav Belin, a member of the German Club, was referred to in my report of 17 th December last. My informant says that this man "would bear watching" as he seems to be drawing closer to the Nazi outlook.

Belin expects to do some of the Consulate work in Auckland. He is employed as a shipping clerk in the office of Electric Construction Co, Ltd.

Age about 60 years, short, thin build, sallow, wears moustache. It is not known if he is actually a member of the Nazi group.

Germans residing in Auckland who are recent arrivals.

These Germans have all visited or contacted the German Club very soon after arrival... They have not been previously mentioned.

--- LANSINGER, a brewery engineer, brought out by Dominion Brewery to install new plant in the enlarged brewery at Otahuhu.

JOHN GASS, 1 Dorset St, Westmere. Age about 24 or 25 years. Arrived back from Germany on 24/3/38. Lived here previously. Speaks English with broken accent.

RUDDLEH KRUISE, 21 Denbigh Av, Mt Roskill. Age 23 years. A [redacted] rang the Club and said that Kruiise was sick and would like visitors from the German Club.

LUDWIG SCHREIDER, 9 Prospect Terrace, Mt Eden. Has only been here a few weeks. Says he is a meteorological expert.

Re FREDERICH KERSTEN.

Kersten is now back in Auckland from Dunedin. He is at present unemployed.

E. A. Stevenson.

Det. 2627.

Insp Ward.

S. Hall

l. Hall

24-4-38

Forw. to the Supt

26 R. Ward

4 Supt

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Forw. to the Commissioner

S. Gill
26/4/38 Supt

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