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NEW ZEALAND POLICE.

Subject: Memorandum respecting German National Socialist activities abroad.

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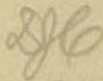
6th July, 1939.

Colonel Sir Vernon Kell,
Box No. 500,
Parliament Street, B.O.,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Dear Sir Vernon,

I have to acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of your secret letter OF.22/1 Supp.B./B2a of the 12th May, 1939, and the accompanying Memorandum respecting German National Socialist Activities abroad, the contents of which have been noted with interest.

Yours sincerely,



Commissioner of Police.

cc

~~SECRET~~

Telephone No.
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BOX NO. 500,
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OF.22/1 Supp B./B2a

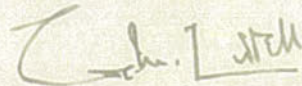
12th May, 1939.

Dear Mr. Cummings,

The attached memorandum on the subject of the activities of the German Nazi Party (N.S.D.A.P.) in countries abroad is forwarded for your information.

While the majority of the reports come from reliable sources it will be noted that in certain instances, particularly in so far as South America is concerned, confirmation of statements made has not been obtained. There is no reason however to think that in the main this document does not present an accurate picture of Nazi activities abroad.

Yours sincerely,



Colonel Sir Vernon Kell.

D. J. Cummings, Esq.,
Commissioner of Police,
Wellington.

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MEMORANDUM RESPECTING GERMAN NATIONAL SOCIALIST ACTIVITIES ABROAD.

1. The following is a summary of information obtained during 1938 on activities of the N.S.D.A.P. in 24 countries where the German element is known to be strong.
2. Although these activities vary considerably in accordance with the local situation, there are certain generalisations which may be made with regard to all Nazi organisations abroad. For convenience they have been grouped under six specific questions.
 - (A) What pressure is brought to bear on German Nationals to make them join the Organisation?
3. There is no single organisation. Quite apart from the fact that similar organisations are called by different names in different countries - and this, of course, applies particularly to those countries where foreign political organisations are forbidden - the foreign organisation ("Auslandsorganisation") of the National Socialist party does not appear to be entirely uniform. In the majority of countries there are local branches of the party, of the German Labour Front divided into occupational groups, of the Hitler Youth and less frequently of the League of German Girls. It would be wrong to say that membership of one of these party organisations is in all cases expected from German citizens living abroad. But, of course, they are seldom the only centres of German activity. In Paris, for instance, which is a typical example, there exists a German Society, a German Assistance Centre, a German Academic Exchange Service, a German Chamber of Commerce and a German Tourist Office. Mention may even be made of the Protestant Church which in a number of countries is a very active centre of German propaganda.
4. In all these organisations a German is able to show himself a good National Socialist, and so long as he does so it is not necessary to insist that he should be a member of one of the specifically party organisations. Nevertheless, in Nazi eyes Germans who are not National Socialists are no Germans. Every German national leaving Germany is compelled by a decree of the 17th February, 1937, to inscribe himself in a section of the Auslandsorganisation, and in a number of countries this involves an obligation to attend meetings of the German Labour Front or furnish an adequate excuse for failing to do so. In almost all countries (even in Brazil where the measures taken against the Nazis have been so severe that 17,000 Germans are said to have left for home) a contribution to the Winter Help Collection is expected in accordance with the wealth of the individual concerned; and evidence has been produced that members of the German Labour Front are expected to keep their eyes open with a view to furnishing the German authorities with any information of an economic or military character which they may chance to obtain (see in this connection paragraph 30).
5. It may be well to say here one or two words on the German organisations as such. Where uniforms are allowed, the party organisations wear them. In the Argentine there are rallies in military formation with Nazi banners. In Uruguay the Hitler Jugend is said to be armed

/with

with service revolvers. Most major branches of the Auslandsorganisation have their own party paper. There are, indeed, at least forty such papers produced abroad. Apart from this the members of the Auslandsorganisation abroad are normally expected to celebrate the 30th January, the 1st May, Harvest Festival, the Führer's birthday and the 9th November - the normal national feast days of Germany - as also in one case at least the pagan festival of the Sonnwendfeier. A Buenos Aires report speaks of "Bintopfsonntage" (compulsory one-course Sunday meals) in the Argentine. Beyond this the activities vary greatly according to countries. In certain countries, e.g. the Argentine, a member has the benefit of a local Kraft durch Freude (workmen's social service) organisation. In Latvia, voluntary labour camps are held. Members of the Hitler Youth in Belgium are called upon to spend at least six weeks per annum in camp at Munich.

6. The expenses incurred in all this activity are probably met in large measure by the Winter Help Collection, only half of which goes to the purpose for which it is advertised. In Sweden, for instance, it is known that the party "centre" is paid for out of such sources. In Buenos Aires it is stated that sums are extorted from the various German banks and commercial houses to subsidise Nazi propaganda. It appears that foreign sympathisers outside the Reich also contribute generously to the party funds. There is a persistent rumour that Henry Ford has subscribed 400,000 dollars to the Auslandsorganisation in the United States of America. Money is also sent from Germany. In Estonia the Volksbund der Deutschen im Ausland (or National League of Germans Abroad) is said to give half a million reichsmarks per annum to the various German organisations. It is, however, quite impossible to estimate the total sum actually leaving Germany for such purposes, including propaganda, but it cannot be less than the equivalent of several million pounds sterling.

7. One noticeable fact about the Auslandsorganisation is that its leaders, except in so far as they are to be found in the German diplomatic and consular missions, are in a very large number of cases the heads of the local "Travel Bureau". As such, they are presumably in constant touch with Germany. It is also noticeable that in many cases the diplomatic mission and the heads of the local German Chamber of Commerce and of the local Travel Bureau are all housed in the same dwelling.

(B). What steps are taken by the organisation against those German nationals who refuse to join?

8. The steps taken to force a German national to join the organisation in those countries where active membership is compulsory are (with certain exceptions enumerated below) the same as those taken all over the world to blackmail not only German nationals, but also non-German nationals of German stock, and even in certain cases persons with no racial or national German tie, into obedience to the will of the German Party-State. Very many different forms of pressure are adopted by the Nazis in various countries and no single list of these various forms of pressure could be taken as applying to even a majority of States where the Nazi influence is strong; but it can safely be said that the Nazis use all the means which they can devise, not stopping, it appears at murder or the threat of murder to bring about their ends, if they can do so without coming into open conflict with the State whose hospitality they enjoy.

/Actually

Actually, there are comparatively few concrete instances where the pressure has had to be applied, but German nationals, men of German stock and all men who have any considerable dealings with Germans living abroad are so well acquainted with the ways in which pressure may be brought to bear that they seldom dare defy the great machine with the workings of which they are so familiar. The mere threat of reprisals is enough to bring a recalcitrant person to heel, and the essential thing to realise is the methods which may be, and, in the Argentine, Brazil and Uruguay, have been, extensively applied.

9. If a man offends the Auslandsorganisation or proves himself a bad Nazi or an opponent of nazism -

- (a) He may be subjected to a social and economic boycott by all members of the local party organisations. In countries where the German population is dense this may be very serious. It is especially so in those parts of Europe where strong German minorities exist and in the parts of South America which are centres of German settlement.
- (b) His relations in Germany may be threatened with confiscation of their property, or even with imprisonment in concentration camps.
- (c) His own property in Germany will be confiscated.
- (d) If he ever visits Germany, he will get into trouble for failing to comply with one of the multitudinous regulations with regard to currency restrictions, or some such trumped-up charge. This, of course, applies particularly to areas like Eupen-Malmedy, where the inhabitants are economically closely associated with the neighbouring German town across the frontier.

10. The penalties of disobedience specifically reserved for German nationals are:-

- (i) They may be deprived of diplomatic protection, of their passports and eventually of their nationality.
- (ii) If they want to get married, they will be unable to obtain the necessary papers from the consulate.
- (iii) They may be deprived of "Devisen". The German banks appear in this respect to be important elements in the party machine.
- (iv) If they are members of a professional body in Germany, they may be struck off the rolls, e.g., an offending architect who was struck off the German Architects' Society.

11. Threats such as these are usually sufficient to force compliance with German interests. It must not, however, be forgotten that a moderate measure of active devotion to Hitler entails great advantages which may well attract many to comply. The Hitler Youth has a strange attraction for the youth of the majority of countries. It would appear to be a much more living organisation than the Boy Scouts, who, in cases where they are not utilised by the Hitler Youth for their own purposes, seem to diminish in numbers as the Hitler Youth increase. The Germans in all their propaganda concentrate on the youth, but the advantages of sympathy with the Nazis are not confined to the youth alone. Free holidays in Germany, relief under the Winter Help

Collection scheme, cheap Kraft durch Freude tours, etc., and in certain cases even direct money payments are all inducements to the doubtful.

12. German propaganda by blackmail and bribery does not strictly speaking come within the scope of this questionnaire, but it has been dealt with at length in a number of reports. It is again impossible to generalise, and it is only in the South American States that almost all conceivable means of propaganda are used.
13. One of the most important aspects of this propaganda is the attempt to influence, and, if possible, to control the press. Editors are threatened in the accustomed manner. Moreover, if they print articles hostile to the Nazi regime, all Germans may be forbidden to buy the paper, all German shops forbidden to sell it, and all German firms forbidden to advertise in it. Equally, if a paper is to be bought, strictly non-commercial prices are paid for advertisements. If editors refuse to be bought, they are subjected to a torrent of defamation in the German press. They are represented as being priests of Judah, or minions of the capitalists of England and France. Other methods of bribery are the supply of paper gratis for a year - a concrete instance of this is quoted from Morocco - and free holidays for journalists in Germany. The Deutsches Nachrichten-Büro (the official German News Agency) normally sells news cheaper than any other news agency, and in South America the German Transocean Service provides news free. The news is, of course, deeply tinged with propaganda for the purpose of which special use is made of foreigners. Distinguished foreigners visiting Germany are asked to address a few words on the wireless to their home country about their experiences. It would need immense courage to say anything critical. Foreign journalists having visited Germany are alleged to have been bribed to write glowing accounts of the Third Reich.
14. German activities are not restricted to the press. Efforts are made to influence foreign youth from birth upwards. In Portugal German nurses work for Portuguese wages - 25/- to 30/- a month. German schools are everywhere cheaper than the English and curricula are arranged more in accordance with the interests of the local population. Cases have been reported of the deliberate ousting of British schools by "cut-throat" competition. There are numerous bursaries provided to enable foreign students to visit Germany. German teachers, who are obliged to undergo National Socialist training at Munich, give their services for a very low figure, as do German scoutmasters. In Portugal German teachers working in theory for nothing are paid from Berlin. Literature for schools has in certain cases been known to have been sent from Germany. In a wider sphere it is the chief function of the Hamburg Fichte Bund to distribute pamphlets in a variety of languages free, and by the million.
15. One of the main means of Nazi propaganda has been found to be the film. The result is that the Central Tourist Bureau in Berlin has issued a special catalogue of propaganda films, mainly of a non-political character, for gratis distribution. In the Argentine talking-film apparatus has, it appears, been provided more or less free. Germany has also attached great importance to possessing the most powerful wireless transmitters in various parts of the world, and has for some years been developing foreign language broadcasts.
16. Finally, mention should be made of Germany's care to flatter the vanity of small Powers by sending important men to visit them.

/(c).

(C). What jurisdiction is exercised by the organisation over its members and others (vide Section 8 of the memorandum)

17. The existence of Nazi organisations on the territory of foreign States concerns these States from two aspects, first as a menace to their security, and, secondly, as a menace to the liberty of all those who dwell within their territories. Liberty depends upon security, and when, as at the present time, the security of foreign States and with it the future liberty even of their own subjects is seriously threatened, the liberty of Germans and half-Germans and other individuals associated with them living on their soil naturally becomes a secondary consideration. There has, consequently, been a general tendency to disregard encroachments on the liberty of free States by Nazi agents, presumably on the ground that too drastic action might lead to consequences which the advantage to be gained from them would not warrant.

18. There can, however, be no doubt that Nazi activities in almost all countries extend German jurisdiction beyond its legal bounds. There can be no compromise between the philosophy of any country which thinks of itself as a land of refuge for the persecuted of all lands and the philosophy of a State which claims absolute sovereignty over the thoughts and actions of all its nationals, wherever they may be, and which considers that any form of blackmail undertaken on behalf of the Reich is lawful and right. For the most part the blackmail, as has been stated in section (B), is tacit, and it is very difficult in countries where there is a rule of law to take legal action against it. How far the actual party organisation increases this encroachment on the sovereignty of free States it is hard to say. Clearly blackmail is easier in an organised German colony than in a place where no organisation exists. It is, however, no less certain that blackmail would continue whether Nazi organisations were disbanded or not. These considerations apply also to espionage and other similar activities.

19. The importance of the system of party courts may easily be exaggerated. Party courts are courts established for the trial of party offences. They are by no means universal. It is probably true that in the majority of countries the penalties are not more than expulsion from the party. In countries, however, where Germany is particularly interested in forming "national groups" and in one or two exceptional cases the powers of these courts are wider. They assess the importance of the offence against the interests of Germany and convict the offender to suitable punishment accordingly - e.g., to boycott. One of the exceptional cases is the Netherlands, where it would appear that no German may file a suit against another in a Netherlands law court, such cases having to be brought before the local party court. (This rule appeared in one of the publications of the local party organisation). In Yugoslavia Germans are encouraged to do the same, but are not forced to do so. In Bulgaria the party court has been reported in one instance to have settled a criminal case.

(D). To what extent are attempts made to exercise control over, and to bring under the influence of the organisation, persons who, though nationals of the State in question, are of German descent.

20. The answer to this question is again that the system varies according to the country. "Blood knows no frontier" and "Blood is thicker than ink" (i.e. the ink on a man's passport) are notorious Nazi dicta. There is, however, a rather different guiding principle for Nazi practice. The Germans only seek to exert pressure upon non-German nationals of German origin as such, or on men of Nordic but not of German origin, e.g. the Swedes, in countries where they are

/interested

interested in forming "national groups" with a view to securing for the latter the ultimate political dominion over those countries. Thus compulsion is used in the former German territory of Eupen-Malmedy but not in other parts of Belgium, in Memel but not, generally speaking, in Lithuania, despite the presence of 30,000 Balts there. It is generally true to say that, where no such opportunity of ultimate dominion by subversive means occurs, persons of German origin, but not of German nationality, are left in peace, although in small countries exceptions may be made if the interests of the Reich demand it, and attempts are made especially in the northern countries to bring about the Aryanisation of firms doing business with Germany.

21.

Where hopes of dominion in whatever form exist, foreign subjects of German origin are scarcely distinguished by the party agents from Reichsdeutsche. In certain very exceptional cases it has been reported that even the German consulates have made no distinction between Reichs- and Volksdeutsche, i.e. between German nationals and foreign nationals of German race. In Uruguay, for example, it is alleged that even Uruguayans, if of German blood, had to vote for Hitler during the plebiscite over Austria. It is, incidentally, to be noticed that after the Anschluss the plebiscite took place in the Argentine in the German schools, i.e. on Argentine soil, and that passports had to be produced and stamped. In the Argentine it is alleged that it is not only men of German origin who are included in the Nazi group, but also a number of men of Dutch, Danish and generally of Nordic blood. A Nazi paper in the Argentine openly stated that "Nazi Germany refuses to recognise the Argentine nationality of sons of Germans born in this country". In 1937, Herr Bohle, the head of the Auslandsorganisation, is reported as having explained privately to the Germans who attended the Stuttgart Congress that Germany was interested in every man of German blood. Any such persons, he said, acquire German citizenship whenever he liked, and Germans must make that fact known abroad.

(E). Do members of the staff of the German Diplomatic Mission play any part in the running of the local branch of the organisation; and what are the relations between the staff of the Diplomatic Mission and the local officials of the Auslandsorganisation?

22.

The relations between the Auslandsorganisation and the diplomatic and consular missions have often been far from cordial. There are still missions where the ambassador is far from being a Nazi, but there is now generally at least one secretary closely associated with the party organisation. Thus, although a storm of feeling was aroused in 1937 by the abortive proposal to appoint cultural attaches at the German mission, having equal privileges with the minister, it is now fairly clear that in each mission there is something approaching a cultural attache, who, although he does not rank equally with the minister, has diplomatic privilege. In general, ever since Herr Bohle took over the Auslandsorganisation, and particularly since he received an appointment in the Foreign Office in 1938, relations between it and the diplomatic missions have become increasingly close and the process has, of course, been accelerated since Herr von Ribbentrop became Minister for Foreign Affairs. In several cases the ambassador and the head of the local branch of the Auslandsorganisation are housed in the same building. It is also known that the German Consul-General at Memel has held meetings of the organisation in his consulate from time to time. In Yugoslavia the Landesleiter (National Nazi leader) is titular consul-general, doing, however, no consular work. In Lima the situation is similar. The Nazi leader in Guatemala is at present expected to return from leave as commercial attache.

23. German consular officers have become an essential part of the German party machine. All German nationals are now bound by law to register within three months at their consulates on pain of a fine of 5-100 reichsmarks, or if the delay is longer and proved to be deliberate, the withdrawal of passports and loss of German citizenship. On registering, German subjects are expected to furnish full details about themselves and certain details even about their employers. The dangers of close co-operation between the Auslandsorganisation and consulate are manifest. Not merely is control made simple, but the consul himself can exercise considerable pressure. Besides the withdrawal of passports, he can, for example, refuse a German subject marriage papers.
24. Not unnaturally the Auslandsorganisation is given where possible, and where its activities are technically legal, the full support of the German Ambassadors. In Brazil very considerable resentment was aroused in 1938 by the efforts of the German Ambassador to frighten President Vargas into repealing the anti-Nazi measures which he had decreed. Each side maintained that the attitude of the other was an attempt to interfere in its own internal affairs. On the German side it is, incidentally, exactly the kind of contention which has led to a claim to control the press of Holland and Switzerland, and according to one well-informed source, to an actual control of the Danish press since Munich by the German Minister at Copenhagen.
25. The support of the diplomatic missions for the Auslandsorganisation also takes an even more questionable form. That the diplomatic and consular bags are sometimes used for the purposes of the organisation is not open to doubt. Subsidies are paid through the German Legation to local German papers, but this is known to be done in Yugoslavia and in Iraq, and the same practice is suspected in a number of other cases. The American Dieckstein Committee set up in 1934 to enquire into Nazi propaganda established definitely that German consuls had engaged in "vicious" propaganda, paying in cash in the hope it would not be traced.
26. This "vicious" propaganda raises more serious issues. Considerable evidence has been produced that in certain districts quite considerable sums of money are being sent as subsidies to the Auslandsorganisation from Berlin. A Montevideo paper alleged recently that the German South American Bank in Uruguay had received 400,000 pesos from Berlin as a subsidy. Similar allegations have been made by more reliable sources in all parts of the world. It is clear that, while the allegations are in most cases exaggerated, they are based on truth (see paragraph 6). The problem is to decide whether the money is devoted solely to technically legitimate purposes or whether a large part of it is spent on activities of a purely subversive nature.
27. Our evidence in this matter is perhaps inevitably somewhat indefinite. The allegation, for instance, of an Argentine paper that the Brazilian Integralists were paid with money received from foreign embassies and consulates could never be proved, and it is actually probable that the direct payment of foreign Nazi and other subversive organisations as such - although individuals may be bribed - does not form an important item of German expenditure. What has, however, been causing much alarm recently is the acquisition by Germans, especially in Central America, of lands and contracts which could scarcely be paid for by the individual Germans concerned, and it is not impossible that the movements reported in these areas of funds from German sources, transferred by means of the German diplomatic and consular bags, are not unconnected with these purchases of land.

28. The privileged position enjoyed by diplomats and to a lesser extent by consuls makes definite information in these matters impossible, but doubt is cast upon the soothing assurances of Herr Bohle by the enormous increases in recent years in certain German consular staffs. The German Consulate in Lausanne for example, which had been closed since 1917, has been reopened. The four officers on the staff of the German Consulate-General in Chicago in 1937 had increased to 13 by the summer of 1938.

(F). Is there any evidence that the local branch of the organisation or any other Nazi organisations engage in subversive activities against the Government of the country in which you reside?

29. The activities of the Auslandsorganisation and Volksbund der Deutschen im Ausland described under headings (A),(B),(C) and (D) are almost all in a greater or less degree incompatible with the sovereignty of democratic States, and as such they may be said to be in some measure subversive. In addition, however, the very existence of these organisations with the control they afford of Germans living abroad, represents a danger from two points of view. In the first place they encourage German subjects to engage in espionage. In the second place there is as a result of their existence a widespread fear of sabotage by German subjects in the event of war.

30. With regard to espionage it is alleged that German employees of non-German firms in the Argentine are liable to be recalled to Germany in order to render to the German authorities reports on the trade secrets of their employers and that Dutch firms generally consider it imprudent to employ Germans on this ground. In the United States of America Henry Ford is known to have in his employ a number of Germans suspected of being spies. All leaders of the Belgian branch of the German Labour Front undergo special courses in Germany dealing with political, military and commercial espionage in foreign countries, and it is known that German students in particular are everywhere encouraged to keep their eyes open for information that might be useful to the Reich.

31. The danger of industrial sabotage exists wherever Germans are to be found. For example, definite information has been received that at Loanda instructions had been issued to a German resident in the interior ordering him to take all possible steps to blow up bridges on the Benguela Railway in the event of war against Britain and Portugal. There is, however, a form of this danger which must be regarded as especially menacing in all those areas where British trade routes may be liable to attack. As has already been said under heading (E) evidence continues to come in that Germans are busy buying land, and seeking contracts to build harbours in places which might serve as bases for submarines. This is particularly noticeable in the Panama region of Central America and it has been surmised that the intention is to impede British and other shipping passing through the canal in time of war. The mere possession of land is no doubt sufficient for this purpose, but quite apart from the influence they exert upon the various Governments concerned, the Germans have been repeatedly alleged to have imported particularly into the American hemisphere large quantities of arms for purposes unknown. Several of the semi-Nazi organisations in South America are armed with service revolvers, daggers and other

/weapons

weapons and such private armies might indeed be a grave menace in time of war.

32.

Preparation of the ground for waging war against England and France is no doubt the chief cause of the subversive propaganda in British and French territories which emanates from Germany, though probably from Herr Rosenberg's Aussepolitiches Amt rather than from Herr Bohle's Auslandsorganisation offices. The "Manchester Guardian" claims to have positive evidence that the theory of the Germans is that, wherever there is disaffection in the empires of Germany's two potential enemies, there England and France would have to send troops if war should come. They would be correspondingly weakened. It is not possible in a memorandum of this length to enter into the details of this form of activity. Mention may, however, be made of the various methods. Many of them are well known, as for instance German films, broadcasts and press reports of the horrors of British administration in Palestine. German Protestant pastors are known in certain cases to engage in propaganda of this kind. Parties of Germans visiting the Near East and Africa theoretically for scientific purposes have in the event proved to be little more than mere missions of propaganda. Deserving natives of Nigeria are believed to have been given swastikas by local German Nazis with promises of reward when the time comes. Youths from British colonies, protectorates, mandates and allied territories such as Egypt and Iraq are invited to Germany to be instilled with National Socialist and anti-British doctrines. Special attention is paid to the former German colonies and to the Near East, although Nazi centres exist in the main towns of India as well. A certain number of Arabs from Palestine and Syria and even it is said a few negroes are admitted to the National Socialist schools for leaders to be trained as propagandists of National Socialist ideas in British and French colonies, and mandated territories. Another report says that at the Arab Club in Berlin there has been created the European Headquarters of a permanent defence committee for Palestine.

33.

The most remarkable of all German activities abroad is perhaps the attempt to convert other people to national socialism. The objects of these efforts are not absolutely clear, and it may be that even some National Socialists are themselves not absolutely clear on their immediate aim. It has constantly been repeated by high German officials that nazism is not an article for export. It is quite inconceivable that other nations should wish to import, or that Germans should honestly believe that they wish to import, pure nazism, with its openly and repeatedly announced belief that the Germanic race is destined in the interests of a higher Kultur to rule the earth. A national revival in England and France would, as Hitler has himself implied, not be in the interests of the German Reich. Nevertheless almost all over the world so-called national movements are encouraged by the Nazis. They often have the swastika as their emblem. In Cuba the New Cuban Nazi Party distributed leaflets on which appears the German Nazi badge surmounted by an eagle with outstretched wings. In Sweden the National Socialist Workers party, forbidden to demonstrate in the streets, now according to a reliable source line the streets when other organisations demonstrate and cry "Heil Hitler". Several National Socialist organisations have been proved to be subversive, e.g. the German Youth League for Chile was suppressed for disloyalty. With one or two possible exceptions all these parties are friendly towards the Germans and most of them work in the closest collaboration with them. It must be noted

/that

that outwardly German subjects are normally scrupulously correct in their attitude in the matter. It could, as has already been stated, never be proved that Germans as such were involved in the Integralists rising in Brazil, but there can be no doubt that men enjoying both German and Brazilian nationality were a very strong element in the movement.

34.

It has been suggested, although little positive information can be found, that the publications of these parties are subsidised and their leaders paid by the Reich, whilst the local police and other officials are bribed to connive at their activities. There is considerable circumstantial evidence for all these allegations. Much capital is made out of jealousy of England in some spheres and dislike of Russia in others, and out of the universal sentiments for anti-communism, anti-bolshevism, anti-capitalism and anti-Semitism. The propagation of pure National Socialist doctrines involves automatically a certain recognition of the achievements of Hitler, which pure democrats are inclined not to admit. Recognition of virtues can be driven far towards real admiration and friendship by excessive and unreasoning opposition, and there can be no doubt that German Jews have been guilty of absurd exaggerations in their description of Nazi atrocities. The very success of Hitler brings with it still greater admiration. Yet when all is said no arguments can conceal the fact that pure German nazism is necessarily in direct opposition to the purely national aspirations of all other sovereign States, and the impression remains that the Nazi movements in other independent countries are friendly to Hitler, principally because they could in most cases never even aspire to power without his help.

35.

Such is the nature of the German activity abroad. Its objects are not always easy to perceive, but few who read before the advent of Hitler of the National Socialist claim to rule the earth can have realised how real was the menace implied in that claim. In May, 1930, when Germany was disarmed and when Hitler was still three years from power at home, Hitler is reported to have said to Otto Strasser "The Nordic race has a right to rule the world, and we must make this right of our race the guiding star of our foreign policy." On the 20th May, 1935, "Der Trommler", the local official party organ in the Argentine, wrote as follows of "The Day":

"The idea may appear fantastic and absurd; but in the heads of Germans it has already taken shape as a reality. The Germans are convinced that after a victory of Hitler's in Europe they will be called to political dominion in North and South America as well."

Many are the statements of Nazi officials, the party songs and the articles in the German press which prove that this sentiment is deeply imbedded in the Nazi mind.

After nearly four years in which National Socialist Germany has made strides which have caused almost all countries of the world to fear for their own safety, such words still appear somewhat "fantastic and absurd". But it was not perhaps without good reason that a recent book dealing largely with Nazi activities in the American hemisphere

/began

began by quoting in German Leonardo da Vinci's dictum: "Die vollkommene Wahrheit erscheint fast immer unwahrscheinlich".

February 22nd, 1939.