

Mexican Gov't Cracks Down on 5th Column

By Alfred Miller

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MEXICO CITY, Jan. 24.—Mexico's fifth column, organized and led by the Nazis, is receiving one blow after another and the foreign fascist organizations are preparing for illegality.

Though the National-Socialist German Labor Party (NSDAP) has not yet been officially prohibited, its head, Edgar von Wallenberg-Fachall, was forced to abandon Mexico for White

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Sulphur Springs, Va., together with the rest of the Nazi diplomats. Accompanying the former legation staff was also Kurt Benoit Dushms, director of the Nazi Transocean news agency. His offices are closed and the Transocean telephones seem under strict government control.

All other Nazi organizations continue to function. Their meetings, however, are no longer publicly announced and traffic through their offices has lessened appreciably. Still, one finds the doors of the Deutsche Haus, the German Peoples Society, the Fichte Bund, the German Club, etc., open.

GOAL IS NAZI VICTORY

Fritz Theisen, a Nazi leader, for example, wrote in the Christmas issue as follows: "The goal here like in our country is the German victory. . . . The primordial task of every German citizen abroad is to believe blindly in everything that happens in his fatherland."

The Nazi schools and colleges also keep their doors open and continue classes. A number of students and pupils, however, no longer attend. Apparently, the pressure is no longer sufficiently strong enough. The Nazi answer to this shows an arrogance which seeks its equal.

The Kindergarten of the Colegio Aleman, located in a dead-end street, has put up a large banner right across the street, offering to take children free of charge. Posters in many stores advertise free classes in German at the rooms of the Deutsche Volksgemeinschaft (German Peoples Society).

This "business-as-usual" attitude is evidently based upon the assurances of the Nazi ex-envoy, who told the German colony at a meeting in the German House, when Mexico broke relations with Nazi-Germany, that he had "strong reasons to believe that the Mexican government does not think of taking any steps against citizens of the Reich or their properties." Von Collenberg's forced departure, however, is making many of Hitler's subjects feel less secure.

SINARQUISTS JAILED

Earlier this week the town was plastered with yellow posters of the Sinarquists. They are protesting vehemently that their "Jefe Supremo," Manuel Torres Bueno, and a number of other chiefs are still behind bars. They were arrested almost two weeks ago by the village authorities of Atlixco, Puebla, when they insisted on holding a meeting without a permit. In an "Open Letter" to President Avila Camacho the posters are now demanding "justice."

Meanwhile, their scheme to "colonize" lower California continues. El Sinarquista of Jan. 22 published lists, showing that 54,000 pesos have been gathered in small collections for that purpose. "The first planting of crops has already begun" on that strategically located peninsula, the fascist paper declares, urging greater and better collections. At any rate, the promised government aid does not seem to be forthcoming. Angrily, El Sinarquista comments: "And if the Government of the Republic does not respond to our efforts, aiding us with all the means at its disposal, it is because its desires are not sincere."

If the Nazi-directed Sinarquist movement is not receiving government support, there is no evidence, anyhow, that federal authorities are making difficulties. And if foreign fascist organizations are watched more closely, the Nazis are past-masters in the art of avoiding such vigilance.

Their Trotskyite branches are putting out two new magazines. One, called "Analisis," is publishing vicious articles against the Allied war effort by Victor Serge, Manuel Pivert and Gorkin, while a second one, called "19 de Julio," publishes articles by Trotsky, the "Manifesto of the Fourth International," etc., but pretends

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to be opposed to the notorious Serge and his band.

Eulalia Guzman, professor at the Mexican National Museum, reports in the current issue of "Freies Deutschland," the German anti-Nazi monthly here, about the "Manifesto de la Escudra Tradicionalista a la Juventud Mexicana."

"This message is of the same character as the calls of the Nazi party in Germany to the German youth," Senorita Guzman writes. She quotes the "manifesto" as follows:

"We participate in the end of an epoch of our history, of the (Mexican) Revolution, which is characterized through its anti-national and destructive spirit. . . . Everything tells us that our hour has come! . . ."

"In my opinion," the noted Mexican writer declares, "all these organizations are of great danger to us. And the Administration should investigate how and where they work. The enemy is preparing himself. It is our task to make sure that he will find no accomplices."

"Mexico's interest, the interest of her people and institutions demand that she supports the great struggle of the democratic powers against enslaving fascism," Eulalia Guzman concludes.