

Radio Reviews

CHICAGO'S NAZIS

With Dick Harley, narrator; Red Mottlow, reporter; Judge Daniel Ryan, others
Exec Producer - Writer: Frank Goerg

Producer: Pres Flower
25 Mins., Sun. (24), 6:35 p.m.
WIND, Chicago

From the mouth of one of the neo-Nazi troopers in the U.S.: "We are not in any way affiliated with the John Birch Society or the Minute Men, although at times our purposes bring us together. They are sissies. They would like to be Nazis but don't have the guts."

WIND reporter Red Mottlow, new to the staff, elicited this statement and a few others equally pregnant in interviewing Chicago members of the American Nazi Party. He noted too, in describing the interior of their meeting hall on Damen Ave., the irony of a picture of Hitler juxtaposed with one of George Washington and the American flag holding equal rank with the swastika banner at the dais.

The American Nazi Party is a really subject, and obviously a sensational one, for an electronic news feature; and while Mottlow and scripter-news director Frank Goerg left many questions unanswered they more than scratched the surface in distilling the philosophical motives, the objectives, the methods and the scope of the neo-Nazi movement, not only in the Windy City but in the U.S. and Europe as well.

Several of the interviewees coldly stated that they joined "to protect the rights of the white man" and insisted that they were a political party rather than a military organization. The report made note that the "party" could get on the ballot (they expect to take over by 1972) if it met the requirements of a given state and that it could not be considered subversive, technically, unless it were an agent of a foreign power or advocated the forcible overthrow of the government.

The far-out neo-Nazi precepts and platform might have been funny if they weren't terrifying. Goerg's script warned that the platform was fantastic in Germany too, and that the existence of the new Nazis in the U.S. is something to be pondered since it is active and growing. The program condemned as often as it informed, and Goerg was perhaps overly careful lest his audio documentary benefit George Lincoln Rockwell & Co. in any way as publicity. Along with the running denunciation of the movement, there was a thrice-expressed station argument for giving air time to the subject, namely, "the sincere belief that in knowing about it the public can keep it from spreading."

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