

# NEWS LETTER

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Figures in Text indicate Reference Notes at end of Issue.

No. 118. December 4, 1940

## ALIBI FRONT OF AMERICA-NAZIS CRACKS

*Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel.*

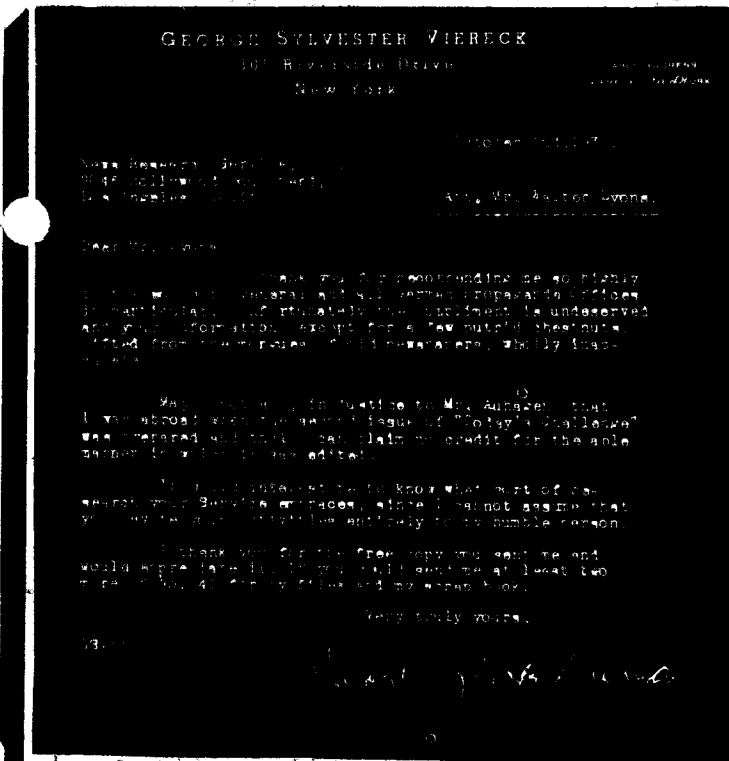
*--Samuel Johnson*

Subversivists of all persuasions, once uncovered, promptly seize upon the Stars and Stripes as their most effective camouflage. This abuse of the flag is resorted to not only by foreign-born Nazi propagandists but also by native-American adherents of Hitler. Almost daily, new cases of both types are exposed, many of them reaching spectacular proportions.

For the present, NEWS LETTER unfolds cases involving Dr. Friedrich E. Auhagen <sup>1</sup>), Dr. Edmond F. Kohl and George Sylvester Viereck <sup>2</sup>), all German-born. Counterparts of native-born anti-Democratic agitators will be presented in an early issue, when, among others, the activities of G. Allison Phelps will be analyzed. This is the man who daily, via radio station KMPR, Los Angeles, unleashes a half-hour salvo calculated to arouse racial antagonisms. Using many of *Doktor Goebbels'* stock arguments, Phelps resorts to the same bag of tricks which underlings of the Reich Propaganda Ministry employ, especially "flag camouflage". To this end, Phelps incessantly repeats: "I preach Americanism".

To deal first with the Nazi brand of anti-Democratic subversivists:

NEWS LETTER, on January 4th, last, reproduced a rather chummy letter (illustration on page 2) written by Dr. Herbert Scholz <sup>3</sup>), German Consul General at Boston, Mass. Addressed to "Dear Auhagen", it promised guidance for the editorial conduct of "Today's Challenge" <sup>4</sup>), organ of the "American Fellowship Forum" <sup>5</sup>). Offering in evidence a facsimile of this letter, written on official Consulate stationery, NEWS LETTER pointed out that it conclusively proved intimate cooperation between the German government and the publishers of "Today's Challenge". Subsequently, Reich-Consul Scholz' indiscreet document was reprinted in many newspapers from coast to coast; it also appeared in *Der Aufbau* (Reconstruction), a German-language, strongly anti-Nazi periodical, published in New York City.



Facsimile of Mr. G. S. Viereck's letter addressed to NRS. Story on page 7.

As a result, all these publications were veritably inundated by "Letters to the Editor". This avalanche of protest had been unloosed by officers of the "American Fellowship Forum", all of them zealously averring that this organization and "Today's Challenge" had no Nazi affiliations at all. The editor, and members of his advisory committee, seemed greatly incensed at being mentioned in the same breath with Goebbels et al.

Studying these letters, certain resemblances as to approach of subject, and such logic of denial as they were supposed to contain, stand out strikingly. In every letter, the emphatic statement occurs that the writers, far from being Nazis, are good American patriots, and will have absolutely no truck whatever with those terrible Nazis...above all, not in such matters as their treatment of "non-Aryan" minorities. In this way, all "writers-in" try to sidestep the subject under discussion so as to make it appear as if anti-Semitism, and not Nazism, is the case in point.

The Philo-Semitic Red Herring

No sooner had *Der Aufbau* reproduced from NEWS LETTER Reich Consul Scholz' indiscreet note, than its editor, Dr. Manfred George, received, within 24 hours, first Auhagen's (facsimile on page 3) and then Kohl's protest (facsimile on pages 4 and 5). The latter, a physician, lives at 313 East 86th Street, New York City -- that is, right in the very heart of the Yorkville (*Klein Deutschland*) neighborhood -- naturally enough drawing most of his clientele from that region.

Auhagen, in his letter, written in English on the stationery of "Today's Challenge" -- then still a bi-monthly but soon thereafter reduced to "The Forum Observer" 6) and now suspended -- mounts his high horse, stating:

....Upon mature consideration, I have decided against writing an answer for publication. I feel that in trying to refute those charges, I would act according to the old proverb, "Qui s'excuse, s'accuse". My publication, "Today's Challenge", really speaks for itself. Anyone who would take the trouble of reading the current issue of the magazine must come to the conclusion that the allegations persistently spread about our publication by the

Deutsches Konsulat  
Boston, Mass., 22. Juli 1939.  
28 Chestnut Street

Tel. Nr. 3206.

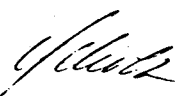
Herrn Dr. F. Auhagen  
Today's Challenge, Inc.  
11 West 42nd Street  
New York City.

Lieber Auhagen!

Herzlichen Dank für Ihr Schreiben vom 18. Juli 1939. Ich möchte Ihnen versichern, dass Ihre Zeitschrift "Today's Challenge" hier in Boston bei unseren Freunden durchaus Eindruck gemacht hat und diese weiteste Verbreitung gefunden hat und auch noch finden wird.

Ich werde nicht zögern, Sie bei meinem nächsten Aufenthalt in New York anzurufen. Damit wir uns über verschiedene Probleme unterhalten können.

Mit nochmals bestem Dank und freundlichen Grüßen

Ihr  
  
(Dr. Herbert Scholz)  
DEUTSCHER KONSUL.

Reproduction from NRS #64 of facsimile of letter which Dr. Herbert Scholz, German Consul at Boston, Mass., sent to Auhagen, then guiding spirit of "Today's Challenge". Translation follows:

Sincere thanks for your letter of July 18, 1939. I want to assure you that your periodical, "Today's Challenge", has greatly impressed our friends here in Boston. It found widest circulation and will continue to do so. I shall not neglect to telephone you the next time I am in New York so that we may discuss various problems. (Underscoring by NRS) Thanking you once more, and with cordial greetings,

Yours, (signed) Scholz  
Dr. Herbert Scholz, German Consul

Vishman with  
Confidential

TODAY'S  
**CHALLENGE**

11 WEST 42ND STREET NEW YORK N. Y.  
TELEPHONE SEVANTY 3 0001

January 13, 1940

Mr. Manfred George,  
German-Jewish Club, Inc.,  
15 East 40th Street,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

This is to confirm our telephone conversation of yesterday regarding the article printed in the "Aufbau" under the title, "Hasi Consul Guides Reich Propaganda in U.S.A." In the course of our conversation, you were kind enough to offer to print my answer to the charges made in the above-mentioned article.

Upon mature consideration, I have decided against writing such an answer for publication. I feel that in trying to refute these charges, I would not according to the old proverb, "Qui s'excuse, s'accuse". My publication, "Today's Challenge", really speaks for itself. Anyone who would take the trouble of reading the current issues of the magazine must come to the conclusion that the allegations persistently spread about our publication by the News Research Service of Los Angeles are without any substance whatsoever. As far as the letter by Mr. Herbert Scholz is concerned, it carries all the earmarks of a polite note dictated without much thought to what implications an unfriendly reader might draw. The very fact that the letter was written at all ought to be sufficient proof against the fact that "Today's Challenge" is inspired by German authorities, above all by the Consul in Boston. Moreover, I just wonder whether the very publication of this letter might not create wonder in many people's minds whether it had not been stolen from either our files or from the mails.

But enough of that. The main reason for my calling you yesterday was to satisfy my own curiosity as to what motives were behind the publication of the above-mentioned article. As I told you, and as many people around New York do know, I have at all times expressed myself against the persecution of the Jews in Germany. Therefore I was not a little surprised to see a refugee paper attack me, the both because of his family background as well as his own activity, should be a friend rather than an enemy of the oppressed Jewish minority in Germany. I shall be glad to furnish you with ample evidence of this fact if you would care to call on me in my office. It seems to me that a group of recent immigrants should be very careful of the way in which they pick their enemies. I should

News Research Service of Los Angeles are without any substance whatsoever. As far as the letter of Dr. Herbert Scholz is concerned, it carries all the earmarks of a polite note dictated without much thought to what implications an unfriendly reader might draw. The very fact that the letter was written at all ought to be sufficient proof against the fact that "Today's Challenge" is inspired by German authorities, above all by the Consul in Boston.

After this, Auhagen reaches for his usual philo-Semitic eye-wash, and continues:

....The main reason for my calling you yesterday was to satisfy my own curiosity as to what motives were behind the publication of the above-mentioned article. As I told you, and as many people around New York do know, I have at all times expressed myself against the persecution of the Jews in Germany. Therefore, I was not a little surprised to see a refugee paper (Der Aufbau) attack me, who both because of his family background as well as his own activity, should be a friend rather than an enemy of the oppressed Jewish minority in Germany. I shall be glad to furnish you with ample evidence of this fact if you would care to call on me in my office.

Just to make sure that his eye-wash will take effect, Auhagen reinforces it with an admixture of blatant threat, warning:

....It seems to me that a group of recent immigrants should be very careful of the way in which they pick their enemies. I should think the experiences of your people in Germany might make them just a little more cautious in respect to their actions on this side of the Atlantic. When I first saw it, your article struck me as a rather ill-timed attempt to add another member to the growing anti-Semitic movement in this country.

PAGE TWO TODAY'S CHALLENGE, INC. 11 WEST 42ND ST. NEW YORK, N. Y.

- 2 -

think the experiences of your people in Germany might make them just a little more cautious in respect to their actions on this side of the Atlantic.

When I first saw it, your article struck me as a rather ill-timed attempt to add another member to the growing anti-Semitic movement in this country. Your friendly attitude over the telephone and the reasons you gave for publication persuaded me to regard the whole matter as merely an editorial error and perhaps pardonable carelessness. Since no damage has been done, I let the whole matter rest with this note.

Looking forward to meeting you some day, I am

Sincerely yours,

*F. E. Auhagen*

F. E. Auhagen.

Facsimile of Dr. F. E. Auhagen's letter addressed to Dr. Manfred George, editor of "Der Aufbau". Story on page 2.

The Voice is Jacob's, But....

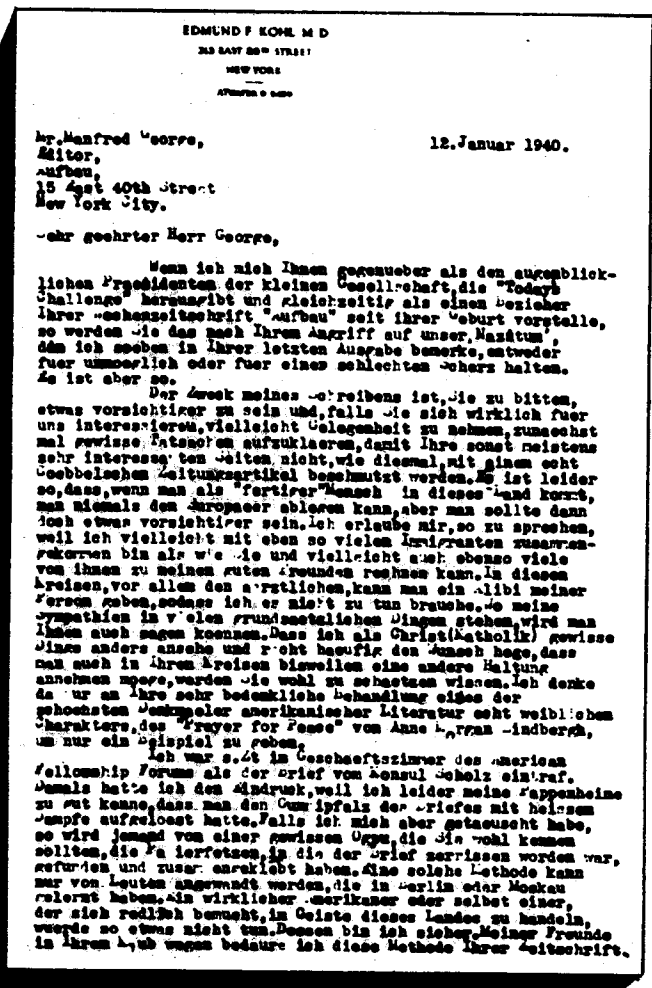
The second letter, received by *Der Aufbau*, is written in German on the private stationery of Dr. Kohl. It is well seasoned with whimsies greatly reminding of what Viereck considers his "own inimitable touches". Accordingly, it opens:

....If I introduce myself to you as the current president of the little group which publishes "Today's Challenge" and also as a sub-

scriber to your weekly paper, the Aufbau, you most likely will consider this impossible or a bad joke. However, this is the case, and I actually have subscribed to your paper ever since its inception.

Parenthetically, it may be inserted here that Kohl subscribed to Aufbau for exactly the same reason that NRS continuously peruses all such subversivist publications as "Today's Challenge", "The Forum Observer", Deutscher Wecker und Beobachter 7), etc., etc. Kohl merely filled the position of what is known as an "exchange editor", in other words, editorial watch-dog.

Assuming a tone of paternal indulgence, Dr. Kohl continues:



....The purpose of my letter is to ask you to be a little more careful. If you are really interested in us, you should take time to clarify certain facts so that your publication, which otherwise is most interesting, does not stoop to smearing in the typical Goebbels manner. Unfortunately, the adult, emigrating to this country, cannot drop all his European habits; nevertheless, he should exert greater care. I take the liberty to speak like this because, in all probability, I have been in contact with as many emigrants as you, and count among my good friends as many emigrants as you do.

Eventually, Kohl inserts into his letter a gratuitous plug for the Lindberghs, upbraiding Dr. George for what he terms

the very dubious manner in which you have treated one of the most beautiful documents of American literature, the "Prayer for Peace", by Ann Morrow Lindbergh.

Then, Kohl refers to a rather surprising coincidence. He just

happened to be in the office of the American Fellowship Forum when the letter from Consul Scholz arrived.... Someone....must have taken the scraps of paper from the waste basket and pasted them together....

Facsimile of first page of Dr. E. F. Kohl's letter to Dr. Manfred George, editor of "Der Aufbau". Story on page 2.

Shades of a Master Mind

Now here again the fine Italian hand of George Sylvester Viereck becomes visible. Author of a confessional volume entitled "Spreading Germs of Hate" (illustration on page 6), describing his pro-Kaiser exploits during World War I, Viereck, in the course of practically a whole lifetime of propagandizing pan-Germanism, has invented certain tricks of his trade of which he is inordinately proud. One of them might be termed "waste-basket consciousness". On this subject, Viereck offers the advice that it is not sufficient to tear up incriminating letters, but that scraps of them must never be dropped into the same waste basket. Fragments should always be divided between at least two waste baskets not in too close proximity to each other or, better still, scattered while walking along the street or -- safest of all -- burned.

In the course of his letter, Kohl resorts to the usual device of confounding anti-Nazism with anti-Semitism. This association of ideas is a dead giveaway, clearly revealing the trend of Kohl's mind. The so-called Jewish question was never referred to by so much as one word in the original NEWS LETTER story, nor in the Aufbau story, based on it. Nevertheless, Kohl reproaches Dr. George, as follows:

....Of course, you sense anti-Semitism behind everything. I, too, consider this problem one of the most important for America. It is too bad that circles which are honestly trying to find a solution to the problem are not receiving any cooperation from the people from whom it could be most expected -- namely, Americans of Jewish faith....As long as I have something to do with it, our periodical will never permit its pages to create, or to aggravate, racial differences. But if this is not enough to satisfy you, and if you should demand that everyone here -- especially if he comes from Central Europe -- must be an absolute hater and an "Anti", then, of course, I cannot go along, because then we would do exactly what the Bohles and their colleagues would like us to do, namely: Coordinate Germandom with National Socialism.

By throwing in Ernest Wilhelm Bohle 8) -- who is in charge of the Nazi A. O. (Foreign Country Organization) -- Kohl dresses up his letter with the slickest Red Herring imaginable. By this psychological twist, he apparently disavows any connection with, or approval of, Nazi propaganda tactics as employed in the United States. However, feeling secure in the knowledge that he has pulled a "fast one", he skids badly when he finishes this particular paragraph with the implied threat that if Dr. George, et al -- supposedly including News Research Service! -- do not mend their ways, Germandom and National Socialism (in the United States) would actually become coordinated.

NEWS LETTER "Under Fire"

On February 5th, continuing his counter-attack against Aufbau and NEWS LETTER, Kohl wrote a letter to NRS, this time in English, in which he closely followed the same tactics to which he resorted when he addressed Dr. George. He starts by again stressing the fact that the Aufbau is a publication which he has received ever since its inception. Then the usual philo-Semitic red herring follows, phrased in these words:

....Many of its (Aufbau) readers are close friends of mine. I am happy to say that I have been able to help many of them in their distress.

Again Kohl assumes a patronizing attitude which, at the same time, constitutes an implied threat, and writes:

ist wohl ueberflüssig, Ihnen zu sagen, dass ich kein Kind bin und genau weiss, was ich tue, wenn ich dort mitarbeite. Es war ein hervorragender amerikanischer juedischer "eligion, der allerdings sein amerikanertum ueber sein Judentum stellte, der sich mit anderen Herren aus christlichen Kreisen dazu ermitigt hat, da mitzumachen, ueber moeglicherweise interessiert die der ganze Komplex so, dass wir uns einmal darueber unterhalten koennten. Ich nicht, so moechte ich Sie und Ihre Mitarbeiter bitten, wenn Sie Kritik ueber uns wollen, diese nicht durch "Schlagzeile" und durch schlaefrige, ganz unbewiesene Verurteilung vorzunehmen, wie es gewoehnlich am Pariser Platz in Berlin ueblich war oder noch ist. Unsere realistische Haltung heisst jede sachliche Kritik willkommen. Wir haben das bereits ganz bedauernd als wir in unserer "Lebzeiten" von Herrn Dr. Karkas einladen, den Herr zu stellen und die Herren so oft zu Worte kommen liessen als wie sie es nur wuenschen konnten. Wir haben es noch vor einigen Wochen gesagt als wir den liberalen Prof. Frederick L. Schuman von Williams College College hielt haben, einen fuer unser Publikum hervorragend erzieherischen Vortrag zu halten, der alles anders als deutschfreundlich war.

Die wittern ueberall ueberall wieder Antisemitismus. Auch ich halte persoenlich dieses Problem fuer eine der wichtigsten fuer Amerika. Leider er-alten diejenigen Kreise, die wirklich ehrlich an der Loesung der Probleme arbeiten, gar keine Unterstuetzung von denjenigen, von denen man es am meisten erwarten sollte, naemlich von den Amerikanern juedischen Glaubens. Vielleicht haben Sie die letzte Nummer des "Forum" gelesen, die den sehr bezeichnenden Aufsatz enthaelt betitelt: "Was a...". Wir haben Sie etwas Positives, mit dem Sie u d Ihre Mitarbeiter auseinandersetzen sollten, weil es eine Herausforderung bedeutet, der Sie in der naechsten Zeit nur zu oft bereuen werden. Wir wuerden sogar unsere Blaetter denjenigen zur Verfuegung stellen, der wirklich objektiv und wahrhaftig zu dieser Frage Stellung nehmen wuerde. Bisher hat sich leider niemand gemeldet. Sie werden aber ein bestimmt finden: unsere Zeitschrift wird sich niemals, solange ich etwas dabei zu sagen habe, dazu hergeben, Falschungen zu pflanzeln oder gar zu verschaeffeln. Man das aber noch nicht reuenen sollte und Sie gar verlangen sollten, dass jeder hier, besonders wenn er mittel-europaeischer Abstammung ist, absoluter "Anti" und "Anti" sein muss, dann allerdings kann ich nicht mitmachen, denn damit wuerden wir gerade das tun, was drueben die Bohles und Genossen gerne wahr haben moechten. Gemachlich Deutschtum und Nationalsozialismus gleichsetzen. Ich bin lange genug in Amerika und habe diese Land, seine Geschichte und seinen Charakter genau studiert, um klar zu wissen, dass das auf die Dauer Unsin ist u d schliesslich wie ein Boomerang wirken wird. Lesen Sie bitte meinen Aufsatz in der letzten Nummer von "Day's Challenge" durch, um zu erfahren, was ich meine.

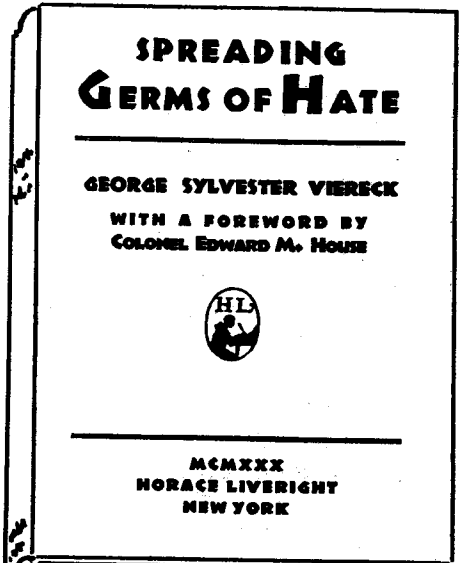
War habe ich nunmehr mehr gesagt als ich urspruenglich beabsichtigte, aber ich werde es ohne Verbesserung stehen lassen. Ich erwarte aber, dass Sie diese Zeilen vertraulich behandeln, da es mir nicht liegt, fruchtlose Auseinandersetzungen anzufangen, sondern, wenn moeglich, darauf hinzuwirken, dass man Optimist sein darf, selbst wenn man eine gewisse Hoffnung hegt, dass es noch Dinge gibt, die gemeinsam erloebt werden koennten. Daher sind wir ja schliesslich in den Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika.

Mit will ich aber schliessen.

Es empfielt sich Ihnen  
Ihr Erbeiner  
Manfred F. Kohl

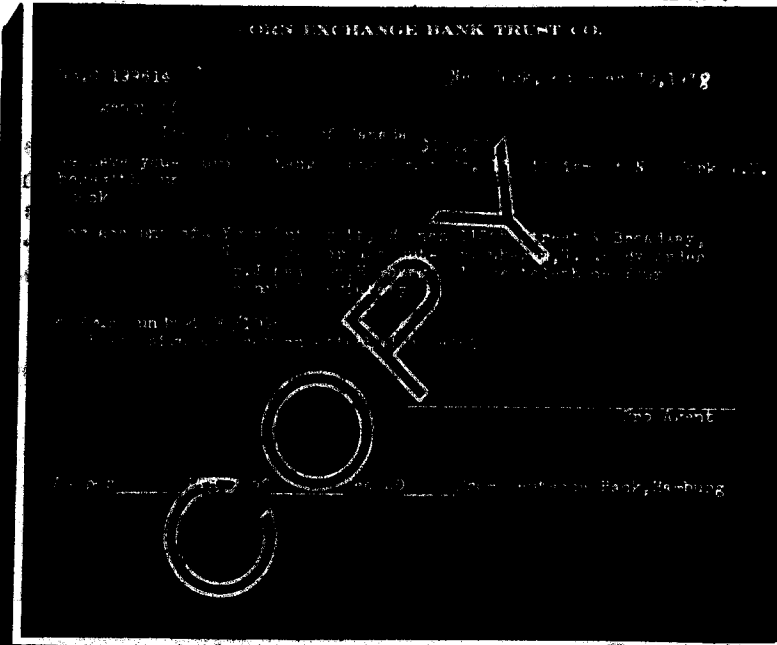
Facsimile of second page of Dr. E. F. Kohl's letter to Dr. Manfred George, editor of "Der Aufbau". Story on page 2.

My answer to your "exposure" went to Mr. Manfred George, the editor of the weekly. I felt I should warn my friends not to fall into a trap. They had enough experience in Europe with Goebbels, Himmler and the Gestapo. I also want them to learn that the United States is different and wants to remain different. We regard it as un-American (!) to imitate, on our (!) soil, Gestapo or OGPU methods; to pilfer the mail of fellow countrymen (!), to slander them, telling half truths about them, before checking very carefully on all underlying facts. It is my sincere wish that my friends and their fellow sufferers purge themselves of the poison they had to swallow in small or large quantities in Europe during the last seven years. In many instances, it had a devastating effect and leaves us with the impression that Goebbels left an indelible mark on our Jewish refugees. After all, hate is only love in reverse. We here do not have to wear masks. Our Americanism is sincere and deeply rooted. We believe that it is our duty to contribute only constructive work in behalf of our country. (Emphasis by NRS) It is the privilege of any man or woman, who wants to learn something about our groups and their personals (sic!) to receive full information about every phase and development.



Reproduction of title page of G. S. Viereck's confessional "Spreading Germs of Hate". It is in this book that Viereck rather proudly relates his propagandistic exploits during the Kaiser's War, before and after the United States entered the conflict. Story on page 4.

Assuming that their counter-attack had completely squelched their first objective, i.e., the Aufbau, and that their barrage could now be directed at NEWS LETTER, Dr. Kohl's sortie was presently supported by another letter received by NRS. It came from none other than Herr Doktor Herbert Scholz. Following the all too familiar camouflage pattern, the Reich Consul's statement under (3) over-stresses his democratic orientation to such an extent as to become improbable, when he says:



....I think I have the liberty and right to say this to any American citizen who communicates with me regardless whether he is a publisher, my dentist or my banker. "Problems" exist, as far as I can conceive, in many lines of human life.

"This", in Dr. Scholz' letter, refers to his promise in his letter to Auhagen that he will

not neglect to telephone you the next time that I am in New York, so that we may discuss various problems.

Reproduction of letter to Dr. F. E. Auhagen, advising him of arrival of check from Germany.

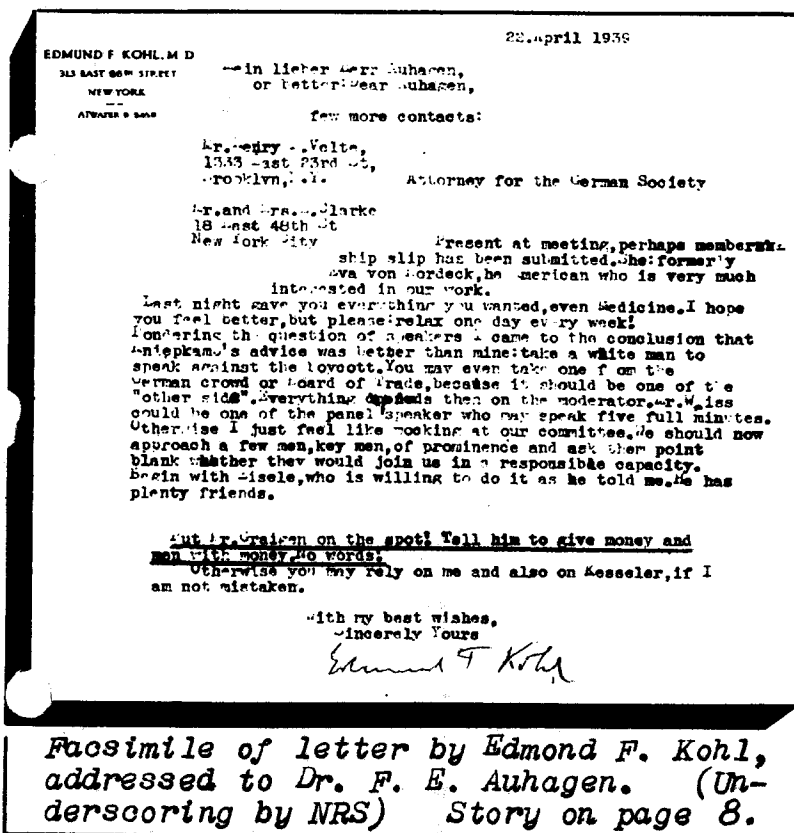
The Man Who "Cannot See"

Indeed, the Herr Konsul, according to his letter

cannot see why the expression "so that we may discuss various problems" can furnish proof that Dr. Auhagen is actually guided by the advice of Reich-officials.

Under Point (2), Dr. Scholz indulges in a definite misstatement by protesting that again

....I cannot see why the opening "Dear Auhagen!" should testify to the closest cooperation between Auhagen and myself. In fact, if I address somebody like this in German, it is rather formal, otherwise I would call him Freddy, Fred or Fritz. (His first name is Friedrich, as far as I know.)



Dr. Scholz, born and bred in Germany and completely imbued with the spirit of the Fatherland, cannot help knowing that the formal way to address Auhagen would have been *Sehr geehrter Herr Doktor Auhagen* (Very esteemed Dr. Auhagen). If a German government official in a letter on official stationery, addresses someone as "Dear Auhagen", it may absolutely be taken for granted that he is on intimate terms with that particular person. To make a statement to the contrary is as incorrect as it is fallacious of Dr. Scholz. Surely, if Auhagen was a stranger to him and he was merely conforming to

a well known and polite custom to thank a publisher who sends you a copy of a new magazine, regardless whether it is a political or other publication,

he certainly would not have blatantly overstepped the boundaries of German custom by addressing this "stranger" so familiarly as "Dear Auhagen"!

Besides, as shall be proved presently, Auhagen was by no means a stranger to official Germany (see pages 8 and 10.)

Not only Dr. Scholz rushed into the fray, but also Herr George Sylvester Viereck. Indeed, he acted as vanguard when writing to NRS a letter (facsimile on page 1) which is completely self-explanatory. For good measure, it contains one of Viereck's "inimitable touches" in its very last paragraph, where he asks for "at least two more copies of #41 for my files and my scrap book". He most assuredly would need "at least two": One for his personal scrap book and another for his boss, Doktor Goebbels.

It is a rule of the Reich Propaganda Ministry that their agents in foreign countries must, from time to time, submit printed evidence showing to what extent they have exerted, and made martyrs of, themselves in the interest of the Fatherland. Viereck is admittedly an agent of a foreign principal in the meaning of the McCormack Law. After being shown up as such by NRS on September 14, 1939, he eventually complied with this law and filed his name with the Depart-

ment of State, as described in NEWS LETTER of October 26, 1939 and August 28, 1940.

According to NRS....

With the publication of the so-called Dies White Book, all protestations on the part of *Herren* Auhagen, Kohl, Viereck, et al, have been proved completely fallacious; at the same time, it is borne out that NRS was absolutely correct in all its statements.

As regards Auhagen and his connections with the German government, there is now on public record an advice (illustration on page 6) from the Corn Exchange Bank and Trust Company of New York City to the Royal Bank of Canada, acknowledging remittance from Germany to Auhagen.

**GEORGE SYLVESTER VIERECK**  
 385 Riverside Drive  
 New York

APR 12 1939      April 11th, 1939.

Mr. Manfred Zapp,  
 Transoceanic Service,  
 241 Madison Avenue,  
 New York City.


Dear Mr. Zapp:

I have been reading your Transoceanic Service with great interest. It seems to me that it is of great value to a newspaper that has no American service, but it is not of great value, except as a means of checking up, to any newspaper regularly serviced by any of the great American agencies.

I have read your service very carefully, but have found very little that was not printed in the American newspapers. This may be due to the fact that the American news agencies receive a great deal of their material from the same sources as you do in Germany. It may be, of course, that I am mistaken.

It seems to me that before you can sell your service to anyone here, you would have to check up very carefully for a period of a few weeks, and point out to any possible American purchaser news items covered by you, which were not covered by the other services. As a matter of fact, the value of your service might be increased, if you give it even more distinctly a pro-German slant; if you give the newspapers those things which their own correspondents do not send them from Germany and Italy.

These are purely my personal impressions, which I hope you will not take amiss. I may be entirely wrong.

Sincerely yours,  


OSV:FO.

This check is only one of many, all proving how closely Auhagen and the German government cooperated, making it altogether clear why Dr. Scholz enjoyed such friendly relations with the publisher of pro-Nazi "Today's Challenge", addressing him so familiarly.

Additional records now confirm the fact that Auhagen and Kohl were working hand in hand. In view of this, it is not the least bit surprising that, as Kohl wrote in his letter to Dr. George, he "happened to be in the office of the American Fellowship Forum" when Consul Scholz' letter arrived.

For a medical man, Kohl, in his correspondence with Auhagen, certainly revealed that he possesses a mentality which parallels that of a member of Hitler's general staff. This is graphically borne out in his letter (illustration on page 7) to Auhagen, dated April 22, 1939, especially in a line which orders Auhagen:

*Put Mr. Graigen on the spot!  
Tell him to give money and men with money. No words!*

In reference to Viereck, one of the documents now on file is a letter of advice (illustration on this page), dated April 11, 1939. As shown in NEWS LETTER of August 28, 1940, Viereck had hired himself out to Dr. Heinz Beller<sup>9</sup>), representing the Nazi authorities in this transaction, to be "at your disposal for editorial conferences whenever mutually convenient". That particular letter of Viereck's, accepting the propaganda assignment from the Nazis, was brimful of his "inimitable" and, at the same time, unmistakable touches. It was indited in exactly the same vein of caution in which Viereck wrote to Manfred Zapp<sup>10</sup>) of "Transocean Service"<sup>11</sup>), treating him to advice which only a veteran propagandist could offer on how to overcome the resistance of the American press against Goebbels-concocted Transocean "news".

Facsimile of letter of advice by George Sylvester Viereck, addressed to Dr. Manfred Zapp of Transocean Service. Story on this page.



There is nothing in Viereck's letter to Zapp -- analogous to the letter which Viereck wrote to Beller -- that he could not explain away if necessary. It indicates that Viereck, knowing the American press, its customs and idiosyncracies, is regarded by the Nazis as the most expert adviser on propaganda matters they could hire in this country.

However, it seems that, despite Viereck's expert advice, Transocean Service did not succeed in infiltrating the American press front. When sales resistance became too sustained, Zapp wrote to *Regierungsrat* (State Counselor) Günther Altenburg of the Reich Foreign Office (illustration on this page). This was after the outbreak of the war, and meanwhile Zapp had certainly acted on Viereck's advice. Nevertheless, Transocean had not made much progress. Summing up his negative results when approaching American newspapers, Zapp

wrote as follows to the Berlin Nazi official, according to the translation:

*I am trying to take advantage of current conditions and make people curious about Transocean. If we can provide more first-rate material and more news than the others, such as AP and UP, we shall be able in time to attain our objective here. It will be necessary to develop our Transocean service in Berlin so as to provide more exclusive news -- news that is not available to AP and UP. I have the impression that we Germans continue to make the mistake of being more courteous to foreigners than to our own fellow countrymen, and as an indication of this we give foreign agencies earlier and better opportunities than we give German agencies. If we could get Transocean reporters to go to the front and interview generals as well as privates, that would be exclusive news that we could get into the American press. The same would be true of interviews with, and statements made by, U-boat commanders. It would all take an enormous amount of time, effort, hard work and the conquest of opposition. But without it we cannot count on success. No effort, no monetary sacrifice that would bring us nearer to our goal ought to be considered too great. If you could support Transocean in this, you certainly would so something really worthwhile. (Underscoring by NRS)*

17. Oktober 1939.

Herrn Geheimrat  
Guenther Altenburg,  
Auswertiges Amt,  
Berlin.

Mein lieber Guenther!

Ein Freund von mir aus New York schreibt in diesem Tagen auf demogen nach Deutschland und ich benutze diese Gelegenheit um Ihnen aus dem Ausland etwas zu schreiben. In der Bearbeitung der US öffentlichen Meinung die grösste Sache. Durch gemeinsame Unterhaltung kommen wir immer wieder auf neue Wege, die wir einschlagen, die aber leider nur allzu häufig auf die Dauer ungangbar sind. Wir lassen hier jedenfalls nichts unversucht. Wenn wir auch bisher noch keine Erfolge erzielt haben, so brauch ich das jedoch nicht abmahnen, immer wieder neue Versuche und Experimente zu machen. Jetzt stelle ich alle die Transoceannachrichten der letzten Monate den Nachrichten der Konkurrenz gegenüber, in denen wir die Konkurrenz zeitlich und inhaltlich geschlagen haben. Auch dies hat nicht viel geholfen. Immer wieder mache ich solche Versuche, jedoch vergebens. Und das ist enttäuschend.

Bei sorgfältigen Lesen der amerikanischen Presse fällt jedoch auf, dass Transocean hin und wieder zitiert wird. Ich habe ferner festgestellt, dass ein grosser Teil der Transoceannachrichten von der grossen Presse aus der Luft direkt gestohlen wird und der Redaktionen zu Informationszwecken vorliegt. So erhalten wir wenigstens auf diese Weise Eingang in die amerikanische Presse, wenn es auch ausserlich nicht sichtbar ist.

Ich versuche, die Konjunktur der jetzigen Zeit auszunutzen und die Leute auf Transocean neugierig zu machen. Wenn wir mehr Qualitätsware und mehr Nachrichten bringen, die die anderen, wie UP und AP nicht haben, dann kommen wir mit der Zeit hier durch das rreichen, was wir wollen. Wir müssen in Berlin unseren Transoceandienst so ausbauen, dass wir mehr exklusive Nachrichten bringen, die AP und UP nicht zur Verfügung stehen. Ich habe den Eindruck, dass wir Deutsche immer noch auf dem Fehler verfallen, Ausländern gegenüber höflicher zu sein als gegenüber den eigenen Landsleuten und infolgedessen auch den ausländischen Agenturen früher und mehr Gelegenheit geben als der eigenen deutschen Agentur. Wenn es uns gelingen sollte, dass Transocean-Berichterstatler an die Front gehen und dort Interviews mit Heerführern und Soldaten erhalten, so wären das exklusive Meldungen, mit denen wir in die amerikanische Presse kommen könnten. Ebenso steht es mit den Interviews und Aussagen der U-Boot-Kommandanten. Es kostet dies alles enorm viel Zeit, Mühe, Kleinarbeit und Überwindung von Widerständen, um dies zu erreichen. Ohne das kommen wir aber auf Erfolg hier nicht rechnen. Keine Mühe, kein Geldopfer, selbst in Devisen, sollten zu gross sein, um uns der Erreichung unserer Ziele nachzubringen.

Wenn Du Transocean hierin unterstützen könntest, tätest Du ein ganz grosses Werk. Du kannst Dir nicht vorstellen, wie schwer wir es hier draussen haben und wenn ich nicht wüsste, dass Herr von Kemper bei Transocean wirklich alles, was in seinem Kräftefeld steht, tut, um uns zu unterstützen und wenn er nicht so tüchtig und energiegelad wäre, so hätte ich sicherlich hier schon die Flinte ins Korn geworfen und meine Aufgabe als unlosbar aufgegeben. Kemper hat

Dich und Deine Gattin in alter Freundschaft herzlichst mit

Heil Hitler!

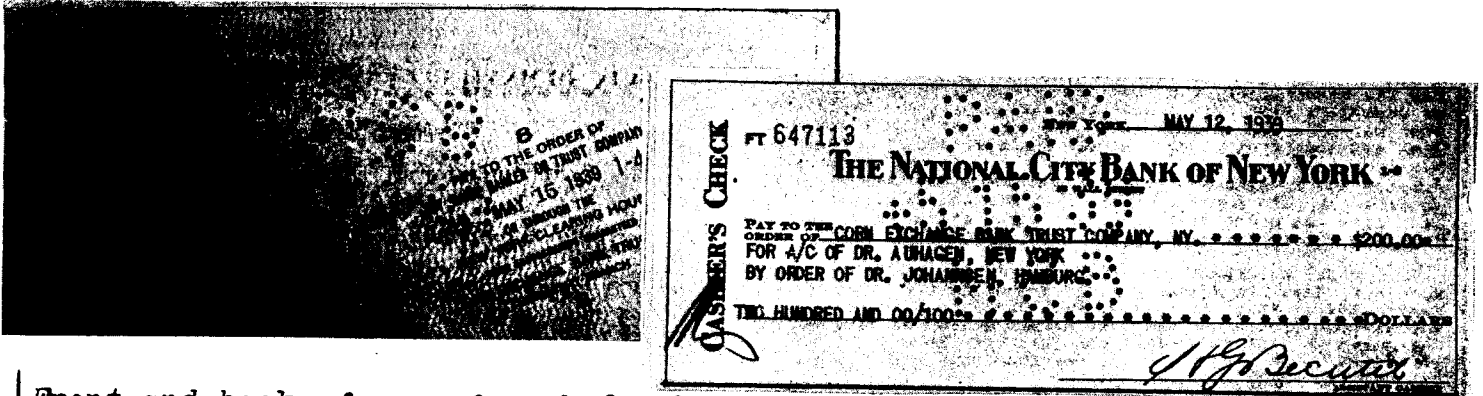
Dein

Facsimile of memorandum by Dr. Manfred Zapp addressed to "Regierungsrat" (State Counselor) Guenther Altenburg. Story on this page.

"Something really worthwhile" refers, of course, to Zapp's endeavor to infiltrate the United States with Nazi ideology. This is the cherished goal of the Auhagens, Kohls, Viereck's, et al, when they speak of "our country" in reference to the United States. What they really mean -- and they are proving it right along by their very actions -- is *Unser Amerika* <sup>12)</sup> in the sense in which Colin Ross <sup>13)</sup> used this term as the title for his most brazen propaganda volume.

Although their tongue-in-cheek "Americanism" has been evident ever since they went to work, boring from within the United States and spreading their germs of hate toward national disunion, they wrapped themselves so smugly in Old Glory as to scare off many a publisher from printing the truth as he knew it. Others, refusing to be intimidated, were threatened with libel suits. It is interesting to note that, although many of these actions have been threatened, most of them were withdrawn before trial date, and that NOT ONE OF THEM WAS WON in the face of evidence, ready for submission to the court.

Nevertheless, US Nazis of variegated hues still continue to misuse the American flag for camouflage purposes. They must be watched all the closer since, with their Day of Judgment near, they are liable to resort to more and more protective coloring to escape detection.



Front and back of one of a whole sheaf of cancelled checks, proving that Auhagen received monies through one "Dr. Johannsen, Hamburg". Employment of go-betweens is the usual procedure by which the Reich Propaganda Ministry tries to cover its tracks.

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For additional information on names and facts referred to, see back issues as follows: 1)-#109; #97; #82; 2)-#108; #51; #41; #37; 3)-#97; #96; #64; 4)-#97; #82; #64; 5)-#97; #64; #41; 6)-#97; #82; 7)-#113; #106; #102; 8)-#103; #77; 9)-#103; 10)-#105; 11)-#108; #105; #84; 12)-#96; #84; #32; 13)-#103; #66; #48.

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