

# NEWS LETTER

Published by News Research Service, Inc., 727 W. Seventh Street, Los Angeles, California

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Figures in Text indicate Reference Notes at end of Issue.

No. 119. December 11, 1940

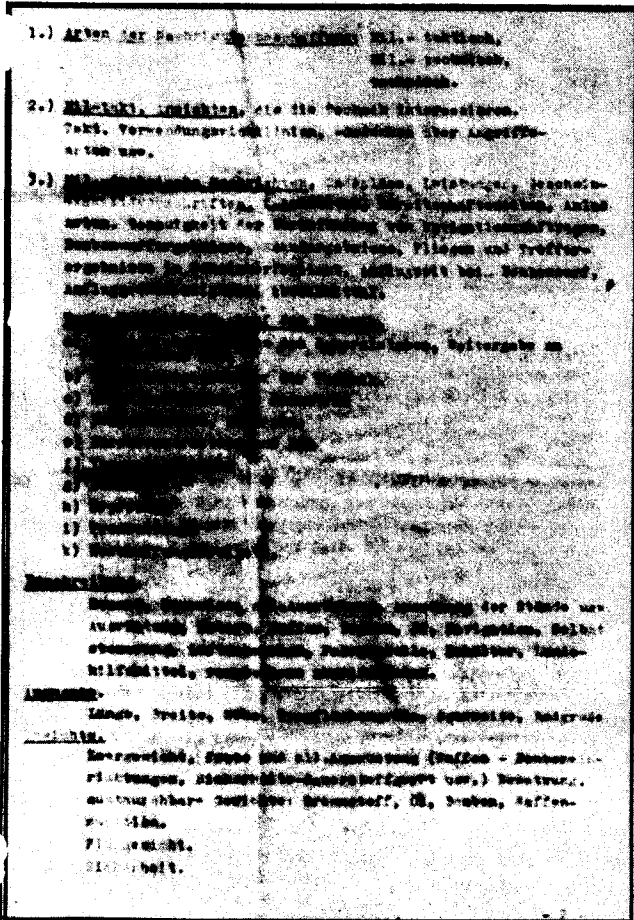
## SPYING ON THE ASSEMBLY LINE

Gestapo methods, applied to espionage, employ the assembly line principle in two different, yet closely allied, manipulations. Military data are collected not only on the actual floor of the factory where armament is manufactured; the assembly line principle is also observed in the piecing together of shreds of apparently unrelated and nondescript information. Eventually, after much indexing and cross-indexing in Berlin, a complete picture emerges from this espionage jigsaw puzzle for the *Kriegs-Ministerium* (War Office) expert.

Time was when espionage technique required a single individual to procure what practically amounted to a complete set of plans pertaining to a specific subject. This technique was hazardous and extremely costly. Besides, very few spies succeeded in manoeuvring themselves into key positions where they could actually steal all the required data. Now, according to a new technique, which the German *Kriegs-Ministerium* may rightfully claim as the intellectual

offspring of its Intelligence Department, information is secured piece-meal -- frequently by none too bright sub-spies -- and then assembled by a specialist. Originally geared to cunning minds, spying has now been simplified to such an extent that the I.Q. required is that of so-called *Unterofficiers-Begriffsvermögen* (noncom mentality).

To facilitate spying in the various spheres of armament activities in which the *Kriegs-Ministerium* is interested, rules and regulations have now been codified in a series of Manuals of Spying. In view of the enormous importance which aviation plays in Hitler's War, the Manual of Aircraft Spying is especially interesting. From its files, NRS reproduces a number of pages from this textbook. It is entrusted to "prospects" in the form of a minute set of microfilms, made from typewritten sheets, and reduced to pin-point measurements. Instructions thus issued can be read only by means of a high-powered reading glass. If enlarged too much -- as, for example, for the purpose of reproduction -- these pages become blurred. Photographic reduction was resorted to not only because a tiny pack of films can be handed on from one man to another under the guise of a handshake, but also because of its inflammatory nature; it



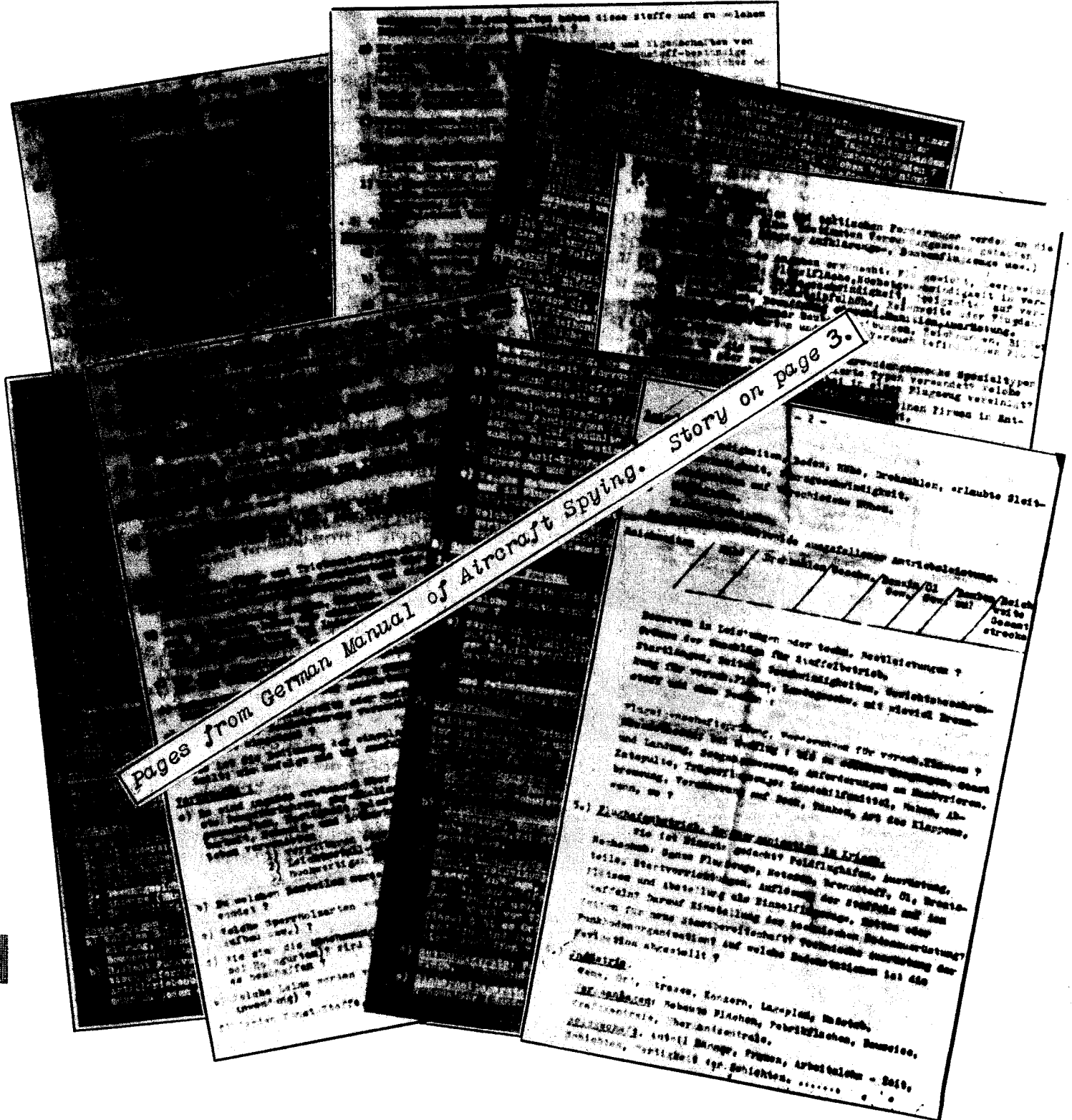
First page of German Manual of Aircraft Spying. Story on page 3.

can be destroyed by the mere touch of a burning cigarette.

How to Steal Armament Secrets

The Manual of Aircraft Spying, reproduced in part on page 1 and below, constitutes the latest edition of a highly specialized handbook put out by the *Luftwaffe-Nachrichtenbeschaffung* (Air Corps Intelligence Service). One of many similar questionnaires, it bears all the earmarks of compilation by a veritable platoon of super-experts.

This Manual, on its very first page (illustration on page 1), strikingly attests to the painstaking care with which the questionnaire has been prepared.



Its introductory queries are arranged as follows:

- 1.) Methods of Information Procurement: military-tactical,  
military-technical,  
general technical.
- 2.) Military-Tactical Opinions of technological interest:  
Principles of general tactical employment. -- Ideas on methods of offensive use (and so on).
- 3.) Military-Technical Information, stowage diagrams; scales of efficiency; speed instructions; radii of action (etc., etc.).

In the course of this questionnaire, special information is solicited in reference to seaplanes; their equipment; engines in general and details of engine construction; flying gear, generally and specifically; information regarding blind flying; general and specific safety measures; armament and ammunition, generally and specifically; chemical equipment; photographic equipment; camouflage, and many others.

The questions are phrased so simply that practically any man who can read German -- no knowledge of English is required! -- can answer at least a few of them. It is by no means necessary for the man working in the assembly line to know what he is doing, as long as he can describe a screw or a bolt, and as long as the next man -- unbeknown to the first and in answer to his own questionnaire -- describes what he did with that particular screw and bolt, and how he put them together.

By this method, no man working in an airplane factory, who is willing to do a bit of spying for the *Kriegs-Ministerium*, can possibly be so stupid as not to furnish some information. Eventually, all this data is put together by an expert, yielding very valuable information.

In connection with the Reich's A-B-C of spying, as embodied in its various manuals, it is not so surprising that experimental aircraft of highly confidential design is occasionally -- maybe even more than occasionally! -- destroyed for "reasons unknown".

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A NAZI BY ANY OTHER NAME....

Time: Tuesday, December 3, 1940.

Place: The Auditorium of the Central Junior High School at 551 South Hill St., Los Angeles, Cal.

That Night....

At curtain, that well-known "milling crowd" is seen which usually hangs around political shindigs. Among them may be observed quite a number of men and women who seem to bear on their foreheads the invisible Sign of Cain in the form of a swastika. These are Bundits and Bundettes and assorted breeds of native termites who have come for the express purpose of infiltrating a thoroughly American group, assembled to attend one of the weekly meetings of the Los Angeles County Willkie Club.

When the usual hustle and bustle of opening such a meeting has subsided, one Kenneth Alexander <sup>1)</sup> takes the floor to introduce, with flamboyant speechifying, "that well-known, outstanding, blah-blah-blah Professor Wilson, who has rushed directly to Los Angeles from New York headquarters of the Willkie Clubs in order to give us details of the future plans of this organization". Others join in the call for the "New York Willkie Club leader" to take the platform.

Amidst a murmur of appreciation and anticipation, "Professor Wilson" now ascends the rostrum and, in the manner of an experienced lecturer, pulls from

his pocket a typewritten manuscript. Assuming his best oratorical manner, he first reads a few points which are rather well taken. Then he announces the "document" in his hand to be "the platform to be adopted by the national headquarters of the Willkie Clubs at a meeting to be held some time in December".

It is the first occasion on which a direct representative of the national group has honored the local Willkie Club, and at first the "Professor" is heard with bated breath. As he proceeds, doubt and then dismay register on the faces of those on the platform. It veritably explodes as the "Professor" proceeds with the alleged 25-point program of the Willkie Clubs of America. There is a growing impatience in the crowd, and audible dissent. But the Wise Man from the East remains unruffled, and continues to read the next points, as follows:

The government thru a self-liquidating instrument of credit in each and every state, will pay \$100 per month for life to every senior citizen 50 years of age or over who wishes to retire from active service, providing he or she has fulfilled the required citizenship duties of voting at election periods.

All boys and girls who are citizens of the United States, if they so desire, will receive a cash birthright from the government by filing for same on their 21st birthday. This birthright will be financed by a YOUTH FUND--All income and inheritance tax, dead bank accounts, also government legalized sweepstakes will go to support this movement.

It is after this plank of a preposterous economic creed has been pronounced that bedlam breaks loose. Shouts of "Communist", "Faker", "Nazi", "Throw him out!" come from all parts of the hall. Scattered groups of vociferous individuals merge into one mass, who rush the Man from Manhattan from the platform by the scruff of the neck. A milling crowd surrounds him, and "Professor" Wilson is asked to explain. His explanation fails to click with his audience. He stutters and stammers and looks around for support, but his Bundit, Shirt and Klan sponsors have discreetly disappeared. Someone shouts: "Let the old fool alone!" and the "Professor" slinks out to join his fellow conspirators.

#### Comes the Dawn....

The meeting eventually breaks up, and subsequent NRS research reveals that the "platform", allegedly adopted by the New York headquarters of the Willkie Clubs, is a hoax. It is in fact a rehash of the printed platform (reproduction above) of the Nazi-affiliated American Guards. This is the same organization which was exposed in NEWS LETTER of September 25, 1940.

It is also learned that the "Professor" is one of the Los Angeles organizers of the American Guards, functioning under the leadership of Colonel F. H. Palmer 2) who was among those present at the Willkie meeting! Among the several assorted termites who vouched for the "Professor" was Kenneth Alexander, the Southern California leader of William Dudley Pelley's 3) Silver Shirts and a close associate of the Western Bund Führer, Hermann Schwinn 4).

If this political intermezzo was at all funny, it was only so for the informed bystander. It was an interlude by no means amusing as far as the Willkie Club movement is concerned, since it shows that attempts are being made to undermine it by members of the Nazi-directed United Front 5). In future, these termites may be expected to resort to all kinds of tricks to muscle their way into these organizations. Bundits and other Nazis of similar hue have consistently tried to "kidnap" Willkie during the presidential campaign by means of such silly artifices as playing up his German descent, at the same time seeking to exploit his political opposition to F.D.R.

Last week's incident demonstrates that, under one disguise or another, the United Front is still busy. Its recent fiasco gives no assurance that some other camouflage may not be adopted. Indeed, Willkie Club organizers and leaders may expect that more subtle and ingenious stunts will be concocted in the future by subversive elements to seize control of their locals. After all, a Nazi by any other name....".

For additional information on names and facts referred to, see back issues as follows: 1)-#78; #71; 2)-#107; 3)-#115; #56; #34; 4)-#114; #70; 5)-#101; #97.

# RESEARCH SUPPLEMENT

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No. 120. December 11, 1940

## "ONLY TOPNOTCHERS NEED APPLY!"

Unless a Goebbels retainer is absolutely "tops" in his particular propaganda specialty, he hasn't a ghost of a chance of being entrusted with so important an assignment as an executive post in the United States. Dr. Manfred Zapp <sup>1)</sup>, guiding spirit of "Transocean Service" <sup>2)</sup>, now languishing in the purgatory of a Federal Grand Jury investigation, is one -- and in all probability, the most outstanding -- case in point.

Time was when civilized governments, including the German, maintained three different avenues of contact with foreign countries. One consisted of bona fide diplomatic relations; another of bona fide consular representations; and a third of bona fide journalistic agencies. This happy state of affairs lasted, as far as Reich-United States relations were concerned, until the outbreak of the Kaiser's War. Then all these three avenues of conduct were speedily, but not too effectively, debased into adjuncts of German propaganda and sabotage activities.

Deutsche Gesellschaft

Previa, den 21. Oktober 1938.

Lieber Herr Zapp!

Ihr Schreiben vom 10. v. M. nebst allen Anlagen habe ich erhalten. Ich danke Ihnen für Ihre Mitteilungen, die mich wie immer sehr interessiert haben. Es ist schade, daß Sie durch Ihre Entsendung nach Amerika nunmehr dem südafrikanischen Gesichtskreis entzogen werden. Ich denke mir aber, daß Ihr neuer Aufgabenkreis für Sie selbst interessanter sein wird. Sie werden arbeits eine ganze Reihe von Personen treffen, die ich in den Jahren meines dortigen Aufenthaltes kennengelernt habe. Ich bin sicher, daß sie Ihnen, wenn Sie sich auf mich beziehen, gerne helfen werden.

Ich wünsche Ihnen ebenfalls für Ihre dortige Tätigkeit viel Erfolg und brauche nicht hinzuzufügen, daß es mich freuen würde, gelegentlich wieder von Ihnen zu hören.

Mit wiederholtem Dank für Ihr Schreiben, den besten Grüßen und

Heil Hitler!

Ihr ergebener

*Leitner*

Dr. Manfred Zapp  
1111 N. 1st St.

San Francisco 32

With the end of the World War, legitimate relations along conventional lines were re-established once more, and lasted as long as the democratic German Republic was in the saddle. However, at the outbreak of the Hitler Era, all pre-Nazi diplomatic, consular and journalistic agencies of contact were successively *gleichgeschaltet* (coordinated). Finally, fused into a most efficient Three-in-One combination, they set to work. The results are only now becoming evident.

Since the Zapp case currently furnishes the most spectacular illustration of Nazism's Unholy Triumvirate as it carries on propaganda and, perhaps, worse, NEWS LETTER herewith presents a step-by-step account of this particular Propaganda Pilgrim's Progress. It will also be shown how three, apparently unrelated, agencies of contact are, in reality, closely integrated, with one frequently serving as cover for the other. Just as Reich Consul Herbert Scholz <sup>3)</sup> of Boston guided, by remote control, the editorial policies of "Today's Challenge" <sup>4)</sup>, so Dr. Rudolf Leitner <sup>5)</sup>, Reich Minister to the Union of South Africa, mentored Dr. Zapp when

Facsimile of letter written by Rudolf Leitner and addressed to Manfred Zapp. Story on page 3.

he won his Nazi propaganda spurs in Pretoria and Johannesburg.

Leitner served as Counselor of the German Embassy in Washington, D. C., from 1931 to 1936, after having been Consul in Chicago from 1925 to 1927. Originally posing as a loyal supporter of the German Republic, Leitner switched to the Nazi side as soon as the swastika rose over the political scene. Whether Leitner was just a political quick-change artist or had been in cahoots with the Nazis prior to their emergence, is irrelevant at this particular juncture. However, it is important to record that, when Leitner returned in 1936 to the meanwhile Nazified Reich, he went there to assume the most important post of Chief of the American Division of the Foreign Office.

Zapp on the Up-grade

Around that time, Zapp was engaged in Nazi propaganda work in the Union of South Africa. He had landed there after cruising up and down the world as a traveling salesman of Hitlerism. Indeed, he had drummed up trade in practically all European capitals, including the Balkans. Zapp was one of the few Reich journalists who had been trusted to serve in Moscow; indeed, he stayed there once for a period of six months, and subsequently returned to Russia time and again as correspondent for such leading newspapers as the *Frankfurter Zeitung* and the *Berliner Börsen Zeitung*. Then, he was stationed in Japan for a year. Upon the outbreak of the Manchurian campaign, he immediately repaired to China.

Thereafter, wherever Fascist uprisings and aggressions were under way, Zapp put in his appearance. He was in Ethiopia when Mussolini fell upon that unhappy country, and he was in Spain when Franco started from the Mediterranean on his march to the Atlantic.

When Zapp was in South Africa, it soon became obvious that he had not come to discharge journalistic duties alone, but that his intentions were far more ambitious and sinister. He made it a point to frequent the lobbies of the South African parliament and to scrape acquaintances with as many government officials as possible. In this way, he collected "useful" information. He was especially anxious to get on the right side of leading politicians and captains of industry. At the same time, Zapp strained every effort to obtain intimate glimpses of South African economy. That he had been extremely circumspect in all these activities became evident when, after the outbreak of Hitler's War, the German Zeesen Radio Station broadcast material which made effective capital out of South Africa's major economic difficulties.

Dr. Manfred Zapp  
.....  
Berlin W. 15, d. 10.9.1938.  
Fasanenstr.32.

An den Deutschen Gesandten  
Herrn Rudolf Leitner  
Pretoria  
Süd-Afrika

Sehr geehrter Herr Gesandter!

Wie versprochen. möchte ich Ihnen alle Unterlagen zusenden über die Schritte, die ich zur Bearbeitung der südafrikanischen Presse unternommen habe. Ich verspreche mir von der Durchführung meiner Vorschläge nicht viel, da es an der Personalfrage zu scheitern scheint. Jedenfalls habe ich mein Möglichstes getan, um das zu verwirklichen, was mir das einzig Erfolgversprechende zu sein scheint.

Trasseezen sendet mich nun nach Amerika, morgen werde ich Deutschland verlassen und mich meinem neuen Arbeitsgebiet zuwenden. Dort werde ich wahrscheinlich mit wesentlich größeren Schwierigkeiten zu kämpfen haben, als in Südafrika. Südafrika werde ich jedoch nicht vergessen und nach meiner Rückkehr aus Amerika in 1 - 2 Jahren vielleicht doch noch einmal bearbeiten können. Mit Heil Hitler bleibe ich

Ihr sehr ergebener

Anlagen.

Facsimile of letter written by Manfred Zapp and addressed to Rudolf Leitner. Story on page 3.

At the same time that Zapp mingled with South African industrialists, politicians and government officials, he maintained very close contact with Nazi and quasi-Nazi organizations throughout South Africa, especially that region which originally had been known as German Southwest Africa. It was his intention to coordinate all propaganda activities and thus whip into shape all German "racial groups" so they might serve as efficient infiltration bases. Eventually, these South African Nazi cells were to establish contact with similar cells in South America and North America, thus weaving a net of propaganda between the two continents. NEWS LETTER, in issues of March 28 and April 4, 1940, exposed these machinations, at the same time furnishing documentary proof.

Trained for a Prize Post

Within the time of Zapp's activities, Leitner was German Minister in Pretoria where he had been sent after serving at the Foreign Office in Berlin. During his Pretoria tenure, Leitner came to know Zapp intimately; he also came to the conclusion that here was the man who was predestined to pluck so luscious a propaganda plum as the United States. Knowing American newspaperdom as a result of eleven years of service in Chicago and Washington, Leitner recognized in Zapp the very man to take over Transocean's management in America. Accordingly, it was during the time of Leitner's and Zapp's South African collaboration that the latter came in line for advancement to the highly prized post of Transocean's manager in New York City.

During transfer from South Africa to North America, a lively correspondence of the heart-to-heart type was maintained between Zapp and Leitner. There is, for example, a letter by Zapp, written upon his return to Berlin, where he had gone to receive detailed instructions on what to do upon arrival in the United States. Addressed to Leitner in Pretoria, it is dated September 10, 1938 (illustration on page 2). It accompanied a file of documents which Zapp -- supposedly just a journalist! -- handed over to the diplomatic representative of the Reich for information and guidance. This letter, translated in full, reads:

*Berlin W. 15, Fasanenstrasse 32  
September 10, 1948*

*To the German Legation, Herrn Rudolf Leitner  
Pretoria, South Africa*

*My dear Minister:*

*As promised, I herewith transmit to you all such documents as concern steps taken by me in reference to the South African press. I do not expect much from my proposals because, apparently, the personnel question is not working out. In any case, I have done everything possible in order to realize what appears to me to be the only chance of success.*

*Transocean is now sending me to America. I leave Germany tomorrow to assume my new duties. Probably I shall have to contend with greater difficulties than in South Africa. However, I shall not forget South Africa and, upon my return from America in a year or two, perhaps I shall be able to take it over once again. Heil Hitler!*

*Respectfully yours,  
(signed) Zapp*

Leitner answered (illustration on page 1) Zapp's letter by return of mail as follows:



Dr. Manfred Zapp  
Gladstone Hotel  
114 East 52nd Street  
New York City.

Telegramm-Adresse: "Transnews" New York, den 25. November 1938.

An den Gesandten des Deutschen Reiches  
Herrn Rudolf Leitner  
Deutsche Gesandtschaft  
Pretoria, Sued-Afrika

Sehr verehrter Herr Gesandter!

Fuer Ihr liebenswerdiges Schreiben vom 21. Oktober 1938 moechte ich Ihnen vielmals danken. Auch mir tut es leid, dass Suedafrika, das ich mit soviel Sorgfalt und Liebe bearbeitet habe, nun ganz neuen Gesichtskreis ertruenkt ist. Ich werde nun nur noch ueber die Entwicklung, die Transocean in Suedafrika nimmt, auf dem Laufenden gehalten. Ich korrespondiere allerdings persoenlich noch heute noch mit Mr. Dunn und Mr. Horne, dem General Manager bzw. Asselt General Manager der South African Press Assn in Johannesburg. Aber auch das wird ja mit der Zeit trotz aller Anstrengungen einschlafen.

Meine andern Plaene, die ich in Suedafrika entworfen hatte, ruhen, wie es scheint, unter den Aktenstoecken der Berliner Ministerien. Sie werden wohl nie verwirklicht werden. Als vor einigen Tagen der Referent fuer das Britische Weltreich der Abteilung "Ausland" der Presseabteilung der Reichsregierung in Reichsministerium fuer Volksaufklaerung und Propaganda ( ich glaube so lautet seine Amtsbezeichnung ) Dr. Wissman fuer einige Tage in New York war, versprach er mir meine Vor-Anlaege betreffs Suedafrika wieder zur Diskussion stellen zu lassen. Da sich die Akten aber nicht mehr bei ihm befinden, so glaube ich nicht, dass die Angelegenheit wieder aufgerueckt wird. Schade, aber ich kann mich leider doch nicht darum kuennern.

Meine Aufgabe hier in Amerika ist so gross und so schwierig, dass sie meine ganze Energie in Anspruch nimmt. Ich glaube ich koennte in keinem unguenstigeren Moment mit einer solchen Aufgabe betraut werden. Ich hoefte aber trotzdem weiterzukommen. Die hiesige Presse verbreitet unter Schlagzeilen Grueselmaerchen, die angeblich aus News Chronicle oder dem Manchester Guardian stammen. Wenn diese Zeitungen wirklich diese Nachrichten gebracht haben, die an die abgehackten Kindeknaende in Belgien zu Kriegsbeginn erinnern, so werden Sie in Suedafrika sicherlich die gleichen Nachrichten, wenn nicht in der "Daily Mail" und in "Star", so doch in der "Daily Express" von Johannesburg gelesen haben. Fast ganz New York ist gegen die deutschen Barbaren aufgebracht. Dies ist die Atmosphaere, in der ich Transocean vertreten soll. Trotzdem glaube ich, dass es mir doch gelingen wird die hiesige Presse bearbeiten zu koennen.

Nochmals vielen Dank fuer Ihr liebenswerdiges Schreiben. Mit der Bitte um eine gubereinste Empfehlung an Ihre hochverehrte Frau Gemahlin bleibe ich mit

Heil Hitler  
Ihr sehr ergebener

Facsimile of letter written by Manfred Zapp and addressed to Rudolf Leitner. Story on this page.

your letter, best wishes, and Heil Hitler!

Sincerely yours,  
(signed) Leitner

Shortly after Zapp reached the United States, he again wrote to Leitner. This letter (facsimile on this page), mailed from the Gladstone Hotel at 114 East 52nd Street, New York City, again indicates that Zapp realized he had been assigned to a very difficult post. He wrote as follows:

New York, November 25, 1938

To the German Minister, Herr Rudolf Leitner,  
German Legation, Pretoria, South Africa

My dear Minister:

I wish to thank you very much for your kind letter of October 21, 1938. I also regret that South Africa, where I worked with such care and devotion, is no longer my job. I am now only kept posted concerning developments of Transocean in South Africa. In any case, I still correspond personally with Mr. Dunn and Mr. Horne, General Manager and Assistant General Manager of the South African Press Association in

German Legation  
Pretoria,  
October 21, 1938

Mr. Manfred Zapp  
Berlin W.-15,  
Fasanenstrasse 32

Dear Mr. Zapp:

I am in receipt of your communication of the 10th of September together with all enclosures. Thank you for your information which, as usual, interested me very much. It is too bad that, as a result of your transfer to America, you will be withdrawn from South African business circles. However, I think that your new scene of activity will be much more interesting for you. You will meet many people with whom I became acquainted during my domicile there. I am sure that if you mention my name, they will be glad to help you.

I wish you much success in your activities there and, of course, I shall be very happy to hear from you at your convenience.

With renewed thanks for



Johannesburg. However, in time, this contact probably will also lapse into somnolence despite all my efforts.

My other plans which I drew up in South Africa apparently repose in the files and papers of the Berlin Ministries. Probably they will never be realized. A few days ago, Dr. Wissmann called on me here in New York. He is attached to the Foreign Department of the Press Division of the Propaganda Ministry as Departmental Referee for the British Empire. (At least, I believe this to be his official status.) He promised me that my plans concerning South Africa would be brought up again for discussion. Inasmuch as the files are no longer in his possession, I do not think that the matter will come up again. It is a great pity, but I can no longer concern myself with it.

My task here in America is so big and so difficult that it demands all my energies. I do not think that I could have been entrusted with such a task at a more unfavorable moment. Despite this, however, I hope to get along. The press here plays up big headline atrocity stories which presumably come from the News Chronicle or the Manchester Guardian. If these papers really did carry this news, which recalls the cutting off of hands of children in Belgium at the time of the outbreak of the (first World) war, then surely you have read the same stories in South Africa -- if not in the Daily Mail and in the Star, then in the Daily Express in Johannesburg. Almost all New York is incensed about the German barbarians. And in such an atmosphere I am expected to promote Transocean! Nevertheless, I believe that I shall succeed in influencing the local press.

Again, accept my thanks for your kind letter with the request that you transmit my respectful regards to your gracious wife. Heil Hitler!

Yours,  
(signed) Zapp

When Zapp arrived in America in 1938, it was not his first sojourn in the Western Hemisphere. In 1930 and '31 -- that is, prior to the official inception of the Nazi regime -- Zapp had been in the United States and Canada for a year and a half. He had studied, and given lectures, all throughout Canada and the Western states. During this time, he had assiduously built up a large circle of American "friends".

In the course of years and in view of his past performances, it has almost become an axiom that, as soon as Zapp is around, things begin to happen. This expectation was borne out in connection with his "attendance" at the Manchurian campaign, the rape of Ethiopia, and the Spanish Civil War. More strikingly even, it was during Zapp's sojourn in South Africa that the Reich's plans for the recapture of one-time German Southwest Africa became increasingly evident ....and now, Topnotcher Zapp is in the United States of America!

For additional information on names and facts referred to, see back issues as follows: 1)-#118; #105; 2)-#118; #108; #84; 3)-#118; #96; #64; 4)-#118; #97; #82; 5)-#77; 6)-#82; #80; #77.

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## WE QUOTE—

"EUROPE has a set of primary interests, which to us have none, or a very remote relation....

Hence, it must be unwise in us to implicate ourselves, by artificial ties, in the ordinary combinations and collisions of her friendships or enmities.

"Our detached and distant situation invites and enables us to pursue a different course. If we remain one people, under an efficient government, we may defy material injury from external annoyance.

"Why forego the advantages of so peculiar a situation? Why quit our own to stand on foreign ground? Why, by interweaving our destiny with that of any part of Europe, entangle our peace and prosperity in the tails of European ambition, rivalry, interest, humor, or caprice?"

—George Washington

*Reproduction of inside front cover of "Scribner's Commentator", showing how, analogous to Auhagen's "Today's Challenge", this magazine exploits George Washington quotations.*

...illustration on page 2) entitled: "If Germany Wins....". It is indited so as to create the impression that only a quick and complete Hitler victory could prevent Communism, bound to come if Europe, and other parts of the world, wind up a shambles. Accordingly, it states:

It is most reassuring that there is no conflict between this development and our American national and international trade endeavors—except perhaps technicalities which business, however, has always managed to solve, if not politically interfered with. A new economic empire in Europe would be a great potential market for the United States, if we don't lose it through what Lindbergh called "quarrelling and meddling."

If Germany wins, the changes towards a new

Old World should not find us mired in a swamp of plans and forecasts leading in other directions. Our war deflation and the necessity of recasting present plans would set us back still further.

As destructive as this war is, there is behind it the silver lining of the dawn of a changed Old World—a new Old World under young, energetic leadership, with systematic planning and efficient organization.

That development is not at all disheartening to

clear-thinking Americans. Every American businessman should endorse what James S. Kemper, president of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, said in a statement, issued on May 18th: "The primary concern of American business today is that our country will not become involved in any foreign war. Business is not looking for the advantage of war profits and definitely is opposed to sending American boys and young men to fight on foreign soil."

### "Mein Kampf" Author Means It!

Contrary to all these strenuous efforts to hypnotize the United States into the dangerous belief that the tune to which it should march should be a lullaby rather than a battle hymn, Hitler's one-time confidant, Hermann Rauschning<sup>13</sup>), on page 113 of his "Hitler Speaks" (called "The Voice of Destruction" in the American edition), quotes *der Führer* as follows:

I can attain my purpose only through world revolution. For the German people there is no other way.

White Book" <sup>8</sup>) and Prince von Lippe's <sup>9</sup>) "Modern Ideologies and American Democracy". Cheapest item on the entire list is Riemer's own "Does America Need a New Money System?", a leaflet which embodies the author's politicoeconomic creed.

Doubtless, *Herr Riemer's* fervent endorsement of "Scribner's Commentator" is actuated by the fact that, as regards political orientation, this monthly follows the editorial course of "Today's Challenge". Published as "Official Organ of The American Fellowship Forum" <sup>10</sup>), "Today's Challenge", in its initial June/July issue (illustration on page 2), set forth the tenets of this group. They were expounded by Auhagen, professing opinions of distinct "America First" flavor. He asserted that

*the traditional American system was in grave danger of being destroyed by two distinct forces, namely: the abnormal and one-sided preoccupation with events in Europe on the one hand, and the alarming growth of dissension and antagonism among different groups and interests on the other.*

This viewpoint is in full agreement with similar assertions made by the "German-American Commerce Bulletin" <sup>11</sup>) which is registered with the State Department under the McCormack Law as agent of a foreign principal. In its May/June issue of this year, this bi-monthly, edited by Dr. Albert Degener <sup>12</sup>), published a leading article

"If Germany Wins....". It is indited so

### INDIANS—OUR MINORITY PROBLEM

By RUTH SHELDON

*The Administration is up in arms about the persecution of racial minorities in Europe, while here under its very nose is an ever-increasing, poverty-stricken, discontented racial minority*

WHILE NEW DEAL spokesmen from the President on down have whipped up public indignation and concern towards the plight, persecution and importance of racial minority groups in Europe, Americans have been told nothing of the Administration's flagrantly bad handling of an ever-increasing, poverty-stricken, discontented racial minority at home.

The men who have ranted against political injustice and oppression abroad have been guilty of sponsoring it at home and not among aliens in the true sense of the word, but among our first citizens in point of residence—the American Indian. In so doing, the Government itself has created a new fertile field for fifth column activities, and Communist propaganda agents have been secretly and insidiously gaining cohorts in the very heart of the country, for half of America's 350,000 Indians are concentrated in Oklahoma, Arizona and New Mexico.

The crafty tactics being employed by the Communists have been brought

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According to *der Führer*, this is not just "a war"; it is THE war which ushers in world revolution. Since the United States is a part of this world, and since Hitler in his "Mein Kampf", and his protagonists in their different and assorted *Kampfschriften* (militant treatises), have incessantly threatened the Americas, it must be assumed that Hitler means what he says when he continually threatens world revolution. It was in this very spirit that, three days after Hitler's talk, a warning inspired by Joachim von Ribbentrop appeared in the "Berlin-Rome-Tokyo" magazine, advising the United States to cooperate with Germany before it is too late....

In view of Hitler's repeated threats, everlastingly reiterated by his minions, no wide-awake American citizen can feel secure against German aggression with the Hitler Menace looming across the Atlantic. Nevertheless, "Scribner's Commentator", on the inside cover (illustration on page 3) of its December issue, resorts to the hoary trick of quoting George Washington in support of utter divorce from European problems. Strangely enough, no consideration is given to the fact that it is not America which is trying to put her fingers into the European pie, but rather Nazism that is threatening

to meddle in strictly American affairs!

Nazism, which distorted so many other conceptions, also twisted the old strategic adage of "attack being the best defense" into "defense as the best alibi for attack". Along this track moves the train of thoughts of those who indite, or thoughtlessly accept, such arguments as are served up by "Scribner's Commentator". Unwittingly adopting this Hitler technique, "Scribner's Commentator" warns those who prepare for a -- perhaps belated -- defense, that it is they who are challenging the others. Apparently, its editors do not realize that, in this way, they advocate that our democracy remain defenseless in the face of dire threats issuing from a dictatorship.

#### Statesmen....Model "T"

Perusal of the Table of Contents of "Scribner's Commentator" for December shows a list of contributors with Henry Ford -- whose countenance embellishes the front cover -- as headliner, stating his ideas on "An American Foreign Policy". The article neither clarifies

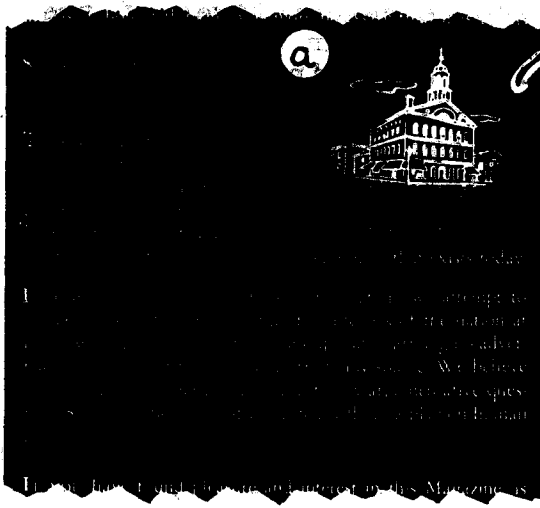
### THE WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE REIGN OF TERROR

By GEORGE H. CLESS, JR.

*A determined group is using familiar methods for driving us into the war. These worked in 1917, but not in the early nineteenth century, when our capitol was burned, not by our "enemy," France, but by our "friend" Britain*

THE "INTELLIGENTSIA," supported by a special few with personal axes to grind, is hell bent for war. A small but brilliant galaxy of political, academic, elite and socialite stars is driving 130 million Americans against their wishes and judgment into war: not just a war against Germany as in 1917, but a futile war to stop a foreign world revolution -- war that may last for now being so vehemently denounced. Witness the spectacle of Nicholas Murray Butler in the self-appointed rôle of a world arbiter, informing the faculty of his Columbia University that they must either accept and adopt this war policy of his University or resign. He has learned the Fuehrer technique well. The Butlers, Seymours, Hopkinses Conants whooping in their or

*Reproduction of Cless article, smearing William Allen White. Story on page 7.*



A Study in Comparison. (a) How "Scribner's Commentator" makes a drive for subscriptions and (b) how practically the same technique was applied by Auhagen's "Today's Challenge".

b

OUR POLICY

TODAY'S CHALLENGE is dedicated to the intelligent and forthright discussion of the problems that challenge the attention of every thinking American.

The publishers of TODAY'S CHALLENGE believe that only a factual approach, a treatment free from political, religious, and racial bias, can lead to the solution of the problems that confront America today.

TODAY'S CHALLENGE will present divergent points of view, and welcomes constructive criticism of articles appearing in its own pages.

what "Mr. Ford considers this country's present policy should be", nor does it clearly indicate in what direction Mr. Ford actually "looks towards a future made safe by education and faith". It is followed by "Quotes From Mr. Ford's philosophy", a small collection which may constitute a compliment to Mr. Ford, but by no means contributes to the Wisdom of the Ages.

With "Scribner's Commentator's" editorial wind blowing in the "America First" direction, it is only natural that the December issue contains articles from the pen of two of the most hallowed Sacred Cows of this movement.

The first is Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh <sup>14</sup>, who is represented by a transcript of his "Plea for American Independence" which comprised his sixth radio address. An editorial note, concluding this reprint, states that

*with Colonel Lindbergh's permission, ("Scribner's Commentator") has prepared a booklet containing the full text of the Colonel's five preceding radio addresses. This booklet will be sent postpaid upon receipt of 25¢.*

The second article is by General Robert E. Wood, entitled "War or Peace -- America's Decision". In the editorial blurb, the author is described as a most competent authority (who) speaks out unequivocally against the danger of American intervention in foreign wars.

This contribution, too, turns out to be nothing but a transcript of a talk given over Station WAAF, Chicago, Illinois...and it was this very speech that has been quoted and requoted ad nauseam by known Nazi propagandists of different hues!

"Scribner's Commentator" also contains a contribution by Freeman Tilden, who is described as *one-time foreign correspondent for publications in Europe and South America, and author of many books....*

Fawning upon Lindbergh as THE Sacred Cow of the "America First" movement, Tilden's article best characterizes itself by the following quotation:

<p>Now, I happen to be one of those who have thought that the initial feat of Lindbergh, of flying the Western sea, was interesting and spectacular, but overstressed in our painfully maudlin manner. It was his manly and balanced conduct, his obvious grasp of the essential truths both of his trade and his citizenship, his straightforward Americanism and his clear observation,</p>	<p>his moral valor in a thrust of fate that would have likely crushed you and me —it was these things that led me to reason that in Lindbergh we had a young man of vast promise. Millions of others reasoned likewise: this was no emotional jag..... Nobody really thinks that Lindbergh is a fifth-columnist, or that he is in the pay of Hitler. Even these guerrilla en-</p>	<p>emies are not that goofy. They know well enough that he is a staunch American, of sterling blood and uncompromising honesty. The purpose, then, is to break down Lindbergh's popularity because he stands in the path of an insistent design. What design? What else than the making of the United States an active, physical participant in the war?</p>
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In general, Tilden's article appeals to the 1940 representatives of the Know-Nothings of the 1850s. It is obviously designed to stir up the hick against the city slicker. Among the arguments Tilden makes in his attempt to combat what he calls "the Manhattanization of America", are the following:

The pity of it is that this Manhattanization could be greatly checked tomorrow, if our country press had not given up a belief in itself. The quality of the stuff that pours out of New York into our outland newspapers is not really excellent. It has superficial cleverness, some of it; occasionally there is a good

bit of writing; but nothing better than has been done in the past, right on the home lots.

I picked up a copy of the daily newspaper nearest to my home, and looked at the editorial page. It had three Manhattan "features" and one home-made editorial. The editor of this sheet, of

8000 circulation in a regional population of about 40,000, had poked out on his typewriter a lucid, concise, informing comment on some important development of the war. Compared with this editorial, the three imported features were noisy, vulgar rubbish.

In connection with the Tilden article, it is very interesting to note that, in its Know-Nothingism, it echoes a sentiment expressed by General George Van Horn Moseley <sup>15)</sup> in an appeasement address made on December 14, 1938, before the New York Board of Trade. In this speech, Moseley said:

*The America that I am referring to is a great country, rolling from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It is not of New York City or of the District of Columbia, as so many in the East seem to think. In fact, if both New York and Washington were burned down tonight, it would not cause a ripple in the America that I am talking about. In fact, in Washington it might be one definite way of reducing bureaucracy.*

Among other articles contained in "Scribner's Commentator" is one by Ruth Sheldon, entitled "Indians -- Our Minority Problem" (illustration on page 4). This piece shows an amazing ideological affinity with Nazi conceptions by enlarging America's strictly domestic Indian problem into an international minority issue. As a Nazi means of creating disunion, there is nothing very new in the technique of arousing the Red Man against the Pale Face. This has been repeatedly done before and described in NEWS LETTER, among other issues, in those of May 29, 1940, and May 10 and April 26, 1939.

Its extreme seriousness is attested to by the fact that, in the course of recent "Hearings Before the House Committee on Indian Affairs", Indian Commissioner John Collier <sup>16)</sup> stated that "profiteering organizations" which had been "living off the Indians for years" are now "apparently taking European dictors for a ride" by selling them the idea that the American Red Man could be used in stirring up unrest in the United States. Collier also averred that correspondence of the Indian Bureau has long indicated "considerable interest" on the part of some European totalitarian groups in the affairs of the Indian office.

Members of this committee may say, as others have said and as I have said: "This is fantastic, ludicrous, half insane, all of these carryings-on by Pelley, True, Towner, Mrs. Jemison, Chandler, Bruner, and even the bund itself. There are only a few Indians and they cannot be reached by this sort of propaganda anyhow, and the white public who can be reached by such activities is negligible."

They said that in Norway once and in Holland and Belgium and France. They don't say it any more, and England and her dependencies don't say it any more.

What we are witnessing is the application of the technique of penetration developed by the Fascists, Nazis, and Communists which has been successful to a horrifying degree, not in one, but in many countries, and which now is being brought to bear with full force upon the countries to the south of the United States.

Why has "fifth column" activity singled out the Indians and why did the Nazi government decree that the Indians are Aryans? At first, the object seemed to be to feed propaganda back to Europe. The totalitarian states were persecuting their minorities, and if these states could draw a picture of present persecution by the United States against its most famous minority, the propaganda effects at home or throughout Europe might be valuable. It was from the standpoint of European consumption that Colin Ross, self-proclaimed emissary of Hitler, made his journeys among the Indians of Mexico and the United States.

According to a transcript of the Hearing, Mr. Collier, among other statements, made the following:

Mud-Slinging à la Mode

A special feature of "Scribner's Commentator" is "The Internationalist Hall of Fame". Descriptive enough though the title is, it is reinforced with fancy mud-slinging in the text of the

legends which accompany each one of a number of pictures. The first is that of James Bryant Conant, president of Harvard University, who is smeared as \_\_\_\_\_

→ A member of the Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies, Dr. Conant is also one of the group of prominent Americans who oppose aid from the United States in feeding the conquered peoples of Europe. Thus, he would have this country go to war to aid one European nation, but would let the much larger population of most of the rest of Europe starve to death.

Raymond Gram Swing is characterized as an internationalist whose \_\_\_\_\_

→ comments during his radio broadcasts have won for him the accolade of chairmanship of the Council For Democracy, whose aim is to "stimulate and channel the spirit of the American people to make democracy a real, dynamic creed worth fighting for." (In other words propagandize us into war.)

Marshall Field III has been included in the Internationalist Hall of Fame as a "merchant prince, recently turned newspaper publisher. Co-owner of PM, New York's war-mongering tabloid". In the same manner, Walter Lippmann, also lampooned in the "Hall", is referred to as "the male half of the New York Herald-Tribune's team of belligerent columnists, Thompson and Lippmann"; and Archibald MacLeish, recognized American poet, is characterized as having a "singularly blood-thirsty philosophy". In fact, he is quoted as having told The New York Herald-Tribune's Forum on Current Problems: \_\_\_\_\_

→ "Mobilization for the defense of democracy must be mobilization of every possibility the people have . . . to create in America democracy in action. . . . The work of American artists and writers and musicians is a national resource, important enough to be mobilized along with men and arms."

This assertion is proved a deliberate distortion by comparison with the text of Mr. MacLeish's speech as actually published in The New York Herald-Tribune for October 27th, namely: That the plan for the discussions of the Forum rested upon the assumption that

*"the mobilization which has been imposed upon us is a mobilization, not merely of arms but of every resource, moral as well as material, of which the country can dispose", and that this assumption was "an interesting assumption for two reasons: First, it assumes that the work of American artists and writers and musicians is a national resource, important enough to be mobilized along with men and arms..."*

In connection with William C. Bullitt, former United States Ambassador to France (illustration on page 9), "Scribner's Commentator" makes the assertion:

*Prior to the outbreak of the war and during its early stages, Ambassador Bullitt gave repeated public reassurances of forthcoming aid from the United States to France and England. This undoubtedly created, especially in France, an unwarranted reliance upon American support, without which France might never have declared war.*

When a careful check by NRS of Bullitt's public statements failed to furnish any substantiation for "Scribner's Commentator's" assertion, NEWS LETTER inquired by wire "where we can find at least one such statement prior to the outbreak of the war, and one during early stages". Since no answer has been received, NEWS LETTER must assume that "Scribner's Commentator" was taken in by the so-called "German White Book" which, especially in official circles, has been widely denounced as Nazi propaganda of the most vicious kind.

#### At Their Smeariest....

The Internationalist Hall of Fame also includes William Allen White, America's Grand Old Man of Journalism. Obviously, it did not suffice to pillory him there, but some extra smearing had to be done in a special article, appearing on page 38. Title and blurb (illustration on page 4) are self-explanatory. However, some hints are needed in reference to the author, George

**HER DADDY**  
**Defense Only**  
**NOT FOR FOREIGN Wars**

**STEPS SHORT OF WAR-MEAN WAR!**

H. Cless, Jr., whom "Scribner's Commentator", in its department, "People in This Issue", glibly introduces as an author and lecturer on international and economic and political questions.

This editorial note, however, fails to say that Cless, and especially his opinions in reference to William Allen White, have been emphatically endorsed by William J. Baxter, author of "Japan and America MUST Work Together". (Details about this appeasement book and Baxter's confidential International Economic Bureau will appear in an early NEWS LETTER issue.)

Baxter, in his "Bulletin" of October 7, carried an extensive article, entitled: "Why All Armament Securities Should be Sold". In the course of this article, Baxter endorses Cless by quoting the latter as having written

Reproduction of "Scribner's Commentator" ad, covering almost a full page in The New York Times of December 2, last.

the following brilliant exposition of the American position: "William Allen White has attained a new recognition internationally through his leadership in a number of movements that, unfortunately, have tended to draw America closer and closer to what the great American poet, Walt Whitman, called 'Europe's old dynastic slaughterhouse'.

"Europe's old dynastic slaughterhouse'.

*This campaign interests me because the national committee had its inception in a meeting called last April by Frederic Coudert, a lawyer representing very large British and French commercial interests...."*

To what extent Cless followed the Nazi-directed anti-White propaganda becomes evident from Dr. Goebbels' World Service (7) of September 15 last, which vociferated as follows:

*Another director of this undertaking (Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies) is the infamous journalist William Allen White, together with his sinister satellites. A short while ago, Senator Holt of the American Senate tore the mask from the face of this dark "man of honor" and pointed the finger at the figures that lurk behind this evil war monger.*

Two of a Kind

Analysis of "Scribner's Commentator" reveals that not only its editorial policy is modelled after that of "Today's Challenge", but also its circulation strategy! Both magazines resort to the same methods to drum up readers. For example, "Scribner's Commentator" fishes for subscriptions in a two-page center spread, setting forth tenets (illustration on page 5) greatly reminiscent of those pronounced by "Today's Challenge" as "Our Policy".

Of course, "Scribner's Commentator" is doing far better than "Today's Challenge" when it comes to casting out bait for new subscribers. "Today's Challenge", even though it was financed by typical Nazi pressure methods, was never in that happy position which permits "Scribner's Commentator" to buy high-priced advertising space in The New York Times, practically by the full page (illustration on this page).



As to business organization, "Scribner's Commentator" is owned by P. & S. Publishing, Inc., with G. T. Eggleston as president. Among the latter's past performances was promotional work for the old "Life" magazine, which used to run series of articles against prohibition and, in general, went in for the support of well-financed causes. As will be noted, "Scribner's Commentator's" ad in The New York Times is laid out and indited very much along the lines of ads which appeared in the old "Life" in support of various "movements".



WILLIAM C. BULLITT is the United States Ambassador to France—when his duties there do not interfere with his interests in United States politics.

Before France he was Ambassador to Soviet Russia—a logical post for one with his long-standing Social Democrat background.

Prior to the outbreak of the war, and during its early stages, Ambassador Bullitt gave repeated public reassurances of forthcoming aid from the United States to France and England. This undoubtedly created, especially in France, an unwarranted reliance upon American support, without which France might never have declared war.

Since then Mr. Bullitt's demands for American intervention have been inevitable and loud. Examples: "The United States is in as great peril today (August 18, 1940) as France was a year ago. I believe that unless we act decisively now, we shall be too late. . . . Why are we sleeping, Americans? When are we going to tell our government that we want to defend our homes, our children, and our liberties, whatever the cost in money and blood? . . . Demand the privilege of being called into service. Tell them that we want conscription."

Reproduction from "Scribner's Commentator's" Internationalist Hall of Fame. Story on page 7.

Eggleston's vice president is D. M. Stewart, who supposedly supplies the ideological orientation behind "Scribner's Commentator". Stewart, unquestionably of considerable ability, is more emotional than analytical in his thinking. During the last two decades, he has made frequent visits to Germany and obviously is greatly impressed with the "success" of the Nazi regime. He proved a fervent supporter of the Kaiser's Germany and, considering that he is an American by birth, he certainly is a staunch monarchist!

That it evidently is Stewart's intention consistently to employ the pages of "Scribner's Commentator" as platform for his own ideas, is supported by the fact that the December issue closely followed in the ideological tracks of the November issue. Among other articles, this number contained one by Ralph Townsend, whose Nazified pro-Japanese tendencies were exposed in NEWS LETTER of October 9, 1940. The November issue also published an article by Nicholas Broughton entitled: "America in a Hostile World", written along lines very much in accord with the point of view propagandized by Auhagen in his "Today's Challenge" and his "American Fellowship Forum".

Intentionally or not, publications like "Today's Challenge" and "Scribner's Commentator", and such organizations as endow and maintain them, tend to slow down defense measures by lulling American watchfulness to sleep.

Could Goebbels ask more?

For additional information on names and facts referred to, see back issues as follows: 1)-#118; #109; #64; 2)-#118; #97; #82; 3)-#118; #97; #82; 4)-#116; #101; #96; 5)-#98; #88; 6)-#111; #102; #92; 7)-#114; #102; #97; 8)-#115; #83; #79; 9)-#116; #109; #86; 10)-#118; #82; #37; 11)-#92; #68; 12)-#106; #68; 13)-#82; 14)-#118; #107; 15)-#109; #92; #77; 16)-#87; 17)-#116; #101; #96.

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