

*Pool*  
**Fascists**  
**A Footnote**  
**In Britain**

Chicago Daily News Service

LONDON—Americans may recall 20 or 30 years from now the phenomenon of George C. Wallace and wonder how it all came about.

The British are engaged in a somewhat similar political post mortem of one of their own "stranger offshoots"—Sir Oswald Mosley and the British Union of Fascists that flowered in the early 1930s.

The public conscience was awakened by publication of Sir Oswald's memoirs. The august London Times considered it sufficiently important to print extensive excerpts for nearly a week.

The excerpts and the reviews provoked a flood of letters.

Most of them accused Mosley and some of the reviewers of glossing over the more disreputable aspects of his "movement" including the violence generated in its wake and its savage racial overtones.

Mosley, at 72, is vigorous and unrepentant. The only mistake he concedes was putting his private army into its telltale black uniforms.

"The old soldier in me got the better of the politician," he writes.

Mosley lives at Orsay, France, and obviously still is ready for the call that never quite came. He seems to feel that fascism failed in Britain because the country's crisis in the '30s was not sufficiently acute.

A. J. P. Taylor, the historian, suggests a more palatable explanation: "Perhaps it also failed because the British people, and especially the trade unions, preferred democracy."

In much of the comment there is retrospective amazement at how large Mosley loomed. It is said he could have been either Conservative or Labor prime minister, had he chosen. At different times he was elected by both parties and served briefly in a Labor government.