

GOP Adviser Edited Pro-Nazi Paper

By Jack Anderson

A former Nazi editor, who was a leading Hitler propagandist in occupied Slovakia during the 1940s, is an adviser to the Republican National Committee.

He is Dr. Joseph Pauco, who trumpeted the Nazi line throughout Slovakia and hailed the Nazi persecution of the Jews. As late as 1957, he defended his past Nazi activities as "the cause of great and sacred truth."

Pauco was invited by President Nixon to attend a White House prayer service on Sept. 12. While no other White House worshiper may have been more in need of prayer, it is ironical that Pauco should wind up at a Nixon devotional. For his mentor and matma, Joseph Tiso, the puppet dictator of Slovakia, was hanged as a war criminal.

Hitler ended his bloody conquest of Czechoslovakia by dividing the country and installing Tiso as the ruler of Slovakia. Pauco was named editor-in-chief of Tiso's official organ, Slovak, which became the strident voice of the Nazi regime.

One of Pauco's close associates was Dr. J. Kirschbaum, who has been accused by the Jewish Community Council in Prague of sending Slovakian Jews to the gas cham-

bers of Auschwitz and other murder camps.

Kirschbaum denies the charge. But we have dug out, at least, an old newspaper picture of Kirschbaum in his Slovak SS uniform, his hand raised in the Hitler salute.

Pauco and Kirschbaum escaped Tiso's fate by fleeing to the West. Pauco reached the United States in 1950; Kirschbaum settled in Toronto.

Eventually, Pauco took over the weekly newspaper, Slovak v Amerike, in Middletown, Pa., and named his old friend Kirschbaum as an adviser.

The natty, charming Pauco was brought into the Republican National Committee as chief Slovak-American adviser by the former chairman, Interior Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton. Pauco is now comptroller of the committee's ethnic council.

Pauco also is serving as a Nixon appointee on the Small Business Administration's advisory council.

Not long ago, Pauco and Kirschbaum helped to establish the Slovak World Congress, and they held a meeting in Toronto in June. They were showered with greetings from Sens. John Tower (R-Tex.), Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), Roman Hruska (R-Neb.) and others.

Sens. Robert Taft (R-Ohio) and Claiborne Pell (D-R.I.) showed up in Toronto to address the meeting.

From the White House on down, these prominent Americans can be excused for being unaware of the Nazi backgrounds of Pauco and Kirschbaum. But the official who is supposed to keep track of former Nazis, Assistant Attorney General Robert Mardian, the Justice Department's internal security specialist, also attended the Toronto affair.

Mardian might have picked up a clue to Pauco's Nazi past by reading his biography in Who's Who. For Pauco lists among his accomplishments the editorship of the old Slovak daily. If this was missed by Mardian, it was picked up by an amateur Nazi hunter and Democratic Party official, Bill Quinn, who identified the daily as a Nazi mouthpiece.

He tipped us off, and we have now traced Pauco's past in old Library of Congress records, books and newspapers.

"There is only one alliance, and that alliance is with Germany," wrote Pauco in a signed editorial on Sept. 17, 1944. Again on Oct. 11, 1944, he printed: "The great German Reich, led by Fuehrer Adolf Hitler, proved to the Slovaks its benevolence."

In a typical diatribe against the Jews, his newspaper declared on Sept. 3, 1944: "We all know about their moral decay and their murderous hatred of the Christian people."

Is it possible that Pauco, now 57, has changed his views after 25 years? As late as August, he praised the war criminal Tiso as a "martyr."

Footnote: My associate Les Whitten reached Pauco in Middletown. He denied that his wartime newspaper was a Nazi organ. "I ran a Slovak paper," he said. Asked about the paper's attacks on the Jews, he said at first, "I can't remember," then declared, "We were friends of the Jews." He added heartily: "Anybody who says we were Nazis is full of baloney." The Republican National Committee, he said, would verify his good name. Kirschbaum has an unlisted telephone in Toronto and couldn't be reached.

© 1971, Bell-McClure Syndicate, Inc.

Advertisement

Stop wetness!

Positively solve special problem perspiration and odor. Clinically proven formula keeps underarms and clothes absolutely dry for thousands. Satisfaction guaranteed.

Certan-dri
ANTI-PERSPIRANT



9-331-5