by which the confidence of the people in their Services could be shaken.

11. Sentiments or Emotions of People. What the Bavarian longs for above all else is peace, but as I have indicated in the discussion of British propaganda, an honorable peace which would permit Germany to face the world as a going concern. He would not insist upon the Reich being left in control of occupied territories, but he would like to see it retain Austria and the Sudeten area.

I would not say that the Bavarian is war weary. Rather has he had no enthusiasm for the war at any time, except possibly in the early days of the campaign against Russia when the prospect of a quick victory which might remove the danger of Communism gave rise to some interest. He would be sorry indeed to see the United States enter the war for he does not realize the extent to which American assistance is now being given and he would view our formal entry into the conflict as assurance that a war which already has lasted too long for his taste would be prolonged indefinitely. At the same time, remembering the World War, he fears that American participation would materially lessen Germany's chance for victory.

12. Migrations of Population. There have been no migrations of the Bavarian population. On the other hand, Bavaria has been a haven for evacuees from Northern Germany
Germany and the Rhineland who have overrun the quiet towns and villages, much to the annoyance of the Bavarians. "They eat us out of house and home, and then speak grandly of the glories of Berlin, Hamburg, or Cologne," complain the villagers. The unwelcome guests are for the most part women and children who have been evacuated to give them a respite from bombing raids. They are believed to number well over 100,000.

13. **Channels for Future Information.** I have introduced to several officers of the Embassy at Berlin my best Bavarian contact and the only one of my well informed Munich friends who is prepared to maintain contact with Americans. He is a highly intelligent and well balanced man who formerly was in political life in Bavaria, and he has good contacts with many elements in Germany, including the Foreign Office. He plans to visit Berlin every three or four months and has arranged to get into communication with my colleagues at the Embassy during these visits.

14. **Axis Espionage Agents.** I have no information regarding the identity of Axis espionage agents acting in the United States, occupied territories, or elsewhere.

15. **British Blockade.** While I am unable to produce any data to support a statement that the British blockade has materially affected German economy, I believe there can be no doubt that it is true. Cut off from the bulk of its imports from overseas, Germany has had to develop many...
many substitute materials and to resort to various expedients in attempting to evade the blockade. From what information I have been able to gather it seems that Japan, with Soviet Russia (until hostilities began) has been of most assistance in blockade evasion. I understand that many orders have been placed overseas ostensibly for Japanese account but actually for ultimate delivery to Germany via Siberia, and that among the commodities which have reached Germany by this route are wool, hides, and tungsten from South America, and edible oils and other products from the Philippines.

16. A picture of a typical day in Munich would reveal the residents sitting down to a breakfast of bread without butter but perhaps with a thin coating of margarine, a tea or coffee substitute, and possibly a dab of marmalade or synthetic honey. Then out into streets which are almost devoid of motor traffic except trunks, to wait for one of the none too frequent and invariably crowded streetcars. The picture would disclose shop windows filled with merchandise but often studded with placards bearing the legend "Samples only", or "This article is not for sale". It would show well filled theaters and concert halls in the evening despite the blackout, and restaurant diners who frequently do not stop their conversations when the evening news broadcast comes in from the loud speaker. It would not disclose crowds gathered around news stands even when the
the papers carry streamer headlines telling of fresh victories. In short, it would record the effort of a people who are apathetic to the war to extract some pleasure from a life filled with shopping and transportation difficulties, and thinly garnished by indifferent food.

Respectfully yours,

Orsen N. Nielsen
No. 7

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: Conditions in the Vienna Consular District.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:
I have the honor to refer to the Department's strictly confidential instruction dated August 1, 1941, requesting me to prepare a report for the strictly confidential information of the Government on conditions in the district from which I have just returned and, in compliance therewith, the following information is herewith submitted in respect to conditions in Vienna.

1. MORALE.

A discussion of the morale in and about Vienna should possibly be prefaced by a few general statements.

It is said that at the time of the annexation of Austria by Germany, 25% of the Austrian population were in sympathy with the National Socialist regime, 25% were opposed to it, while 50% were indifferent. In the period which has since elapsed
elapsed a decided change is reported to have taken place. Persons who have watched developments closely state that at the present time there are not more than 20% at the utmost of the Vienna population who are in full accord with the present regime. On the other hand the persons who are opposed thereto have risen to well over 50% and the number of individuals who are indifferent has fallen off perceptibly. As a matter of fact the only persons in Vienna who are party adherents at present are those individuals who have directly profited by the new regime. These are, among others: (1) persons who have profited as a result of the expulsion of the Jews, (2) persons who hold positions in the party and party organizations and (3) persons who have moved into Vienna from Germany proper.

Any discussion of morale in Vienna must take these population groups into consideration.

Persons who are party adherents believe anything and everything that the German propaganda machine puts out. They are firmly convinced that Germany will win the war within a comparatively short period. They believe so implicitly in Germany's success at arms that in the opinion of the writer, they are almost immune to foreign influence.

Included in this group are the members of the S.S. and S.A. and N.S.K.K. organizations as well as the Hitler Jugend groups.

Nevertheless from time to time reports have been heard to the effect that even among the members of these groups criticism
criticism is expressed against the regime because of (1) the failure of the regime to bring the war to an end at the promised dates, (2) the plans that have been introduced for the drawing of more women into the industries, and (3) the action taken by the regime to collect excess profit taxes retroactively as far back as September, 1939. It may be that these headings might be taken as points of departure in measures having the lowering of morale as their objective. As a matter of fact they are already so used by the clandestine radio sending stations which are to be heard in Germany.

But by far the greater part of the Vienna population are downright opponents of the regime. They have, however, no means of expressing themselves except within the confines of their own homes, and there they speak quite freely and openly. They do not mince words and they indicate that their greatest desire at the moment is that somehow or other they may be relieved of the system which has been imposed upon them by National Socialist Germany. They disassociate themselves completely from Germany proper and point out that the war is a "Prussian enterprise" only. Many of the Viennese are eagerly awaiting the entrance of the United States into the war. They believe confidently that thereby the events of 1917 and 1918 will be repeated.

The writer is of the opinion that any steps that might be taken to raise the morale of the opposing groups in Vienna might in the long run prove to be useful.

2. BOMB DAMAGE
2. **BOMB DAMAGE**

Up to the time of the departure of the writer from Vienna, the city had not had any air attacks.

3. **VITAL BOMBING TARGETS**

Strictly speaking there are no vital bombing targets in and about Vienna, with the exception of a few small munitions plants on the outskirts of the city.

The city is, however, an important point in the line of communications between Germany proper and the Balkan areas, and any impairment that might take place in the railways and highways in the vicinity of Vienna and the Danube bridges at Vienna would have a negative effect upon movement of troops and war materials.

There is at Wiener-Neustadt — a city about thirty miles to the south of Vienna — an important airplane factory. This, it is believed, constitutes a vital bombing target.

There is a civilian airport at Aspern, just outside of Vienna. Along the highway between Vienna and Pressburg (Bratislava) there is at least one important military airfield. There is also a military airport near Tulln on the Danube.

4. **HEALTH**

Up to the month of July, 1941, there had been no apparent effect upon the population as a result of the existing
existing deficiencies in food, clothing, fuel, et cetera; although many minor ailments were being ascribed to lack of proper nourishment.

The existing rations are low - but, the people seem to be able to carry on.

There can not be any doubt, however, that in these low rations, lies a potential means of the lowering of morale. That the authorities realize this situation is evidenced by the fact that at irregular intervals surprise extra rations in the form of, for example, an extra egg or two or of a few tins of sardines or a few ounces of coffee are issued in an effort to bolster up the spirits of the population.

The deficiencies constitute the principal topics of conversation. People discuss eagerly possibilities for obtaining food in addition to that provided by the ration cards. There appears to be a good deal of sub rosa (Schleich-handel) in food products at prices considerably above those set by the price fixing bodies. Moreover, many people still seem to have connections in country districts which can be used as sources of supply of farm products. Furthermore, a number of persons go out to the countryside regularly to make house-to-house canvases among the farmers, and they are frequently rewarded by being able to pick up a few eggs or a pound or so of butter.

The coffee, tea, and tobacco deficiencies may not be said to cause hardships but they certainly do give rise to
to a great deal of dissatisfaction, annoyance and bitterness.

In passing, it may be of interest to point out that there is a flourishing trade in second-hand commodities of all kinds. In fact there is a market for almost any kind of second-hand utility article, increasingly so as many varieties of articles have become almost impossible to obtain through the usual trade channels.

5. CURRENT RUMORS

As long as the writer was in Vienna, the city was literally alive with rumors. This was particularly true of the period immediately preceding the outbreak of the German-Russian war. During this period it was stated that the German supplies of food and of war materials of all kinds was running dangerously low and that this was the principal reason why it would become necessary for Germany to attack Russia.

In Vienna it seemed that much more attention was paid to the whispered rumor than to published material or to radio broadcasts. There are people who assert that the German authorities are fully cognizant of this situation, and that they themselves make use of the rumor as a means of spreading information which they deem to be of importance for their purposes.

By the same token, there would appear to be no reason why this means of spreading information could not be made use of by Germany's opponents as well.

6. BRITISH PROPAGANDA
6. BRITISH PROPAGANDA

As is known, the listening to foreign radio broadcasts is strictly prohibited in Germany. Despite the frequent publishing of names of persons who have been given heavy prison sentences for tuning in on illegal radio broadcasts, the practice of listening to foreign radio stations is nevertheless carried on. There is a common saying that every night the Viennese "play with death" i.e., listen to foreign radio stations.

In general interest in foreign radio stations centers in the B. B. C. news broadcasts, both in German as well as in the English languages. The reception of these broadcasts is very good, the signals coming in clearly. Of late it has only been on rare occasions that the B. B. C. news broadcasts have been jammed.

In general the people of Vienna realize that the B. B. C. news service does not always give the full picture of events; many people for this reason have lost faith in the statements of the B. B. C. They feel, however, that the B. B. C. often gives more than the German authorities are willing to release and it is largely for this reason that the B. B. C. programs are listened to.

There are people who assert that the two clandestine radio programs that are on the air nightly, i.e., (1) Gustav Siegfried, I (The Five Minute Man) and (2) Die Europäische Revolution, are of British origin and form part of the British propaganda service in Germany. As far as could be
be learned, there was in Vienna, a good deal of interest in both of these clandestine stations.

That the programs transmitted by these stations were not welcome to the German authorities is reflected in the circumstance that they were usually jammed, whereas the ordinary British programs were not disturbed at all. This indicates that the allegedly clandestine radio transmissions are considered by the Germans as a dangerous form of propaganda; they might, therefore, possibly be considered as having great potentialities for oppositionist propaganda.

As a matter of interest it may be stated that the Gustav Siegfried I transmissions are based on 100% opposition to the rule of Germany by the so-called Ribbentrop-Himmler clique, but that they do not contain any criticism of Hitler himself or of the war against England and Russia. The Europäische Revolution transmissions are carried on by a group of four or five speakers, all of whom assert that the present war is not going to be decided by force of arms, but by the power of the united working classes of all of the European countries, including Britain and Russia. The programs of this clandestine station include direct appeals for sabotage on the part of all workers in general in Germany and the occupied countries and by transportation workers and women workers in particular.

7. ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL INTELLIGENCE.

The
The writer has no specific information to give under this heading. This might be the place, however, to insert a few words about Germany's intentions as far as the invasion of England is concerned.

In Vienna opinion on this point is divided, there being about just as many people who believe that the invasion idea had been given up as there are people who believe that the invasion will be undertaken just as soon as the Russian campaign has been brought to a successful termination.

To substantiate their assertions, people in the latter category pointed to rumors in circulation concerning alleged invasion preparations. These preparations were taking the form, it was said, among others, of the building of light one-man tanks which were capable of being transported by planes. Factories for tanks of this kind were said to be actually in operation in the neighborhood of Vienna. These same persons also said that the German army authorities were building in the Vienna area large troop carrying airplanes, designed particularly for use against England. They also stated that gliders were under construction capable of carrying as many as from 80 to 100 troops each, and that the construction of these "invasion gliders" was proceeding very rapidly.

Rumors were also in circulation in Vienna that special units of secret tank formations had been developed by the German army authorities. In these formations, tanks of unusually
unusually large types were used. Furthermore these tank formations operated only at night and they were reported to have been the secret weapon used by Germany in the campaigns in the Low Countries and in Africa.

8. CIVILIAN DEFENSE

A great deal of attention has been given in recent months by the Vienna authorities to civilian defense. Members from every household were given special instructions in air raid precautions, and in each household fire fighting equipment was required to be on hand.

Many persons participated in these preparations unwillingly, but there was no way in which to circumvent the regulations.

In addition thereto air raid shelters are under construction in various parts of the city, particularly near large public buildings and railway stations. In hospitals the shelters are built far underground.

On the other hand, comparatively little attention appears to have been given to gas masks. As far as could be learned, there had been no general distribution of gas masks. In certain instances people had supplied themselves with masks through private purchases.

Throughout Vienna there are many public air raid shelters, the locations of which are clearly indicated by large arrows and other signs. In addition thereto, there are air raid shelters in each house. In areas where there are adjoining houses the cellar walls between houses have
have been broken through in such a way as to afford passage ways from one house to another.

Civilian defense seems, therefore, to be well organized in Vienna. Many of the Viennese are, however, not taking these precautions too seriously. For one reason or another, they seem to be of the opinion that the British will refrain from bombing not only Vienna but Prague as well.

These views are quite evidently, however, not shared by the authorities, judging from the fact that from two to three times a week there are intensive search light exercises in and about Vienna.

9. PRESTIGE OF PARTY.

It can not be said that the National Socialist Party is held in high esteem in Vienna, outside of its own immediate ranks. Remarks were frequently heard of favoritism within the party and stories were circulated of instances in which party members had suddenly become men of means.

It is true that accounts of this kind were only heard in opposition circles. The same individuals also asserted that party members were given special consideration in the distribution of food cards, clothing cards, et cetera.

Party officials also drive about in good motor cars. This frequently gives rise to unfavorable comment.

The principal party representative in Vienna is Baldur von Schirach, the Reichstattholter, and Gauleiter (District Governor).
Governor). He is a young man and has risen rapidly in party circles and is said to stand very close to Hitler. His wife's father is Hoffmann, the official photographer of the National Socialist movement, who is said to have become wealthy through party orders.

Schirach has exerted himself very much to gain the confidence of the people of Vienna. Whenever possible he brings important party officials to Vienna and arranges characteristic party spectacles in connection with such visits. These spectacles attract the attention of party adherents but not of the public in general.

One thing can be said about Schirach. He is better liked than his predecessor, Josef Buerekel, was.

Schirach's right hand man - Gunnar Kaufmann - is not from Vienna nor is Herr Jung the Burgermeister, of Vienna. The National Socialist leaders in Vienna are practically all outsiders and form a group of their own.

Schirach, Kaufmann and Jung frequently address public gatherings attended by workers, members of party organizations, et cetera. Stories are in circulation of meetings of this kind, at which such tumults occurred that the speakers—particularly Schirach—were forced to withdraw.

10. PRESTIEGE OF SERVICES

The writer has no comments to make on this subject.

11. MAIN SENTIMENTS OR EMOTIONS OF PEOPLE.

There is no doubt but that many people in Vienna are war-weary
war-weary.

Recently a man was heard to exclaim: "I do not care how the war ends. All I want is to be able to get my motor car back again". The following characteristic toast is frequently heard: "If only the war were over, even if we should win".

The apathy and indifference displayed by the Vienna population is almost surprising. Comparatively few people gather about the open air loud speakers when news bulletins are broadcast. The dramatized victory broadcasts receive strikingly little attention. Even the declaration of war against Russia did not cause more than a ripple on the surface, although Russia is regarded as being much more of an enemy than is England. Only once did the Viennese shake off the lethargy of indifference for a few hours, this having taken place when the news concerning the Hess flight to Scotland became known. On this occasion there were half-concealed smiles to be seen on the Vienna Ring boulevards.

In party circles, the U. S. A. and the role it is playing at present are unquestionably feared, or were at any rate until recently. This feeling is, however, not shared by the Vienna opposition which is looking forward eagerly to U. S. A. participation in the war, as a means to bringing about its early termination.

12. MIGRATIONS OF POPULATION.
12. MIGRATIONS OF POPULATION

The writer has no comments to make on this point.

13. CHANNELS FOR OBTAINING FUTURE INFORMATION.

The writer has no information to give under this heading.

14. IDENTITY OF AXIS ESPIONAGE AGENTS.

The writer has no information to give on this subject.

15. BRITISH BLOCKADE.

The writer has no comments to make on this subject other than that of pointing out that the gradual disappearance of utility commodities from the shops is unquestionably traceable either directly or indirectly to the effects of the British blockade.

16. FURTHER REMARKS.

In conclusion it may possibly be of interest to point out that many regrets were expressed by people in Vienna in connection with the closing of the American Consulate General in that city. The writer was told on more than one occasion that the withdrawal of the American representatives from Vienna represented the breaking of the last ties with the outside world. Numerous expressions were heard of the wish for the early re-opening of the Vienna Consulate General.
A characteristic remark was made to the writer by a representative of the transport firm which had taken charge of the removal of the Consulate General's effects. This individual — himself the wearer of a party button — stated quite sincerely in the parting interview with him that he was sorry the Americans were leaving, that he hoped they would soon return and that there were countless other persons in Germany who felt the same way.

Moreover, the departure of the Americans from Vienna was unquestionably viewed by the groups who are feeling the sharp whip lashes of Nazi domination, e.g., the Austrians, the clericals, the Jews, the Poles, the Czechs, and others as well, as possibly representing the first step in the direction of a movement in which they will again be given their freedom.

Perhaps the best picture of the situation is reflected in the following parting words made to the writer by a friendly Vienna traffic policeman. "I would give anything I have to be able to go with you. Under the new regime the position of the old Vienna police is rapidly becoming unbearable. I do not know how much longer I shall be able to stand it."

ENCLOSURES

There are enclosed herewith short statements prepared by Vice Consul, T. J. Rohenthal, and by Vice Consul Joseph M.
Roland, of the Vienna Consulate General making additional statements along the foregoing lines.

Respectfully yours,

Harry E. Carlson
American Consul

Enclosures:
Enclosure no. 1 to Despatch no. dated August 6, 1941 from Consul Harry E. Carlson, entitled: "Conditions in the Vienna Consular District."

SUBJECT: Memorandum prepared by Vice Consul Theodore J. Hohenthal, Vienna, Germany
Prestige of Party

Under this heading, it may be of interest to note a curious development arising out of the Russian conflict. This development relates to a change of sentiment, although not of political conviction, on the part of the extremists in political though in Vienna, i.e. the upper classes of society and the communists.

As might be expected, the most influential members of the upper classes of Viennese society are representatives of the old nobility, whose influence is out of proportion to their numbers. This group is largely monarchist and clerical in political conviction, and has been characterized by its contempt for the national socialists and its fear of the communists. There can be little doubt that the decision to fight Russia received the whole-hearted approbation of this group, and represents perhaps the first development of the present war which has received its approval. However, it should not be concluded that they have thereby been converted to the tenets of national socialism. On the contrary, they do not hesitate to impugn the motives of the political leaders, which they characterize as inspired by economic and military expediency and not in any sense by devotion to the avowed anti-communist principle of national socialism.

The extent of communist sentiment and influence in Vienna cannot, of course, be known, but that it is widespread among the laboring classes appears certain. The ostensible Russo-German collaboration at the outbreak of
the war apparently served to bring about a greater measure of cooperation from these elements. However, it is currently rumored in Vienna that the Russo-German conflict has aroused new and determined opposition to the national socialist regime among the laboring classes in Vienna. Certain it is that the attitude of workers toward those whom they serve is increasingly characterized by sullenness and disrespect. A growing indifference and carelessness with respect to the performance of tasks assigned to them can also be observed among workers who serve the public.

Regarding the change in sentiment on the part of the two categories of political thought noted above, it is probable that the viewpoint of the first - or upper - category is of little practical importance, although it is possible that the attitude of the communistic elements can have a far-reaching effect.

National Socialism and the Catholic Church

Repressive measures undertaken by national socialist party officials against the Catholic Church in Austria may be divided into (1) those relating to the confiscation of church property and (2) those designed to destroy the spiritual influence of the Church.

Property. Wholesale confiscatory measures have been taken against Church property, including convents, schools and monasteries. In some instances religious houses are no longer able to provide suitable living quarters for their ordained members on leave from military service. In this connection it may be noted that priests are not exempt from military
military service and many have already been killed or wounded in the present war. Moreover, large numbers of nuns are serving in military hospitals.

Worship. One of the principal expedients designed to alienate the population from religious worship is the compulsory attendance at various meetings, exercises, etc., of organizations of the national socialist party, particularly with regard to youth organizations. The writer has been told by priests that religious processions organized by them have been broken up by rowdies and that services conducted by them have been deliberately disturbed by marching and shouting national socialist organizations conducting their exercises in the neighborhood of the church.

It is the writer's opinion that these repressive measures directed against the Catholic Church must ultimately fail of their purpose, as the Church is too deeply implanted in the consciousness and traditions of the people.

Economic Conditions (Crops)

So far this year, the weather throughout Austria is reported to have been favorable for food crops, which are stated to be in a very good condition generally. This has been confirmed by the writer's personal observations in and around Vienna and during the train journey from Vienna to Frankfort-on-Main. In particular the grain and potato crops appear to be in a flourishing condition.
Enclosure no. 2 to Despatch no.
dated August 6, 1941,
from Consul Harry E.
Carlson, entitled: "Conditions in the Vienna
Consular District."

SUBJECT: Memorandum prepared by Vice Consul
Joseph N. Roland,
Vienna, Germany
Prestige of Services and Popularity of Individual Officers

The officers and the men in the ranks of the German military services enjoy a considerably greater respect and regard from the people at large than do the officials of the party and the members of the party organizations, such as the S.A. and the S.S. A large majority of the people, whether they are supporters or opponents of the present regime, have a great respect for the old military tradition and the conception of a soldier's honour which has gone with it in Germany, and in former Austria as well. It is generally felt that the military forces, in contrast to the party, are clean, honest, and dependable.

There are constant and recurrent reports of friction and disagreement between the leaders of the party and the military forces and it is believed by many that the two will continue to work together only as long as the German military successes continue, but that any serious military set-back or reverse would bring about a break between them. This is the great hope of many opponents of the regime: They know that large numbers of men who share their views are now serving in the military forces. In fact it is said that a man who has not identified himself with the National Socialist movement has a better chance of rising in the ranks than has an ardent Nazi. Those divisions which are made up of men from the S.S. from almost a closed organization and associate as little as possible with ordinary service men. It is undoubtedly true that there are large numbers of men in the ranks who are bitter opponents of
of the present regime and who are waiting only for the day when they may have a chance to overthrow it. Many opponents of National Socialism hope and believe that the present regime will be overthrown and replaced by a military dictatorship, but there is little agreement among them as to what form such a military dictatorship should take and what course it should follow.

The popularity and prestige of individual officers in the military services varies according to the ability and personality of the men concerned. In general it may be said that the severe officer of the Prussian military tradition, while he may be respected by men in the ranks and by civilians, and while his rank entitles him to a great prestige in Germany, does not as a rule enjoy a personal popularity. The more genial type of Austrian officer often enjoys the affection as well as the respect of his men. Austrians often find it difficult and galling to serve under officers schooled in the North German military tradition.

(12) Migrations of Population

The migrations of population which have taken place in the Ostmark in the past two years may be divided under three headings:-

(1) South Tyroleans

During the year 1940 a plan was worked out by Germany and Italy which was supposed to represent a final solution to the problem of South Tyrol. All persons of German, or Austrian, blood who were residing in the district ceded to Italy after the
great war were required to choose between Germany and Italy. Those who chose Italy have been and are being removed to areas farther south, while those who chose Germany are being resettled in large numbers in the Ostmark. Like most Germans outside the boundaries of the Reich, these people were greatly under the influence of Nazi propaganda and they came to the homeland expecting great things, but it is reported that in most cases their disillusionment has been swift. They were for the most part cultivators of vineyards, used to living and working in a mountainous district, but they have been frequently placed in a territory utterly unlike their former home, notably in the flat region around St. Polten, where they must pursue a type of agriculture to which they are not accustomed.

Needless to say, the great mass of the Austrian people consider this no solution to the problem of South Tyrol, the loss of which they have never ceased to resent. The attitude toward those who have been resettled is in general one of pity and sympathy.

(2) Bessarabians

After the so-called "Edict of Vienna" (Wiener Schiedspruch) in the fall of 1940, under the terms of which the territory of Bessarabia was ceded by Rumania to the Soviet Union, large numbers of Bessarabians, purported to be of German blood, were resettled in the rural districts of the Ostmark.

These
These people were for the most part simple peasants, crude and uneducated. Few of them could speak German when they arrived and for the most part they were much more Slavic than German in appearance. While the Austrians in general felt sorry for them, they did not welcome them in their midst and they definitely did not regard them as blood-brothers. The Bessarabians were not very clean in their way of living and it was reported that they had brought various diseases along with them, notably trachoma. They had left their homes and most of their possessions behind them, and to the resentment of the native population, they were quartered largely in old country estates and castles and disbanded monasteries which had been taken over by the authorities. In party circles they were made much of, and they were immediately set to work to fill up some of the gaps in labor shortage. The men were put to work in munitions industries or in industries with a military importance (Wehrwirtschaftliche Betriebe) or on large construction projects, such as the huge water power plant of the Göring Werke, now being built on the Danube near Ybbs. Women were placed in the fields, rendering assistance to the native peasants, or were assigned to housework in overburdened families, where they were reported to be misfits as a rule. All persons thus employed were relieved of over two thirds of their salary in return for the alleged boon which had been conferred upon them.
them by the German State. They are said to be unhappy in their new environment and quite bewildered by the whole affair. One of them, who was employed in a large paper mill at the town of Ortmann about twenty miles south of Vienna, was heard by the writer to remark: "If only we could have stayed where we were, but God and the Führer willed that we should come here."

(3) Infusion of North Germans into Austria and Removal of Austrians to Old Germany

There have been two great influxes of North Germans into Austria: After the union of Austria with the German Reich, large bands of party agents and party profiteers descended upon Austria and especially upon the city of Vienna. These persons were placed in key positions of the governmental services or took over the business enterprises of which Jews or nonconformist Aryans had been relieved. After the outbreak of the current war began a gradual infiltration of North Germans who sought refuge from the bombings in their home cities. Large groups of children have also been evacuated from the bombed cities of North Germany and placed either individually with good National Socialist families in the Ostmark, or quartered in groups at the resort hotels or private sanitariums of Austria, usually to the dismay of the proprietors.

The presence of these groups has been deeply resented by a great majority of the Austrian people, who speak of them as a plague of locusts, usurping economic
economic opportunities and using up local supplies of food and clothing. It has also been remarked with bitterness that these "invaders", both adults and children, were almost entirely members of the wealthy classes. Many of them have had the money to buy up beautiful country homes, and the presence of large numbers of them has rendered the housing situation in Vienna acute. As a rule the Austrians seek to avoid any contact with them and are as gruff and unfriendly as possible in all their dealings with them. There are constant reports of incidents and open clashes between individuals, and severe fines and even prison sentences have been placed upon the use of certain uncomplimentary names employed by the Viennese to designate the North Germans, such as "PIERER."

Many Austrians, principally of the laboring classes, have gone to take up employment in other sections of Germany. Some of these have gone voluntarily in response to promises of better employment, but by far the larger number have been forced to go by the German Labor Front (Arbeitsfront) which has supreme and complete control over all workers and their employment. Members of the former group have usually been dissatisfied and have been happy to return home at the first opportunity. Members of the latter group have usually gone very unwillingly, feeling that they were little better off than slaves, and have certainly formed a dissatisfied
dissatisfied element wherever they may have landed. Large numbers of women workers for the munitions industries were included in the latter group.

The German authorities seem to have done everything possible to further these migratory movements, apparently believing that they would help to iron out the very deep differences in temperament, customs, and general outlook which exist between the Austrians and the North Germans, who have never had a high regard for each other. It is the writer's impression that the direct opposite of this purpose has been accomplished: that the underlying antipathies have been greatly aggravated and the disaffection between the two groups considerably increased. Many Austrians who are supporters of the National Socialist regime, nevertheless deeply resent the "Prussian invasion" and despise the North Germans. One frequently hears the remark, "We got rid of the Jews, but we got the Prussians in their stead."

Convinced Supporters of the N.S. Regime

Among the adherents of the N.S. movement in Austria there are a number who might be called convinced supporters, and who have not profited from the party in a personal material way. These people usually appear to be the victims of the propaganda machine; often very idealistic, and often people of cultivation and intelligence, they seem to have cast aside all critical faculties and seem willing to swallow whole and without reflection any material which
is given them. Their thinking follows the same rationalizing methods as does the German propaganda; they begin with their conclusions and conjure up reasons and justifications to suit them. As an explanation of their susceptibility, one can frequently discern some deep-rooted prejudice or hatred: anti-Semitic or anti-British feelings, or resentment against the "injustices of Versailles."

Other persons, who are not in accord with National Socialist principles and methods, have nevertheless become supporters of the regime because they feel that their country was saved by it from economic chaos. They are particularly influenced by the fact that large masses of the Austrian population who had been without employment for years, secured jobs at adequate salaries shortly after the union with Germany, and have continued to be employed ever since.

There is also a group of persons who have gone over to National Socialism out of disillusionment over what they consider to have been the failure of the democratic powers to maintain their own positions and to check the rise of Germany. Although such persons may formerly have opposed Germany, they feel that they must stand or fall with Germany, and they feel that the overthrow and defeat of the current regime would bring on a period of disorganization and great distress for themselves and their families. The military successes of Germany in the past two years have, of course, confirmed them in their views.

Lastly
Lastly, there is, as one might expect, a large mass of people who think little on political subjects, but who shout the slogans of the day and ride on the current political band wagon. They would not hesitate to switch their support to any other regime which might gain control.
who made the following remark: 'I have heard by the statement of a well known local trader brought up by the statement can perhaps best be characterised. The nourishing statement can perhaps best be
assumed. Given at the beginning of this war that there
ration has been cut to 40 grams a week, despite the
wartime of the lowered morale to the food situation, the food situation in the present year, the second considerable cause
no hope that the war would be prolonged so a considerable con-
hit by in this respect before the moment of 20 May 1945
have continued and she can be satisfied not in this. Here
this country to such devastating measures the country
assumed that the present war would be of short duration.
assumed that the present situation, the German people were
cause of the present situation. The population that in my opinion there are two questions
the population part in my opinion there are two questions of
factor are properly responsible for the lowered morale of
population of the country under the attack of
I have the honor to report that the morale of the

E.J. Reinhard.

The Secretary of State,
The Honorable

SUBJECT: Conditions in Kuban Front on General Diorata.

June 4, 1945.
As to the members of the military, it is apparent that their original confidence in a German victory has been followed by genuine doubt that the German armed forces will bring the war to a successful conclusion. A close friend of mine, who is a leading estate owner in East Prussia and who was forced to accept German officers in his house during the period prior to the German attack on the Soviet Union, stated to me that one of the officers, a colonel at that, had expressed the viewpoint that it was no longer possible for Germany to win the war. My Soviet colleague reported to me that two German naval officers had stated that should the United States enter the war, it was their firm intention to refuse to carry on the fight any longer.

German officials whose positions depend upon the favor of the Nazi Party are reluctant to express any doubts in the ultimate victory of the German armed forces. Even among such officials, however, dissatisfaction has arisen at the length of the war and the ensuing deprivations caused thereby, and it would seem certain that a noticeable impairment in their morale may be expected. The morale of the individual citizen has declined noticeably, for the multiplying restrictions as to foodstuffs has caused all inhabitants to realize that the old slogan of cannon in place of butter is no substitute for much needed food.

It was mid-summer when I left my post, but there was a definite lack of vegetables and seasonal fruits. The excuse was given that a large part of the seasonal fruits were being canned, presumably for the use of the armed forces. If it develops during the coming winter season that the civilian population does not receive an appreciable share
share of these canned fruits, widespread dissatisfaction will ensue.

2. Bomb Damage.

It should be pointed out that neither Königsberg nor Danzig was ever subjected to a bombardment by airplanes of the Royal Air Force. Despite this fact, the British Broadcasting Corporation announced that Danzig had been severely bombed the night of November 10, 1940, and descriptions were actually given of the damage caused. There was no vestige of truth in these reports.

Following the German attack on Soviet Russia, which began the morning of June 22, 1941, Soviet airplanes dropped bombs on Königsberg for the first time at 5 a.m. on June 23rd. The bombs were dropped before the sirens could be sounded, and the same thing occurred during the next raid of nine o’clock the evening of June 24th. That particular night there were seven alarms, but the damage was slight.

During the first air attack, approximately 100 bombs were dropped, for the most part in the residential section of the city between the Consulate and my own house. Some bombs fell near the harbor, setting on fire an oil storage tank and a train loaded with munitions. In the attacks on June 23rd and 24th, there were 40 persons killed, a few individuals were fatally injured and one or two persons missing. In all, there were 17 alarms during the week and on one day in the following week there was an additional alarm. There were no subsequent alarms.

The bombs dropped by the Soviet airplanes were of the explosive type and were of small size. Hence, the damage done by a single bomb was slight, and even the total damage done
The introduction of new practices and new treatments has been a source of great interest and excitement in recent years. The success of these new approaches has been attributed to the increased understanding of the mechanisms underlying various diseases. This has led to the development of new diagnostic tools and treatments, which have greatly improved the outcome for patients. The use of technology, such as imaging and genetic analysis, has been instrumental in providing more accurate diagnoses and personalized treatment plans.

In addition to medical advancements, there has been a growing focus on preventive measures. Public health campaigns and education programs have played a crucial role in reducing the incidence of certain diseases. The implementation of vaccination programs, for example, has significantly reduced the prevalence of communicable diseases. However, the challenge of ensuring widespread vaccination coverage remains, especially in resource-limited settings.

Despite these progressions, there are still many areas for improvement. The healthcare system continues to face challenges related to access, affordability, and quality of care. There is a need for continued investment in research and development to address emerging threats, such as antibiotic resistance and chronic diseases.

Overall, the past decade has witnessed significant developments in healthcare, with promising trends in both medical and preventive measures. However, there is a realization that the work is far from over, and a sustained focus is required to maintain and further improve the health outcomes for all.
meat obtainable was slowly, but perceptibly, affecting
the health of the community. Then, too, the lack of
adequate housing facilities was proving a factor in
lowering the resistance of the inhabitants as regards colds
and seasonal diseases. The regulation was made effective
that 50 percent of the inhabitants of all apartment houses
must be children, which resulted in overcrowded conditions
in certain quarters of the city.

5. Current Rumors.

At the time of my departure from my post on July 8th,
it was not possible to judge the results of the Russian
campaign. It was the general belief that the German armed
forces would be able to attain their aims within three or
four weeks, and that time table was definitely upset by
subsequent developments.

The closing of the American Consulate was generally
considered as proof that war between the United States and
Germany was a foregone conclusion. This belief was not
without its depressing effect upon the population, for
whatever the outcome of the war, no decision was anticipated
for another two years.


The entire story of a British air bombardment of Danzig
the night of November 10th last or on any other occasion was
without any vestige of truth. The report, therefore, can
be dismissed as an attempt on the part of the British
authorities to give the impression, admittedly false, of
the widespread striking ability of the Royal Air Force.
The exaggerated claims put out by the British Broadcasting
Corporation
Corporation have undoubtedly caused German listeners to doubt the truth of all reports of damage from air raids. It might be desirable that the results of future raids be minimized when reported by radio, for by so doing Germans might be caused to give greater credence to the reports of damage arising from aerial bombardments.

A remarkable outcome of the flight of Deputy Leader Hess to Scotland was the discovery of the number of persons who obtained information regarding the flight from British radio stations. The number of persons who listen to news from London is indeed large in Danzig although very much smaller in Königsberg, all this despite the fact that Germans are forbidden to listen to foreign broadcasts.

7. Economic and Industrial Intelligence.

In reality it was not difficult for an observer in Königsberg to realize that the concentration of troops and motorized equipment in East Prussia was intended for a drive against Soviet Russia. Repeated reports were heard that German troops were on the march in Russia even before June 22nd, when – as Herr Hitler stated – the greatest march-in in history actually began.

Furthermore, the transport of troops and equipment towards the Baltic port of Pillau made it apparent that Germany expected to take military action in the Baltic area. It was for this reason that repeated reports were submitted to the effect that Germany had under consideration an attack anywhere in the Baltic area, but of course it became increasingly apparent that the destination of the troops was Finland.

The
The German authorities had massed at the Lithuanian frontier not only men and equipment but also hospital trains to take care of the wounded. Trains of wounded men actually began to pass through Königsberg on their way westward even before June 22nd. After the attack started, wounded men were brought to Königsberg by airplane in cases where surgical attention was urgently required. The difference in the gauge of the Russian railway was a great obstacle in the penetration of the Baltic States, as the Soviet authorities themselves had intended it to be.


It was not until the Spring months of the present year that the German authorities made adequate preparations for civilian defense. It was only some weeks before the actual attack on Soviet Russia that anti-aircraft guns were installed in the city and surrounding country and search-lights put into position.

Much attention had been directed to the need for the construction of adequate air raid shelters, but actually the beginning of hostilities between Germany and Soviet Russia found that there were insufficient cellars and that faulty construction was general. Of course, there were the usual buckets of water and boxes of sand on each floor of all buildings, but the precautions were in reality not up to the expected standard of German efficiency. Gas masks had not been distributed as a general practice, and so most of the inhabitants were not in possession of gas masks.

If some means is sought for impairing civilian morale, the most satisfactory method of lowering the morale would be to bomb German cities repeatedly, even if each attack were
were on a limited scale. The inhabitants of Königsberg would soon give expression to their dislike of bombing, for which reason emphasis might be given to this particular means of impairing civilian morale.


There has always been a tendency to spread jokes at the expense of certain Party members, but generally these witticisms have been of a friendly character. Reich Marshal Goering is understood to have enjoyed such jokes at his expense, but of late these witticisms have been of a more caustic character. Stories have been spread even regarding Herr Hitler, expressing doubt that he had ever won the Iron Cross in the last war.

According to what I have been able to observe, it hardly seems likely that there will be a revolt among the common people. The Party organization is so complicated and intricate that the average person is too frightened to spread rumors or to engage in subversive activities. I emphasize, however, that events which it is not now possible to anticipate, may aggravate the dissatisfaction, which at present is hardly more than latent. There would appear to be a greater possibility of some split among the leaders of the Party which might result in the defeat of Germany than of any outright revolt of the civilian population, comparable to 1918.


The prestige of the German armed services remains high, and up to the present time the civilian population has been willing to accept, without too much questioning, changes in command.
command. The flight of Herr Hess brought some doubt as
to the unity of feeling among German leaders, and even
certain changes now rumored will probably be accepted as
in the interests of the Reich. However, too frequent
changes in high ranking officers will ultimately defeat
its own purpose, for the people will begin to doubt that
the military leaders possess the expected degree of effi-
ciency, patriotism and devotion to duty.

11. Main Sentiments or Emotions of People.

There is no doubt but that the masses of the people
are war weary. Ever more frequently one hears the comment
expressed that the present conflict is indeed a "senseless"
and "needless" war. The very last evening that I was in
Königsberg, the porter of the hotel inquired in a loud
voice, even though the lobby was filled with guests, if it
were not possible for me to bring an end to this "senseless"
war.

Under orders from Party officials, the civilian inhabi-
tants of Königsberg had been instructed to refrain from
having frequent association with me as American Consul in
Königsberg. Anti-American feeling was increasing in volume,
arising from these orders and from propaganda hostile to the
United States. If contrary orders were to be issued, the
unfriendly feeling would subside. I have seen in the days
of my assignment to Lithuania the inimical feeling towards
Lithuania, then the hostile feeling towards Poland, then
the same sentiment towards Great Britain, and now finally
the unfriendly sentiment towards the United States. It
is a pity that the East Prussians, who by nature are dour
and
and sour, should be taught to hate persons of other nationalities. Through these recent years they have been instructed to engage upon a hate campaign, even though the nation disliked change from year to year.

Among the average inhabitants of Königsberg, I encountered regret that war with the United States is a possibility. The prospect of a conflict with this country brought regret to some, but in the main if the people were told to dislike the United States, they were sufficiently well disciplined to adopt an anti-American attitude. Should the United States enter the war, it was generally felt that the conflict would be greatly prolonged, and the belief was widespread that another two years would be required to bring the war to an end. Then, too, the entry of the United States into the last war has not been forgotten, nor the result of such participation. Hence, the possibility of America's entry into the war was being viewed gloomily and with apprehension.

Upon the conclusion of the Pact between Germany and Soviet Russia in August 1939, the population accepted the situation created by that understanding. However, as I reported on several occasions, German officials remarked to me that the real enemy of Germany was Soviet Russia. Furthermore, the present campaign against that country has given the German people an opportunity to indulge in expressions of self-righteousness, despite their own shortcomings in this same direction within recent memory.


Women and children from the bombed areas of western Germany were brought to Danzig and Zoppot. At the latter place,
place, which is usually deserted during the winter months, the hotels were kept open all last winter to accommodate refugees from cities subjected to frequent aerial bombardments.

In the Spring months of the present year, it was announced that the inhabitants of Königsberg could not rent places at the near-by seaside resorts, for hotel and boarding house accommodations were to be reserved for evacuees from western Germany. Later, when it became all too clear that East Prussia was a war danger zone and that the conflict with Soviet Russia must come about shortly, the earlier orders were rescinded and persons from western Germany actually were induced not to come to East Prussia for their vacations.

13. Channels for Obtaining Future Information.

It must be remembered that the inhabitants of East Prussia are among the most chauvinistic of all members of the German race. The East Prussians are suspicious of all foreigners and were not hesitant in stating upon the establishment of an American Consulate in Königsberg that I had been sent to that city to engage in espionage. There are few foreigners in the city, and these individuals are so fearful of their own safety that they refused to maintain social relations with me as the American Consul. This was particularly true in the case of the white Russians, who were considerate enough to advise me of the situation and of their regret that social intercourse was impossible. For this reason, there are no contacts in Königsberg through whom information might be obtainable and there are no means of getting such information in and out.

14. Identity

It was not possible in Königsberg to obtain particulars regarding the identity of Axis espionage agents.


The British economic blockade was definitely having its effect upon the receipt of supplies from abroad, despite German claims as to its ineffectiveness. Königsberg, naturally, was a port through which passed supplies received from the Soviet Union and, to a smaller extent, supplies from Japan and elsewhere transported by the Trans-Siberian railway. I have seen stored in Königsberg warehouses tea with English labels but of Japanese origin. This means of supply was cut off with the German attack on the Soviet Union.


East Prussian estate owners have remarked that their greatest cause for concern is the fact that there are no legal grounds upon which they can seek recourse for the seizure of property and possessions of any kind. Cattle can be taken, buildings commandeered, and while some recompense is generally given, full value is seldom received. Whatever the outcome of the war, the estate owners realize that their properties will be subdivided and that the day is not far distant when the East Prussian Junkers will no longer maintain their status as landed gentry.

The Nazi Party organized its own secret police following the Russian pattern, improving upon the Soviet organization with true German efficiency. The result is that each person is fearful of expressing an opinion in the presence of another German, for that individual might indeed be a Gestapo agent.

Hence
Hence, owners of radio sets, who otherwise might listen to the programs in German from London, are fearful that their own servants might report the matter to the authorities. One family, despite the sentences imposed for listening to foreign programs, stated that they often wished to listen to British programs but that the nurse maid for the children was a rabid Nazi and would report such action at once. Devotion to Party and Leader thus outranks loyalty to family or employer.

Respectfully yours,

C. Porter Kuykendall
American Consul
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: August 9, 1941.

SUBJECT: Conditions in the Baltic Area

PARTICIPANTS: Consul C. Porter Kuykendall (Formerly of Königsberg)
Mr. Stevens, Eu

COPIES TO:

Mr. Kuykendall was questioned concerning the evacuation of Germans from the Baltic States and stated that the bulk of the German population had been moved from Latvia and Estonia and settled in the Corridor and in Posen. He reported that there was considerable resentment against these repatriates in the regions where they had been settled because of their overbearing and superior attitude and the privileges which they appeared to expect. He said that many of the German peasants who resided in Lithuania near the East Prussian border had remained there and would apparently form the nucleus for any Lithuanian puppet state which might be formed under German control if German arms are successful against
against Russia. No definite information concerning German plans for the organisation of Eastern Europe had been available at Königsberg.

People in East Prussia, while not anxious for the entry of the United States into the war, apparently do not feel that it would play a decisive role and consider that to all intents and purposes the United States is only a belligerent.
August 5, 1941

Strictly Confidential—

SUBJECT: Present Conditions in the Paris area.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the Honor to refer to the Department's Instruction of August 1, 1941 requesting a report of the Paris Consular District. The report follows the form of the questionnaire enclosed with the instructions. Where the questions do not appear to apply to the Paris District information along the lines suggested is given.

1. The sentiment of the people in the French capital has for several months been one of more or less indifference. They admit having lost the war and expect unpleasant consequences. The conduct of the occupying forces has been disarming. There have been very few personal conflicts or even unpleasantnesses between French citizens and German soldiers. Each have ignored the other. French life continues in spite of official restrictions. The restaurants do a good business, the bistros are well patronized, the races are as popular as ever. However there is no sparkle in Paris life. It is as though the people were just going through the motions.......


motions of living.

The German soldiers do not appear to be enjoying life. They attend the girl shows and pass time in the cafes but they appear to be subdued by the possibility that they may be sent to Russia. The prospect is not relished. The fact that the French ignore them does not please them.

The German officials and staff officers in Paris appear to be perturbed by the participation of the United States in the war. They express amazement that the United States should feel it necessary to become involved and are much concerned as to the outcome of the war if the United States enters actively.

German morale in occupied France will undoubtedly be adversely affected if there are reverses in the Russian Campaign and if the United States takes a more active part. French morale will be improved by the same factors but it is doubtful if anything will inspire the French to any effort on their own behalf except starvation next winter.

2. Paris was only bombed once, by the Germans. The damage was insignificant. The air field at Le Bourget has had several visits from the Royal Air Force but the damage has been quickly repaired.

3. There are several good targets on the outskirts of Paris, in addition to the air field at Le Bourget, including the automobile factory of Citroen and metalurgical plants which are manufacturing supplies for the German army. The best time for daylight bombing is between 12.30 and 2.30 when the French workmen are away for lunch.

4. The health of the civil population in the Paris area has not so far been impaired by deficiencies. Nearly every family has some private stocks of food which were consumed during last winter, to augment the food currently available.
5. There is a rumor that the line of demarkation will be pushed toward the coast leaving Paris in the free zone and that the coastal areas will then be held under strict military control. This is probably groundless and the result of wishful thinking. Goering has not been seen in Paris lately and there is a rumor that he is in disfavor with Hitler and has been imprisoned. There were rumors that the R.A.F. intended to bomb the outskirts of Paris. The Paris people did not resent this.

6. The B.B.C. programs, especially those in French were eagerly listened to in Paris and it seems that the Paris population gets its information from that source. More reliance is placed on the British broadcasts than on the German controlled local press. The broadcasts in French come over very badly because of interference by the Germans which frequently makes them unintelligible. The broadcasts in English are usually clear. It appears that the British broadcasts are widely disseminated passing by word of mouth to those who have no radios.

7. The French automobile plants in Paris are producing automobiles and trucks for the use of the German army. The anti-Communist parade held in Paris on July 10 included nearly all of which were of French make.

8. Civilian defence at Paris has been reduced to the black-out at night. The people have confidence that the city itself will not be bombed.

9. The Vichy Government has little support among the French at Paris. A few of the larger industrialists believe that their welfare depends on collaboration but the people in general are not for collaboration. The prestige of Marshal Petain is waning. Darlan is considered to be....
to be a traitor. Enthusiasm for de Gaulle is not great but a rising respect for the British automatically carries de Gaulle with it.

10. The French recognize the superiority of the German armed forces but they do not like them and are not fooled by the courteous treatment accorded to them by individual members of the occupying army. There are few army officers who are received socially by the French. Such as are, are conspicuously Austrians or Germans who have lived outside Germany and whose Nazi sympathies are not strong.

11. The French are very anxious for the war to end. Any peace which would get the Germans out of France and leave France free for reconstruction would be accepted. A British victory or German defeat does not appear to be essential. The French dread the next winter and the hardships which are in prospect. They are impatient with the United States for not coming immediately to their rescue. The French people would like to be rescued but it does not appear that they are now prepared to do anything in their own defence. That situation may change however if there is famine and no coal during the next winter. The Russian Campaign is viewed with indifference except as it may bring about an early end to the war. The Russian resistance is admired but enthusiasm either for or against Russian Communism is lacking. The French are much annoyed by the line of demarcation which interrupts commercial relations and makes business very difficult between the two zones. This is a constant source of irritation and calls forth much of the French genius for evading regulations.

12. A considerable...
12. A considerable number of German families are moving into occupied France. Some Germans are being employed to take over Jewish businesses which have been closed out. The French refugees have very largely returned to their domiciles.

13. The guard on the line of demarkation is so strict that the passage of information from the occupied zone is very dangerous and should be entrusted only to professionals.

14. The activities of British agents in occupied France have become so important that large rewards have been offered for information concerning them, and penalties are given for not reporting them. British parachutes in considerable numbers have been found and frequent rumors are heard of British agents masquerading as German officers and soldiers.

15. The British blockade has cut offf imported goods, but the French do not blame the British since there were known to be stocks of supplies in France sufficient for several years before they were taken by the Germans.

16. The impossibility of suppressing the campaign to put Vichy everywhere is undoubtedly the cause of the German adoption of the same symbol. This is considered a moral victory by the French.

The French resent the effort to graft German culture on them. The signs in public places, the theater programs, the menus in restaurants and cafes are printed both in French and German. The German controlled press is not relied on and German films are not patronized. German newreels are shown in all motion picture theaters by compulsion. During their showing the theater lights are turned on and plain clothes German police watch the crowd. Any manifestation results in arrests and a strong demonstration results in the closing of the theater. Although there is
almost no automobile traffic, the pedestrians are forced to cross only at crossings and are fined on the spot for violations. That type of discipline is particularly onerous to the French.

French persons cannot get passports or have passports renewed in occupied France, or leave occupied France except under very special conditions. Men between the ages of 18 and 45 are not permitted to go to unoccupied France. No passports or exit visas are issued to Jews except those few who are listed as "indispensable" and who work for the Germans.

Respectfully yours,

Laurence W. Taylor
American Vice Consul
Mr. Taylor pointed out that there had been a noticeable change in sentiment in France in the past year. At the end of June 1940 the French were resigned to the fact that they had lost the war and were desirous only that peace be concluded as soon as possible and that they be permitted to resume their way of life and make such reparation as might be demanded of them. There was bitter resentment against the British and the United States. A year later sentiment had changed considerably. The prevailing feeling was that the French débacle had been caused by their own weaknesses and the inefficiency and senility of their government, and they were acquiring increasing respect for the resistance being offered by the British and increasing hope that the outcome of the war might permit the
the re-establishment of a Free France. While a year ago there was pronounced sentiment for collaboration with Germany as the victor, a year's contact with the Germans has created a strong anti-German feeling and the idea of collaboration is becoming increasingly unpopular. The spirit of resistance to the Germans, however, has not been sharpened to the point where any active steps in the direction of sabotage or interference with German control take place. No Communist activities have been noted, although a number of Communists and Masons were taken into custody in Paris at the beginning of the Russian campaign.

The prevailing sentiment among the people is that the United States should enter the war and save France. There is no resentment against the American policy of refusing to send food supplies which might be confiscated by the Germans.

The food shortage at Paris is already severe and practically all available food supplies are rationed. Mr. Taylor believed that the food situation will become serious during the coming winter.

The B.B.C. broadcasts are popular in occupied France and the French rely upon them for news in preference to the German controlled press. Mr. Taylor recommended that attempts should be made to prevent the Germans from jamming French language broadcasts to France by slight variations in the wave length and emphasized the importance of accurate
accurate news reports in view of the faith which the French place in their reliability.

Industrial production in the Paris area has apparently not been seriously affected by raw material shortages. Mr. Taylor was unable to state whether substitute materials were being used to any degree in the industrial production but stated that all manufacturers executing orders for Germany appeared to have no difficulty in obtaining the necessary supplies.

There is no French leadership at the present time which enjoys any prestige in France. The Vichy government does not command respect and the prestige of Darlan is steadily decreasing. The French do not consider that De Gaulle has the qualities of leadership but his stature increases with the continuance of British resistance.
The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the Department's instruction dated August 1, 1941 with enclosure in regard to conditions in my consular district before leaving France.

I am replying to the questions inscribed and will cover the districts of Nantes and Bordeaux.

1. MORALE. The morale of the German military and naval forces was high and they were confident of ultimate victory. The best combatant troops had been transferred from Nantes to Russia and fanatical young Nazis were brought in for training purposes. Older but unfit soldiers were also brought in as garrison troops. Many remarks were heard expressing hopes for an early end of the war but it was difficult to determine whether they were sincere or had been ordered uttered for French consumption as propaganda. A few suicides occurred and the bodies found holding family photographs in the hands.

Morale can be lowered by bombing the aviation fields at Nantes, Bordeaux, La Baule, Brest, and Rennes as well as the German headquarters in Bordeaux

(Hotel Splendide,
(Hotel Splendide, Hotel Bordeaux - facing the Opera, and the former French General Staff quarters); in Amaubnon and in Pilar, (all the hotels along the waterfront-used as barracks); Les Sables d' Olonne, (the inner harbor); Nantes, (Feldkommandatur opposite the Cathedral, ships in the river Loire moored around the transbordeur, Hotel Central for the General Staff, Place Cambron for the auto park, and the Hotel Duchesse Anne); St. Nazaire (all houses facing the promenade near the America monument, ship yards, inner harbor for the tankers and concrete submarine abris); Mantoir (laborers construction camp); Pornichet, (motor truck park); La Baule, (all big hotels on waterfront but see under Navy); Lorient, Brest, and Dinard (all hotels and staff offices); Rennes (railway station); Le Mans (railway station); Angers (staff headquarters).

The Germans are terrified that parachutists will be dropped behind their lines and it would be a good idea to drop empty parachutes to excite them.

NAVY. The Germans are establishing naval bases in Bordeaux and in St. Nazaire. Many sailors and ships at both places. Le Baule, the beautiful beach and town has been appropriated and summer visitors are not allowed to swim. The keys to over 6,000 houses have been delivered up to the Mayor and the owners permitted to remove only their personal clothing. The city has been declared a "Sanitary Town" and submarine crews given 20 days rest there after
after each cruise. They are quartered in the Hotel L'Hermitage in three tier bunks. Navy headquarters is established in the Hotel Majestic. The Hotel Royal behind the Casino is used as a barracks. The Casino is being opened for the soldiers and the sailors. The SOLDATENHEIM (Club) is visible from far out at sea. German women and children are expected to refuge there. Many have already arrived. The sailors weep when their 20 days of rest is over and they must go to sea. They also remark when comrades do not return.

FRENCH OFFICIALS. The Prefet, Sous-Prefects, and other department officers have been changed and are Vichy appointees. They profess to believe in collaboration and their morale seems high although forced.

FRENCH CIVILIANS. About 80 per cent are probably anti-Vichy. Most industrialists want a speedy termination of the war in order to resume business even to collaboration with Germany. The peasants and farmers are against collaboration. Their morale is high and hope that British bombing will increase. The bigger the bombing the higher the morale.

2. BOMB DAMAGE. As a whole not very extensive. In fact disappointing.

Break. Damage to the city was caused principally by anti-aircraft shells falling back. These shells are supposed to have damaged the American Monument there. One shell hit and demolished the Continental Hotel
Hotel killing, it is said, over 200 Germans. Ten per cent failed to explode. Two German battleships were hit but not destroyed and repairs, under cover, were being made. The harbor was damaged to a certain extent and caused the submarines to go to Lorient and St. Nazaire.

**Lorient.** Fort damaged and five submarines reputedly sunk. City badly damaged by anti-aircraft shells falling back. People slept in woods during big attacks last Spring. Forty thousand laborers of many nationalities said to be working there on concrete abris for subs. Several hundred Germans reportedly killed and bodies cremated when barracks were destroyed.

**Bennes.** Air field slightly damaged.

**La Manse.** Ammunition cars on freight train blown up.

**St. Nazaire.** Little damage in May bombardments. The conciergerie of the Bank of France destroyed, a prison demolished, several houses hit, slight damage to ship yards, 22 Germans and several civilians killed, several old A.E.F. locomotives demolished in the freight yards, one submarine lightly damaged. The diesel engines repaired by an electrician of La Baule working for France 1,000 per hour. None of the balloon barrages, searchlights, or anti-aircraft batteries hit. No hit on the concrete submarine abri, built at the French Line wharf with a top 2 1/2 meters thick.

**Donges.** Despite many bombings the oil plant still functions.
functions. Two small gas tanks were destroyed, a house, telegraph lines, and the railway hit. A pipe-line has been constructed on the right hand side of the railroad, at the end of the sleepers, from the plant to Savenay and will be continued to Rennes.

Nantes. The air field, Chateaubougon, hit several times but not put out of action. The highway has been blocked off and is now used as a runway. About thirty planes, bombers and fighters are there. The bombers fly north, probably to Rennes, to load their bombs for England. A chateau up the Loire River was bombed but not hit. The staff moved out, however, within an hour. The plane appeared to be hit and had to unload its bombs. Bordeaux was bombed the same night last Spring.

Bordeaux. The Souse was gutted; the airfield, Merinao, was destroyed (but has been rebuilt); one ship hit on the stern; several Italian destroyers reportedly sunk; a few houses demolished with several casualties; and window panes in most of the customs sheds broken. The Texaco Oil Company Refinery below the city was permanently wrecked and fires burned for four days.

The latest high explosive bombs are the most effective that the British have dropped. The types are unknown.

3. VITAL BOMBING TARGETS.

Mendaye. The Germans are constructing a double track railway bridge connecting the frontier station of Mendaye, France, with Irun, Spain, to enable them to
to rush trains directly into Spain without the necessity of transferring troops at both points. The Spanish gauge railways are broader than the gauge of the French railways. The bridge is half completed.

St. Jean De Luz. The horse stables on one side of the railway and the wagon sheds on the other. About 200 horses are stabled there.

Coast defense batteries, now under construction, between St. Jean and Biarritz.

Bordeaux. The air field at Merinao together with neighboring chateaux; the basin now being converted into a big submarine base; destroyers moored alongside the wharves; the old A.E.F. depots below the city where freight trains are now loaded with loot and shipped to Germany; the customs sheds; and the oil plant.

Nantes. The ship building plant where four destroyers are nearing completion and where repairs are made upon German craft; the French plant on the River Erd now manufacturing armaments; the airfield at Chateauxbourgon; and the bridges over the Loire in case of a landing.

St. Nazaire. The ship building plants; the concrete submarine abris; pill boxes around the coast to Pornichet; and the railway station. Incendiary bombs would destroy the balloons scattered over the former A.E.F. camp site.

La Baule. The airfield although it is not in active use.

Lorient.
Lorient. The harbor and submarine base.
Brest. The harbor, submarine base, and the airfield.
Rennes. The airfield.
Donges. The oil plant.

Daylight raids are the best times to bomb these places although it is necessary to fly high over the well fortified city of St. Nazaire.

4. HEALTH. The health of the population as well as all branches of the Axis armed forces is good. There are no epidemics. Both Germans and Italians are exceedingly well nourished, the former better than the latter who do not appear to have enough money to eat in restaurants. All food is scarce. Meat cannot be served for meals at night. Cards are issued for meats (beef and pork), bread, fats, oils, greases, soap (including shaving cream), rice, potatoes, macaroni, butter, chocolate, whole milk, cheese, cotton silk, rayon, woolens, shoes, thread, and sugar. Old shoes must be exchanged for new; two old suits must be exchanged for one new suit. Paper of all kinds, needles, pins, ink, aluminum utensils, bedding, blankets, nails, and a host of other articles are rare and difficult to obtain.

Coal and wood are rationed. Gas and electricity production has been reduced.

Housing facilities have not yet become acute although the Germans have requisitioned nearly every empty or spare room with families and have taken over all the big modern hotels.

5. CURRENT RUMORS.
5. CURRENT RUMORS. Rumors were legion and included such things as a British landing at Cherburg; enormous German losses in the attack last fall on England; the washing ashore of thousands of bodies; the finding by fishermen in their nets of German bodies tied together in groups of four or six; the landing of parachutists; the revision of the frontier between the occupied and the free zones; the evacuation of Bordeaux and Nantes; the shooting of British prisoners; wholesale suicides of Germans; the entry of the United States into the war; the assassination of Mussolini; the killing of Goering during a raid; the burning of thousands of Germans with oil on the Channel; France will declare war on the United States if their colonies are occupied, etc., etc.

6. BRITISH PROPAGANDA. The British Broadcasting Corporation has a host of listeners to their daily broadcasts in French and to the broadcasts of the Free France. The Germans, however, endeavor to spoil each emission. The emissions in English are rarely disturbed. The French people believe the British Broadcasting Corporation news and put no faith in the news over the French and German stations.

Improvement in dissemination would be difficult for the Germans would find means to ruin reception.

Radio remains the best means because pamphlets or leaflets dropped from planes would be seized by the police, or, if picked up, the population would be punished either with curfew or a fine and any person possessing
possessing one would be either imprisoned or shot. A big demand for radio sets exists and the supply is insufficient.

7. ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL INTELLIGENCE. It looks as if the Germans contemplate a military movement in Spain (see paragraph 3). On June 23, 1,941, a long train loaded with artillery and ammunition arrived in the station at Mendeys, France. Eight howitzers (6 or 8 inch) were seen and it was said by two railway employees that they were taken from the Maginot Line and would enter Spain after nightfall. These men claimed that for several days before they had unloaded for reshipment thousands of cases of ammunition which had already gone into Spain. Long lines of trucks, horse-drawn wagons, motorcycles, rolling kitchens, and buses with soldiers were observed moving south from Biarritz. At Negrepes, the junction station for Biaritz, a train of flat cars busily discharged about 50 more trucks which were driven off toward the south. The soldiers wore the black uniform of the mechanics.

It is expected that Germany will be invited into Spain soon after the completion of the railway bridge between Hendaye and Irun.

8. CIVILIAN DEFENSE. This defense has been organized by the Germans and is under their supervision. It includes doctors, nurses, policemen, firemen, and soldiers. They did not, however, have sufficient practice, except in Brest and in Lorient.
The shelters are usually ordinary basements which are indicated by signs posted before the doors of the houses and the number of people printed thereon. They appear to be death traps. Concrete shelters have been constructed in parks, wide streets, and vacant spaces and provide good refuge except for direct hits.

Gas masks have been issued to most of the population of Nantes but not in Bordeaux as the Germans hinted on several occasions that air raids might be expected.

9. PRESTIGE OF PARTY AND POPULARITY OF INDIVIDUAL PARTY MEMBERS.

Political parties, as such, hardly remain as Vichy appoints the Prefets and other high officials while the Germans choose the Mayors in the cities.

In both Nantes and in Bordeaux close cooperation exists.

Germany backed extensively the Independence Party of Brittany soon after the occupance, but its popularity faded away, the desire for independence turned into hatred of the Germans.

The Communist Party has it's organization intact in Nantes awaiting the day when it can rise against the Germans.

Associations of former veterans also await the time for action.

10. PRESTIGE OF SERVICES AND POPULARITY OF INDIVIDUAL OFFICERS.

Does not seem to apply to Nantes and Bordeaux.

11. Main Sentiments
11. MAIN SENTIMENTS OR EMOTIONS OF PEOPLE. The industrials of Nantes seem to be war weary and desire a quick peace in order that they may return to their normal activities. The peasants and farmers, however, hate the Germans and have no confidence in Vichy. Several thousand letters were received in Bordeaux and in Nantes from all classes of people requesting that the President of the United States be informed that no food of any kind should be sent to France as the Germans would only take corresponding amounts from them; that they are willing to suffer cold and starvation; that the American flag flying over the Consulate gave them courage; that the Americans would be welcomed; that the British should bomb more extensively; that they would deal later with the traitors of Vichy; that they would not fight against their best friends - the Americans, that they maintained their conviction of ultimate victory, etc., etc. These letters were burned.

While the Russians were not hated it was hoped that there would be mutual massacre on the Eastern Front. The Communists, however, welcomed Russian aid.

12. MIGRATION OF POPULATION. Around Nantes and Bordeaux there has been no migration of people with the exception of the Jews who fled to the Free Zone. No restrictions are placed on travel by rail, except to the Forbidden Zone in Northern France and to Alsace-Lorraine. Motor car traffic is strictly regulated due to the acute shortage of gasoline.

French
French people are denied the privilege of visiting the watering places of La Baule, Pouligny, Pornichet, Biarritz, and other beaches. Houses have been requisitioned and owners permitted to remove only their personal clothing. A great migration, already underway, of German women and children will fill these summer villas. They hope to escape the bombing of German cities.

The French may cross the boundary line between the Free and Occupied Zones under certain strict rules and regulations, such as business for the Germans, death in the family upon proof, marriage, ill health, or to settle estates. The required proof most of the time is apparently lost in the mails.

13. CHANNELS FOR OBTAINING FUTURE INFORMATION. Fishermen running the blockade between Brittany and England provide occasional channels but they must be contacted in England. Their movements are checked by German Customs Officers who have replaced their "inefficient" French colleagues around the coast of Brittany. Smugglers across the line of demarcation could also be used although most of them work for both sides. They must be contacted in Toulouse, Perigueux, Limoges, or other towns in the unoccupied zone.

14. IDENTITY OF AXIS ESPIONAGE AGENTS. I do not know any Axis agents. It has been rumored that agents were sent to the United States disguised as persecuted refugees.

15. British Blockade.
15. BRITISH BLOCKADE. Ships seem to freely enter
St. Nazaire, Nantes, La Rochelle, Brest, Lorient,
Bordeaux, and Bayonne. Last November 16 trans-
atlantic liners were counted in St. Nazaire. They
left there before Spring. Wine ships from Algeria
have tied up in Nantes, while tankers (about
8-10,000 tons) are tied up now in both ports.

In Bordeaux 15 or 20 vessels, (several are
Greek) are tied to the wharves.

German troops are said to have sailed from
Bordeaux and from Bayonne to North Africa together with
their equipment. In June, last, two large vessels
(20,000 tons estimated) sailed from Bordeaux loaded
with munitions and soldiers. One was Belgian and
her Captain refused to sail.

Six German destroyers entered the inner harbor
of Les Sables D'Olonnes last May and several are
still moored in Bordeaux. They come and go at will.
Vessels after leaving port hug the coastline from
St. Nazaire to Brest. They usually sail late in the
afternoon.

In going to North Africa they skirt the coasts,
following all indentation, of France, Spain, Portugal,
Spain, again until nearing the Straits, which they
cross at night to the African coast.

16. FURTHER REMARKS. The following observations are made
to illustrate the unbeatable French spirit.

Since the Germans have stolen the "Y" campaign
of the French all their automobiles, trucks, buildings,
windowpanes of the passenger trains have been labeled with the "V". The French now draw the Cross of Lorraine in the "V".

Ask a Frenchman, "What is a German?" and he will reply, "A German is a pig, bred in Germany, fattened in France, slaughtered in England, and salted in the Channel."

On the 14th of July the Germans issued orders that there would be no celebrations and no flag flying but the good ladies of France aired in their windows white sheets by red blankets and blue curtains.

One book store exhibited in its front window a large photograph of Hitler together with an equally large one of Mussolini and separated the two with a neat volume by Victor Hugo, "Les Misérables".

A cemetery at Nantes has nineteen British soldiers buried there and their graves are buried waist high with flowers and wreathes. Fresh flowers are added daily and dead ones removed. Nearly all wreathes bear the inscription, "A nos chères Tommies". It is touching to witness the devotion and reverence shown at these graves.

Imagine Bordeaux suffering from a wine shortage! The ordinary wine is scarce and many stores bear the sign "No Wine". An empty bottle must be given in exchange when a full bottle can be found. The Germans are buying all the wine possible and shipping it to Germany for storage. When the war is over it will
will be exported to the United States to obtain exchange.

The sardine canneries of Brittany have been requisitioned and all the pack shipped to Germany. This is also true of canneries of the luscious sweet peas.

The docks were swept of all merchandise as "prizes of war" and claims therefor must be made to the Prize Court at Hamburg.

Twenty-six thousand head of cattle were requisitioned from the Department of the Loire Inferieure and shipped to Germany in March.

Poultry is scarce because there is not grain enough to feed them yet German soldiers at Rainbeauf pastured their horses in growing wheat fields.

Nantes was fined 2,000,000 then another France 5,000,000 because the German military telephone lines had been cut. The city was punished several other times by curfew hours.

Very truly yours,

H. H. Dick
American Consul
Amsterdam, Netherlands, August 8, 1941

- STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL -

REPORT ON CONDITIONS IN AMSTERDAM CONSULAR DISTRICT, SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTION OF AUGUST 1, 1941

1. Morale.--The morale of the Netherlands population is high and with the exception of the small group of Dutch Nazis, the sentiment of all classes distinctly anti-German. With the above exception, the population are all hopeful of an ultimate Allied victory. The shortage of food, which is the chief cause of complaint, is never attributed to the British blockade but to the quantities of food stuffs which are sent to Germany by the German authorities.

2. Bomb damage.--The damage in the Amsterdam Consular District has been relatively light, the principle damage occurring along the coast and at den Helder. The Schipol airport to the southwest of Amsterdam was subjected to heavy air raids by the British in the early days of the occupation, but for the last six months it has been so heavily protected by anti-aircraft that it is now seldom bombed.

3. Vital
3. **Vital Bombing Targets.**—In my opinion a good objective would be the Nord Zee Canal where some fifty large barges with American grain, confiscated by the Germans, have been moored for several months on the north side of the canal below the railroad bridge at Hembrug. Furthermore, along the same canal nearer Amsterdam there are several Dutch shipyards engaged in the construction and repair of freighters for the Germans.

4. **Health.**—The health of the Axis armed and naval forces appears to be particularly good, doubtless due to the fact that men in the service are given special rations at the expense of the civilian population. The health of the population in general, at the time of my departure in July, appeared to be good and apparently there were no epidemics. The civilian population are, however, distinctly short of foodstuffs. The working people and even Netherland clerks in the Consulate were noticeably thinner due to the shortage of potatoes, bread and fats. As to deficiencies in particular medicines, it was reliably reported that early in 1941 there was enough insulin in the Netherlands to last for two years, but that this supply was recently confiscated and shipped to Germany. There is a distinct shortage of clothing as textile industries are now engaged solely in war work for the Germans. All items of clothing are rationed and before my departure there was a current rumor that no one would be permitted to have in his possession more than two suits of clothes. I believe, however, that the principle hardship next winter will be the shortage of coal for heating purposes. It was
was difficult to obtain coal last winter and any private reserves are now exhausted. In fact, there has been no hot water in apartment houses since last May. There is no lack of housing facilities in the Amsterdam Consular District, although new construction is practically at a standstill because of the difficulty of obtaining raw material.

5. Current rumors.---As a result of the strict censorship and the lack of all outside news, current rumors are rife. These rumors are invariably of a pro-Allied nature, such as reports that Hitler is ill or even dead, or that there is discord between leading members of the Party. A particularly popular rumor is that there are difficulties between the army and the Party. In fact, this latter rumor is so current it must have some basis in fact. Any rumor detrimental to the German cause is eagerly listened to and rapidly spread.

6. British Propaganda.---Although listening to foreign broadcasts is punishable by fine and imprisonment there is practically no one in the Netherlands who does not listen himself or obtain verbal reports on foreign broadcasts from acquaintances. A standing joke in the Netherlands is that "for some mysterious reason" all windows are closed at 6 p. m. (the hour of the British broadcast). Unfortunately, the Germans have been able to jam the medium length broadcasts from England, and people with inexpensive sets, unable to get the same broadcast on short wave, are now unable to listen. Such stations as WAB, Boston, can only be heard on the more expensive sets, but programs from that station are particularly popular. British propaganda in the nature of
of leaflets and small packages of tea dropped from airplanes are particularly well received. The leaflets are photographed and passed from hand to hand, and the packages of tea which were dropped some months ago, are treasured. In fact, although tea can only be purchased in very limited quantities, these packages have been retained intact as souvenirs. As to the recent "V" propaganda, it has been received with great enthusiasm.

Bicyclists when giving a signal for a right or left turn form a "V" with the index and middle fingers. People in rural districts have even reported that their postman has given three short and one long ring (Morse code for "V"). In fact, the last Netherlander whom I saw before leaving Holland, a soldier stationed at the border, saluted with the index and middle fingers extended. While no one believes this "V" propaganda will have any material result, it has distinctly improved the general morale.

7. Economic and Industrial Intelligence.--Information as to new developments in weapons and technique was not available in the Netherlands. There was, however, a very current rumor and one which is believed to be true, that Australian and Turkish uniforms are being manufactured in Amsterdam.

8. Civilian Defense.--Apparently no steps were being taken in Amsterdam for civilian defense, although in the bombed area in Rotterdam many new cement air raid shelters have recently been constructed by the Germans. Although German soldiers all carry gas masks, the population do not carry them, and it is very doubtful whether they have been
been purchased in any quantity. Gas masks were featured in shop windows prior to the invasion, but none for civilians have been seen since May, 1940.

9. **Prestige of Party.**--In so far as the Netherlands is concerned, the prestige of the Nazi Party is very low. In fact, the entire population seems to be actively engaged in determining who has Nazi sympathies. One often hears the remark that "the day the Germans are driven out, our streets will run with blood." In fact, I was reliably informed that over 200 Nazi sympathizers have disappeared in Amsterdam alone; supposedly drowned at night in the Canals. Whereas Seys Inquat is hated as the German official in charge of the Netherlands, Mussert, the head of the Dutch-Nazi Party is subjected to every form of calumny.

10. **Prestige of Services.**--The behavior of the occupying troops is generally admitted to have been always correct. Persons who have officers quartered in their houses and who would naturally be eager to find cause for complaint have been unable to do so. Furthermore, the discipline of the troops is exemplary. This can undoubtedly be attributed to the very strict punishment meted out to any offenders. In fact, I personally know of the case of a German soldier, who pilfered two boxes of cigars from a cigar store and was shot by a German officer in the street when he could not establish the fact that the cigars had been paid for. Without doubt, troops have been given very strict instructions to placate the native population in so far as possible. German soldiers invariably vacate their
their seats in tram cars for Netherlands women, although one not infrequently sees Netherlands women refusing to accept this courtesy.

11. Sentiments of the People.--American prestige is extremely high, as the United States is believed to be the country's last hope for ultimate freedom. Since the German attack on Russia, there has even been a change in the people's attitude towards the latter country.

12. Migrations of Populations.--There have been no real migrations of the population, although unemployed persons are usually required to work in German factories. Persons refusing to accept such employment are debarred from receiving ration cards for themselves and their families.

13. Channels for Obtaining Further Information.--In view of the Department's instructions as to the necessity for giving the German authorities no cause for complaint or suspicion, I did not follow up possible clues as to secret radio senders or other Allied agents. Such persons are, however, known to be in active cooperation with the British Government.


15. British Blockade.--The British blockade of the Netherlands, except for coastwise shipping with Germany and Scandinavian countries, is believed to be absolutely water-tight.

16. Additional Observations.--As a fact which is not generally known, I can report on the best authority that Hess refueled his plane at Schipol, the Amsterdam airport.
HOW IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AMERICAN CENSUS

JOHN W. LORD

Responsible

Party would soon be thrown out of office and the war ended.

Both in Rome and London the general impression was that

many that German agents more or less came back up again

under the new government now in Holland and in Ger-

many will be interested here. The headquarters are con-

vinced from their previous organization and report and dis-

tribution of little information that it

Before leaving the headquarters I was asked to do so

By the lack of any material.

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strategy for continued secret. The output to another impressed

where it is a well-known fact that more than

personality does this work in thefulfillment and defense and

the German agents are certain in fact are

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the Department may be interested in learning that

must be responsible for this statement.

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read an article of a general or which was thrown out over the

from anywhere to understand, thus former was, and the plane

Hess's plane could not carry sufficient fuel for the flight

press has frequently reported to the fact that although

I have been participated enough or the costs that the British

reported that the Department of the Post Office there are

not known, however, whether the agents, or at least, I

opened to report that plane which Hess made to France. I

afterwards the report received a telephone call from
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Washington

August 8, 1941

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Subject: Conditions in the Rotterdam Consular District.

The Honorable
The Secretary of State,
Washington,

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Department's strictly confidential instruction of August 1, 1941 and in compliance therewith to submit the following report on conditions in the Rotterdam Consular district from which I have just returned. The report has been prepared with the collaboration of Vice Consul Herbert V. Olds who has served with me at Rotterdam.

1. Morale. The German soldiers and sailors in the Netherlands are anxious to return to their homes in Germany, and are worried and depressed by the unexpected continuation and unforeseeable end of the war. Discontent has not, however, reached such serious proportions as to amount to a break in morale, although it has led, according to fairly reliable sources, to the arrest of some members of the armed forces and in a few cases to executions. The failure of the German military machine to carry out an invasion of England for which they were obviously prepared
prepared in September 1940, has made the soldiers and sailors extremely sensitive to jokes or gestures relating to swimming, rowing boats, etcetera. Severe measures are being taken to suppress such ridicule of their forces. It is believed that the military and naval men are much less assured of an ultimate German victory than the civilian Nazi officials. According to reports, believed to be reliable, officers have been buying foreign exchange on the black market and investing in art treasures and other durable assets; it does not appear, therefore, that they have much confidence in the future value of their currency.

The chief factors lowering German morale are the staying power of the British; the impossibility of finishing off the war quickly; as well as the persistent and increasing effectiveness of British bombing.

The German civilian officials in Holland appear to have much more confidence in a German victory and are proceeding to reorganize, buy out, and aryanize the principal Netherlands industries along German lines in a manner that indicates that they expect to remain in control. The difference in outlook between the German civilians and military probably results from the constant German propaganda as to the invincibility of their army. The army itself probably knows that it is not invincible. Those Dutch officials who have been allowed to remain in office and who are not members of the Dutch Nazi party are afraid of taking the initiative in any matter or of acting without prior reference to the German authorities. No general uprising is to be expected under their leadership.
The morale of the Dutch is now high; since the spectacular British air victories of August and September of last year, they are fully confident of an ultimate British victory.

The Germans have complained that the Dutch are not cooperating in a satisfactory manner in establishing the new order and that they are, accordingly, throwing away their chance to participate on a more or less equal footing in building up a new Europe and must, therefore, expect stricter control.

The German morale could be further weakened and the Dutch civilian morale raised at the same time by accurate, concentrated, and repeated bombing not only of military and naval objectives, but of German cities. It is the general opinion in Holland that the British have been much too concerned about limiting their bombing to military objectives; it is thought that German morale could never withstand a bombing such as Rotterdam received. The British should wipe out at least one German city. The Dutch think the British have been much too gentlemanly in their bombing. The Germans are not a people capable of strong moral resistance and once their spirit is crushed by a show of superior force it is thought that they would quickly collapse. Therefore, heavy and concentrated bombing should be carried out at every possible opportunity.

2. Bomb Damage. In the Rotterdam Consular district, the raids of the R.A.F. have been fairly frequent and are aimed principally at the oil tanks at Pernis (on the New Waterway between Rotterdam and the North Sea); the port installations
installations of Rotterdam, the airports of Waalhaven (Rotterdam), Haamstede, Flushing, and Eindhoven. Following the invasion most of the British raids were at night; since last April daylight raids have been more frequent.

It is extremely difficult to estimate the percentage of unexploded bombs, but only a few cases of unexploded bombs have come to the attention of the officers of the Consulate.

The new type of bomb seems to be extremely destructive. In the town of Gouda six houses were completely demolished and about 100 houses damaged by a single bomb (referred to as a "helium" bomb) which was presumably intended for a candle factory which produces glycerine as a by-product.

It is believed that destructive bombing might be more effective if a greater percentage of incendiary bombs were dropped on days when a strong wind is blowing, in as much as the completeness of the destruction of Rotterdam was due to the fire following the German bombardment.

3. Vital Bombing Targets. The principal bombing targets in Rotterdam are the dock installations (including those in Schiedam and Vlaardingen) and the shipbuilding yards of Piet Smit, Wilton-Pijnscoerd, and the Rotterdam Drydock Company*. It is also believed that parts of the extensive Phillips plant in Eindhoven are being used for production of important military products and should, therefore, be included in the R.A.F. raids.

Soldiers

* See enclosed map of Rotterdam: A = Piet Smit; B = Wilton-Pijnscoerd; C = Rotterdam Drydock Company.
 Soldiers are usually quartered in school buildings in the midst of residential sections. There should, therefore, be no hesitation in bombing such buildings especially at night when the troops are usually present and when in those schools not occupied by the troops, there are not likely to be any children.

It is believed that communications could be effectively disrupted in the Netherlands by the simultaneous bombing of a few key bridges. Such a bombing attack, however, should be carried out when invasion preparations again appear imminent or have just begun in view of the fact that the Germans are able to effect repairs very quickly. On several occasions in the past the British have damaged important bridges and caused dislocation of traffic but this has happened after troop and goods movements had apparently been completed.

The Dutch attribute to the British the intention of hitting only military objectives and readily attribute to the Germans any hits that may occur on non-military objectives. On two occasions hospitals in Rotterdam were hit. In the first instance it was immediately rumored that the hospital contained a large number of German soldiers; in the second that a German plane had dropped incendiary bombs after the British raiding planes had left.

It is believed that daylight raids would increase the accuracy of the bombing, intensify more with production, and increase the morale of the Dutch as an indication of increased British strength. There are reported
reported to be large concentrations of military equipment on barges and other craft in the canals of Zealand.

4. Health. The officers in Rotterdam have heard of no epidemic or serious sickness among the military or naval forces. They appear to be well fed, well equipped, and their morale is not seriously impaired. Among the Dutch there has been no epidemic of a serious nature, although a mild form of influenza was widely prevalent during the last winter. At one time it was reported in a newspaper that one-fourth of the population of The Hague was affected.

There appears to be no shortage of medicines at the present time except a reported shortage of insulin.

There is a shortage of food, though no danger of starvation exists at present. Imported foods, such as coffee and tea are now non-existent, and substitutes are being used in place of them and of foods made from imported raw materials. Holland in the past has produced enough potatoes to feed its own population who are normally large potato-eaters. They have now been rationed below their needs, but it is believed there should be sufficient to provide adequate rations if the supplies are not further appropriated and exported by the Germans.

There is a shortage of milk, butter and cheese, due to the killing off of large numbers of cattle, because of a lack of fodder. The poultry supply has been drastically reduced and accordingly eggs are very scarce.

The Dutch with whom the officers have talked have emphatically emphasized that the Hoover plan should not be forced on the British, as they feel that to send food now
now to Holland would be of assistance to the Germans. They do count on the United States being ready immediately after the war to send food. Food sent to them now would most certainly be appropriated by the Germans who have already taken practically all the supplies that were available in the country. At the outbreak of the war, Holland had food reserves sufficient for five years. Today the country is empty. I have personally seen hundreds of truckloads of food en route to Germany. Practically all the butter, eggs, cream, cheese and meat to name only a few supplies are being taken to Germany or go for feeding the armed forces.

5. Current Rumors. There are always many rumors in circulation; almost without exception they are in favor of England and tend to overstress any factor favorable to Britain. The rumors in Holland regarding British bombing in Germany have apparently been greatly exaggerated. These rumors act as a counter-measure to the German press and radio propaganda which seeks to convince the Dutch of the futility of Allied resistance. Defeatist rumors do not find a fertile soil in Holland.

6. British Propaganda. Most of the Dutch people believe the British rather than the German version of any given incident, and almost the entire nation knows what is broadcast by the BBC, though listening to foreign broadcasts is strictly forbidden under penalty of imprisonment and/or heavy fines. Some of the wave lengths of the BBC broadcasts are jammed by German interference; others are left more or less free.
Many of those who understand English listen not only to the broadcasts in Dutch but also to the regular broadcasts for English listeners. There is sometimes a difference between the news given on the Dutch programs and that given in English for consumption in England. On one occasion in September 1940, it was announced to the Dutch that the Germans had made an attempt to cross the channel near Calais and Dover; that oil had been poured on the water and lighted; and that the invasion attempt had been repulsed with heavy casualties to the Germans. Not a word of this was given in any of the broadcasts in English. Such discrepancies cause a certain suspicious uncertainty which is not helpful to the British cause. On several occasions the B.B.C. reports of R.A.F. activity over Holland have not agreed with the facts: a raid was reported on Rotterdam on a night when nobody heard a plane or anti-aircraft gun; on another occasion there was a report of bombing oil storage tanks when bombs landed in another part of the city at a great distance from the oil tanks and in the vicinity of other possible objectives. It is realized that the British may not wish to name exactly their bombing targets, but they should be extremely careful as to the reports about Holland which may come to the attention of the Hollanders. When the B.B.C. reports do not agree with the facts as the Dutch know them, there is a tendency to discredit or to discount all the British news reports.

It is believed that in the Dutch broadcasts, more speeches and appeals by Dutchmen in England should be included, and not just a repetition of news items.
It is not considered that leaflets are very effective or necessary in the Netherlands or worth the trouble and risk, in as much as pro-British news and rumors are spread throughout the country by radio and word of mouth. In the Netherlands it is not a question of converting the people to the British cause, but of keeping up their morale and counteracting the effect of the German propaganda. It is believed that radio propaganda is much more practical for Holland in view of the extensive use of radio throughout the country and to the persistent listening to British broadcasts.

7. Economic and Industrial Intelligence. The Germans are using many Dutch factories and industrial concerns to assist in war production, among them the shipbuilding yards in and near Rotterdam, and the Phillips Company in Eindhoven. There is also a candle factory in Gouda which produces glycerine as a by-product.

It is reliably reported that the Germans are making British and Turkish uniforms in the Netherlands (probably in or near Tilburg which is the center of the Netherlands textile industry) and that a considerable quantity of these uniforms is stored in the warehouse of the Ford Company on the Marenoiplein in the western part of Rotterdam. 

In August and September 1940, large numbers of river barges were requisitioned and converted into a type of craft apparently capable of carrying troops, tanks, and other military equipment for the invasion of England.

* See enclosed map D.
The bows were cut off leaving a wide, blunt front with a gate leading into the hold. The barges were fitted with powerful airplane motors and being of light draft it was expected that they would be able to run ashore and land their loads directly on the beach. Many of these barges were concentrated in and around Rotterdam and Flushing where they were heavily bombed by the British last September. They have since been dispersed though the Germans have apparently not abandoned the idea of using them as they are still holding them and have not returned them to their owners and are training crews to use them.

There were heavy troop movements — with suspension of railroad services for several days — during the Balkan campaign and shortly before the invasion of Russia, resulting in a greatly reduced occupying force in the Netherlands. It is reliably reported that the occupation troops numbered less than 75,000 at the time of the Consulate's departure (July 1941).

There has been a scarcity of locomotives, and electric railway passenger cars are being used extensively for hauling freight trains. The schedules of passenger trains on unelectrified lines have been reduced in recent months.

A recent measure has ordered the delivery to the German authorities before August 10th of all household objects of brass, copper, tin and aluminum (except works of art made before 1860). Rather than comply with this measure, many people have buried such metal objects or have thrown them into canals. The measure was even welcomed.
welcomed by the Dutch as an indication of the growing
scarcity of these raw materials.

8. Civilian Defense. The Germans in Rotterdam have
been busy during the Spring erecting large numbers of
surface shelters of concrete covered with earth. They
are apparently being built primarily for the safety of
the German soldiers and sailors as they appear most
frequently near places where Germans are quartered.

The German soldiers and sailors are all provided
with gasmasks, but the Dutch have been apathetic about
providing themselves with gasmasks, as they do not
believe that the British are likely to use gas over
Holland.

Air raid and firefighting services are organized
by blocks in the city, but it is not believed that they
are very enthusiastically or efficiently organized, though
they have managed to curb the fires started by the British.
A few days prior to the departure of the consular officers,
a gas-container was hit and set on fire, but the fire was
prevented from spreading to any of the surrounding
dwellings.

usually known as the NSB — comprises little over one
per cent of the population (approximately 80,000) and has
absolutely no prestige outside party circles. In fact,
the members are considered traitors and despised even
more than the Germans by the rest of the population. It
is composed mostly of persons from the lower middle class
with a scattering of business men, intellectuals, and
renegade
renegade aristocrats who had no standing at the court. The leader is a certain Hissert, formerly an engineer by profession. A number of important posts have been filled by Dutch Nazis, but the Germans have not entrusted them with governing the country.

Shortly after the capitulation of the Netherlands, a party known as the "Unie" or Union was formed under the leadership of three prominent and trusted officials, one of whom was the former chief of police in Rotterdam, Mr. L. Hinthoven. The object of forming the party was not so much for political purposes as for holding the people together in some form of organization. It professed the necessity for submitting to and getting along with the occupying power, but many persons joined the movement in the beginning in the belief that it would be a counterfoil to the hated N.S.B. and would act as the guardian of the Netherlands Government during a temporary period of occupation. As its attitude is more or less passive and it has taken no dramatic action to weaken the N.S.B. or soften the rigors of the German occupation, some of its followers have been disappointed in their hopes of its being a nucleus of resistance and its prestige has been somewhat dimmed.

10. *Prestige of Services.* The Dutch have in general approved of the conduct of the German soldiers and sailors as occupying troops, while resenting their presence. The Nazi civilian officials are less respected and the various restrictions imposed, including anti-Jewish measures, are bitterly resented.
As an instance of the vulnerability of the Nazi officials, it came to the attention of the Consulate that numerous wealthy Dutch Jews were able to obtain exit permits by paying large sums to various military officers. As much as 20,000 guilders (about $11,000) have been paid for an exit visa.

11. Main sentiments or emotions of the people. The majority of the Dutch people have great respect for the United States, though they are somewhat impatient with what they consider its slowness in getting into the war. They have quickly forgotten their own efforts to remain strictly neutral prior to the invasion and regard other nations who are still attempting to preserve their neutrality as negligent in their duty toward the countries overrun by Germany. From the day of the invasion to the present, the consular officers have been asked hopefully time and time again when the United States would enter the war.

The people would like a return to peace, but are not war-weary in the sense that they are exhausted and desire a quick finish at the expense of a German victory.

As a religious people the majority of the Dutch dislike Communism intensely and the Netherlands Government had never recognized the Soviet regime. They dislike the thought of Communism spreading over Europe in the event of a Russian victory, but many feel that the Russians are fighting now, not for the propagation of Communism, but only as Russians to defend their own country and help defeat Hitler. The Germans and Dutch Nazis are using
the Russian war to stir up anti-Communist feeling, apparently to make Germany seem the lesser evil, but they are meeting no success. They have attempted to raise Dutch legions to fight on the eastern front and some are reported to have left, but the response to this appeal has not been enthusiastic even among the Dutch Nazis themselves. Incidentally, on the trip to Lisbon the Rotterdam officers noticed at Angoulême, in southern France, a trainload of black-shirted Dutch Nazis.

12. Migrations of the Population. As a result of the destruction of Rotterdam and the slackening of business activity, a good many people have temporarily moved out of the city. With a return of peace, it is expected that the city will be much larger than before the war. The plans for the reconstruction of Rotterdam are said to provide for a city of 1,500,000 or more.

In September 1940 while the preparations were going on for an invasion of England, the Germans established a restricted area along the entire coast, including the Islands of Zealand, from which all enemy aliens and later all Jews not of Netherlands nationality were expelled. Although the invasion plans have been postponed, the expelled persons, with a few exceptions, have not been allowed to return.

The Consulate has been approached by large numbers of young men of military age who are anxious to get out of the Netherlands to England or other allied territory. And because of the anti-Jewish measures, thousands of Jews are seeking to leave, but are prevented by the difficulties of obtaining exit permits or visas for other countries.

13. Channels
13. Channels for obtaining information. The British appear to be reasonably well informed of conditions in the Netherlands by various means of communications. It is reliably reported that fishermen from Vlaardingen (near Rotterdam) and Scheveningen contact British ships on their fishing trips off the Dutch coast. The fishing boats come back with the same number of persons, though often certain members of their "crews" desirous of getting to England have been replaced by Dutchmen from the British ships coming for the purpose of espionage. Other agents are known to have been dropped by parachute or landed by plane and to have disappeared at once among the population. Posters have been put up offering a reward for disclosing the identity of these agents and threatening the people with severe penalties for offering them protection and assistance.

14. Identity of Axis Espionage Agents. In regard to agents operating in Allied territory, the Consulate at Rotterdam reported in February or March 1941 the suspected espionage activities of a certain van den Bos, who previously resided in Overschie (near Rotterdam) and who immigrated to the United States about May 1940. He is now believed to be residing in California.

Shortly before leaving Rotterdam, the Consulate received an anonymous note stating that a certain Hoppe, a Netherlander, residing in Boston, Massachusetts, and representing the German firm Stahlfabrik Böhler was acting in the United States as a Nazi spy.

The Rotterdam Consulate in the fall of 1939 reported to the Legation at The Hague the names of certain naturalized
naturalized Americans who, while awaiting sailing in Rotterdam, had made derogatory remarks about America and complimentary remarks about Nazi Germany. It is believed that some of these individuals are undoubtedly working for the Nazi cause in the United States.

15. British Blockade. The British blockade is not as effective as it might be along the Dutch coast. Numerous ships have arrived in Rotterdam from Scandinavia bringing ore and wood and have taken return cargoes of coal. There is also some coastwise traffic between Rotterdam and German ports. This coastwise traffic has increased partly because of the congestion of overland transportation and the deterioration of the rolling stock. However, very few, if any, shipments are arriving from other parts of the world.

16. General Observations. Day to day life goes on much the same as usual on the surface, except for the black-out and an enforced curfew from midnight to 6 a.m., during which time nobody may be out-of-doors. As listening to foreign radio broadcasts is forbidden, the people are extremely careful of neighbors and passers-by when tuning in, and they are usually guarded in their conversations in public, though sometimes defiantly indiscreet. All are living under a constant threat of a concentration camp, and many have their bags always packed. Arrests made thus far have been chiefly among the upper classes.

The Dutch have not been crushed by their defeat. For the most part they consider the occupation as an unpleasant but temporary condition; they ignore the Germans as much
as possible; they do not consider it necessary to cooperate or ingratiate themselves with the Germans.

The whole nation, with the exception of the R.S.A., is solidly behind the royal family. There was some bitterness against the Queen when she left the Netherlands during the invasion, but this has disappeared and her popularity has increased as she remains in London and endures the trials of war.

The use of the V sign for victory and the "OZO" (meaning "Orange zal overwinnen" [The House of Orange will win]) are widespread and are much used by the people with the exception of a few renegades.

The Dutch have complete faith in an allied victory; they have no intention of adjusting themselves to the "New Order" which Hitler desires to establish; they are only waiting for the day when the Queen will return and restore the old way of life to which they are accustomed and with which they are completely satisfied.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]

American Consul

Enclosure:

Map of Rotterdam.
Conditions in the Netherlands

Consul Ellis A. Bonnet
(Formerly of Amsterdam)
Mr. Stevens, Ru

Mr. Bonnet stated that the Dutch people fully understood the policy which was being followed by the Government of the United States in refusing to send food shipments to territories occupied by the German forces and that they heartily approved of this policy. He stated that prior to his departure from Amsterdam, representatives of the local chapter of the Red Cross and of the Quaker organization in the Netherlands called upon him and requested that upon his return to the United States he emphasize to the corresponding organizations in this country that under no circumstances should food supplies be sent to the Netherlands in as much as people there are convinced that such supplies if sent would only
only benefit the German forces and tend to prolong the war. While food shortages in the Netherlands are not yet serious and the situation is considerably better there than in Belgium and France, the Dutch are prepared to accept whatever sacrifice may be necessary rather than accept supplies which they feel would be confiscated directly or indirectly by the German authorities.

Mr. Bonnet stated that industrial production in the Amsterdam area was at a low ebb due to difficulties in obtaining raw materials. He particularly mentioned repair work in shipyards, automobile factories and airplane plants and stated that ships, trucks and planes were often laid up for considerable periods of time waiting for supplies from Germany to effect the necessary repairs. Shortage of rolling stock on the railways adds to the difficulty in obtaining needed supplies. There is a great deal of unspectacular sabotage in industrial plants caused by deliberate slowing down of production by workers and permitting avoidable accidents to occur. These measures continue in spite of the best efforts of the Gestapo who have placed their agents in all plants which are giving trouble.

The morale of the Dutch is excellent and the prevailing sentiment is that the war will end with an Allied victory.
victory in the not distant future. This opinion is based upon the shortages of various vital raw materials which are observed in the Netherlands and the inefficient character of the Nazi administration in that country. Mr. Bonnet stated that the general level of German officials who had been sent to the Netherlands was extremely low.

A large number of people listen regularly to the B.B.C. broadcasts but there is considerable criticism, both because claims of damage caused by British air raids are exaggerated and because some of the successes which the RAF have been observed to achieve over the Netherlands have not been reported. There is also a feeling that more emphasis should be placed on the activities of the Free Dutch sympathizers in Holland in order that they may feel that they are receiving recognition and encouragement.

With reference to organization of Germans in the Netherlands before the war, Mr. Bonnet stated that the German consulates and various Party organizations were extremely active in organizing the approximately 100,000 German residents of the Netherlands. These organized Germans cooperated with the invading forces when the Netherlands were attack and rendered valuable service to