

TOMORROW THE REICH IS OURS!

by DR. OTTO STRASSER

Almost a half-million dollars—dead or alive—is the price the Nazis have set on the head of this important man. And here's why!

FROM WHERE I write, at my desk in Canada, Berlin seems far away. And yet I could not be closer if my office were overlooking the Wilhelmstrasse in the heart of the German capital. Letters, messages, wires continue to pour in at an ever-increasing rate from my spies and informants—the representatives of the Free-German Government who are constantly working within the Reich.

Yes, Berlin is even nearer today than it was eight years ago during my exile in Austria. And tomorrow—Berlin, the Reich, Germany will be ours—once more the sacred property of Free Germans!

But more of that later. It is today that is important. Today, when from my offices in Canada I have transmitted to the Allied governments a list containing the names of those men who are best fitted to lead the government of Free Germany—to carry on that war to the death against Hitlerism and world dictatorship.

\$400,000—Dead or Alive

Wanted by Himmler, respected by Hitler, feared by Goebbels—but warmly welcomed by free-thinking, Hitler-hating Germans and non-Germans the world over, Dr. Otto Strasser is probably the key to the ultimate demise of Hitler and Hitlerism. Once a Captain in the Kaiser's army; wearer of the Iron Cross and Bavarian military order; and member of the Order of the House of Hohenzollern, Dr. Strasser is as German as the Rhine. Nevertheless, in 1930, bitterly opposed to Hitler's principles, he started a counter-Hitler party known as the Black Front—fighting Hitler openly until he was forced to flee in 1933. If he had no other quarrel with the Nazis, Otto Strasser would still hate them out of personal revenge. His brother Gregory was murdered by Nazis in 1934—"for reasons of state."

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Up to now, of course, we have restricted ourselves to an intensive program of propaganda against Nazism, both inside and outside of Germany. Already we have a powerful organization at work in South America. Here, the Free German Movement is working with tremendous effectiveness. For, in addition to extensive propaganda work on our own behalf, it has also successfully operated a "checking-system" against the South American Hitler-party.

Today I can say that this Free German network in South America is out-Hitlering Hitler at every step.

If, for example, Dr. Wesemann is made head of Gestapo in Central America, we get the news within a few hours. If Dr. Best, author of the notorious murder program of the so-called "Boxheimer Documents," lands at Rio de Janeiro, our agents will shadow him from the moment he sets foot on Brazilian soil. They will come into possession of his list of appointments with native and foreign statesmen; they will know which Nazis are to be recalled to the Fatherland and will find out which are marked for oblivion and why. You see, our agents are able to trace Nazi intrigue down there, because we have friends in their consulates—even in their embassies!

Another ambition of the Free German program—now seeing realization—is the formation of a Free German Legion to march shoulder to shoulder with the Free French, the Free Poles, the Free Czechs, Belgians, Greeks and Norwegians. Thousands of letters have poured in to me—and continue to pour in—from all parts of North and South America, from internment and prison camps in Canada and Australia, written by men eager to fight for freedom and for the liberation of their homeland. While the British military authorities have not up to this moment encouraged this movement, I have no doubt they



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will very shortly come to see its immense propaganda value. For its repercussions within Germany will be far-reaching, and the loyalty of the German soldier to the Nazi regime will be still further undermined.

YOU WILL NOTE that I have said *will be still further undermined*. I use these words deliberately. For the Free German Movement already has successfully consolidated all opposition to Naziism within Germany itself!

One does not have to look far for proof. Do you recall the secret address delivered by Heinrich Himmler, Chief of Nazi Secret Police, to a meeting of Nazi "biggs"—just a few days before Hitler marched into Russia? It received considerable publicity.

"Gentlemen," said Himmler at that time, "not only do we have our fronts on land, at sea, and in the air. Today we have—and let us not attempt to ignore the facts—a vicious front right here within the heart of Germany. Gentlemen, I am instructed by the Fuehrer to stamp out that menace. But I need men. I need five hundred thousand additional men at once. I need men not only to fight communism, *but because growing unrest makes the employment of larger forces imperative!*"

These are not the words of a leader who has the situation "well in hand." These words, bared to me by one of

The Black Front my most reliable men in Germany, are the words of a man who faces a grave and immediate danger. A request for one half-million *additional* men, far from being routine, betrays an organized opposition which Hitler fears as surely as he fears Churchill.

And of what does this opposition consist? The Gestapo knows only too well. One of the recent monthly reports sent by the Security Service of the Gestapo to the Supreme Command (a report which is forwarded to me regularly by one of my closest friends who happens to hold a high position in the Gestapo itself) remarked on the alarming rise of sabotage in Germany.

Four factions were named as principal opposition elements: the German Confessional Church, inspired by Dr. Martin Niemöller; the Black Front, which I previously helped to organize and of which I am still the nominal head; the Communists; and finally the fanatic followers of the men who, headed by Roehm, were murdered in the 1934 blood purge.

But this, you say, is nothing new. These groups have long had their agents and confidants in every regiment of the army, in every party cell, in every government department of major importance.

One thing, however, is new. Today these groups operate far more effectively than ever before. Today their opposition is felt to the extent that Himmler must have an additional half-million men to combat them, because today, the opposition to Hitler has been united under one common cause, the Free German Movement!

MANY WILL concede that Hitler's success is largely due not only to his original and devilishly ingenious use of the fifth column, but also to a hesitancy on the part of the democratic nations to adopt this propaganda technique as a most welcome weapon—even after he has demon-

The Black Front cratic nations to adopt this propaganda technique as a most welcome weapon—even after he has demonstrated its tremendous effectiveness.

Realizing this, the Free German Movement has unhesitatingly adopted this technique in its drive to stop Hitler and regain our country. *We are fighting Hitler with Hitler's own weapons*—a fact which in itself has proved a serious blow to Germans.

One manifestation of this technique is, of course, *sabotage*. And in accordance with instructions which I have continuously sent into the Reich, ever since 1935, sabotage *has* been practiced—everywhere. As a matter of fact, our agents in the Reich have now begun to complain—there is not sufficient first-class material for sabotage work being placed at their disposal, so widespread is the practice.

A second means of opposition to the Hitler regime has been *passive resistance*. This is a much less specialized work than sabotage, yet sometimes more effective. For not even Nazi mathematicians can fix the maximum factory turnout per man-day. Too many elements have to be considered: age, health, sex, nationality, family, skill, versatility, intelligence, temperament, even religion.

As a result, Germans who are with us at heart are making the most of the situation. There is not a single day that the Goering offices do not receive reports of factories falling behind schedule; of trains running below average speed; of mines not producing their fixed quota. And you have read in the papers of bombs falling over English cities and failing to explode; of torpedoes strangely veer-

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ing from their course.

No longer is this passive resistance on the part of thousands merely hit-or-miss. To reduce the effective labor of the Nazis is one of the trumps of the Free German Movement.

If it succeeds, our battle is half won. If the work output of the thirty-six million gainfully employed Germans can be reduced by only five per cent, it will mean a gain of about eighteen million work-hours daily for the cause of democracy, and an equal loss for the cause of brutality.

And it will succeed—is succeeding! The Free German movement is promising Germans the battle of democracy is against Naziism—not against the German people. We are constantly assuring them that a democratic victory will not impair but actually improve their situation.

But promises are not always effective. Other cases call for sterner measures—and so we find the policy of *threat* most useful. Daily, Nazis are being threatened that they can never match the enormous resources of the United States and the British Empire—that they had better give a thought to tomorrow, when Hitler is destroyed.

One of the most effective weapons in our fight against the Gestapo has been underground broadcasting.

For example, suppose the Gestapo has made some arrests among members of our organization. The next day, the Free German underground broadcaster will be heard throughout Germany by all who dare to listen:

“Yesterday at 3:30 p. m., two of our members were arrested in Adolf

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Hitler Street in Nuremberg and were brutally beaten during the afternoon hours and late into the evening by Gustav Mueller, Heinrich Schwerdtfeger and Paul Kilian, all commissioners of the Nuremberg Gestapo. All this took place at Gestapo Headquarters. We warn you, Herr Mueller, Herr Schwerdtfeger and Herr Kilian, to cease at once the maltreatment of our men lest you be crushed by the revenge of the Schwarze Front, when Germany again belongs to free men."

This propaganda is scaring the wits out of thousands of Hitlerites. Every day—every hour—it is sowing doubt as to Hitler's integrity and so-called "greatness." Steadily it is undermining any hope of a German victory.

THIS, THEN, is the picture today. The Free German movement is vigorously gnawing away at the very roots of Naziism with teeth filed to needle sharpness. Our organizations are fighting Hitler, at home or in South America, with his own weapons. We have consolidated earlier gains against Hitler with important new gains.

And tomorrow?

Tomorrow will find the establishment of a German Government in Exile! Naturally this is our ultimate goal. For while the underground movement in Germany and elsewhere is doing immeasurably valuable work, still it can not, in the nature of its work, stress the element of authority.

And yet, the average German is guided exclusively by the authoritarian system. Obedience is the first and foremost duty of the German citizen. Hitler has made obedience, authority and leadership the very foundation of his hierarchy.

The average German will have a far better understanding of democracy's fight for freedom and justice when a Government in Exile issues categorical decrees to overcome his scruples. The existence of a single government in Berlin leaves him no room for doubt—whereas the exist-

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ence of another government in Washington or London will cause him to think and to decide for himself!

THAT IS WHY I have forwarded to Allied authorities a plan for the establishment of such a Government in Exile for Germany. Today I await authorization to proceed. Tomorrow it will come—must come!

The names I have proposed are those of men whose names still carry great weight at home.

Probably the most important is the former Chancellor, Dr. Heinrich Brüning, who can still count on the sympathies and support of the overwhelming majority of the twenty million Catholics in Germany. Another is Hermann Rauschning, former president of the Danzig Senate, who has many friends among the Conservatives in Germany who hate the Hitler regime as he does. Among the Liberals, I have named Thomas Mann, former Minister of Prussia and a member of the Stresemann family. There are others well capable of making an important contribution in the task of moulding a new Germany, too. There is the former Minister of the Interior, Dr. Frick; there is Hoeltermann, leader of the "Reichsbanner." And last but by no means least, there is a representative of the Confessional Church of Dr. Niemöller.

Such a government—headed by such men—will round out adequately the tremendous program which we have undertaken and carried along thus far. This will be the true German government, based primarily upon aims such as the following:

1. The destruction of every vestige of Nazi policy and doctrine, political, social, as well as economic.
2. Abolition of forced labor and compulsory membership in state-controlled labor unions. Economic security for all.

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3. Restoration of free elections and re-establishment of an independent Parliament. The ultimate aim is the formation of a Confederation of the German people similar to the Swiss Cantons.
4. The Free German Movement pledges itself to the idea of a European federation, based on President Wilson's democratic principle proclaiming the "right of self-determination" for all peoples and nations.
5. Freedom of worship regardless of race or creed.

Obviously, here is a German government guided by the conviction that the important question is not the realization of certain national interests or ambitions, but rather the common struggle of the united democratic freedom front. A common battle—a common victory—a common peace—this is and must be the slogan of the democratic front, just as it has been of the totalitarian front.

Today, it is our greatest need—this Free German Government in Exile. With it—tomorrow—Germany will once again be ours!



(symbol of the Black Front)