# FIRST STEPS ARE TAKEN AGAINST NAZI 'INVADERS'

## Ousting of German Agents Here Is a Move in a New Kind of Warfare

#### By JAMES B. RESTON

WASHINGTON, June 21 - The United States finally came up this week with a modern definition of the word "invasion." After three historic years we conceded officialwhat every good Austrian, Czech, Dane, Rumanian and Bulgarian discovered long ago-that a nation can be invaded not only by tanks, bombers and storm troopers salesmen. also by sausage mimeographs, radios, ideas, economics and fake diplomats striped pants.

The argument heard here runs as follows: The German consulates in this country were nothing more than Nazi general staff listening posts behind the enemy lines. They were combination spy agencies and propaganda bureaus for a nation which has made the Trojan horse look like a clumsy plug. By closing them, the State Department officially recognizes them as such and drew attention to what many observers regard as the slickest system of international duplicity since the days when the tribes used to eat ambassadors.

#### German Diplomacy

To understand this system, which it must be remembered has merely been curtailed by the closing of the consulates, it is necessary to look back at the origins of German diplomacy. From the Teutonic Order of the German Knights down through Fichte, Hegel, Bismarck and Fritz von Holstein, it has been essentially a warrior conception based on the twin beliefs that force or threat of force is the main instrument of negotiation, and that, as Harold Nicolson points out, the "raison d'état." or needs of the State, take precedence over all individual religions or individual philosophies.

"Between States," said Fichte, "there is neither law nor right unless it be the right of the strongest." Hegel declared war to be "eternal and moral." Count Moltke asserted: "Perpetual peace is a dream, and it is not even a beautiful dream. War is an element in the order of the world ordained by God. \* \* \* Without war the world would stagnate and lose itself 'in materialism." Said Nietzsche, "It is mere illusion

and pretty sentiment to expect much from mankind if he forgets how to make war. As yet no means are known which call so much into action as a great war that rough energy born of the camp, that deep impersonality born of hatred, that conscience born of murder and coldbloodedness. \* \* Policy of Power

#### Against this background, against

Germany's avowed belief that the ends of the master race justify any means, the Nazi "machtpolitik" or "power policy" is not surprising and its specific means in the Western Hemisphere not particularly new. Here in this country, so Washington observers believe, the German

campaign of espionage and propaganda has four main objectives: 1. To keep us out of the war by

- spreading fear by creating, encouraging and prolonging dissension; by dividing the American people, faction against faction, party against party, section against section, race against race, and creed against creed. 2. To slow down our defense program by sabotage.

3. To smash the movement toward

hemispheric unity, and 4. To provide information for the German leaders about (a) the disposition of our troops and movement of convoys, (b) the prog-

ress of our defense program, (c) the strengths and weaknesses of our armed forces, 'd) the invention and perfection of any new instruments of war and (e) the movement of the nation toward war or toward any vital action in relation

to such strategic places as Iceland, Ireland, the Azores, the Cape Verdes and Dakar on the bulge of Africa.

- So much for the German theories and objectives. What about their organizations?

From the beginning the Third Reich was a "total" organization. German business men were used to distribute propaganda which came into this country in Japanese boats by the ton. German propaganda agencies like the German Library of Information in New York, which was closed by order of the State Department this week, and the Transocean News Service, whose chief editors are awaiting deportation, sent out their dispatches not only to newspapers but to a special list of 70,000 carefully selected leaders of public opinion throughout the United States. German-Americans and Americans who still had relatives in the Reich were found to be useful in fulfilling the Nazi orders, and finally, Germany established censorship over American correspondents in the Reich.

No American who realizes that the United States has declared its intention of bringing about the defeat of Germany could blame the Nazis for watching closely the efforts of this country to rearm and support the British, but neither could he condone German diplomatic and consular agents for using the privileges of their office and the democratic procedures of this country to try to bring about the defeat of that rearmament program. Even in easy-going America such acts are hard to accept gracefully.

### Evidence of Activities

The first obligation of any foreign mission is not to interfere with the internal affairs of the nation to which it is accredited. Yet there is incontrovertible evidence that the German Library of Information, the German Railways Information Service, the Transocean News Service, the German-American Bund. and many of the other hyphenated agencies were getting their ideas and sometimes their orders from German Consulates spread the across the country. In Latin America the German at-

tack on the hemisphere is more direct. In each of the twenty countries to the south of us they have their own German-speaking, German-thinking communities. and their own, political parties, which take orders from Berlin. In every country their business men are in key positions, and for that reason are powerful far beyond their numbers. There, as here, these business men put out Nazi propaganda in every imaginable way. German-financed and operated papers are frequent, and Germans, despite some recent curtailment and restrictions. operate over 20,000 miles of airlines. Below the Rio Grande

#### The German argument below the

Rio Grande is that the United States is not arming for the defense of the hemisphere but for the conquest of it. This, they say, is not "hemisphere solidarity" but more "Yankee imperialism" and "dollar diplomacy," and while the success of these arguments has often been overestimated nobody would deny that the Latin-American countries, particularly the ones in the south, are very much on the fence. In short, with its business men,

its political minorites and its economic and intellectual imperialism, Germany has already "invaded" this hemisphere. Until recently the United States has chosen to stick to President Monroe's definition that invasion meant the landing of troops and a change of sovereignty, but this week the definition was forcefully changed. The German consuls were the first to go in the Battle of the Hemispheres,

but they probably won't be the last.