

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

Master file.

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EXERIKA MANN
pro EVENING STANDARD LONDON

HEADLINE
Civil Affairs Detachment D5C1
Co. 8, 1st ECA Regiment

The nazi party membership master file for the entire world is complete. 24 Million registration cards are now in our hands. New discoveries made at the Brown house and in Joseph Wirth's papermill at Munich-Freimann have filled in any possible gaps in the 40 ton record of every person in Germany and abroad who was - or tried to become - a member of the party.

Thanks to Nazi bureaucracy, each individual has been covered threefold. He or she is identified first in the Correspondence File (yearly volumes quoting the dates and subjects of all correspondence pertaining to applications, rejections, admissions, expulsions and deaths); secondly in the Gau file (regional registrations); and finally in the masterfile (the overall alphabetical index). Nazi party clerks have obligingly made sure that nothing is missing in this world embracing catalogue.

If the ~~nazi~~ cashier in Addis Abbaba; the ~~nazi~~ banker in Buenos Aires; the ~~nazi~~ tailor in Detroit; the ~~nazi~~ travelling agent in Shanghai, the ~~nazi~~ electrical engineer in Manchester, are a little worried today, they are completely right. The detection of the master file has eliminated any possibility of keeping membership a secret. Changing names or addresses, falsifying questionnaires, producing witnesses, will avail little, unless the ~~nazi~~ ^{MEMBER} can acquire a new face and change his handwriting. Among other bits of useful information, the overall index contains photographs and signatures.

Some of the millions, whose registration cards are now being examined in Munich, may be worrying needlessly. Their cards are

MORE MANN

adorned with a black ~~band~~ ^{HEADQUARTERS} ^{Headquarters} ^{Headquarters} them as enemies of the party.

828 OPA
US ARMY

Next in importance to the discovery of the masterfile itself, is the find of the ~~code book~~ code book, the key to even the most mysterious or seemingly insignificant entries. Markings in pencil, red or blue ink, all have special meanings.

The index is of gigantic proportions. The fifty truck ~~loads~~ loads of membership cards, ledgers and letters stacked to the ceilings fill three large rooms. The receipt which the Nazi Party made out to Herr Hans Huber, manager of Joseph Wirth's papermill, records that 66. 365 kilogrammes of "wastepaper" have been sold for 5. 641 marks and 3 pfennig. In addition to paying this modest sum for the most valuable documentary prize up to date, the miller of Freimann agreed to grind the lot to pulp. Fortunately for us, Herr Huber chose to break this agreement. Having ^{HAD} a good look at his waste paper, he realized that what he had there were highly important documents, which ~~had~~ ^{might have been} ^{might have been} better be saved for the approaching Americans. Whether for lack of time, interest or knowledge, the first american intelligence detachments failed to grasp the significance of the vast mounds of records. Before passing on, C.I.C. seventh army moved some few bales to a government building for possible future examination. The greater part of the treasure remained unguarded in the dismal mill loft. It was not until the end of August - more than three months after our arrival - that Major William D. Browne, a former police detective captain from Portland, Oregon, ~~and~~ ^{now} security officer for upper Bavarian land detachment, Military Government, discovered the abandoned records, appreciated their value and in agreement with his commanding officer, Lt. Colonel

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Civil Affairs Detachment D2C1
Co. 8, 1st ECA Regiment
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J. W. Hensel of Glendale, California, started to move them to the Military Government building. Immediately, sorting, stacking, filing and examining began. With each day's progress the momentous purport of the discovery increases. Accordingly, additional intelligence personnel and improved facilities will shortly be lent to Colonel Hensel's detachment.

In the not too distant future the entire file will be ready for practical use. This will mean that by merely opening a drawer, allied intelligence will have at their command the case history of every nazi party member, or would-be member anywhere on ~~the~~ earth.

Sorters, going through any stack of cards find of course a heavy preponderance of German membership cards. However, in every armful there are cards from neutral and allied countries. The percentages will be impossible to compute until the entire record is classified. At this finding, samples taken haphazardly show the majority of non-German members to be of German birth or decent. Consequently, countries with a high German, pre-hitlerian immigration quota, such as the United States and South America appear to be richest in Nazis. While a number of British cards have been found and the sum total of British citizens belonging to Hitler's gang may turn out to be considerable, nine persons working yesterday afternoon in the record rooms, failed during a period of three hours to discover one British card. For obvious reasons no names can at present be divulged. One statement, ~~however~~ however, can even now be made with certainty: **PARTY MEMBERSHIP** was anything but compulsory. The huge amount of rejected applications found in every pile and the eager letters begging for admission prove that it was not easy to become a Nazi. The masterfile records a long waiting list. end article.

MORE MANN

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Civil Affairs Detachment D2C1
Co. B, 1st ECA Regiment
enemies

beginning message unknown if you used AP story hence gave full account
stop names barred for security stop have exclusive followups but
security shortly to clamp down on whole matter ~~h h h h h h h h h h~~ which is
why eye postpone some pieces stop ~~h h h h h~~ suggest you ask war office
what laws if any apply to ~~h h h h h h h h h h~~ British ~~h h h h h h h h h h~~ citizens
who were members of nazi party stop ~~h h h h h h h h h h~~ will
to those effective in ~~h h h h h h h h h h~~ Germany be issued stop regards

Mark File

100-100000
100-100000
100-100000

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HEADQUARTERS

Erika Mann

Arosa, January 24th, 1946

Civil Affairs Detachment DSC
Co. 8, 1st ECA Regiment
APO 658

Even before the war, the Germans, when discussing Switzerland, used to say: "That one we'll take with a vacuum cleaner!"

Today the Swiss are both shocked and gratified by the account of their government which reveals for the first time the extent of Nazi and fifth column activities in Switzerland. On 143 printed pages "Report Number 4919" pictures the machinations that threatened the freedom and the very existence of the small alpine republic. Especially in 1940 Hitler's New Europe attracted an ever increasing number of natives. Two hundred of them - a prominent and influential group - went as far as to demand in a signed application to the government what amounted to the abolition of the country's free press and the "coordination" of Swiss justice to the legal standards of the Third Reich. Whilst this honorable group acted allegedly in the interest of Swiss neutrality and independence, others admitted that all they wanted was the "return" of their nation into the arms of the fatherland. In Ernst Leonhardt Switzerland found her quisling number one, the equivalent of Austria's Seyss-Inquart and Hollands Mussert. Though the local "Fuehrer" moved to Germany early in the war, he continued to direct his "movement" from his Nazi headquarters. If Leonhardt has been apprehended, he has not thus far been identified by any of the occupying powers. His deputy, however, the traitor Franz Burri, has recently been arrested in Austria. He is held for questioning by the Americans; wanted by the Austrian State Police; and claimed by his own government.

The German head on Swiss soil of the Nazi conspiracy against the country was Herr Doctor Koecher, Hitler's last Minister to Berne.

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Captured in the American Zone, the shady "diplomat" hanged himself following an interrogation by C.I.C. (Counter Intelligence Corps). His suicide was non-political. While the Americans were ~~about~~ to release their prisoner, the German police were ready to re-~~arrest~~ arrest him for the alleged embezzlement of 220 000 Mark\$.

Many of the facts revealed in "Report Number 4919" have their repercussions even now, when the purge of undesirable elements has surpassed its peak. For example: Though mail is permitted to circulate freely between here and Austria, picture postcards remain "verboten". This quaint restriction has to do with the ingenious way in which Nazi agents on Swiss territory kept in touch with their masters in Germany. Their communications were addressed to a catholic publishing house on Stuttgart whose affiliations in Switzerland were generally known. Letters exchanged between the firm and its Swiss contacts were rarely, if ever, opened by the Swiss censors. Nor was the arrangement of stamps on many of these envelopes thought significant. All Nazi envelopes bore five three-centimes stamps, one of which - the center piece - was applied upside down. While on the Swiss side these letters passed unnoticed, they were segregated in Germany and properly re-addressed by initiated postal officials. Since picture postcard might lend themselves to similar schemes (pictures of certain flowers mailed in a certain sequence, might serve to hide a certain meaning, etc.), this most innocuous type of correspondence has been barred.

Appreciative, though they are of their government's report, the Swiss papers note that names are scarce in this frank account. The sign application of the prominent 200 has finally been published; but for the rest neither the real strength, nor the exact composition of the Swiss Nazi movement have been made known. Even the conservative "Neue Zuercher Zeitung", organ of industry and finance, regrets that "the authors of this important document have been so thrifty in their ^{employment} use of names. Would it not be of use to our public life", asks the paper, "if the complete list of foreign

Fifth columnists ~~had been published on this occasion~~ as well as of....
our own 'Fuehrer' circles had been published on this occasion?"

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~~end, to open to the public the files found in the German legation
and to acquaint our nation with the movement which grew so rapidly in
1940, because, in the mild words of the government report, it was strongly
re-enforced by people who, on account of the war situation, advocated
that Switzerland adapt ^{new} herself to the ~~new~~ Europe...."~~

In its criticism of report number 4919 the "N. Z.Z." is less outspoken than "Die Nation" which liberal leftist weekly insists that not only the Swiss Nazi movement, but also its financial backers should have been exposed. "It would", states "Die Nation", "be exceedingly interesting to learn very much and in very great detail about the financial background..., particularly where the Swiss "right", rather than foreigners are concerned."

The question of names is not a Swiss question only. The discovery at Munich-Freimann of the Nazi Master File confronts the Americans in particular and the Allies in general with a similar problem. The 40 tons record lists the names and case histories of all Nazi party members and would-be members on earth. Covered in triplicate, the eight and a half million members, as well as the millions of dead, ~~the~~ expelled and rejected Nazis are identified in this greatest documentary find of the war. Though the Master File fell into American hands last June, it was not before the middle of September that its significance was grasped. For months the voluminous treasure remained unguarded in the lonely paper mill where it had been found. Finally an Oregon police detective, Captain, "big Bill" Browne, recognized the value of these vast mounds of paper. Upon his initiative the records were moved to a Military Government building and Usfet was notified of their existence. Despite the interest displayed

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by the highest authorities (both General Eisenhower and General Clay characterized the files as of the highest importance and directed that they be put into usable order ~~as~~ at the earliest possible moment), little if any progress has been made since. According to a detailed plan, worked out and presented to Usfet by the Upper Bavarian Military Government Detachment at Munich, the task of cataloguing the Master File could have been solved within half a year. The plan which provided for the use of machine records and the employment of German personnel under American supervision, was approved in principle, but went never into effect. Some time ago the File, its condition as chaotic as ever, was moved to Berlin. Now, persons unfamiliar with its complexities will have to start anew where the Munich detachment started last September. Moreover, the latter's carefully prepared scheme seems to have been abandoned. A United Press report from Berlin quotes Colonel Helm of the Document Center as saying that unless "some machine records" could be made available the sorting job would take five years. The Munich plan listed the exact number of machine records needed to finish the job within six months and asserted that the ~~machines~~ ^{TOOLS} could be made available.

If the Swiss hope presently to receive from the Allies what their own government failed to give them: the complete list of all Swiss party members and applicants, they are in for a disappointment. Indications are that the Master File - once it has been put into order - may be utilized by any interested government. This does not mean that all or any names will be ~~given~~ ^{HANDED} to the public. Even so the Swiss remain confident. One publisher here has ^{ADVANCED} ~~advanced~~ the suggestion that the File be published in book form. Security ~~regulations~~ ^{FEELS / HARDLY}, he ~~maintains~~ ^{TO BE PROTECTED}, ~~unless~~ ^{COUNTLESS} ~~present~~ ^{COMES INTO THE PICTURE, UNLESS} are invalid, where nothing but the Nazis' own security is at stake. By subjecting to public contempt ~~millions~~ ^{COUNTLESS} of Hitlerites who might otherwise go unpunished, the world embracing lexicon would serve the cause of

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Democracy. "Besides", adds the Swiss, "the book would be a bestseller.
In fact, I should like to publish it myself."

.....

Line 100

or

Bohner 100

100/100

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Civil Affairs Detachment D2C1
Co. B, 1st ECA Regiment
APO 628

YMRA 2U

EVERY INGREDIENT FOR A

There is ~~nothing~~ ^{IN} the best-selling thriller ~~about~~ the recent discovery at Munich-Freimann of the world embracing ~~Masterfile~~ ^H of all members and would-be members of the Nazi party. The circumstances under which the find was made; the scene of the unveiling; the persons involved; and the past, present and future of what is probably the most valuable prize in document~~ray~~ ^{ary} history - they all add up to something remindful of Ellery Queen.

When the story "broke", some of its ~~chapters~~ ^H were released for publication. Others remained a closely guarded secret which only now, that security permits, ~~have~~ ^{HAS} been divulged exclusively to Liberty Magazine.

It was on a rainy day late in April 1945, when a big Mercedes car raced by the demolished Victory Gate and down the ruined Leopold Street towards the suburban village of Freimann. At any other time the gaudy uniforms displayed by its two passengers; the streamlined beauty of their vehicle and the wrecklessness of their driver would have aroused the attention of hundreds of by-passers. Today the streets of Munich were deserted. Artillery fire could be heard in the distance and if no bombs were dropping at present, those heavy clouds would not prevent the American Air~~force~~ ^{force} from continuing their attacks on the doomed city. Munich was ripe to fall.

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Co. 8, 1st ECA Regiment
US ARMY

"There ~~think~~ and then", the miller ^{of} Freimann told this reporter, "I decided to have a very good look at that stuff."

One look sufficed. Though the miller insists that his knowledge of party affairs was slight, he could not but recognize his ~~hh~~ buy^v as shakingly important. The officials had left, probably for good, along with the rest of Munich's frightened rulers. Little was risked and much might be gained if the documents which filled his roomy attic to the ceiling were saved for the approaching Americans.

Whether for lack of time, interest, or judgement, the first American intelligence detachments failed to grasp the significance of the vast mounds of records. Before passing on, C.I.C. (Counter Intelligence Corps) Seventh Army moved some few bales to a government building for possible future examination. The greater part of the treasure remained unguarded in the dismal mill loft. The miller, ~~Howe~~, was duly appointed deputy mayor of Munich - Freimann.

When the Third Army took over in Munich, nothing was known of the hoard in the mill. It so happened, ^{HOWEVER,} ~~though,~~ that Major William D. ("Big Bill") Browne, ~~Whhwhh~~ a former police detective captain ~~hh~~ ^{SPECIAL BRANCH OF PUBLIC SAFETY SECTION} of Portland, Oregon and now ~~security~~ officer for ~~Upper~~ Bavarian ~~land~~ detachment, Military Government, had (a) an inborn passion for detective work and (b) a chief clerk of unusual character. The woman in question, 36 years old Anna Kemeter of Munich, proved a natural for the type of work her boss wanted to be done. If Big Bill Browne disliked the ~~Whhwhh~~ Hitlerites, Anni's hatred of Nazism was personal and profound.

On April 20th, 1944 - Hitler's birthday - her father, one of her brothers and her brother-in-law had been declared guilty by the "People's Court" of high treason and traffic with the enemy. A few

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The pair in the car did not speak. Their mission had been decided upon behind closed doors and must not be discussed in the presence of ~~even~~^{EVERY} the most trusted employee. One person only - the man whom they were about to approach - had to be given an ⁱⁿgling of the crucial matter at stake.

Herr Hans Huber, manager of Joseph Wirth's papermill, jumped to his feet. His visitors - this he recognized at first glance - were of the highest Nazi caliber, top-ranking members of the Reichsleitung (Reich's leadership) and the Gestapo respectively.

Was he - ~~they~~^{THEY} demanded to know - interested in buying a considerable amount of waste paper?

Of course, he was. Paper was scarce these days; his mill specialized in turning waste into corrugated carton cardboard; moreover, any "offer" made by these two had better ^{be found} ~~be found~~ exceedingly interesting.

"Alright, then;" they said, producing a type-written receipt.

"66 365 Kilogrammes of wastepaper will be turned over to you during the next few days. In addition to paying the modest price of 5 641 Marks and 3 Pfennigs, you will oblige yourself to grind the lot to pulp - all of it and without delay."

Herr ~~H~~^uber agreed.

"Heil Hitler", he said.

Except for the shiftiness of his handsome brown eyes nothing in his attitude could have aroused anyone's suspicion.

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weeks before our arrival they were executed - murdered in the name of Der Fuehrer. The surviving brother had come home, a physical and mental wreck, after eleven years spent at Buchenwald. And Anni herself had served 8 months ^{IN A} concentration camp. To her and a precious few of her countrymen the allies had come neither as oppressors nor as conquerors, but as liberators, friends and protectors.

In contrast to many Germans employed by M.G., Anni worked with indefatigable fervor.

One day four gunnysacks with cards were discovered in a dusty corner of the vast Military Government building. It was Major Browne who spotted the sacks ~~hahahhahahhah~~, as he wandered about the house to make a survey of its rooms. The cards had evidently been examined superficially by some American outfit and abandoned as uninteresting. But Browne, his instinctive curiosity quickened by Anni's excited pleas, decided to trace the origin of his find.

Hans Huber, the paper miller, seemed happy to welcome the Major. Yes - he said - the records were here. Realizing their importance to the Americans, he had hidden the files under a layer of genuine ~~hahah~~ waste paper. His hatred of the Nazis was well known. He deeply ~~appreciated~~ appreciated this opportunity to do them a ~~hahahhahahhah~~ disservice.

He sounded honest enough, but his handsome brown eyes were as shifty as ever.

"And why", he was asked, "should the party have chosen you, a well known anti-nazi, for so ~~hahahhahahhah~~ momentous an assignment?"

He muttered, that first rate papermills were hard to find

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and that the Nazis had been in a hurry. Also, they might have underestimated his, Huber's, courage and shrewdness.

His explanations left many a doubt in Browne's wary mind. If the Nazis had really wanted to see their Master file destroyed, why had they not burned it on the spot? If, on the other hand, they had meant to save the documents, this lonely establishment was as good a hiding place as any, provided that its manager could be trusted. Was Huber a Nazi? Had his bosses hoped to return to Munich? Had our continued presence ~~haha~~ frightened the miller into making his first inadequate report? Had he been fearful of possible denunciations on the part of his neighbours? The papers - this much was certain - were in a state of utter disorder. Upon their arrival here - according to a number of witnesses - such had not been the case. Had Huber created this chaos ~~to~~ ^{just how} confuse us? Why, since he knew ~~haha~~ ^{must want} ~~haha~~ ^{badly} we ~~haha~~ these records, had he not been more persistent in arousing our interest?

^{newspaper}
First ~~haha~~ reports pictured the miller as an ardent anti-Nazi. No sooner had the news, printed in London, found its way into the Munich press, than letters of protest poured into M.G. offices. Huber, it was stated, had been on the best of terms with high ranking Nazis. Christian Weber, local party bigwig and one of "Der ~~haha~~ ^{Fuehrer's}" old guard, was a friend of the miller. Whether or not the latter had been a party member, could not be said with certainty. If he was, his chance to do away with all possible evidence had been unique. Had we - the

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letter writers inquired - found any membership cards identifying nazi residents of Freimann? And - if not - might not Huber have burned these cards along with his own? He was - his denouncers insisted - capable of much. The foreign slave labourers in his service could have told us. He was in the habit of beating these unfortunates, especially the women.

Thus ran the comments on enigmatic Herr Huber, who on his part maintained that he despised Nazism and that, owing to his daring deed, the Nazis were after him. No less than 50 threatening phone calls - he claimed - had been received in the mill since he had surrendered the ~~treasure~~ treasure. He might well have to pay with his life for his noble action.

Pondering all factors involved, the Provost Marshall of Munich suggested that the miller be taken into protective custody. ^{But} Big Bill Browne, ~~heavily~~ favoured custody pure and simple. Huber, he felt, was lying. A stretch of solitary confinement might help him to recall the true course of events.

The miller isn't mayor any more. When I last saw him, however, he was still at ~~liberty~~ liberty. It appears unlikely that he will remain a free man much longer.

Weeks ~~past~~ ^{PASSED} after the discovery of the file. At times it seemed, as if Major Browne had embarked ^K on the wildest of goose chases. True, the cards - there were millions of them - were moved, gradually, from the lonely ^M mill to the guarded M.G. building. With each truckload stored safely, a truckload of worries was taken from Browne's broad bodyguard's

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SHOULDERS

~~But~~ facilities were scanty. Though the one truck at the major's disposal kept shuttling back and forth between Munich and Freimann, the mysterious ~~hahh~~ paper mountains in the mill appeared as towering as ever. And mysterious they were, despite their ~~hahhahhahh~~ apparent significance. So much so, that ^{THEIR} ~~their~~ discoverer hesitated to enlist the aid of his superior. What, if this vast accumulation of records should turn out to be practically ~~hahhahhahh~~ valueless? Thus far neither himself, nor Anni, ^{NOR} the assistants, whom they had engaged, could make head or tail ~~hahh~~ of the papers.

There were blue, pink, ~~hahhahhahh~~ white and yellow cards, bordered, ^{MANY} of them, in contrasting colours. Some bore pencil marks; others showed entries in red or blue ink; others still were shingled ^{WITH} ~~by~~ unknown stamps. What meaning, if ^{ANY} ~~any~~, had these distinctions? And what connection existed between the card file and the books? ^{CC} Those handwritten works of reference what did they refer to?

Persons who were in charge of these records under the Nazis had to be located. But only if they believed that the ^{master} ~~hahhahh~~ index had been destroyed, could they be induced to divulge its secrets. Three of them were discovered by Browne's agents and confronted with a number of samples. They talked. Yet their explications were inadequate. Nobody, it seemed, had been permitted ever to see the overall picture. Like the American workers engaged in the development of the atomic bomb, the curators of the brown network did not know just what they were working ^{ON.} ~~ON.~~

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Then the code-book was found - the key to the entire mystery. Without it, the nazi party membership file for the entire world might never have been deciphered. The code-book has turned the 24 ~~hundreds~~ millions of odd cards in our hands, this 40 tons arsenal of "waste-paper" into an instrument through which every person ⁱⁿ Germany or abroad who ever was - or tried to become - a member of the party, will be exposed.

Thanks to nazi ^{BUREAUCRACY} ~~bureaucracy~~ each individual has been covered threefold. He or she is identified, first, by the Correspondence File (yearly volumes, quoting the dates and subjects of all correspondence pertaining to applications, rejections, admissions, expulsions and deaths); secondly in the Gau File (regional registrations); and finally in the Master File (the overall alphabetical index). Nazi party clerks have obligingly made sure that nothing is missing.

If the cashier in Addis Abbeba; the banker in Buenos Aires; the tailor in Detroit; the traveling agent in Shanghai; the electrical ~~engineer~~ ^{IN GLASGOW} ~~engineer~~ - whose cards I have seen - are a little worried today, they are completely right. The detection of the Master File - plus key - has eliminated any possibility of keeping membership a secret. Changing names or addresses, falsifying questionnaires, producing witnesses, will avail little, unless the member can acquire a new face and ~~change~~ change his hand writing. Among other bits of useful information the overall index contains photographs and signatures.

Some of the millions, whose registration cards ~~hundreds~~ are now being examined at Munich, may be worrying needlessly. Their cards, rubber-stamped "Schwarze Liste" (Black List), are adorned with black

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borders, characterizing them as enemies of the party .

Denazification rules at present effective in American occupied Germany are severe. Anyone who joined the party prior to 1937 and is therefore considered a super eager Nazi, is banned from anything but ordinary labour. His bank accounts are frozen, his estates requisitioned and he may be drafted into forced labour gangs. What measures, if any, will be taken against American party members, has not yet been disclosed. But if no German Nazi is permitted to keep either position of fortune in nazi infested Germany, it would seem somewhat paradoxical for ~~democratic~~ ^{THE UNITED} ~~NATIONS~~ ^{THEIR} not to turn against ~~its~~ ^{their} own nazi citizens.

When Major Browne felt certain that his find deserved the greatest attention, he notified his chief, Lieutenant Colonel J.W. Hensel of Glendale, California, Military Government Officer for Upper Bavaria, was quick to comprehend. So impressed was he with the major's discovery, that he determined personally to present the ~~case~~ ^{CASE} in Frankfurt and Berlin, to Usfet, as well as to Allied Group Control.

They boarded a plane. For three weeks they were busy "selling" their goods. Finally the index was recognized by all who mattered as as priceless acquisition. General Eisenhower himself took an active interest in the files and requested that every possible effort be made to safeguard them and to put them into usable form as soon as possible.

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But there were various ways in which the cards could be put into "usable ^{FORM} ~~cards~~" and various ^{FORMS} ~~cards~~ into which they could be put. As usual, the ~~best~~ way was the most expensive one in terms of both money and labour. Had "Ike" meant to imply that machine records were to be employed? If the American and Allied governments intended fully to exploit the possibilities inherent in the Master File; if they were to be enabled by merely ^{PRESSING} ~~pushing~~ a button to survey the ^{history} ~~case~~ of any party member ^{UNDER THE SUN} ~~anywhere on earth~~, the use of machine records was ~~imperative~~ imperative.

This magic apparatus works much like a ^{GIANT} ~~an~~ electric piano. And cards, processed for machine recording, resemble the transcripts, "played" by the musical instrument. To search manually for any one card among 24 millions, would be a major task. And to find in the alphabetically arranged index certain groups of cards, designating a succession of persons whose names are unknown to the searcher would be wholly impossible.

Suppose you are looking for all Nazi party members hailing from ^{HAMBURG} ~~Berlin~~, Oslo, or ~~anywhere~~ ^{REGARDLESS OF GEOGRAPHY} Lima; or, for all those ~~anywhere under the sky~~ who joined the party in 1935; or - for some reason of your own - for all members called Hans: unless their cards are singled out for you by machine records, you will never detect them.

Much time and effort will be saved by these astonishing tools which, ^{however,} ~~however,~~ require a measure of preparatory effort.

Here are some of the things that must be obtained or done,

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before machine records can go into action;

Colonel Hensel's detachment will have to supply

50 key punches (alphabetical machines); 50 million cards; several rooms with floor space of about 500 square yards each; 180 chairs; 100 tables and cupboards or shelves for 24 Million cards.

They will have to procure 500 operators and 200 assistants and train them in operating machines, using code-books, sorting file cards etc.

They will have to ~~supply~~ provide huge quantities of paper and writing ~~materials~~ materials. The cards will have to be processed in seven different ways. When they are coded, they must be punched, verified,

interpreted, sorted, tabulated and finally reproduced. The following ~~thirteen~~ ^{FOURTEEN} entries will be punched into the cards:

Kind of card; surname; forename; year of birth; place of birth; ^{Citizenship} number ~~N~~ of membership; place where joined; last address; date of departure; reason for departure; black list; party office; photograph.

With approximately 750 persons engaged in the work of preparing the entire index for machine record use, the job will be AS THIS GOES TO PRINT, ALPHABETICAL ORDER WILL ALREADY HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED. completed within less than half a year. Monthly expenses will total about 36 000 Dollars. This amount includes all salaries paid to German personnel, whose fees range from 180 Marks, or 18 Dollars (for punching operators), to 600 Marks, or 60 Dollars (for the Office Manager). While these wages may appear startlingly low, it ~~is~~ ought to be remembered that our exchange rate of 10 Marks to the Dollar does ^{NOT} ~~not~~ correspond with the actual buying power of the Mark which is at present tantamount to approximately 40 cents.

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HEADQUARTERS
Civil Affairs Detachment D2C1
Co. 8, 1st ECA Regiment
APO 628
YMA 2U

In view of the extraordinary importance of Major Browne's discovery ^{ESTIMATED} the sum of 200 000 Dollars would not seem an extravagant investment. Nor - considering the chaotic state in which the file was found - would six months of work represent too much of an effort. Colonel ~~Hhhhhhh~~ Hensel, his desk covered with papers pertaining to denazification, appears more than eager to get the work done as thoroughly and as quickly as possible. He is anxious, moreover, to augment whatever additional German staff may be assigned to his detachment by a number of German speaking ~~Wahh~~ G.I.'s.

"No German", he points out, "should be permitted to toil in the record rooms except under American supervision."

Up to now Major Browne's special crew consisted of Anni Kemeter plus ten native assistants. Anni, who had been entrusted with hiring her own aids, felt that ^{ordinary} no employment agency could give her what she wanted; workers whose anti-nazi sentiments were beyond the shadow of a doubt.

"Nowadays", she explains, ^{MOST} "job-seekers ~~are mainly people~~ ~~who~~ are jobless because of their nazi past. And I couldn't possibly let anyone ~~Hhhhhhhh~~ deal with these files who wasn't even allowed to go on dealing in ~~Hhhhhhhh~~ sauerkraut."

So she went to the "Committee for the Aid to Former Concentration Camp Inmates". Here she found 6 men and four women who, like herself, had suffered for their convictions and were only too willing to help unmask Nazis.

HEADQUARTERS

Civil Affairs Detachment DSC
Co. 8, 1st ECA Regiment
APO 828
USA ARMY

I spent much time in the company of these people, wading ankle deep in rivers of paper; climbing mountains of paper; letting paper bits run through my fingers like sand.

Somewhere - in a pool of paper - sat Alois Wastian, a tailor by profession, who had spent three years at Dachau and five years in the Wehrmacht, where, along with the sight of one eye, he lost his professional skill. His present occupation was simple: from the multicoloured paper flood ~~which~~ ^{which} engulfed him he distilled all that was blue, pouring a never ending stream of blue cards into the lap of painter Joseph Juhl who was charged with stacking the cards in piles. Joseph, too, was a seasoned ~~HHhhhhhh~~ "Dachauer". Neither of the two, in fact none of the 11 Germans present, cherished any hope ~~for~~ for the political future of their country.

"Germany", they declared, as if in one voice, "has proved incapable of ruling herself. She ought to be made an American colony."

I watched their work, listened to their subdued chattering and perused thousands of cards and letters, fished haphazardly. There was, of course, a heavy preponderance of German membership cards. However, in every armful some cards from allied and neutral countries could be found. The percentages will be impossible to compute until the entire record is classified. At this finding, samples, taken at random show the majority of non-German members to be of German birth or descent. Consequently, countries with a high, pre-Hitlerian German immigration quota, such as the United

HEADQUARTERS
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Civil Affairs Detachment D2C1
Co. 8, 1st ECA Regiment
APO 658
YMAA 2U

States and certain South ~~American republics~~ ~~appear to be richest in~~ appear to be richest in Nazis. While a number of British cards have been discovered and the sum total of British citizens belonging to Hitler's gang may turn out to be considerable, nine sorters failed during a period of three hours to ~~find~~ ~~find~~ one British card. For obvious reasons no names can at present be divulged. Three statements, however, can even now be made with certainty:

- 1.) Party membership was anything but compulsory. The large amount of rejected applications found in every pile and the eager letters begging for admission prove that it was not easy to become a Nazi.
- 2.) Many a German-American who, prior to the discovery of the Master-File, was considered a loyal U.S. citizen will soon stand exposed as a ~~loyal~~ ^{AND ACTIVE} Hitlerite.
- 3.) Membership card number seven has not yet been - and may never be - spotted. To deepen the mystery of his own disappearance, member Hitler may well have spirited away this, his dearest possession, leaving behind him nothing but ruins and a shady myth.

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