

Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts

Subject: MR GEORGE PATTON JR

File Number: 100-32520

Section: 1



Federal Bureau of Investigation

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'Re-Education' of the Germans

By Hans Berger

THE famous military expert but dangerous political ignoramus, General George S. Patton, tried to teach the Germans that the differences between the Nazis and anti-Nazis are more or less the same as those between Republicans and Democrats. General Patton did not say who are the Nazis and who are the anti-Nazis, —the Republicans or the Democrats; Hoover or President Truman. He was stopped before he expanded upon his wisdom.

Patton is, of course, an extreme. But he is only one of the reasons "why the American policy of denazification" is breaking down, to quote Mr. Danell of the New York Times. If Mr. Danell bites reaction, it is indeed news. It is proof of how far things have gone.

Isn't it high time an investigation of this whole situation is undertaken? Why shouldn't, for instance, the CIO send a commission to look into this breakdown of denazification?

If a Professor George N. Shuster, a very good friend of all the reactionary Bavarians, and anything but a true anti-Nazi has been sent to Germany for all kinds of shady business, why should not representatives of the CIO investigate the systematic attempt to save German Nazism and German big business?

Two More Examples

Margaret Higgins in the Herald Tribune of Sept. 28, gives two more little examples of American politics in the occupied zone. Two small items, by no means as sensational as the exclamations of General Patton—but they speak volumes.

According to her report the question of insurance companies came up in the Kommandantura (the military governing body of Berlin). Pre-war law compelled every business and large building to carry fire insurance. One third of the concerns subscribed to a city-owned fire insurance company. The remaining two-thirds were insured by private companies,

Miss Higgins reports that the Soviet representative proposed that all fire insurance should be owned and controlled by the city. That would benefit all Berliners; the profit would go to the city instead of to an individual or a group of individuals. And the city administered by the coalition of the four democratic anti-fascist parties needs, of course, a lot of money for the most urgent reparations and reconstruction.

However, Col. Frank H. Howley, American military government chief in Berlin, together with the French and British, insisted that all the fire insurance should be handled by free enterprise "in the American way."

The Americans won out on this point. All the profits of fire insurance in Berlin will now go to the insurance companies at the cost of the Berliners. The American representatives "re-educated" the Germans by telling them what they have known under the Kaiser, under Weimar, and under Hitler—that private insurance companies are a holy institution, never to be touched. The interests of private profit come before the interests of the destroyed city.

The second case concerns the rate of bank interest. The Soviet representative proposed that the Berlin Bank and its branches should make loans at the rate of 4½ percent, thereby encouraging small businessmen to borrow and reestablish themselves.

No, says the American representative, in unison with the British and French. Only a six percent bank rate would encourage depositors. He won out again on this point.

The small Berlin businessmen will now have to pay six percent thanks to the American representative. The brave American colonel has successfully defended the most holy pillars of civilization—the profit of private insurance companies and a high interest rate on loans to the little people. No wonder that certain circles are impatient for the day when they can bring such marvelous proof of civilization to Bulgaria,

Romania, and Hungary. If one multiplies these two small bits of information by a hundred or a thousand, one will discover the spirit that creates such extremes as Gen. George Patton.

Fritz Kuhn Helped

And now let us turn to, still another problem. There are quite a few proven anti-Nazis in this country, trying to return to Germany. The State Department and War Department have so far refused them permission. Apparently, Germany does not need anti-Nazis.

It seems that what Germany needs is the import of Nazis from the United States. I am referring to the case of Fritz Kuhn, the former German-Bund leader, who has just gotten all the shipping space he needed for a return to Germany.

Kuhn and his whole gang

Bundists tried to make a Nazi America of the United States. They prepared pogroms. They would have slaughtered millions of Jews, democratic Americans, tens of thousands of labor leaders if they had power. They did everything to organize the Fifth Column for the big day when the crooked cross would fly over the White House.

Now, thanks to our Department of Justice, they are returned to Germany, and remain scot free, as a statement from the American authorities in Frankfurt tells us. Now they are in Germany to continue their work to substitute for arrested Nazis to organize connections

between the Nazis in Germany and the revived Bundist activities in the U.S.A.

What an irony! At the same moment that Gen. Patton is severely criticized for his open sympathy with well-to-do Nazis, "gentlemen imperialists," big industrialists with nice manners, nice social gatherings in the castles of the German upper classes—Fritz Kuhn remains a free man in the American zone of occupation.

After all, Germany does not need such imports from the U.S.A. There are enough Nazis there. Germany does not need German-American pogromists. There are still enough of this type on the loose in Germany. Germany needs a much more ruthless denazification, and not a donation of Bund leaders.

Of course, the Frankfurt authorities say that Kuhn will be watched. A few men from the Intelligence Service will trail him. So what?

Fritz Kuhn will be very careful in the beginning. He will talk only from man to man and he will choose his men. But he will be a center of carefully camouflaged Nazi activity and of Nazi propaganda. The American Intelligence Service will get tired after a while, but not Fritz Kuhn.

It was ridiculous to ship this Bundist to Germany. However it could have been justified if he would have been arrested there. To permit him to go free is a fantastic scandal. Is this denazification? Is this removing all the dangerous elements in Germany?

Let's hope this mistake will be corrected, and Kuhn will land in a jail for hard labor where he belongs. Let's at least hope that he will not become an interpreter for some military government official.

100-32520-11
page 6 of the
DAILY WORKER

10-2-44
Shipped at the Seat of
INFORMATION CONFERENCE
GREEN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-9-95 BY SP-100/100

~~SECRET~~

Frankfurt, Germany.
June 6, 1945.

Director, FBI.

Re: NONFRATERNIZATION POLICY
OCCUPATIONAL PLANS FOR GERMANY.

Dear Sir:

For the possible interest of the Bureau, I am transmitting this information to the effect that the nonfraternization policy is viewed by all of the intelligence officers with whom I have come in contact as a terrible mistake and one which should be immediately rectified. The main accusations which are leveled against this policy are, first, it is less practical than the Russian policy of shooting the men on their black list and fraternizing with the others, and, secondly, it makes effective intelligence and counter-intelligence work in Germany virtually impossible.

I have today had the opportunity of discussing this matter with General GEORGE S. PATTON, Jr., who commented on the nonfraternization policy as follows: "I want you and anyone else over whom you have any influence or with whom you can come in contact to do everything they can immediately to abrogate the nonfraternization policy. All it's doing in the sector where my army has been stationed is to drive the Germans into the arms of a people a great deal more dangerous to us. You're going to end up with a pro-Russian Germany if it continues."

I have also discussed this question with Brigadier General Sir DAVID PETRIE, Director-General of the British Security Services. He also expressed disfavor with the nonfraternization policy and stated that it was dangerous inasmuch as it was turning the Germans towards Russian influence and made practical counter-intelligence work very difficult in occupied Germany. He stated that it was his unofficial opinion that it would not be long before the policy was altered. (S)(u)

Any further information concerning the policy which will be followed in our relations from the American and [British side] with the native population of Germany will be immediately furnished to you. (S)(u)

Very truly yours,

[Redacted signature block]

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INDEXED

~~SECRET~~

EX-25

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LD

Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

United States Occupation
of Germany (200)

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8-11-84
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DECLASSIFIED BY SP5 JAC
ON 7/12/99
Pursuant to letter from Bureau
dated 6/14/99

Freedom of Information and Privacy Acts

Subject: GEORGE SMITH PATTON, JR.



Federal Bureau of Investigation

to be in his death as
personal loss. It is very tragic.

I trust you are enjoying
your usual good health.

Here's a merry Christmas
and a Guid New Year, to

You and your able colleagues

Yours sincerely,

Long may you live
and prosper
and be happy

for
10
mms

b7c

[Redacted]

Dear Mr Hoover.

I've just mailed you a
few British newspapers to
show you how sad we
are, over the untimely death

of that grand American,

GEORGE S.

General Patton. 194-4adr20505

RECORDED & INDEXED
JAN 30 1946

Britain

58 FEB 6 1946

EX-7

look

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E.A. Tamm	45
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

b7c

Communication # 42
Via Army Pouch

Paris, France
Oct 22, 1944

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

RE: AMERIK-TRUPPE
of Abwehr II

CONFIDENTIAL
Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Dear sir,

On my recent visit G-2 12th Army Group at Verdun the following information came to my attention through an officer whose identity cannot be revealed.

At the beginning of October, 1944 a party of S.O.I. men conducted a raid on a chateau at Rocquencourt, France which had apparently been used as some sort of administrative headquarters for an Abwehr II group. Among the documents which were discovered was an outline for a training program for a group known alternatively as the AMERIK-TRUPPE and the GRUPPE ADVERSO. This training was to last one week and was to consist of lessons in military sabotage and stay-behind espionage work. The prime requirements were that the members of the group be proficient in English and able through the use of captured equipment, uniforms, and vehicles to pass themselves off as American military personnel. The organization was to operate, according to this document, as a section of Abwehr II. There was found no list of personnel or officers or instructors.

In a conversation with Lt General George S. Patton Jr, commanding General of the 3rd U.S. Army, this matter was brought up. The General advised that on about the 15th of October an American Lt Colonel and a Major had been shot and killed by Germans driving an American jeep and dressed in U.S. Military Dress. Also a woman of French nationality working for OSS who had been with them at the time, was captured and has not been heard of since. One of the Germans was also killed and his body left behind. A further check with C.I.C. of 3rd Army reflected that the Amerik-Truppe men, according to the same document found at Rocquencourt and an examination of the body, were part of Abwehrkommando #252, but carried the papers of the 14th Pioneer Sicherungsregiment.

Because of the source of this information and the fact that successful operations have been carried out by this group it is suggested that this matter be treated in the strictest confidence and not made available to any other U.S. Agencies.

Very truly yours,

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&
INDEXED

98-18606-59X

50 JAN 3 1945

~~SECRET~~

Frankfurt, Germany.
June 6, 1945.

Director, FBI.

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OCCUPATIONAL PLANS FOR GERMANY.

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Any further information concerning the policy which will be followed in our relations from the American and with the native population of Germany will be immediately furnished to you.

Very truly yours,

3/29/99
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8-11-54
VAR

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EX-25

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AD RD

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
Mr. Clegg ✓
Mr. Coffey ✓
Mr. Glavin ✓
Mr. Ladd ✓
Mr. Nichols ✓
Mr. Rosen ✓
Mr. Tracy ✓
Mr. Carson ✓
Mr. Egan ✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
Mr. Nease ✓
Miss Gandy ✓

United States Secretary of State

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WGP- article to Gen. George S. Patton

Communist Party - general

File

Remove Gen. Patton! 16

ON TOP of the national scandal over Gen. Douglas MacArthur's behavior in Japan comes the case of Gen. George S. Patton, who looks upon the job of de-Nazifying Germany with the mentality of a Republican ward heeler running for county sheriff.

Two generals—both of them highly self-advertised, and supported by the pro-Axis press. Neither of them is carrying out the job of destroying fascism, for which thousands of American soldiers and sailors gave their lives.

Certainly, Patton ought to be removed. He ought to be disavowed by Gen. Eisenhower, and the State Department and retired on his personal fortune of millions.

This is not only a case of slapping helpless GIs. This is a slap in the face to every patriotic citizen, to our allies, to our whole war effort.

But the issue in the case of both MacArthur and Patton is not one of army men versus civilians. The fact is, as the N. Y. Times reveals, that many civilian subordinates in the military government for Bavaria share Patton's sympathy for German reactionaries.

They, too, are taken in by the Hitlerian humbug that Communism will sweep Germany if the fascists are removed from their posts. And Patton would not dare to act as he does if powerful civilians—American industrialists and their friends in diplomatic circles—were not backing him up.

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87 OCT 12 1945

INDEXED

EX-17

This is a clipping from
page 6 of the
DAILY WORKER

Date 9-23-45

Clipped at the Seat of
Government.

57 OCT 18 1945

New York, N.Y.
June 11, 1945

Mr. Hoover:

I thought you might be interested in reading, if you have not had an opportunity heretofore, the text of the talk which General George Patton is alleged to have given to his troops of the Third Army in England on the eve of the invasion of Europe. It is contained in the column of John O'Donnell which appeared in the New York Daily News yesterday, copy of which is attached hereto.

E. E. CONROY

Attachment

RECORDED

INDEXED

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