

GERMANY'S SPY SYSTEM

How the Hun Sought to Dominate the World Through Its Secret Agents

Churches, Universities, Armies and All Classes Ensnared by System—Tools of Kaiser, Well Paid at First, Are Mercilessly Sacrificed When of No Use to Him.

FIRST INSTALMENT.

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By HERMAN BERNSTEIN.

In the Willy-Nicky correspondence which I published last year the character of Kaiser Wilhelm II. was revealed throughout the world as that of a hypocrite and intriguer, who talked of peace and of God while plotting against the peace of the world, advancing his personal ambitions as Prussian War Lord by mesmerizing the feeble minded Tsar Nicholas II. He threatened him, bullied him, flattered him; he counselled him how to beat Japan during the Russo-Japanese War and taught him how to save his monarchy by deceiving the Russian people.

Former Ambassador Gerard exposed the Kaiser and the system of Wilhelmism effectively. He disclosed his whims and tactics during the great war. He pictured and analyzed Kaiserism as it really is, for he had both the opportunity and the ability to see it at close range in the course of the first years of the war.

During my recent visit to Russia I familiarized myself with the materials of the counter intelligence department and particularly with the documents of the military prosecutor, A. S. Reznov, concerning German espionage in Russia and elsewhere.

A study of these documents makes it clear beyond the shadow of a doubt that Kaiser Wilhelm has been scheming for years to dominate the world, to transform it into one great Prussia, to reduce all other Powers to a state of servitude. He seems to have been moved by a peculiar passion to rule mankind as a moral savage, as a religious maniac, covering the nakedness of his soul with the gloss of a civilization that is founded upon his Krupp munitions works.

Started Spy System in Russia.

While the Kaiser was sending intimate messages to the Tsar, pledging him his devotion and friendship, he established in Russia an organization of espionage that worked hand in hand with the German Foreign Office, whose purpose it was to Prussianize Russia, to wreck her as a great Power in the event she failed to submit to the dictation of Potsdam and then to make use of her helplessness to further the Kaiser's dream of Pan-Germanism.

German espionage in Russia, as revealed during the war, was not confined to military affairs, to the unearthing of secrets which could prove of value in connection with strategic problems of this war. German espionage there was concerned with far greater problems. Its tasks had been elaborated not only by the German Staff but by the Department for Foreign Affairs.

The entire foreign policy of the German government was based upon the work and reports of the German spies in various countries, and that is why it is difficult to say where the work of the German statesmen ceased and where that of German spies commences. German secret agents were called upon to fulfil the orders of the military staff while at the same time carrying out important instructions for the diplomatic department. Many of the German spies were located in the offices and apartments of the German diplomats and worked together with them. Many of the German diplomats directed the espionage system in foreign countries and were really responsible for numerous crimes committed there for the sake of the greater Germany which Wilhelm II. had conceived.

Regarded Honor as Pledge.

The code of German morality in this direction unfortunately became known only after the outbreak of this war. Now the whole world knows that German diplomats and German military men regarded International honor as nothing but an absurd prejudice. It was convenient for them as long as it served as a screen for the unscrupulous machinations of German greed and ambition. The Kaiser himself has taken an active interest in German espionage and occasionally directed the work of important secret agents at critical moments.

The cards of Germany's international game are open now. We can see the intentions of Wilhelm II., the insatiate egoist, and the clique of militaristic Pan-Germanists behind him.

The Kaiser, who preached poor sermons who painted mediocre pictures, who made bombastic speeches about peace, the posing sensationalist who craved popularity at home and abroad, at times blurted out his real intentions, ambition and dreams, but the statesmen of Europe regarded him merely as a charade monger and paid no heed to his utterances which betrayed his secret yearning. The German Emperor believed, and he made a number of German statesmen believe, that, as he said in one of his speeches, it was his task "to break down the barriers which separated and divided the great German people."

These were not mere words with Wilhelm. They embodied his fixed idea and became the course of the policy of Pan-Germanism.

Every German's Loyalty Expected.
The one-time Chancellor von Bismarck expressed a similar thought when he declared that "The mission of Prussia is to protect Germans everywhere." The very place of double allegiance permitted

Russia I saw that in 1909, at the time of the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a large number of German spies were sent into Russia for the purpose of gathering information regarding the feelings of the Russian people toward Austria's step. They travelled extensively in the trains, they talked to Russians in restaurants and hotels, and their instructions were to report everything that might have any bearing on war. Some of the agents, according to Russian officials, telegraphed Berlin daily in code whatever they considered of importance.

Special Subjects of Spy Inquiry.

Here are several subjects the German spies in Russia were instructed to investigate:

1. The morale of the army. Instances of violation of discipline. The success of revolutionary propaganda in the army. The degree of confidence of the

mans. He knew exactly how to act, where to get his provisions, where to impose contributions.

German Spies Active in Every City.
This was true of almost every city in Russia that the Germans entered. They had Germans in all these places working for the Kaiser for years before the war.

From correspondents found on German soldiers, killed or wounded near Warsaw, it is evident that the Germans not only knew all they wanted to know about the fortifications and official buildings in the city, but they even divided Warsaw into districts before entering it. The German General Staff had given specific instructions in what parts of the city troops were to be stationed. They indicated the houses which were to be occupied by the General Staff and by the officers. The Germans had so arranged matters that each of the officers could drive to his home in

the engineer, Kurmasher, a Riga German, head of the Riga Fire Department, and two "volunteers" were in the basement sending radio messages to the German staff about the movements of the Russian troops. They were all caught at the apparatus with a radio telegram in their hands. There were hundreds of such factories, shops or stores scattered throughout Russia.

The German General Staff instructed its secret agents in foreign countries to prepare platforms for airplanes, reservoirs for Zeppelins and even to build fortresses in the Baltic provinces these instructions were carried out by German engineers in fact, several German fortresses were erected in Russia by German agents.

"This is not a fairy tale, not a myth, but the bitter truth," reads an official Russian document. "Our soldiers convinced themselves of this fact when they were attacked from such fortresses about five versts from Vladivostok. It took the Russian army five days to capture these German fortifications on Russian territory."

It was discovered that these fortifications had been constructed by Germans who had become Russian subjects and who thus contrived to check the progress of the Russian armies on their way to Prussia.

Neither Russia nor the Allies suspected how far reaching the scope of German espionage was because they did not realize that pan-Germanism was the force behind the system of German espionage.

Spies From Every Sphere of Society.

To carry out its schemes of conquest, to make the world safe for Prussia, the Kaiser's government has for many years elaborated its system of espionage everywhere and has drawn its spies and secret agents from every sphere of society. It has snared a multitude of men and women of high and low social standing to aid the cause of Pan-Germanism. It stretched out its claws to the church and universities, the armies and the navies, the schools, the shops and the farmhouses.

In Russia the provinces adjoining German and Austrian territories were covered with an enormous network of spies and provocateurs long before the outbreak of the war. Every city and town, every village and hamlet, in those provinces harbored a branch of the Kaiser's secret organization. Thus he knew the military, social, economic and political condition of Russia better than the Russian statesmen themselves knew it.

Russians Studied Spy System.

The Russian Military Prosecutor, who made a profound study of German espionage, declared that in 1911, when certain Russian regiments situated in the Polish provinces were to be transferred, German spies communicated this information to Berlin before the orders had actually been given by the higher authorities.

A letter sent by a German officer to one of the spies was intercepted. It read as follows:—

"Please come to see me as soon as possible. I have a great deal of work for you. We will need about a hundred men for the task. Come for money without delay."

Though all this was known at the time to the Russian authorities, for some reason they paid no attention to the rapidly growing German organization in Russia.

Even representatives of the army occupying posts of great importance minimized the significance of German espionage. The official organ of the War Department, the Russky Invalid, reprimanded the Military Prosecutor who exposed the intrigues of the Kaiser's representatives in Russia, saying that he was "cultivating dangerous yellow rumors and legends about German spies."

Hun Espionage Grew Undisturbed.

Thus, German espionage was permitted to grow and develop and take root in Russia long before the war. The fruits of this organization of the German spy system were soon evident. The son of the cottage owner, who saw this telegram, was surprised, as there was no number upon the advertisement.

The young man then examined the sign closely and noticed upon the back of it a map of the coast drawn with a knife, indicating the rocks, &c. The young man informed the authorities, who examined all the other "Maggi" signs and advertisements. All had maps on the back. The spies thus prepared for the German landing. There were numerous such instances.

Thanks to the statistical work of the German agents, the Germans on entering a city knew the location of the most important buildings and houses. Bombarding the city, they always aim at these structures. The information supplied by these secret agents was used in the attempts made upon King Albert and President Poincaré. The German dirigiste went down near Libau in 1915 but among the command Germans who had lived in Libau before the war as barbers, and Lieutenant von Schenk, a Russian land owner and lumber merchant.

"The German colonists have led the Germans to our resting armies," he said. "They treacherously led our armies into German traps. They served as guides for the Germans, they sheltered them, they provided them with food, while they denied these to the Russian troops."

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"Wherever they came, whatever positions they took, they found ready organizations of signalists, secret telephones, guides, hidden provisions. Even when the Germans retreated they left their secret agents behind. The German colonists kept them hidden in cellars, and then they came out dressed as Russians."

Radio Message from Cellar.

As a concrete instance may be mentioned the case of espionage at Riga. While

KAISER'S AUTOGRAPH IN DE LUXE ALBUM

*My dear Dr. Schenck from Berlin
fulfilling his promise
written by German hands,
and my hands.
Signed from Sormy in mid
September 1914, don't know if it will
be wanted. Signed by
and my hands.*

Wilhelm F.R.

TRANSLATION.

"Wherever a German, in the faithful fulfilment of his duty, lies buried, having fallen for his fatherland, and wherever the German eagle has planted its claws in the soil, such land is German and will remain German."

WILHELM."

soldiers in their superior officers. How the defeat of the Russian forces during the Japanese war affected the Russian officers. The views of the officers with regard to the probability of war with Germany and Austria.

2. The command of the army. Detailed characteristics of the officers and their photographs.

3. Information concerning the uniforms. Photographs and descriptions.

4. Information concerning munitions plans, descriptions, and if possible details about the latest technical innovations in firearms of all sorts.

5. The results of the experiments and, if possible, samples of the guns.

6. Various experiments produced in the army. Reports of manoeuvres. The latest regulations and instructions.

7. The location of the troops. The barracks and the tents. Photographs and sketches.

8. The progress of the air ships. What machines are adopted for use in Russia. Their number. Where the stations are located. How quickly are the newly formed companies trained. The results of the experiments of latest machines.

9. The railroads. The names of stations where troops are likely to board the trains in the event of mobilization. New lines.

10. The telegraph and telephone lines. Wireless stations. Military pigeon posts.

11. Russian fortresses, sketches, photographs and estimates of approximate quantities of provisions.

12. The material condition of the population (in the district where the German spy is stationed). To what political parties the people of that district belong.

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