

Sept. 7 1941

NAZI FIFTH COLUMN IN JAPAN

日本に於けるナチス

獨逸第五列の暗躍



EMPIRE OF JAPAN

Read HOW HITLER'S AGENTS ARE RUNNING TOKIO

DR. CHARLES N. SPINKS

The author of this pamphlet is Dr. Charles N. Spinks who has recently returned from Japan where he lived for five years. He is an American and formerly taught at Stanford University. He was professor of English in the Tokyo University of Commerce and was also editor of Japan News-Week, the last independent foreign-owned English language publication in Japan. Nazi influence made independent journalism in Japan impossible.

Dr. Spinks was also formerly associated with the Foreign Affairs Association of Japan, the South Manchuria Railway and the Japanese Foreign Trade Federation. He has travelled extensively through the Japanese Empire and Manchoukuo and China. Dr. Spinks speaks and reads Japanese fluently. His sources of information were unusual and unimpeachable.

The material in this pamphlet first appeared in the United States as a series of articles in the New York Post from July 21 to July 25 which was syndicated by the Overseas News Agency, Inc. They have appeared in a large number of American papers, including the Washington Post, New York Post, Philadelphia Record, Boston Globe, Dallas News and Chicago Times. The articles were also widely published in England, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South America and the Far East. In various parts of the world numerous radio commentators quoted from the articles and commented favorably on them.

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**NEW YORK COMMITTEE
TO DEFEND AMERICA**

HITLER'S AGENTS ARE RUNNING TOKIO

By CHARLES N. SPINKS

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EXCLUSIVE

A full-dress Nazi Fifth Column, conducting undercover campaigns to promote a Rightist revolution in Tokio and to drive Japan into war with the U. S., has gained a powerful hold on the Japanese government.

Gen. Eugen Ott, Berlin's Ambassador to Tokio, is the spark plug of the Nazi machine. He has a well-trained army of some 3,000 German agents at his command, the largest foreign group in Japan today.

Of this total, no less than 250 are on the staff of the German Embassy, an astounding personnel, far in excess of legitimate diplomatic requirements and at least six times the size of the American or British Embassy staffs.

Another delegation of 150 is stationed in Japan as "press representatives," although newsmen from the U. S. total about six.

Nazi propagandists, working as teachers in Japanese schools and colleges, total around 100, with about the same number listed as students of the Japanese language.

Other skilled manipulators, working behind the scenes as information agents, technical advisers and military and naval liaison officers, influence the policies of various government departments through key Japanese officials.

In the vital Japanese war industries, there are about 240 German technicians and experts, while this spring 24 or more Nazi airmen were stationed with the Japanese Air Force as instructors in the art of dive bombing and night location.

The rest of Gen. Ott's force falls into the category of business men (with little or no business to do these days), stooges, contact men and political tourists who have the effrontery to write the word "secret" for their

occupation when registering at hotels and inns, an offense which would land any other foreigner in jail.

And, as will be later explained, the enormous working capital for this Fifth Column is supplied by the smuggling of cheaply purchased yen, which are brought into Japan from Shanghai, under seal, in the official diplomatic pouches of the German Embassy.

C. J. Hambro, former president of the Norwegian Parliament, in his recent book, "I Saw It Happen in Norway," states that "the most dangerous Fifth Column is to be found behind the bars of diplomatic immunity; every German embassy is a potential center of Fifth Column mobilization; every German consulate is an armory, a danger spot, a privileged stable of a Trojan Horse."

Embassy Has Own Radio

No more accurate charge could be leveled at the German Embassy in Tokio, which today is a beehive of Fifth Column activity.

Here the steady stream of information gathered by industrious Fifth Columnists is collated, for transmission to Berlin. Here Gen. Ott directs the subversive operations of his invisible army. Here trained specialists in this work spawn their plots.

The Embassy is equipped with a powerful short-wave transmitter and is provided with an espionage laboratory with photographic, engraving and printing apparatus for the production of forged Japanese documents, credentials and passes which enable Fifth Columnists to operate with impunity.

The Japanese authorities would twitch with horror and indignation if they knew what goes on in this GHQ of the Nazi Fifth Column at Miyakezaka, right at the back door of the Japanese War Ministry.

Guarded by Picked Men

It is for this reason that the

German Embassy is guarded by picked Nazis armed with hand grenades, who patrol the grounds at night. Japanese authorities could not officially raid this citadel of intrigue without causing a break in diplomatic relations. But, as has frequently happened in Shanghai and other parts of China, there is nothing to prevent a beef-squad of gorotsuki (gangsters) from assaulting the place. The Japanese Government would then offer profound apologies and arrest (and later release) a few of its storm troopers.

Taking into account this possibility, the Nazis keep their Embassy carefully guarded. A well-placed hand grenade would discourage the most determined gorotsuki.

Through the "young officers" and other military malcontents, Gen. Ott, when only military attache, obtained access to the War Ministry under which operates the Kempeitai, or military police, the Gestapo of Japan.

Sways Foreign Office

Later, as Ambassador and with the coming of the pro-Axis Konoye Cabinet in July, 1940, Gen. Ott was able to exercise powerful and sinister influence over the Japanese Foreign Office. Toshio Shiratori, ex-Foreign Minister Matsuoka's high adviser on Axis affairs, is virtually a stooge of the German Ambassador.

Until recent times the Japanese navy, unlike the army, has not indulged in political intrigue on a large scale. But today there is a pro-Axis Fascist clique in the navy. The Fifth Column's chief contact man is Adm. Nobumasa Suetsugu, former Home Minister and now a leading light in the movement to give Japan a totalitarian government.

The Nazis have used many methods.

Through the Education Ministry the Fifth Column disseminates a flood of propaganda material to Japanese schools and colleges and has brought about the adoption of such Nazi institutions as Arbeit Dienst,

and a youth movement. Another deluge of Nazi propaganda reaches the Japanese public via the Japan-German Cultural Institute under the direction of Dr. Walther Donat.

Link to Expansionists

Through a bewildering assortment of go-betweens, the Germans co-operate with various patriotic and expansionist societies which foment anti-foreignism and campaign for southward expansion—a movement which the Fifth Columnists encourage in the belief that it will bring war with the United States.

By appeals to Japanese vanity, such as bowing before the Imperial Palace and Shinto Shrines associated with Japan's military and national power, the Germans also pose as the true friends of Nippon.

Moreover, by a skillfully formulated entertainment program (entertaining the right Japanese and entertaining them in the right way), the Fifth Column has built up important contacts with those elements in Japan most susceptible to Nazi intrigue—the so-called "young officers" of the army, leaders of patriotic societies and political malcontents of every variety.

"Scholar" Works Subtly

The most subtle work, however, is done by the Cultural Institute in providing the German "scholar" with a working knowledge of Japanese. The scholar is the stalking horse for the Fifth Column. His presence at entertainments and other functions does much to melt the ice of Japanese reserve when sake, geisha or other devices fail.

Japanese are always impressed with foreigners who know their language, who have a real or professed appreciation of things Japanese. Exploiting this failing, the German "scholar" provides a most effective cultural approach through which valuable political contacts can be established.

The Japan-German Cultural Institute has thus become a stud-farm for the production of Fifth Column stalking horses.

Nazi Stooges in Japan; Even the Ladies Help

As in other countries, the Nazi Fifth Column in Japan relies heavily on non-German stooges and go-betweens.

First of all, there are the Japanese Quislings, contact men for the German Embassy like Tadao Murata, former secretary of Seigo Nakano, who heads the notorious Toho-kai, Japan's Fascist Party, and clumsy stooges like one Fujihira, who day and night haunts the lobby of the Imperial Hotel eavesdropping on foreigners.

Nationals from occupied territories in Europe, German vassal states and doubtful neutrals like Spain and Sweden provide a bizarre assortment of stool pigeons and informers, some posing as anti-Nazi, who frequent such places as hotel lobbies, summer resorts, foreign-style restaurants and bars, and the Tokio and American clubs.

Then there are the sordid types, the broken-down renegades, beach-combers and barflies of Tokio's foreign community, who get their hand-outs from the German Embassy.

Glamour Girls Imported

The more romantic side is provided by White Russian filles de joie imported from Shanghai and Tientsin, glamorous ladies from Central Europe and the Balkans, slightly tarnished butterflys who flit mysteriously about the Far East with ample funds, sleek Chinese bar girls and demure Japanese cafe waitresses.

Scores of ultra-nationalist Asiatics act as henchmen, go-betweens and agents provocateurs for the Nazi fifth column: Arabs, Afghans and Indian Nationalists. Indian revolutionaries in German pay have been particularly active in fomenting anti-British agitation.

The Great Mogul of these Indian collaborators is Rash Behari Bose, head of the India Independence League in Japan, a naturalized Japanese. He fled to Japan in 1915 after attempting a number of revolutionary plots and hurling a bomb at and severely injuring Lord Hardinge, Viceroy of India.

The Indian authorities offered a 12,000-rupee reward for his arrest and requested his extradition. The Japanese Government of Premier Shigenobu Okuma endeavored to arrange for his deportation, but was powerless to do so.

Bose was protected by Mitsuru Toyama and the Black Dragon

Society and has remained in Japan ever since. Under his name in the Japanese "Who's Who," this terrorist notes with pride that he bombed Lord Hardinge and has been "active in Japan for Indian Independence, Asiatic renaissance and world peace based on justice and love."

"Vassal of Reich"

In still other ways, in addition to the use of non-Germans, the story of Nazi propaganda methods in Japan follows the pattern employed by German fifth columns in other countries. Its aims in Japan, however, are specialized and influenced by Japan's present position in the Pacific and the Japanese Government's present obligations under the Tripartite Alliance.

Nazi propaganda objectives, therefore, are directed toward the achievement of two principal goals:

(1) The rightist revolution which will make Japan a totalitarian vassal of the Third Reich.

(2) The promotion of a Japanese-American war by convincing Japan that southward expansion into the East Indies can be achieved without such a war.

The German Embassy in Tokio, the fountain-head of this propaganda campaign, is assisted in this work by DNB and Transocean, the two German news agencies which deal in editorial fabrications. Both have headquarters in Tokio. In addition, there are no less than 150 German "press representatives" stationed in Japan, as against only six correspondents from the U. S. and about three from the British Empire.

Distribute Nazi Literature

One of the principal tasks of the Nazi newspaper men is to raise the right sort of questions for Official Spokesman Ko Ishii of the Cabinet Information Bureau during his regular press conferences and to head off too direct or embar-

assing queries poised by other correspondents.

The Japan-German Cultural Institute under Dr. Walter Donat, another important propaganda outlet and rumor channel, not only distributes Nazi literature and pamphlets, but also arranges private showings of German war films.

It also sends a veritable deluge of Nazi propaganda to the Japanese schools, especially the Kotogakko, or higher schools, where most of the 100-odd German teachers are now engaged. Besides sheer political pamphlets the German Embassy and Japan-German Cultural Institute make large gifts of Nazi-indorsed books, German textbooks for class use, and "cultural" films of such subjects as the Siegfried Line.

This activity, of course, receives not only the co-operation but the approval of the Japanese Education Ministry, which in turn is influenced by the Nazi-controlled Japanese Home Office. On the other hand, the Education Ministry, which has jurisdiction over all Japanese schools (public and private) makes short shrift of anything charged as British or American propaganda. The major overhauling administered the Protestant missionary schools and colleges last fall was in good part inspired by the charge that these foreign-controlled institutions were propaganda centers for Britain and the U. S.

Loaded With German Books

Look at any newsstand in Tokio today. It is spattered with numerous pro-Axis pamphlets, works sponsored by patriotic societies or written by retired army officers (generally members of the powerful Meirinkai). Go into Maruzen's Book Store at Kyobashi, Tokio, the largest retail bookshop in Japan. Almost half the foreign book section covering the second floor is given over to German publications, mostly rank Nazi propaganda enterprises.

It is by control of the Japanese press, however, that the Nazi Fifth Column in Japan has been most successful. This was made possible by working agreements with the Home Office censors and the Kempeitai, or military police. But to suppress unfavorable news is only half of this propaganda job. Of equal importance is to obtain the publication of the right kind of news. This the Germans have achieved by a number of ways.

Through what amounted to

outright bribes, the Nazis have gained complete control of the Hochi and the Kokumin Shimbun, third-rate Tokio dailies. Both have carried the editorial brunt of the Fifth Column's campaign in Japan. The Kokumin was reached in the fall of 1939 through its long-standing connections with the Japanese Army.

In the spring of 1938 the Hochi passed into the hands of a bankrupt political agitator, formerly president of the Japan-German Anti-Comintern Society, who was supplied with the necessary funds by Nazi Presseleiter Jacob Sahl.

Invited to Lunch

By bribery, entertainment and astute go-betweens the fifth column has approached other papers with varying degrees of success. For example, last fall Matsutaro Shoriki, head of the Yomiuri Shimbun and the most able and enterprising publisher in Japan, received an unexpected invitation from General Ott for lunch at the German Embassy. After brandy and cigars, Ott led his guest to a private study where a huge map of Europe hung on the wall. With a pencil the Nazi general indicated plans of attack for 1941 which would bring Britain to her knees.

A few days later one of Shoriki's editors was entertained at a swank Japanese restaurant by a secretary from the German Embassy and some of the so-called German "press representatives." Then came hot news tips by telephone from the German Embassy, followed by a steady stream of carefully prepared releases. Impressed by Ott's forceful personality, the brandy, the cigars and the war map, Shoriki allowed most of these propaganda capsules to find their way into the pages of Yomiuri.

The German fifth column unsuccessfully attempted to buy out two American-owned papers in Tokio, the Japan Advertiser and Japan News-Week. Three times the value of the latter publication, in U. S. dollars, was offered. But the American owner, who is a true friend of Japan, refused to negotiate with the Germans.

Advertiser Is Sold

Last fall, however, the Japan Advertiser was sold to the Japan Times Publishing Co., controlled by the Japanese Foreign Office. Now known as the Japan Times and Advertiser, the former American daily has been

fully geared to the Nazi fifth column, despite the efforts of its able publisher Toshi Go to keep it a first-rate newspaper.

Shortly after the change of ownership, a special stooge was appointed to the paper's staff, a worn-out official from the Japanese diplomatic service. His task is not to see that this Japanese-owned and edited paper does not publish material harmful to Japan, but to insure that all news, editorials and photographs have the proper pro-Axis flavor. And what a time the editorial staff had composing pro-Italian headlines for the articles on Italy's defeats in Albania and Lybia last winter!

Finally, the Germans have exercised sweeping control over the release of foreign films in Japan. Again this has been engineered through the Home Of-

fice censors and the Kempeitai. Reel after reel of so-called German cultural and documentary films are shown in Japanese cinemas, all glorifications of the totalitarian state and blitzkrieg warfare.

Pro-Axis discrimination and censorship is applied to foreign newsreels. News pictures favorable to the British war effort or illustrating the progress of the American rearmament program rarely reach the Japanese public. Through agile manipulations at the Home Office the Nazis also succeeded last summer in obtaining the elimination of Paramount News, the only foreign product released as a complete picture.

Thereafter, only carefully edited and censored portions of American newsreels have been shown in Japan.

enstein who refused to co-operate with the Nazis. More recently, the Fifth Column has turned its attention to other foreigners, capitalizing on the acute Japanese spy complex.

Caused Newsmen's Death

Early in 1940, Nazi snoops and informers were partly responsible for the arrest and imprisonment of James R. Young, American correspondent in Tokio, who had attempted to expose the malignant activities of Dr. Walther Pausch and Reinhardt Schultz of the Hitler Youth Movement, special agents from Berlin, whose duty was to foment agitation against a number of anti-Axis Japanese writers. The Fifth Column's real tri-

umph, however, was the celebrated spy scare of last summer which resulted in the arrest of a score of prominent British subjects and in the mysterious death at police headquarters of James Cox, correspondent for Reuters.

Spy Scares to Cover Up

This spy scare was primarily a diversion to distract attention from Nazi Fifth Column meddling preparatory to the signing of the Tripartite Alliance. The foreign-owned English language press, some of the more independent Japanese dailies and a number of prominent Japanese had begun to call attention to this undercover work. Moreover, the secret mission of Dr. Heinrich Stahmer, high Nazi official from Berlin then in Tokio to expedite the conclusion of the alliance, was becoming a too frequent subject of discussion for Fifth Column comfort.

The anti-British spy scare was a tremendous success. It silenced all further comment on Nazi operations, and the Japanese press, taking its cue, was immediately clamoring for action against the British Daigo Retsu (Fifth Column) in Japan!

That this piece of political subversion was basically the work of the Germans, there can be no doubt. The affair was engineered through Nazi contacts with the Kempeitai, in charge of enforcing the Military Secrets Law under which the British were arrested for their alleged espionage activity. The day before the arrests were made, one of the German Embassy's go-betweens inadvertently revealed the plot to the writer, who refused to believe it. Even the Metropolitan Police had no knowledge of the arrests un-

til the death of Cox three days later broke the story.

Spy scares have proved a perfect red herring for the Nazi Fifth Column. Britain, and more recently the U. S., are the scapegoats. Every month articles appear in the Japanese press and periodicals on the subject of British and American espionage in Japan. The authors are frequently associated with patriotic societies and other groups having close relations with the Nazi Fifth Column. These hair-raising accounts are intended to keep alive the diversion created by the spy scare of last summer.

Easy Way to Get Cash

Abuses of diplomatic immunity provide the funds where-with these and other Fifth Column activities are financed.

But the abuse does not stop here.

Diplomatic immunity simplifies the importation, without customs inspection, of such espionage apparatus as small portable short-wave radio transmitters, photographic equipment, sounding instruments, range finders, apparatus for forging Japanese official seals, documents and passes, and even fire-arms and hand-grenades.

It also makes possible the purchase with cheap yen and the removal from Japan without official permit of vast quantities of luxury goods which Japanese can no longer buy.

Yen smuggling has proved a ready-made racket to finance Fifth Column work in Japan. Japanese currency is officially pegged at around 4.20 yen to the U. S. dollar. That is, in Japan. In the free exchange market of Shanghai, however, the Japanese yen, fighting against convertible Chungking currency, sinks to its real value, anywhere from 10 to 20 yen to the American dollar. But such exchange operations on a large scale soon raised havoc with the domestic money market, and the Japanese Government banned the importation of Japanese currency, except for a mere 200 yen.

Evasion of Japan's Laws

The diplomatic bag of an embassy or legation, however, enjoys diplomatic immunity, regardless of its contents, and the Germans and Italians thus found a cheap way to take care of Embassy expenses.

Millions of yen have been smuggled in from Shanghai, because the Fifth Column requires enormous sums.

Embassy a Racket For Nazis in Japan

The wholesale abuse of diplomatic immunity has been a major contribution to the success of the Nazi Fifth Column which now overruns Japan like a plague of locusts.

This device expedites undercover activity and espionage by the German Embassy staff, 250 strong, shielding them from police interference. It covers illegal exchange transactions and the smuggling of cheap Japanese yen from Shanghai in the diplomatic bag. It enables the Nazis to bring into Japan bales of propaganda material, some of which is re-shipped to the U. S. and South America in Japanese vessels.

And in addition to the things done under the veil of diplomatic immunity, the undercover work of the Embassy is supplemented by the equally undercover activity of a number of German commercial firms.

Anti-Nazis Eliminated

The Nazi import-export firm of Illies & Co. is a nerve center of Fifth Column work. Its general manager, R. Hillman, collects contributions and dues from other German firms. In his espionage and subversive manipulations, he is (or was) assisted by another company representative, Paul Wigand, formerly of the German Imperial Navy and Ministry of Interior.

Another astute operator and Fifth Column stalking horse is Kurt Meissner of the L. Leybold Shokwan, German trading house, who came to Japan in 1905. He has a profound knowl-

edge of the Japanese language and is well known for his Oriental studies, an ideal personality for approaching the Japanese. Meissner and Gen. Ott, the German Ambassador, are two of the handful of foreigners who enjoy membership in the most exclusive restaurant-club in Tokio, the Hoshigoako Saryo at Sanno, which frequently provides the locale for Nazi contact-making dinner parties.

The Nazi Fifth Column, working in collusion with the Japanese police, has already weeded out from Japan most non-Nazi Germans, respectable men like Dr. Kurt Singer and Hans Bink-

A notorious Indian terrorist, an exile in Japan where he long assisted the promotion of an Indian Nationalist Movement and now a go-between for the German Embassy, revealed that the Fifth Column spent close to 80,000,000 yen in the first year of the European war.

The Fifth Columnists also buy up large quantities of "zeitakuhin," luxury goods, which Japanese, regardless of their wealth, are now prohibited from purchasing. Just before returning to the U. S., the writer went to a well-known silversmith in downtown Tokio to purchase a silver cigarette case. The back of the shop was piled to the ceiling with heavy packing cases ready for shipment abroad, addressed to the German Embassy.

Radios for Nazi Agents

Bought in Japan with cheap yen smuggled from Shanghai, such goods are sold abroad to give the Germans foreign exchange.

Last fall three Nazi diplomatic couriers arrived at Tsuruga. Their luggage amounted to 22 metric tons. Besides the usual bales of propaganda material, there were several cases containing short-wave radio transmitters. By the same method, firearms and even hand-grenades have been brought in for the use of armed patrols which guard the German Embassy night and day.

Looking Far Ahead

Short-wave radio receivers require an impossible-to-get permit from the Japanese authorities and transmitters are absolutely banned. But Nazis have no trouble in owning both. The German Embassy is equipped with a powerful transmitter and there are dozens more scattered over Japan, concealed in the homes of Fifth Columnists and even in their automobiles.

Their purpose is to assure communications with Germany, among Fifth Columnists throughout Japan and the Far East, and with German raiders in the Pacific. Thus far, however, they have been put to the most sparing use, for the Nazis have relied wherever possible on Japanese communication facilities. Yet there may be a time when the Japanese will be unable or unwilling to assist the Germans, or when it will be advisable to transmit information entirely by German-controlled stations.

The interruption of communications across Siberia as a result of the Soviet-German war is one such contingency. So would be a rightist revolution or military coup d'etat when all communication with the outside world would be temporarily suspended.

And finally, if Japan goes to war with the U. S., the Fifth Column will require its own communication facilities.

Nazi 'Advisers' Study Japan War Strength For Future Betrayal

When the Nazi Fifth Column in Tokio launched its pressure campaign to drive Japan into war with the U. S., it was necessary to convince the Japanese of adequate German support in the event of a Pacific conflict. It was obvious, of course, that the Nazis could

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give Japan little more than technical assistance.

On the other hand, when Japan concluded its dangerous alliance with Hitler, the Japanese government expected to receive from Germany substantial support in the form of an army of technicians and large quantities of machine tools and precision instruments.

From the Japanese point of view, therefore, the 260-odd Nazi technicians now working in Japan represent

about the only item on the credit side of this disastrous commitment.

On the German side, however, this is a cheap price to pay for the volume of information on Japan's war strength now finding its way into the files of the Nazi High Command.

The 260-odd German technicians and engineers in the Japanese war industries today, under the blessing of a military alliance and Japanese dreams of a new world order, are an essential part of a Nazi Fifth Column which not only uses Japan as a tool but is also preparing Germany for future conquests at the expense of a former friend and ally.

Before 1940, Japan's 14 major aircraft factories produced around 150 planes of all types each month. By this spring production average close to 250 planes monthly. This increase has partly been achieved through plant expansion. Speed-up in production has been the other

essential factor. Skilled technicians and engineers arriving from Germany since the conclusion of the Tripartite Alliance last September have been to a considerable degree responsible.

Backbone of Output

Japan's largest airplane plant is the Aichi factory of the Mitsubishi concern, in the city of Nagoya, covering 71 acres and employing around 7,000 men. It is the backbone of Japanese aircraft production, far ahead of all other manufacturers in equipment, production methods and the quality of planes. It is believed to turn out about 30 per cent of all the country's aircraft. Since last winter two German engineers have been stationed at this vital establishment.

Before the Soviet-German war closed the Nazis' Red Route to Japan, German aircraft specialists had also brought with them designs and models for new engines and planes and various technical improvements and instruments. Recent reports from the China war front state that Diesel-engined Japanese planes have been shot down. This may be one of the Nazis' contributions, an effort to overcome Japan's serious shortage of high octane gasoline.

Blitzkrieg Teachers

Also in the wake of the Tripartite Alliance, a large number of German aviators arrived in Japan. Their principal work is not to give rudimentary flying lessons, but to instruct Japan's air fighters in the fine points of Blitzkrieg aerial warfare—dive bombing and night location. There are about 24 of these instructors in Japan today, half of whom are at the Totsuka airfield. At the same time, special

air attaches from the Luftwaffe are also stationed with the Japanese Army and Navy air forces.

Despite Nazi assistance, it is obvious that Japan's plane production can nowhere near reach the 500-per-month figure the Germans estimate is necessary if Japan is to play an effective part in a war with the U. S. In view of existing plant facilities, deterioration of equipment, acute shortage of materials, and the German failure to supply the required precision instruments and machine tools, the present 250 planes per month probably represent the peak of Japanese production, which can only be maintained for a short period.

Today the U. S. is producing close to 1,500 planes monthly, an output which will soon pass the 2,000 mark. The Nazi attempt to step-up Japan's aircraft production has come two years too late.

Other Instruction

Although aircraft production is a vital factor in Japan's striking power, the Germans have not neglected other phases of the Japanese war industries. Four technicians from the famous Krupp works are now at the Kure Naval Yard where a Japanese battleship is under construction. In the Kawasaki shipyards at Kobe there are about 24 German engineers at work on an aircraft carrier reported to incorporate revolutionary features for plane transport and defense against air attack.

Down at the big Yokosuka Naval Base, which guards the entrance to Tokio Bay, are close to 50 Nazi naval officers and technical experts. Ten technicians are reported to be with

the Uraga Iron Works, four or five at a large chemical factory at Himeji which supplies the war industries, while some 140 more experts and engineers are stationed at various naval dockyards, arsenals and factories throughout Japan.

Among other reported Nazi activities are the manufacture in Japan of naval speedboats to German specifications and the presence of German naval officers and gun crews on a number of Japanese war vessels.

The Navy's Role

The Germans are hoping to use the Japanese Navy to fight their war. Already their Pacific raiders have received considerable assistance from Japan. Last autumn a German naval officer was stationed at Kobe for the sole purpose of organizing the refitting of several German and Italian vessels sheltered at this port. Significantly, it was at this time that German raiders began to operate in the South Seas.

Nazis in Japan Sit Atop a Volcano

Wherever the Nazi Fifth Column has achieved success (in Rumania, Norway or France), there have been political malcontents, economic unrest and internal disunity. These are the factors the Fifth Column exploits to gain control of governments.

And so it is in Japan.

Japan has had at least four rightist revolutionary plots in the past decade. There was the May 15 affair of 1932, followed by the Kinkijiken, or Brocade Flag incident in 1933, the details of which are buried in darkest secrecy, for it involved a plot by "young officers" of the 3d Regiment at Roppongi, Tokio, to overthrow the Emperor and place Prince Chichibu on the Throne.

Nazis Got Into Action

Then came the well-known February 26 military uprising of 1936, and the less well-known plot of July, 1940.

The Nazis have not failed to take advantage of these politico-military upheavals. Last summer, the Nazi Fifth Column attempted direct, if somewhat premature, action.

For six months the moderate Yonai Cabinet had constantly opposed the conclusion of a Japanese-German military alliance and the renovation of the Japanese political structure along totalitarian lines.

In May and June last year the Germans began to move. Gen. Ott, the German Ambassador,

While Nazi technical assistants cannot place Japan's war industries on a basis to challenge the output of the U. S. they are nevertheless accumulating a store of information on Japanese military and industrial secrets.

Realizing a similar danger the Soviets did not permit this wholesale penetration of Fifth Columnists and technicians under the guise of a friendship pact, a factor of extreme importance now that Hitler has decided that Nazi-Communist co-operation must end and has attacked his erstwhile friend.

Should the panzer divisions smash the Stalin Line and conquer the USSR, the day will certainly come when Hitler will also decide that there must be an end to this degrading Nordic-Yellow co-operation. Nazi ideological hatred of Communists is no stronger than Nazi racial hatred of Orientals. And when such a time comes Germany will have complete facts and figures on Japan's war strength.

and other Nazi Fifth Columnists addressed crowds at public rallies, haranguing them on the benefits of political reformation after the German model.

Shoved Konoye In as Premier

Behind the scenes contact men and go-betweens were working feverishly to encourage the totalitarian movement and the Axis alliance. Patriotic societies, largely financed by German funds, were in a frenzy of rage with the "obstructionist" tactics of the government.

Supported by the German Ambassador, two ex-War Ministers, Gen. Juichi Terauchi (who had officially represented the Japanese army before a Nazi convention at Nuremberg in September, 1939) and Gen. Gen Sugiyama, cajoled and threatened Prince Fumimaro Konoye until he agreed to head the reformist movement.

But still the determined Yonai Cabinet blocked every move. It was then, in the first days of July, that direct action was attempted. A group of obscure political fanatics, instigated by Army Fascist cliques working with the Nazi Fifth Column, attempted to assassinate the re-

tractable members of the Cabinet and practically the entire Privy Council.

Hata Forces the Issue

Through the vigilance of the Metropolitan Police (not the Kempeitai), a score of armed "gorotsuki" were arrested, mostly hiding in the gardens of their would-be victims.

If this wholesale murder of leading moderate advisers to the Throne had succeeded, it would have been the signal for a military coup d'etat and the establishment of a military dictatorship.

Although the plot misfired, the Yonai Cabinet was sabotaged by Gen. Shunroku Hata, War Minister, a staunch champion of the Nazi alliance and the new political structure, who resigned and refused to name a successor. Cabinets in Japan cannot exist without War and Navy Ministers from the active list. Premier Mitsumasa Yonai (a Navy man) had no choice but to resign.

No. 1 Stooze Out

The Cabinet of Prince Konoye which followed launched the totalitarian movement and concluded the alliance with Germany.

By July 16, 1941, just one year later, this Cabinet had reached another of those periodic impasses. The totalitarian movement has bogged down, Japan has still failed to profit by the desperate union with Germany and now faces a new crisis over the Soviet-German war.

In order to get rid of Foreign Minister Matsuoka, who had negotiated conflicting agreements with Germany and Russia, the Cabinet has resigned, the cards were reshuffled and Matsuoka is out, along with Toshio Shiratori, Gen. Ott's No. 1 stooze. It is too early to determine whether this is just a political move or whether this may be the first step to free Japan from German domination.

Loss of Face Feared

Regardless of the present Cabinet change, the Japanese Army and its Fascist supporters realize their desperate position. Unless the army can recoup its fortunes by a southern gamble or by a successful campaign in Siberia, it will lose face and political power.

The Germans are also desperate. American aid to Britain must be deflected by a Japanese-American war in the Pacific. Germany needs the Japanese Fleet and the vital war materials of Eastern Asia which Japan must secure for her. What the Japanese will get from this deal remains a mystery, but the militarists are prepared to plunge Japan into a disastrous war rather than relinquish the power they have seized.

In more ways than one, the Germans are gambling against time, for thus far only a very few Japanese realize the danger the Fifth Column presents to Japan. In this connection, it must be borne in mind that not only the people at large, but also the majority of Government officials, even in the Home Office, have no inkling that a Nazi Fifth Column functions in their country.

If the Story Gets Out

This is due to the peculiar constitution of Japanese bureaucracy which is divided into water-tight compartments wherein one group of officials has no idea what another is doing. Through the use of Japanese go-betweens and key officials, who naturally do not disclose their connections, the Nazis are able to influence internal policies without risk of exposure.

Nevertheless, the Germans are well aware that trouble lies ahead if the Japanese people ever learn the full story.

There are many Japanese who have not yet been convinced that the Germans are their true friends. They cannot overlook the racial arrogance of the Teuton, the insulting references to Asiatics—including the Japanese—found in Hitler's "Mein Kampf" and other pan-Aryan German writings.

The latent forces of anti-foreignism in Japan which the Nazis and Japanese militarists have stimulated and directed into an anti-British and more recently an anti-American hatred have acted as a safety-valve for the Japanese peoples' sense of frustration from an unsuccessful war in China.

Indications of a Reversal

But there are few British and Americans left in Japan today. If conditions continue to deteriorate and if the position of Japan becomes more precarious (even barring war with the democracies), the Japanese people will turn against the only remaining foreign influence in Japan—Gen. Ott and his army of Fifth Columnists.

Already there are straws in the wind. A few months ago the wife of a German Embassy official was severely beaten on a train by a Japanese fellow traveller. There have been other attacks on Germans and Italians.

A few sparks may touch off a conflagration. Over their beer, old-time German residents still recall how the Japanese at the time of the Great Earthquake in 1923 massacred hundreds of Koreans on the mistaken assumption that they were plotting an uprising amid the confusion of quake and fire.

**NEW YORK COMMITTEE TO DEFEND AMERICA
8 WEST 40th STREET
NEW YORK, N. Y.**

