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FOREIGN SERVICE DESPATCH

FROM : **HICOG BERLIN ELEMENT**

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TO : **THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON.**

October 12, 1954

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SUBJECT: **Biographic Information from Files of the Berlin Document Center on Siegfried ZOGMANN.**

The following information is submitted as of possible interest because of the prominent role that Siegfried ZOGMANN is playing in the publishing field as editor in chief of the "Vortschritt" in Dueseldorf:

ZOGMANN, Siegfried

Personal Data:

Born August 17, 1913 in Neumarkt, Bohemian Forest (later Czechoslovakia), the fifth son of farmer Josef Zogmann and Maria nee Kordiak. Josef Zogmann was killed in action in World War I. Catholic, later Deist (gottglaubig). Married Irmaud Schubert (born May 30, 1911 in Pulneck, Sudetenland) on December 6, 1935. Children: daughter, Doria-Eva, born November 11, 1937; son, Sepp-Joerg, born April 14, 1942.

Education: After six years in elementary school, attended Trade School (Gewerbeschule) at German Commercial Academy in Pilsen. Then received practical training in newspaper editorial work, beginning in March 1931. Passed editor's examination.

Languages: Czech, Slovak, German.

Travel: Throughout Europe 1935 - 1939.

Career: Editor and editor-in-chief of various papers and periodicals in Czechoslovakia from ca. 1935 - 1935.

Political: In his personnel dossier there is an entry to the effect that he was "one of the oldest National Socialists in Bohemia-Moravia". Joined Sudeten German National Socialist Workers Party, May 1, 1925. Honorary activity for the party, November 1, 1928 on, and principal occupation with party, April 15, 1931 on. Party Speaker, 1930 - . Joined Hitler Youth, November 1, 1928. Gaufuehrer of Hitler Youth, 1931 - August 1932. Twice seriously wounded and imprisoned for seven months because of his political activity. April 1936

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Date: 2001

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- (2)(G) Foreign Relations
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COORDINATION WITH State

to April 1939: Hauptreferent fuer Auslandspresse (in charge of foreign press coverage), Reichsjugendfuehrung, Berlin. From March 20, 1939 on, Zoglmann represented the Reichsjugendfuehrung in the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia (headquarters in Prague), address: Prague-Podoli, Lopatecka 24, as chief of the Befehlsstelle (Command Office) of the Reichsjugendfuehrung and as Division Chief in the Office of the Reich Protector for Bohemia and Moravia, with the rank of Hitler Youth Hauptbannfuehrer (equivalent to brigadier general) and, in 1943, of Hitler Youth Gebietsfuehrer (equivalent to major general). His personnel dossier in the Reichsjugendfuehrung in Berlin was destroyed during an airraid in November 1943, according to an entry in the replacement file, hence many of the details of his appointments and assignments are no longer a matter of record.

On January 30, 1937, the Reich Propaganda Ministry asked Party Hq. whether Zoglmann was a member of the NSDAP. On February 18, 1937 Party Hq. replied in the negative and pointed out that the Sudeten German N.S.A.P. was a "Bruderpartei" and had no organizational connection with the NSDAP, for which reason no documentary evidence concerning Zoglmann's membership in the Sudeten German party was available.

Although the NSDAP Master File contains no record of Zoglmann's membership in the NSDAP, an entry in his personnel file indicates that he was a member of the NSDAP Ortsgruppe (local group) Braunes Haus (Party Headquarters) in Munich, June 1, 1939 - .

Military service: Army, June 19, 1940 - September 16, 1940.

In the fall of 1942 he volunteered for service in the Waffen-SS. In March 1943 he was assigned to the 3./E. Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler in Berlin-Lichterfelde and then transferred to a field unit: 1. Stu.Gren.Abt. Leibstandarte SS Adolf Hitler, serving on the Eastern front, March 1943 - July 26, 1943, in the occupation of Northern Italy, partisan battles in Istria, and again on the Eastern front, November 1, 1943 - January 15, 1944.

SS ranks: Sturmman, April 20, 1943;

Unterscharfuehrer, June 20, 1943;

Untersturmfuehrer (Lieutenant), October 1, 1944,

when he was assigned to a course at the SS-Junker-Schule in Brunswick.

Exhibit:

In a letter dated January 9, 1945, Grimm, Administration Chief of the Reichsjugendfuehrung, on behalf of Schirach (Reich Youth Leader) addressed the following matter to Franz Xaver Schwarz,

NSDAP Treasurer:

An audit of the Command Office Bohemia-Moravia of the Reichsjugendfuehrung revealed that RM 13,600.46 was spent in 1940 on Zoglmann's residence in Prague, of which RM 10,047.46 was paid out of funds of the Command Office, although neither Grimm nor Schwarz had approved the expenditure. Grimm is, therefore, debiting Zoglmann's account in the amount of RM 10,047.46.

On home leave, Zoglmann visited Grimm and asserted that Stabsfuehrer Lauterbacher had promised to have Zoglmann's residence furnished and that he, Zoglmann, had not concerned himself with the administrative details of the matter. Neither Lauterbacher nor Schirach can recall having given Zoglmann such a promise; however, Schirach does not wish to challenge Zoglmann's statement. In fact, Schirach stated that any doubts ought to be resolved in Zoglmann's favor and that he favored cancelling the debt. In this connection, Schirach pointed out to me (Grimm) Zoglmann's great service to the NS movement before 1933 and his imprisonment in Czechoslovakia because of his NS activity. Schirach also said that Zoglmann's present activity should be considered: SS-Untersturmfuehrer in the Leibstandarte Adolf Hitler on the Eastern front.

Schwarz is asked to decide.

No further entry was made in the file to show how Schwarz decided the issue.

There is no record of an editorial licensing application on Zoglmann's part in the British Zone editor-publisher screening files (1945 - 1949) available in the Berlin Document Center. According to the criteria then in force, Zoglmann, as a "major offender", would not have been licensed. Zoglmann consequently must have waited until the licensing requirement was dropped before attempting to publish his present weekly, "Der Fortschritt" (Duesseldorf).

Walter J. Mueller
Walter J. Mueller
Chief, Berlin Document Center

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