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## Service to Hitler: Opposition to National Aims Viewed in That Light, May 11, 1941

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R E P R I N T

New York Times - May 11, 1941

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SERVICE TO HITLER

Opposition to National Aims Viewed in That Light.

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TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

Hitler's aims of conquest are now served in the United States by weakening our national defense (1) through physical sabotage, (2) by strikes in defense works, and (3) through sabotage of the national will and unity of purpose, the most subtle and dangerous of his methods of attack.

The ideas Hitler most wishes to have spread in the United States are (1) that this is not our war and we must keep out of it at all cost: that Americans who believe otherwise are "warmongers"; (2) that Britain cannot win; (3) that Germany has no designs against America, so it should not concern us who wins this war; (4) that, anyway, we can build an "impregnable defense" and that, in order to do so, we must not send much to Britain; and that (5) if we go to war we shall lose our democracy.

Americans who help spread these ideas, whatever their motives, are helping Hitler; and those who help Hitler harm America. However sincere and convinced they may be, they supply a "front" and an organ of propaganda for those who seek to weaken America for the benefit of Hitler, or for other sinister reasons.

POLICY ADOPTED

Moreover, propaganda for isolationism, appeasement and defeatism is no longer mere exercise of free speech. It is now sabotage of the national policy adopted by Congress as the law of the land. The policy of all-out



help to Britain is based upon the simple thesis that the United States, as a matter of self-preservation, cannot afford to let Britain go down and be left to face a hostile world alone. The thesis is absolute. Whatever the consequences, they are preferable to our future if Hitler wins.

The points stressed by those opposing this national policy are easily answered:

1. All Americans hate war; but all genuine Americans prefer war to national ruin--just as every one dreads a surgical operation, but prefers it to death.

2. Britain can and will win with all-out American help, because the blockade keeps essentials from Germany, and because British-American sea power and air power will dominate, if the blockade holds.

3. Germany has designs upon Latin America in conflict with the Monroe Doctrine and menacing to the security of the United States. German victory would ruin the United States economically, socially and politically. It would leave us at the mercy of the dictatorships, with the choice of abject submission or of becoming a regimented armed camp fighting against overwhelming odds.

Those who do not demand British victory and German defeat show an appalling moral callousness. Hitler boasts of his policy of lying, deceit, cruelty, persecution, promise-breaking and foul intrigue. He would destroy what we know as ethics, religion and civilization. All that we value is our way of life, which is the common heritage of the English-speaking peoples, is at stake. Could anything concern us more than the issue of this war?



BLOCKADE A SAFEGUARD

4. As to "impregnable defense" for the United States alone, if attainable at all, it is far in the future. Meantime, with the shipyards, factories and enslaved labor of a conquered Europe, Germany could outbuild the United States in ships, planes and guns. Only the British blockade can prevent this, by cutting off the supply of raw materials.

5. As to the bugaboo that we shall lose our democracy if we go to war, the fact is that we shall save it only if Germany is defeated. If Germany won, even to carry on at home in impoverished and precarious "isolation", we should have to sacrifice our liberties for an indefinite future, even to remain unconquered.

If we unite now in common sacrifice for the sake of efficiency, it will be for the comparatively brief period until Germany is defeated. Then, if we are at all worthy of our democratic institutions, we can easily regain all powers delegated for the emergency.

F. M. HUNTINGTON-WILSON.

Woodbury, Conn., May 6, 1941.