



H. Armstrong Roberts

FASCISM & NATIONAL SOCIALISM

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■ PERMIT US to begin by introducing two leading players. The first was highly praised by no less a dramatic critic than George Bernard Shaw, who called his movement most "progressive." Mahatma Gandhi, the diapered champion of staged non-violence, called our protagonist a "superman." According to the then Archbishop of Canterbury, our first

player was "the one great figure in Europe." And Winston S. Churchill also heaped critical accolade on this performer, informing him that if they were countrymen "I am sure I would have been with you from beginning to end . . .," and pointing to his "gentle and simple bearing and his calm, detached poise." The world, declared prominent banker Otto



The web of corporate socialism that was spun around Italy and Germany threatens the U.S. today. Under Hitler, in the Thirties, for example, the state took up to 35 percent of income; here the figure is now 43 percent. Regulations, price controls, national planning, and other socialist ideas have been imported.

Kahn of this leading player, "owes him a debt of gratitude."

Our second character, in the words of French intellectual André Gide, "behaves like a genius. I particularly admire the diversity of his methods Soon even those he vanquishes will feel compelled, while cursing him, to admire him." "Liberal" historian Arnold Toynbee was sure this was a man of peace. And the president of Hunter College declared in 1934 that this leading man was "destined to go down to history as a cross between Hotspur and Uncle Toby and to be as immortal as either."

Well, now. The fact is that, like Hotspur, both of these dramatic figures are now food for worms. Thus, as the Prince said of Hotspur, "Ill-weaved ambition, how much art thou shrunk!" For the two luminaries here described were, respectively, Benito Mussolini and Adolf Hitler.

For years, of course, our commentators have excoriated Fascism as the worst of all possible worlds. But "Liberal" accounts stop with the anti-Semitism, book-burnings, concentration camps, and wartime atrocities of the Axis powers. Ignored is the collectivist ideology that made such outrages possible if not inevitable.

The truth is that Fascism springs from a conspiratorial appeal for power to the lower and middle classes

— via handouts — permitting elitists at the top to call the shots while themselves remaining protected from the resultant confiscations. And that description now hits very close to home.

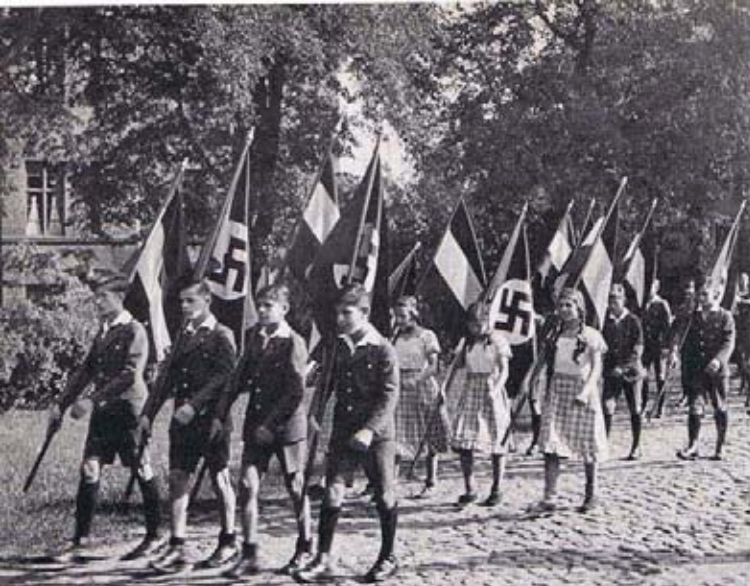
We are not mimicking the radicals and Reds who universally brand their enemies as "Fascists" to distract attention from their own style of totalitarianism. Nor are we saying the United States has become a Fascist country. Rather, we are pointing with concern to the trend in that direction and the similarities to what happened in Italy and Germany earlier in this century.

Italian Fascism

Mussolini chose as the symbol for his Blackshirts the *fascies* — a bundle of rods bound together with a protruding blade, which had been used as a symbol of authority under the ancient Romans. The *fascies* appears, in fact, on the U.S. ten-cent piece, and it also was on the coat of arms of the French Republicans. So much for the origin of the name.

Of more interest is the fact that the supposedly "rightwing" Mussolini was nothing of the sort.* He was

*In 1904, for example, Mussolini spoke at the anniversary of the Paris Commune before an audience of Italians, Germans, French, and Russians.



N.Y. Daily News

Will American children march to the beat of Big Brother in federal day-care centers (r) as in Hitler Youth? Nazis indoctrinated German toddlers, in the Mother and Child program, while mothers worked in the fields. In Italy's government schools, childrens' prayers professed belief in the "supreme Duce."

for years an orthodox Marxist who, like most Italian Socialists, opposed entry into World War I. In this he had differed from other European Marxists and, fearing waning popularity, gratefully accepted what amounted to a French bribe and abruptly began propagandizing for the war. It was to be a war to destroy the old order and establish Communism. And, as Ludwig von Mises noted in *Planned Chaos* (Irvington-on-Hudson, Foundation For Economic Education, 1947): "More than anybody else Mussolini was instrumental in achieving Italy's entry into the first World War."

That war gave the Communists a base in Russia and the Reds attempted to take power in Hungary, Germany, and Italy as well. They failed in Italy in 1920 after occupying factories in the North, but provided Mussolini with the opening he needed. In 1921, he founded the Fascist Party and many of the Reds of 1920 became Blackshirts. A takeover by any name was just as sweet. As

Comrade Benito declared, "Our program is simple: we wish to govern Italy. They ask us for programs but there are already too many. It is not programs that are wanting for the salvation of Italy, but men and will power." In other words, trust me.

Eugene H. Methvin called the difference between Lenin and Mussolini "ephemeral; the similarities are fundamental." For Il Duce "considered himself a good socialist and revolutionary until a short three years before his 'March on Rome.' He always referred to his seizure of power as 'the fascist revolution' much as a Russian Bolshevik might refer to 'the Soviet revolution.' And to Italians the word 'fasci' meant about the same as 'soviet' to the Russians." (*The Rise Of Radicalism*, New Rochelle, Arlington House, 1973.) All power to the *Fasci di combattimento*!

Like Hitler a decade later, however, Mussolini came to power by "constitutional" means. After Rome was occupied by his bands, Il Duce received a telegram declaring: "His



Western leaders like English Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain (l) and French Premier Edouard Daladier were not the only ones to look on Hitler and Mussolini benignly. Prominent "Liberal" academicians, politicians, industrialists, and bankers found national socialism appealing. Some of them still do.

Kristine

Majesty the King asks you to come immediately to Rome for he wishes to offer you the responsibility of forming a Ministry." The conspiring bankers and industrialists who had supported his March would likewise support consolidation of a Corporate State. Thus "big industrialists were able to remain fairly free from the state," writes Christopher Leeds. "They bought their freedom [*sic*] by generous gifts to Fascist Party Funds." (*Italy Under Mussolini*, London, Wayland, 1972.) How do you say "milk money" in Italian?

The Fascists, like all collectivists, had a peculiar notion of freedom and liberty. One of their leading "philosophers," Giovanni Gentile, maintained: "... the maximum of liberty coincides with the maximum of state force." He was certainly a Blackshirt suited for the Occupa-

tional Safety and Health Administration. Mussolini preferred to make Gentile his Minister of Education.

Benito Mussolini's own thesis was no less absurd: "If historic fact exists it is this, that all of the history of men's civilization, from the caves to civilized or so-called civilized man, is a progressive limitation of liberty." (*Comparative Economic Systems*, William N. Loucks and J. Weldon Hoot, New York, Harper & Brothers, 1948.) And remember, claimed the Duce in his Grand Fascist Report for 1929: "We were the first to assert that ... the more complicated the forms assumed by civilization, the more restricted the freedom of the individual must become." (*The Fascist*, E.B. Ashton, New York, Morrow, 1937.)

Mussolini was soon being greatly honored in collectivist circles of America. Thomas W. Lamont, the international banker who was probably the most influential partner in the House of Morgan, wrote a glowing preface to a 1927 book* praising

*Lamont had secured a \$100 million loan for the Duce the previous year. The banker had similar admiration for the Bolsheviks — indeed he sired one named Corliss Lamont who supports the Red fascists of today.

the economic wonders of Italian Fascism. The Chairman of the U.S. House Foreign Relations Committee told his colleagues in 1926: "He is something new and vital in the sluggish old veins of European politics. It will be a great thing not only for Italy but for all of us if he succeeds." Herbert Matthews, the peripatetic *New York Times* man who would later be instrumental in bringing Castro to power in Cuba, acknowledged that he was "an enthusiastic admirer of fascism." And Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, the socialist president of Columbia, boasted of his friendship with Il Duce, calling Fascism "a form of government of the first order of excellence" and maintaining "we should look to Italy to show us what its experience and insight have to teach in the crisis confronting the twentieth century." (*As We Go Marching*, John T. Flynn, New York, Free Life, 1944.)

What was this Twentieth Century Caesar doing that earned him such praise? The Duce's plan was a variant of the medieval guild system redubbed *corporativism*. "But there was no question of the *corporazione's* self-government," wrote economist Ludwig von Mises. "The Fascist cabinet did not tolerate anybody's interference with its absolute authoritarian control of production." Such control is the essence of Fascism. Fascist law, as defined by E.B. Ashton, "is a means of regulating the people's function of serving the state." Pro-

*Hoover was not exactly unblemished. Which is why, before his election, F.D.R. tossed barbs not only at regimentation by trade association, but also "when it is done by the government of the United States itself." Hoover was hit, with what then seemed a justifiable fervor, for "fostering regimentation without stint or limit." And F.D.R. — who would soon give us the Brain Trust — decried his predecessor's "doctrine of regulation and legislation by 'master minds.'"

duction in a free market is supposed to be the American way "while Communism and Fascism both consider it a communal interest — with the Communist state taking its operation into its own hands, while the Fascist one 'contracts' it out to individual businessmen."

A pretense of Free Enterprise in Italy was nonetheless written into the Fascist Labor Charter of 1926, which declared in Article VIII: "The corporate state considers that private enterprise in the sphere of production is the most effective and useful instrument in the interest of the nation." Fine . . . but there's a catch. Article IX, you see, read: "State intervention in economic production arises only when private initiative is lacking or insufficient, or when the political interests of the state are involved. This intervention may take the form of control, assistance or direct management." Perhaps you thought that today's "Liberals" invented the doubletalk that produces their doublethink. Not so.

The economics of Fascist Italy were soon being imported into this country by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose C.C.C., W.P.A., P.W.A., and other Depression-era schemes proved so damaging. Indeed, in his *Memoirs* former President Herbert Hoover* told it as it was:

Among the early Roosevelt fascist measures was the National Industry Recovery Act (NRA) of June 16, 1933 . . . [These ideas] were adopted by the United States Chamber of Commerce. During the campaign of 1932, Henry I. Harriman, president of that body, urged that I agree to support these proposals, informing me that Mr. Roosevelt had agreed to do so. I tried to show him that this stuff was pure fascism; that it was a remaking of Mussolini's

Nazis boasted of being "free from freedom," while a top Italian Fascist claimed, "the maximum of liberty coincides with the maximum of state force." Hitler said in 1941 that "basically National Socialism and Marxism are the same." Mussolini was long an orthodox Marxist, as were many Blackshirts.

*"corporate state" and refused to agree to any of it. He informed me that in view of my attitude, the business world would support Roosevelt with money and influence. That for the most part proved true.**

Eventually the N.R.A. and another Fascist plan called the Agricultural Adjustment Administration (A.A.A.) were declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court. Though another A.A.A. passed in 1938, Roosevelt had been making his own

*In the 1931 *Report Of The Committee On Continuity Of Business And Employment*, Henry I. Harriman claimed: "A freedom of action which might have been justified in the relatively simple life of the last century cannot be tolerated today, because the unwise action of one individual may adversely affect the lives of thousands. We have left the period of extreme individualism and are living in a period in which the national economy must be recognized as a controlling factor." Had he said it in Italian, Mussolini might have sued him for plagiarism.

†And it continues to do so. For example, President Carter's Treasury Secretary, W. Michael Blumenthal, is a founding member of the Initiative Committee For National Economic Planning, which supports the neo-Fascist Humphrey-Javits Economic Planning Act. The Committee is headed by Harvard radical Wasily Leontief, a Soviet-trained "immigrant" who has predicted: "... the distribution of income is clearly emerging as the issue that will dominate the American political scene in the closing quarter of this century." (*Life*, June 30, 1972.)

appointments to the Supreme Court and it stuck, with the result that current federal agricultural acts are amendments to that 1938 Fascist decree. There were so many such schemes patterned after the Fascist "experiment" that F.D.R. doubled the National Debt in six years and the lure of formal national planning beckoned evilly.† The "Liberals," as John T. Flynn observed, "called it the Planned Economy. But it was and is fascism by whatever name it is known." (*The Roosevelt Myth*, New York, Devin-Adair, 1956.)

Meanwhile, in Italy, the situation was not so rosy as powerful U.S. collectivists were describing it. The Fascist bands took to heart Mussolini's dictum: "Everything for the State, nothing outside the State, nothing above the State." The Chamber of Deputies was replaced by the Chamber of Fasces and Corporations. Italian children in the government schools prayed: "I believe in the supreme Duce, creator of the Blackshirts, and in Jesus Christ, his sole protector."

Lower living standards were passed off as "a preparation for tomorrow by the renunciations of today." Said the supreme Duce in 1934: "We are probably moving toward a period of humanity resting on a lower standard of living. Humanity is ca-

pable of ascetism such as we perhaps have no conception of." Ah poor Ralph Nader, like Miniver Cheevy, "born too late."

Professors Loucks and Hoot write of Fascist Italy in the Thirties. Consider what they have to say and identify what you can of "contemporary" proposals and solutions:

The problem of "overproduction" was tackled by encouraging and forcing competing concerns into "consortia" — production and marketing concerns similar to German cartels. In many instances government licences were required to establish new plants or expand old capacity. In addition to the above forms of economic intervention the government accelerated the public works programs, shortened the work-week to spread employment, and increased its expenditures for military purposes. One result of these measures was a public budget heavily unbalanced (Comparative Economic Systems.)

Despite claims to the contrary, Mussolini never had a balanced Budget any more than Jimmy Carter will have one. His subterfuge, as described by John Flynn, reminds one of today's "off-Budget" legerdemain. Mussolini, writes Flynn, "would make a contract with a private firm to build certain roads or buildings. He would pay no money but sign an agreement to pay for the work on a yearly installment plan. No money was paid out by the government. And hence nothing showed up in the budget.***If these sums were added to the national debt as revealed in the Treasury admissions, the actual debt was staggering ten years after Mussolini's ascent to power on a promise to balance the budget. According to Dr. [Gaetano] Salvemini's calculations, the debt of

93 billion lire, when Mussolini took office, had grown to 148,646,000,000 lire in 1934." (As We Go Marching.)

Like F.D.R., like Jimmy Carter, like so many of today's "Liberals," Mussolini favored "public works" spending as a cure for unemployment. "Huge sums of money were spent by the Fascists," writes Christopher Leeds, a graduate of the London School of Economics, "on building roads, government buildings, Party headquarters, and housing projects."

Naturally the Dictator had to be on guard to prevent graft, to see that the people got their lire's worth, and to deal with the terrible crime problem. So he set up his own national police force and corps of special agents. "Known as OVRA (*Organizzazione di Vigilanza e Repressione dell' Antifascismo*, Organization for the Surveillance and Stamping-out of Anti-Fascism)," records Richard Collier, "they bugged telephones, reported on all who received mail from abroad, and even filed reports on the graffiti in public lavatories." (*Duce!*, New York, Viking, 1971.)

The establishment of law and order; setting of population policy; balancing of the currency and Debt management; building of bridges, roads, and canals; and, even the waging of the "Battle of the Wheat" — all these and more were credited to Il Duce. "No other Italian ruler, the propagandists blared, had ever taken thought of his people from cradle to grave. Who but Mussolini had set up 1700 mountain and seaside summer camps for city children? What other man paid out £1,600,000 to pre-natal clinics each year, or £3,500,000 in family allowances? Who gave the Italians the eight-hour day and codified insurance benefits for the old, the unemployed and the disabled?"

(Continued on page ninety-seven.)

FASCISTS & NAZIS

Only Mussolini, who proclaimed on every hoarding that his one ambition was to make the Italians 'strong, prosperous, great and free,' had achieved that." (*Duce!*)

And, by the mid-Thirties, the supreme Duce was spending like a madman. "In Italy," wrote Albert Jay Nock, "the State now absorbs fifty percent of the total national income." (*Our Enemy, The State*, New York, Free Life, 1935.) Indeed, in the United States today the figure is forty-three percent. Which may be reason enough for our own Il Duce to remember that in the end Mussolini was slaughtered by the Communists and hung from his heels like a carcass of dressed meat.

German National Socialism

Hitlerism did not spring full-blown from the brow of some aberrant German Zeus. Indeed, as Ludwig von Mises has observed: "For more than seventy years the German professors of political science, history, law, geography and philosophy eagerly imbued their disciples with a hysterical hatred of capitalism and preached the war of 'Liberation' against the capitalistic West." They were, said Mises, the "'socialists of the chair,' much admired in all foreign countries . . ."

Also setting the stage for the arrival of a dictator was the contrived inflation that followed the World War, wiping out the savings of the conservative and frugal German middle class and throwing it, destitute and enraged, into the hands of Hitler. According to economist Henry Hazlitt, by November of 1921 the circulation of money had increased eighteen times over that of 1913 and wholesale prices thirty-four times.

"By November 1922 circulation had increased 127 times and wholesale prices 1,154 times, and by November 1923 circulation had increased 245 billion times and prices 1,380 billion times." The value of the mark, reports Federic V. Grunfeld, "deteriorated to the point where it reached 136,000,000,000 to the dollar." (*The Hitler File*, New York, Random House, 1974.)

Hitler thought his time had come and he launched his unsuccessful Beer Hall Putsch. In failure he became a national figure, and during his short stay in prison the future despot dictated his plans in *Mein Kampf* for all who cared to read what he intended to do. "There must be no majority decisions," he declared, "but only responsible persons, and the word 'council' must be restored to its original meaning. Surely every man will have advisers by his side, but the decision will be made by one man."

Within a decade that one man would be Adolf Hitler. In the meantime, he vowed to destroy the Weimar Republic "with the weapons of democracy."

Hitler, like Marx and Engels, was influenced by the thoughts of Hegel. And, as he admitted in *Mein Kampf*, he also "studied Bismarck's Socialist legislation in its intention, struggle, and success." Remember, this is a man "Liberals" are still falsely trying to identify as a creature of the Right.

Years after taking over in Germany, Hitler remarked of a 1922 street fight: "... the Reds we had beaten up became our best supporters . . . Wasn't my party at the time of which I'm speaking composed of 90 percent of left-wing elements? I needed men who could fight." (*The Rise Of Radicalism*.) Indeed, in the mid-Twenties, top

Nazi Joseph Goebbels published an open letter to a Communist leader "assuring him that Nazism and Communism were really the same thing. 'You and I,' he declared, 'are fighting one another, but we are not really enemies.'" (*The Rise And Fall Of The Third Reich*, William L. Shirer, Greenwich, Fawcett Crest, 1959.)

Supporters of dictatorship are interchangeable. Consider S.A. Captain Ernst Roem, later killed on orders of the Führer, who boasted he could turn the Reddest Communist into a Nazi in four weeks. (*The True Believer*, Eric Hoffer, New York, Harper & Row, 1951.) Hitler openly acknowledged that he copied the Communists and declared: "I have always . . . given orders that former Communists are to be admitted to the party at once." (*The Rise Of Radicalism*.) These were known as the "Beefsteak Nazis" — Brown on the outside, Red on the inside.

As late as February 1941, according to Nobel laureate Friedrich A. Hayek, Hitler declared that "basically National Socialism and Marxism are the same." (*The Road To Serfdom*, Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1944.) Which may be why, some twenty years after the defeat of Nazi Germany, it was disclosed that hundreds of former Nazis held key jobs in Communist East Germany.

As with Benito Mussolini, Adolf Hitler came to power with the support of well-placed conspirators in the Establishment. Powerful leaders among industrial magnates, landed nobility, and the large bankers literally commissioned him, much as Karl Marx was commissioned to write the *Communist Manifesto*. In 1932, a year before he became Chancellor, the future dictator was introduced by Fritz Thyssen (a leading steelman who later wrote *I Paid Hitler*), to

some six hundred major industrialists at Düsseldorf's Manufacturers Club. "The Krupp [arms] and Thyssen concerns were among the earliest financial supporters of the Nazis. As Alfred Krupp stated in 1946: 'We are realists, we . . . put our efforts behind the man who made our work secure.'" (*A Sign For Cain*, Fredric Wertham, New York, Warner, 1966.) Hitler's press chief, Otto Dietrich, admitted that a year earlier — Socialist rhetoric notwithstanding — the Führer had "suddenly decided to concentrate systematically on cultivating the influential industrial magnates." Certain conspirators among them were eager to be cultivated.

William Keppler, a Hitler financial advisor, "brought in a number of South German industrialists," writes William Shirer, "and also formed a peculiar society of businessmen devoted to the S.S. Chief, Himmler, called Friends of the Economy (Freundeskreis der Wirtschaft), which later became known as the Circle of Friends of the Reichsfuehrer S.S. who was Himmler, and which raised millions of marks for this particular gangster to pursue his 'researches' into Aryan origins." Officials of Krupp, I.G. Farben, and the United Steel Works were among the biggest contributors to this arcane fund.

In an important exposé too detailed to be reviewed here, Professor Antony Sutton has documented the considerable aid given Hitler by the Chase and Manhattan banks, General Electric, Standard Oil, I.T.T., Henry Ford, American I.G. Farben, and other top U.S. corporate interests. (*Wall Street And The Rise Of Hitler*, Seal Beach, California, '76 Press, 1976.) Certain directors of Standard Oil of New Jersey, for example, "had not only strategic war-

Adolf Hitler declared that in founding the Nazi Party 90 percent of his support was from "left-wing elements." Ernst Roem boasted that he could turn the reddest Communist into a Nazi in a mere four weeks. Hitler said: "I have always . . . given orders that former Communists are to be admitted to the party at once."

time affiliations to I.G. Farben, but also had other links to Hitler's Germany — even to the extent of contributing, through German subsidiary companies, to Heinrich Himmler's personal fund and with membership in Himmler's Circle of Friends as late as 1944."

A full eleven years earlier, according to American Ambassador to Germany William Dodd, Rockefeller public-relations man Ivy Lee "showed himself at once a capitalist and an advocate of Fascism." At the same time such powerful industrial *Insiders* as G.E.'s Gerald Swope — who backed the Fascist R.N.A. scheme — were supporting F.D.R.'s New Deal as vigorously as Hitler's New Order.

Once in power, a key Hitler move involved passage of the so-called Enabling Act of 1933, officially the "Law for Removing the Distress of People and Reich," placing all power in the hands of the Cabinet and thence the Führer. As he had promised in *Mein Kampf*, all authority now belonged to "one man."

Likewise, just as he had vowed while in prison, "within a fortnight of receiving full powers from the Reichstag, Hitler had achieved what Bismarck, Wilhelm II, and the Weimar Republic had never dared to attempt: He had abolished the separate powers of the historic states and

made them subject to the central authority of the Reich, which was in his hands. He had, for the first time in German history, really unified the Reich by destroying its federal character." (*The Rise And Fall Of The Third Reich*.)

Conspirators in Germany long before Hitler had been working toward increased collectivism, central control, and government regulation. He took advantage of their work, and the result was "in part an effort to use existing forms of economic organization in the new 'economic order.'" (*Comparative Economic Systems*.) As in Italy there would be "private property," but only subject to the needs of the state. One young Nazi put it this way just before World War II: "We Germans are so happy. We are free from freedom." (*The True Believer*, quoting the *Reader's Digest*, May 1948.)

The erasure of state lines and federal control of even the city governments — just as with regional and metro government here in the United States, "came under the heading of 'Gleichschaltung' or 'uniformization.'" (*The Hitler File*.) Then came that key to every dictatorship, a national police. "On June 16, 1936, for the first time in German history, a unified police was established for the whole of the Reich — previously

the police had been organized separately by each of the states — and Himmler was put in charge as Chief of German Police. This was tantamount to putting the police in the hands of the S.S. . . ." (*The Rise And Fall Of The Third Reich.*)

The Führer was fast establishing "der totale Staat"; there was forced unionization, the Hitler Youth, price-fixing, myriad Welfare programs, and a federal takeover of education. Credit expansion and "public works" programs helped to create the myth of full employment. Hitler organized that current "Liberal" panacea, a national health service, in which care was "centralized, and the Department was given surprisingly wide powers. It looked after the health of children and workers; it controlled the training of doctors and midwives and dentists and chemists; it had charge of genealogical research; it made investigations into measures that would increase the population; and, it had a variety of duties ranging from water supplies to serology, from means of securing fertility to disposal of corpses." (*The House That Hitler Built*, Stephen H. Roberts, New York, Harper & Brothers, 1938.)

Health care, or employment, that could be given by the state could be taken away by the state. After September of 1939, "no German worker could change his job without obtaining permission, while if he absented himself from work without proper excuse he was liable to imprisonment." (*The Social Policy Of Nazi Germany*, C.W. Guillebaud, London, Cambridge University Press, 1941.) Earlier, just as Mussolini had done — and as U.A.W. president Leonard Woodcock and others today suggest — the work-week was officially reduced to "spread" employment.

National Socialist medicine also soon ran its logical course. A govern-

ment that could save your life, or job, could take it away. Before Hitler made overt moves in the direction of "euthanasia," bureaucratic forms went out to state hospitals to be marked plus or minus as to whether various mental patients, epileptics, the handicapped, and others in the care of the National Socialist state should be permitted to live. Yes, there was a "right-to-die" in Nazi Germany, and the Nazis determined that right. There developed a special bureaucracy for the "euthanasia" of children called the Reich Commission for the Scientific Registration of Hereditary and Constitutional Severe Disorders. According to Dr. Fredric Wertham:

The children slated for death were sent to special "children's divisions," first Goerden, then Eichberg, Idstein, Steinhof (near Vienna), and Egling. They were killed mostly by increasing doses of Luminal or other drugs either spoon-fed as medicine or mixed with their food. Their dying lasted for days, sometimes for weeks. In actual practice, the indications for killing eventually became wider. Included were children who had "badly modeled ears," who were bed wetters, or who were perfectly healthy but designated as "difficult to educate." The children coming under the authority of the Reich Commission were originally mostly infants. The age then increased from three years to seventeen years. Later, in 1944 and 1945, the work of the commission also included adults. (A Sign For Cain.)

Abortion, on the other hand, was not sanctioned in Nazi Germany because the National Socialists wanted to increase the German population. Had they wanted to decrease it, as our national socialists do here, they might have done as well as the city of

Washington, D.C., where last year there were more abortions than live births, with eighty-five percent of these killings being subsidized by the federal government.

Of course day-care facilities of the kind proposed by Fritz Mondale were available from the start through an institution called *Mutter und Kind*, or Mother and Child. "Recreation homes are made available for mothers after child-birth, nurseries and kindergartens have been provided, in particular in the country districts, for looking after the young children when the mothers are in the fields . . ." (*The Social Policy Of Nazi Germany*.)

And there was the Winter Relief. The above source describes this Welfare program provided by the benevolent Nazis: "Every winter an army of collectors appears on the streets selling badges; apart from this, on one Sunday in the month there is an obligatory one-course midday meal throughout Germany, the saving resulting from which has to be contributed to the Winter Relief Fund; further, every worker in employment pays a graded sum . . ." They cared, you see. Oh, like all socialists, the Nazis cared.

Bread and Circuses? To be sure. There was *Kraft durch Freude*, or Strength Through Joy, which "sponsored hundreds of concerts, theatrical performances, sports events, adult education lectures . . . , package holidays, and guided tours of National Socialist shrines." (*The Hitler File*.) It seems the Nazis also had their own Endowment for the Arts.

The state promised husbands for the girls; promised everyone would have a Volkswagen; it determined who could own a weapon; and, it even had a beautification program — called Beauty of Labor — of which Lady Bird Johnson could be proud. "First

we persuaded [*sic*] factory owners to modernize their offices and to have some flowers about," reminisced nature lover Albert Speer, who was also Hitler's Minister of Armaments and War Production. "But we did not stop there. Lawn was to take the place of asphalt. What had been wasteland was to be turned into little parks where the workers could sit during breaks." (*Inside The Third Reich*, New York, Macmillan, 1970.)

All this benevolence cost a bit, to be sure. According to William Shirer: "In the mid-Thirties it was estimated that taxes and contributions took from 15 to 35 per cent of a worker's gross wage." Which is *less* than in the United States today. And, to give the Nazis their due, apparently in some places they were "equal opportunity" employers.

For example, there was the health spa, officially described as "an educational institution for all those of any race, faith or social position who are not willing to grasp the fact that the Third Reich has definitely and irrefutably dawned," where they would be kept until "our gallant SS men have instilled in them, as in all others, a feeling for discipline and order, neatness and comradeship."

We know that "health spa" as Dachau.

The Threat To America

As we have seen, both Mussolini and Hitler pioneered in numerous domestic programs with which today's Left could feel comfortable. These include federal Welfare, national health care, loopholes for inside interests, gun control, federal control of education, youth indoctrination and day-care, national economic "planning," and massive deficit spending. In fact, as long ago as 1969, the administrator of the U.S. Law Enforcement Assistance Administra-

tion predicted that, if crime continues to grow, the American people will demand and get a national police force — just as in Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy.

Meanwhile the corporate state grows. In the U.S. today we already have one government employee for every four employed in private industry. We are spending ourselves into national socialism. It took 163 years — from 1789 to 1952 — for U.S. domestic expenditures to reach thirty-four billion dollars; yet, in the next twenty-five years of growing national socialism such spending leaped to nearly three hundred billion dollars. If this rate were to be continued, says economist Roger A. Freeman, "domestic public expenditures would, within less than forty years, account for all the GNP." (*The Growth Of American Government* Stanford, Hoover Institution Press, 1975.)

What is America doing about it? In the year just passed, American economist Milton Friedman was given a Nobel Prize in economics. Yet his warnings against disruptive and counter-productive interference by the state in our daily lives, catalogued in his 1962 book *Capitalism And Freedom*, go unheeded. Mr. Friedman showed how we were crippling ourselves with radical adventures — emulating the national socialists, as we have demonstrated — by instituting price controls, volumes of needless regulations, mandatory Social Security, control of the freedom of the airwaves by the Federal Communications Commission, public housing, and all the rest.

As Friedman observed: "The central defect of these measures is that they seek through government to

force people to act against their own immediate interests in order to promote a supposedly general interest." The Nazis economic slogan, one remembers, was *Gemeinnutz geht vor Eigennutz* — the commonweal ranks above private profits. Or, as the Fascists of Italy put it: "... the maximum of liberty coincides with the maximum of state force."

A warning on this general theme, with emphasis on growing collectivism in the United States, is ably developed in Charlotte Twight's scholarly *America's Emerging Fascist Economy*, (New Rochelle, Arlington House, 1975), which we recommend for its wealth of research. Twight points to Fascist pretense about property rights, which are in turn abrogated by licensure, regulation, limiting of competition, rule by Executive Order, agriculture marketing orders, economic "stabilization," price supports, and the like. "To sustain its power and achieve its economic ends," she writes, "fascism seeks to make its people economically and psychologically dependent on the government. Such dependence both enhances the government's tangible control over its citizens' economic activities and stimulates that intangible psychological support so crucial to maintaining a viable fascist state."

In short, if you are concerned about Fascism in America, don't look for jackboots and swastikas but for powerful *Insiders* promoting encroachments by government on your property rights and civil liberties. To stop them, we must be willing to fight for liberty even harder than our would-be masters are prepared to fight to impose their dictatorship. We must understand their game. And we must expose it. ■ ■

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