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Die Sorge um Deutschlands Zukunft geht durch das Volk.

Vergeblich mihlt sich Minister Goebbels, uns immer neuen Sand in die Augen zu streuen. Die Tatsachen sprechen eine harte, warnende Sprache. Niemand kann mehr leugnen, daß sich unsere Lage von Monat zu Monat verschlechtert. Niemand kann noch länger die Augen verschließen vor der Ungeheuerlichkeit des Geschehens, vor der uns alle bedrohenden Katastrophe der nationalsozialistischen Politik.

Die grossen militärischen Erfolge der ersten Kriegsjahre haben kein entscheidendes Ergebnis gezeitigt. Die meisten deutschen Armeen befinden sich zur Zeit im Rückzug. Allen Fälschungen des OKW zum Trotz steigt die Zahl der Kriegsoptionen in die Millionen. In fast jedem deutschen Haus herrscht Trauer. Die Werktätigen sind immer ärgerer Antrieberei und Überanstrengung ausgesetzt. Die letzten Reserven werden aus dem Volkskörper herausgepreßt. Es gibt kaum noch etwas zu kaufen. Das Geld verliert seinen Wert. Immer neue Hunderttausende schluckt die Armees. Industrie und Landwirtschaft leiden empfindlich unter dem Mangel an Arbeitskräften. Zehntausende von Betrieben brechen unter der Last der Kriegsverhältnisse zusammen. Früchte jahrzehntelangen Fleißes gehen verloren. Die Frauen treuen den entschundenen Familien- und Liebesglück nach. Der häusliche Frieden ist zerrissen. Die Tage vergehen fruchtlos, ohne daß den Menschen ein eine Hoffnung winkt. Zeit und Nervenkraft gehen verloren mit der immer knapperen Rationen, die die Regierung dem Volk noch zuweist. Die Allgemeinheit leidet zudem unter den Unverschämtheiten und Schikanen der Behörden und Parteistellen. Die staatliche Bürokratie in ihrer infamen Dummheit ist kaum noch instande, die ihr zufallenden Aufgaben zu lösen. Die Korruption in der Verwaltung, in Wirtschaftsleben, in der Wehrmacht, vor allen aber innerhalb der Gliederungen der Partei hat ein ekelhaftes Ausmaß erreicht. Während der Arbeitnehmer gezwungen wird, zu immer schlechteren Bedingungen seine Arbeitskraft zu verkaufen und oft fernab von den Seinen ein graues Dasein als Arbeitssklave zu führen, gibt es immer noch genug Bonzen und Kriegsgewinnler, die ihre Aufgabe darin sehen, die Massen mit den staatlich vorgeschriebenen Lügen zu füttern. Dritt auch nur keiner in Versuchung kommt, selbständig nachzudenken, wird auch noch die Freizeit der Werktätigen dem braunen Zwang unterworfen. Eine volkfeindliche Schicht von albernem, aber schalligen Schwindlern und Angebern spielt heute die erste Rolle im Leben des Volkes. In schwerster Notzeit der Nation kommen diese Leute recht gut auf ihre Kosten. Das Gewissen aller wahren Patrioten aber brennt sich auf gegen die ganze derzeitige Form deutscher Macht- ausübung in Europa. Alle, die sich den Sinn für echte Werte bewahrt, schon schaudernd, wie der deutsche Name im Zeichen des Hakenkreuzes immer mehr in Verruf gerät. In allen Ländern werden täglich Hunderte, oft tausende von Menschen standrechtlich und willkürlich erschossen oder gehängt, Menschen, denen man nichts anderes vorzuwerfen hat, als daß sie ihren Lande die Treue halten, wie das ehedem in Deutschland Männer wie Hoffer, Schill und Palm auch taten. In Namen des Reiches werden die schauderlichsten Quälereien und Grausamkeiten an Zivilpersonen und Gefangenen begangen. Noch nie in der Geschichte ist ein Mann so gehasst worden wie Adolf Hitler. Der Hass der gequälten Menschheit belastet das ganze deutsche Volk.

Sind wir schwach und kleinmütig, machen wir uns zu Unrecht Sorgen, lassen wir die Führung charakterlos im Stich?

Es ist ganz natürlich, daß man sich Gedanken macht. Die Millionen, die in Augenblick der Machtgreifung durch die NSDAP in der Opposition standen und denen seitdem mit den Mitteln des Terrors der Mund verschlossen wurde, sie haben nichts abgestrichen von der tiefursprünglichen Verdacht, daß hinter allen völkischen Phrasen der Wille zum imperialistischen Krieg, zu einem neuen Weltkrieg im Interesse einer Clique stehe, die sich die Ausplünderung anderer Völker zur begewonnen Richtschnur ihrer Handlung macht.

Corruption in administration, in business life, in the Wehrmacht, but above all within the structures of the party, has reached a disgusting extent. While employees are forced to sell their labor under ever deteriorating conditions and often to lead a gray existence as labor slaves far from their nearest and dearest, there are still plenty of bigwigs and war profiteers who see it as their task to feed the masses with state-prescribed lies. So that no one is tempted to think for themselves, the workers' leisure time is also subjected to Nazi control. A class of ridiculous but damaging swindlers and braggarts, alienated from the people, now plays the primary role in the life of the nation. In times of direst need for Germany, these people lead a life of comfort. Yet the conscience of all true patriots rears up against the entire current form of German exercise of power in Europe. All those who have maintained a sense of true values shudder as they watch the German name fall into increasing disrepute under the sign of the swastika. In all countries today, hundreds of people a day, often thousands, are being court-martialed and arbitrarily shot or hanged, accused of nothing other than remaining loyal to their country, as men like Hofer, Schill, and Palm once did in Germany. The most disgraceful tortures and cruelties are being perpetrated on civilians and prisoners in the name of the Reich. Never in history has one man been as despised as Adolf Hitler. The hate of this tormented humanity burdens the entire German nation.

Are we weak and timid, are we wrong to be concerned, are we abandoning our leaders through lack of character?

It is perfectly natural to think about these matters. The millions in opposition when the NSDAP seized power, whose lips have since been sealed by means of terror, they lost nothing of the deeply rooted suspicion that behind all the *völkisch* phrases was the will for an imperialist war, for a new world war in the interest of a clique that made plundering other nations the convenient guiding principle for their actions.

That old suspicion has been confirmed. In view of the hard deaths all around us, a memory has awakened of a time when the party now waging war took the freedom of the German nation itself. Before they put Europe in chains they enslaved Germany. With what ideal in mind should the nation wage this war? General lack of freedom, total regression—these are not ideals for which one is glad to die, gentlemen! The nation knows that it must one day be held accountable to history, itself, and the world. The people are no longer willing to be kept amused by superficial "light entertainment" and lying Propaganda Committee reports. There was a very fast return to normal after Reich Minister Hess flew to Scotland, but the stupid people have not forgotten that the man who yesterday called

The People Are Troubled about Germany's Future.

Time and again, Minister Goebbels attempts in vain to scatter new sand in our eyes. The facts speak a hard and cautionary language. No one can deny any longer that our situation is deteriorating from month to month. No one can close their eyes any longer to the monstrosity of events, to the catastrophe of National Socialist policy threatening us all.

The major military successes of the early war years have not yielded decisive results. Most German armies are currently in retreat. Despite all the Armed Forces High Command fabrications, the number of war victims is rising to millions. Almost every German house is in mourning. The workers are exposed to ever more severe coercion and overexertion. The

last reserves are being squeezed out of the population. There is barely anything left to buy. Money is losing its value. The army is swallowing up hundreds of thousands and again. Industry and agriculture are suffering sorely from the lack of labor. Tens of thousands of factories and farms are collapsing under the burden of the war conditions. The fruits of decades of hard work are dwindling away. Women are mourning their vanished romantic and family happiness. All domestic peace is torn asunder. The days pass without joy, with no hope for the people. Time and nerves are wasted by the ever smaller rations that the government still grants to the people. The general public is also suffering from the impertinences and chicanery of the authorities and party offices. In its infamous stupidity, the state bureaucracy is now barely capable of solving the tasks allotted to it.

himself the Führer's deputy was accused the next day of insanity. There has been no information on the background to Colonel General Udet's suicide, but the stupid people know very well that there is a critical lack of planes and gasoline. With every possible deceptive maneuver, they are trying to give the impression that nothing is happening aside from a few illnesses among the field marshals. But the stupid people want to know why the heads of the Russian marshals have not been rolling, as the German press already announced victoriously, but the German army leaders have been removed from their posts. The stupid people are concerned because Mr. von Reichenau suffered a sudden stroke. No one has told us anything about Reich Minister Kerrl's suicide, anything about the departure of Price Commissioner Wagner, and yet the stupid people are wondering why the gentlemen have stepped down if everything was going according to plan. The *Kulturkampf* between state and church, it was said, was a unique mistake on the part of Bismarck, but the stupid people have paid heed to the warning pulpit speeches of the Catholic Bishop of Münster and the Protestant Bishop of Württemberg. No wonder, after all this, that concern is taking hold of broad swaths of the population.

As yet they consoled us with hope for the final victory. They spoke of the Führer's infallibility and the Third Reich's achievements. Where all else failed they struck fear into us with the Gestapo, once again dusting off the old record about the Bolshevik hordes, describing the horrific revenge that the entire German nation would have to face for the deeds of the previous governing leaders. They want to sow fear about the future.

Let those who are too weak to learn the truth continue to swallow the lies. Let those who are too idle to seek the truth remain passive. All responsible people ought to reckon with the facts:

A final victory is no longer possible for National Socialist Germany.

Every day that prolongs the war brings new unspeakable suffering and victims. Every further day of war only increases the bill that must be paid in the end by us all.

The promises that Hitler and Goebbels made to the people were different. But 1941 brought us nothing of all that Hitler and Goebbels promised. A year ago, Adolf Hitler declared that 1941 would bring the completion of the greatest victory in our history. But the past year brought us neither victory nor peace; it brought neither the heralded occupation of the British Isles nor victory on the Atlantic, neither the destruction of the "last formations of the Red Army capable of fighting" nor the capture of the three most important centers of

the Soviet Union, nor the securing of our raw materials and food stores. The year 1941 brought none of all this. Japan entered the war on Germany's side, but America and the Soviet Union are now at war with Germany. Hitler declared war on both major powers. The Japanese victories at the other end of the world, so similar to our own early successes, cannot offset the defeats on the German Eastern Front. No decisive changes are taking place in Africa either. Italy has proved itself an unreliable brother-in-arms. On all fronts, our armies have had the severest losses not only of human lives, but also of material. The superior arms power which our Wehrmacht possessed at the beginning of the war is broken forever. If Germany could not win the war against England while Germany still had superiority on its side in terms of tank divisions and the air force, trained personnel and technological surprises, it certainly will not be able to win the war in the future, now that the enemy has shown ever greater superiority. The hope of Mr. Rosenberg's dubious experts to draw great benefit from enslaving the Ukraine was just as dismally deceptive as the corresponding attempt in 1917. The fight for raw materials for the war leads only to more and more battlefields, i.e. to new fronts and new mass graves.

The propaganda chatter about the Führer's infallibility has been conclusively disproved by the course of the war. Even in 1939, Adolf Hitler still believed in a long period of peace with England. His hysterical policies led England into the war. The same British plutocrats for whose favor he begged hoarsely were now suddenly unmasked as black men, after his naive hope that the war would be restricted to Germany and Poland proved to be deceptive. The war became a world war. In the late summer of 1940, Adolf Hitler believed England was at the end of its strength and would admit defeat. Over and over, he declared that the war had actually been won, and that even America's power would no longer be able to damage the Reich because we maintained the best economic relations to Moscow. Now, England has not collapsed, and America is supplying more and more material to the Allies. In the deceptive hope of being able to reap easy laurels in the East, and in the desperate attempt to bring the war to a head, Hitler pounced on Russia. All of Hitler's and his advisors' plans have failed. Hitler has destroyed the old, frail Europe of yesteryear, but he has not been able to exterminate the peoples' will for a future without the Gestapo, without "racial education," without bureaucracy and constriction. His rule of violence stands on feet of clay. His entire system will shatter against the will for freedom of the oppressed and exploited.

Hitler will founder, just as Napoleon foundered.

Anyone continuing to equate the future of the nation with Hitler's fate is committing a crime.

Germany must live, even when Adolf Hitler's star falls.

Who cannot see now that the entire much-praised social improvement in the Third Reich, the labor creation, the Volkswagen, and many another thing were nothing but preparation for war and armament?! Did Adolf Hitler know no other means for relieving unemployment than the extermination of millions through a new war? The first 7 years in the Third Reich gave us not socialism but only its distorted caricature: a period of grace until the bloody slaughtering.

That is the truth. And this truth will no longer be suppressed. The most powerful gentlemen in the land are now Messrs. Himmler and Goebbels. Yet Mr. Himmler's greatest terror cannot quell the truth, in the long term. Dr. Goebbels's greatest lie, his greatest bluff, can no longer save us. Only a profound renewal can spare us terrible disaster.

What is to become of us?

Even today, the question of the future of the country could be answered satisfactorily. Yet to do so, Germany needs a government founded on those parts of the population that have the ability and the power to represent a new German form of politics to the nation and the world. These people are of course not those who brought Hitler to power. They are not the beneficiaries of the regime. They are, instead, those soldiers who are prepared to place the well-being of the nation higher than the existence of the state and the Wehrmacht in their current form. They are, further, the workers in the cities and the countryside who are aware of their historical mandate, who are prepared to make the matter of the nation their own. They are the intelligentsia of all professions, ostracized by the Hitler regime, who are prepared to take the lead along the path to revolution.

The German nation needs a socialist government of the workers, the soldiers, and the working intelligentsia. Only through the determined coalition of the best parts of the working class and of the intelligentsia together with those forces in the Wehrmacht with loyalties to the people can control be seized from the ruling party. May those who are still uncertain recall Adolf Hitler's words of 1925: "In general it should never be forgotten that not the preservation of a state or even that of a government is the highest purpose of human existence, but rather the conservation of its species. Is this species itself in danger of being oppressed or even removed, then the question of legality plays only a subordinate role. It may then be that the ruling power makes thousandfold use of so-called 'legal' means in its procedures, but nevertheless the drive for

self-preservation of the oppressed is always the most sublime justification for their struggle with all weapons. The laws of humankind trump state laws... At an hour when a national corpus is visibly collapsing and appears to be at the mercy of the greatest oppression, thanks to the actions of a handful of rogues, obedience and fulfillment of duty toward these rogues is only formalism and foolishness if, on the other hand, the refusal of obedience and 'fulfillment of duty' would enable the rescue of a people from its decline."
(Adolf Hitler: *Mein Kampf*, pp. 105 & 593)

Indeed, only the refusal of obedience and fulfillment of duty creates the conditions for the rescue of the people from decline.

As soon as the people have given themselves a new government, they must seek new friends and allies in the world. These will not be found among those who have an interest in restoring the European state of 1918 to 1939 and in more or less openly demeaning the German people—thus, not among the reactionary circles in Europe. The politics of certain German feudalists, diplomats, bankers, etc., who dream of giving the country a new political foundation after a coup through the brutal persecution of all those previously involved in power, only to reconcile a restored Germany with the "plutocrats" at Russia's expense, has no grounding in reality and will not bring peace. A future cannot be forged out of hate, demagoguery, and reactionary ideas. Friends of our nation are to be found, instead, among the most progressive forces in Europe and the USSR. The coming German government must seek to cooperate with these forces. It must support these forces, and it will do so best by handing over power in the occupied territories to free and independent governments, by immediately evacuating from the occupied territories of the Soviet Union, by revoking the alliance with Italy, and by renewing the friendship pact and trade agreement with the USSR.

On this basis, a peace would be possible under which the German Reich could be kept intact within the borders of the spring of 1939. The German people must demand a share of the goods of the earth through comprehensive trade agreements and treaties.

The German people will be equally prepared to take part in any disarmament as all other nations do. As yet, after overcoming the National Socialist sickness, the German people would still have sufficient strength of their own and enough friends around the world to assert their honest will for a real new order and for lasting securement of peace, even against the resistance of enemy powers.

Minister Goebbels's thesis of "Not when but how" is absolutely wrong. The H O W of the peace depends on the W H E N.

What will happen if things go on this way?
What will happen if Adolf Hitler's war is pursued further?

Then the collapse will assume such an extent that November 1918 will look ridiculous in comparison. Germany would sacrifice its last reserves in the offensives of the summer of 1942. Millions more people would then fall through bombs or grenades or perish from diseases of undernourishment or epidemics. Ultimately, however, there would be panic and the collapse of the Reich.

All those who fail to take action to stop such a development make themselves complicit. They deserve nothing other than an unenviable existence for themselves and their descendants, a dishonorable life under foreign rule.

What can the individual do to bring his will to bear?

Every individual must ensure that he does the opposite—wherever he can—of what the present state demands of him.

We must tear ourselves and others out of the mire of lies and cowardly pragmatic optimism into which the gentlemen of the Third Reich have pulled us. We will no longer tolerate the truth being withheld from the people. We will no longer tolerate a handful of arrogant persons, compromised a thousand times over by the course of events, seeking to keep a rein on the most alert forces of the nation. We must break at last from the old German delusion that the state is a higher entity to be trusted blindly. Today's state is nothing but a huge apparatus that has fallen into the hands of a few ambitious and unscrupulous men. These men are making use of the state apparatus to turn the whole world upside down according to their immature and skewed perceptions and to enrich themselves and their like.

The truth about the real situation must find its way to the people. So let no opportunity pass by to counter the propaganda. Read old Führer speeches! Remember your old newspapers and compare the promises made to the people a year ago with the hard facts of the present day. Pass on letters from the Eastern Front; they give the lie to the hypocritical Nazi propaganda, they show what the war really looks like. Write to your soldiers in the field about what is happening at home! People everywhere are now saying more and more openly that we are no longer willing to bear the yoke of the party bigwigs' rule. We demand the reintroduction of freedom of conviction. A people's court for those who chased us into the insanity of the Russian offensive and thereby the war on two fronts,

who must be held responsible for the unprecedentedly reckless underestimation of the Soviets and the absolutely insufficient preparations. They are to blame for hundreds of thousands of pointless deaths in ice and snow.

Take a stand against the continuation of a war that in the best case will reduce not only the Reich, but the entire continent to rubble.

It is not enough to "grumble" or make stupid jokes. Every individual must decide on a clear YES or NO.

Read the newspaper, watch the weekly newsreel with your wits! Bear in mind that they are doing everything to give you a tainted view of the situation.

Protest more and more loudly when you have to line up anywhere and everywhere! Stop putting up with everything. Do not be intimidated anymore!

Face up to the general fear! Over and over, one hears the phrase: "We have to carry on! If we don't win now we'll all be in for a terrible time; then we'd have to pay for all the Nazis' awful deeds!" The current leaders spread this talk themselves in order to cement their rule. Of course this entire perspective is false, for world history will by no means lose its deeper meaning and the impossible will not become possible through us attempting to not see the truth and helping crime and insanity to victory only because crime and insanity have made their nest in Germany at the moment. We will save ourselves and our country only when we find the courage to join the ranks of the combat front against Hitler and thereby provide proof that fascism and the mania of war are not German phenomena, but the consequences of an unhealthy system for which the whole world is partly to blame, and which must therefore be overcome by the constructive forces of the whole world, including Germany. Thus, when the NSDAP bellows that the victorious Americans or the Bolsheviks would sterilize all Germans, they are consciously spreading untruths, as always. The rulers fear for their own skin, and those responsible will indeed be held accountable. Those, however, who give upright expression to their will for a new form of politics, will come to no harm at all.

Treat the SS with contempt! Let them feel that the people abhor murderers and spies from the depths of their souls! Stop the nonsense of collecting winter aid plaques! Every penny, every act of help for the ruling regime, prolongs the war and leads us all even deeper into despair! Put a stop to thoughtlessness and sentimentality.

Everything that has to be said can be
summed up in the call to be serious at last!

Send this letter out into the world as often
as you can! Pass it on to friends and work-
mates! You are not alone! Start fighting
of your own accord, then in groups.
TOMORROW GERMANY WILL BE OURS!

—A G I S—