SUBJECT: The German Secret Police.

THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to transmit herewith with the original of this despatch, an article which appeared in the "Manchester Guardian" of October 4, 1933, which describes the operations of the new German Secret Police (Geheime Staatspolizei). As has been reported in previous despatches, the Consulate General has had a great deal to do with this organization during the last seven months and I believe that the report herewith enclosed represents pretty accurately the facts with regard to that organization. The German Secret Police is headed by Oberregierungsrat Dr. Diels and his assistant, Staatsanwaltschaftsrat Dr. Volk. Both of these individuals are well known both to Consul Geist and myself, as in the past we have had many occasions to see both. It will be remembered from the reports sent to the Department on the Orloff case, that it was learned on the investigations made in Greifswald and also in Berlin, that the American student Orloff...
Orloff had been subject to violent action on the part of these police. During our calls at the building occupied by the Secret Police we have had opportunity to observe the police wagons brought up in front of the door and unload these prisoners. We know from the report of Orloff that when he was removed from Greifswald and brought to the headquarters of the Secret Police at No. 8 Albrechtstrasse in Berlin, he was subjected to certain indignities. He was made to stand against the wall, according to his report, and go through certain exercises with other prisoners, which fatigued him. He also reported that he was made to stand in front of the picture of Chancellor Hitler.

The enclosed clipping may be of interest to the Department as it is believed that it gives a true picture of the development that is taking place with respect to the rounding up and persecution of suspects.

Respectfully yours,

George S. Messersmith,
American Consul General.

Enclosure:
With original of despatch only:
Clipping from "Manchester Guardian".

S00
GSM/800/P

A true copy of the signed original.