Enclosure No. to despatch No. , of July , 1936, from the Legation at Vienna, Austria.

(TRANSLATION)

Source: NEUES WIENER ABENDBLATT, June 30, 1936.

FIASCO OF THE HEIDELBERG UNIVERSITY CHLEBRATION.

Berlin, June 30. There is great disappointment here over the small foreign participation in the Heidelberg University celebration. The English are altogether absent, from the United States only delegates of a few unimportant universities came, and otherwise from foreign countries only South American universities and several Far Eastern universities were represented. The number of foreign guests was very small, and would have been still smaller had it not been announced beforehand that most of the foreign participants would have an honorary doctor's degree conferred on them. A good many well known foreigners had, it is true, been present at the University Conference which preceded the university celebration. At the end of the conference, however, they demonstratively left.

The absence of the former American Ambassador in Berlin Sherman, who refused one day before the beginning of the celebration, made a particularly painful impression. In American circles in Berlin it is believed that this refusal to participate in the celebration was caused by the fact that the Heidelberg University authorities replaced the Minerva statue with the inscription "To the living spirit" by a National Socialist emblem with the inscription "To the German spirit". The statue formerly stood in front of that part of the University which after the war was built with American money. The celebration showed that those people were right who from the beginning were of the opigion that it was only to be a National Socialist event, and who therefore refused the invitation. S.A. and S.S. in uniform were ordered to attend the celebration. The Rector of the University also appeared in S.A. uniform. A disagreeable impression was caused by the fact that it was the Professor of War Science who made the peace speech addressed to foreign countries.