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A-M

March 3, 1939.

The Secretary

The Under Secretary

PA/D - Mr. Dunn

Eu - Mr. Moffat

The W. referred to in the appended despatch from the Embassy in Brussels is undoubtedly Captain Wiedemann. Information which I have received from private but well informed sources comes to me to the effect that Wiedemann has been entrusted with the mission of consolidating the German elements in this country and that he has been given a wide mandate. Information which I have from these private sources would indicate that it is a part of his plan to bring about the purchase of some newspapers in this country. The information from the same sources corroborates the statements in the letter appended to this despatch -- to the effect that Wiedemann is supposed to be the right sort of person to establish contact with certain important persons in American industry who are supposed to have totalitarian views. There seems to be little doubt that certain men in financial and industrial circles in this country are out of sympathy with the trade agreements program and our general commercial policy and that some of these favor in
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varying degree trading agreements with Germany. It is not, I believe, unreasonable to assume that it is a part of Wiedemann's mandate to get in touch with such people in this country.

G. S. Messersmith.

A-M:GSM:VNG