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Subject: Additional paragraph to memorandum on attempts on my life.

Booked
While Dr. Diehls, the head of the Gestapo in the early days of the Hitler regime, remarked to me several times that "whenever Hitler spoke of my or my name was mentioned, he frothed at the mouth", and told me that Goering had given the most specific instructions that I was not to be molested in any way, I must not forget that where there were so many fanatics I would well appreciate that my safety was a matter of preoccupation to him. I did not discard the possibility and even probability that there might be such an attempt on my life -- not instigated by the high Nazi authorities but the result of fanaticism on the part of some individual. I knew that the Nazi government would not want any attacks on any American officials. It would cause them too much inconvenience and it was not in their picture and plans. I am sure that they made this well understood. So far as I was concerned all during my stay in Germany I did not let this preoccupy me. If I had, I knew that Geist, who was my principal assistant and who was in any same danger that I might be in, would not be able to do our work.

The only time that I had any reason for preoccupation in this respect in Berlin, that is of a definite character, was when on two occasions I was almost run over by a Gestapo car or an SS or SA car, I was not able to identify the automobile because of the rapid pace at which it was going. Across the street from the offices of the Consulate General was the Esplanade Hotel and a little above the hotel and almost in front of the entrance to the Consulate General on the other side of the street there was a very narrow street leading to a big courtyard in which there was a large building, which had before the Nazi regime been occupied by one of the largest insurance companies in Germany and which was later occupied by the Ministry of Economics and by some dependencies of the SS and SA. I frequently crossed the street to the Esplanade Hotel to make a call or to another building in the vicinity. It was some months after the regime had come in that when passing this narrow street I was almost run down, in fact just escaped being run down by a powerful car coming out full speed from the court yard of which I have spoken. Some weeks later the

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same thing happened, in spite of the additional precaution I was taking when passing in front of the entrance to this narrow street. My movements were naturally being watched. That there was no doubt of. Both incidents had the appearance of a powerful car having been waiting in this narrow street. There seemed to be little doubt that it was a deliberate effort to run me down. Geist, to whom I mentioned the matter, felt sure it was a deliberate attempt to get rid of me. He suggested that when I saw Diehls, and better still Goering, I should just casually mention the matter. I did so. These were the only two circumstances which could be in any way interpreted as an effort to get rid of me during my stay in Germany, and they both occurred within a relatively short time in early stages of the Nazi regime.