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Vienna, September 5, 1935.

Raymond H. Geist, Esq.,
American Consulate General,
Berlin, Germany.

Dear Geist:

The other day there was in to see me a quite well informed person here in Austria who said that he had recently had an opportunity to examine some German school books which have been put into use since the National Socialist Government came into power. You will remember that several years ago already there was a movement towards the revision of various school books to be used in Germany, with the idea that this was an important part of the program towards educating the young people of Germany into National Socialist doctrine and to give it the background of European problems in general which the movement desires it to have. It is, of course, a very important matter, and, as it appears that a good deal of progress has been made in getting out these books and in putting them into use, particularly in the fields of history and geography, it is not improbable that it would be interesting to get some of these books and send them to the Department.

You know that the Soviet Government has done very much the same thing, and some of its text books are published in English, as well as in Russian. They are on sale in the Soviet bookshop in New York City, but before that I know that the Eastern European Division of the Department had been much interested in getting copies of these text books.

Perhaps this is a matter which has already received attention in Berlin, but I hope you will not mind my mentioning that if none of these books have been sent to the Department yet, they would undoubtedly be of interest. The German text books, of course, have, I

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am sure, not appeared in any other language and probably will not, but the German texts, with translations or résumés of interesting and significant parts, would undoubtedly be interesting at home. National Socialism is a movement of youth, and we know what importance the Party lays on the building up of the background it desires among the young people of Germany. As this is a problem which, in my opinion, is as important - if not more so - as the immediate political factors, it may be worth while giving thought to sending some of these text books to the Department with appropriate comment.

I hope you do not mind my making this suggestion, but I thought that it might be interesting, although I am inclined to believe that the matter may already have received attention.

With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,