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An International Daily Newspaper
The Christian Science Monitor
Published by The Christian Science Publishing Society, Boston, U.S.A.

Office of
Berlin Correspondent

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Berlin W 8

April 23, 1938.

Raymond H. Geist, Esq.,
Consul-General of the United States,
Berlin.

Dear Mr. Geist:

With reference to Mr. Messersmith's inquiries, the following are the facts as far as I can remember. I have sent my 1933 diary home, so that I cannot consult it at the moment.

1. The British visitors were :-

Lord Astor (husband of Nancy Astor and proprietor of The Observer, London),

Mr. Charles W.J. Tennant, who was at that time Committee on Publication of the Christian Science Movement for Great Britain,

Mr. J.S. Braithwaite, Managing Representative for Europe of the Christian Science Publishing Society.

These three came on instructions from Boston. Lord Astor is a member of the House of Lords, but the other two have nothing to do with politics.

2. The audience with Minister Frick took place at Königsplatz 6, on September 28th, 1933. Minister Frick, Secretary Pfundtner, the three English representatives, an interpreter from the Ministry of Finance and I were present.

In my report made on the same day, I mention that in connection with the Thuringia affair it "should be noted that Mr. Messersmith, American Consul General, made repeated representations to the authorities concerned to get this matter settled immediately."

I recollect that Mr. Messersmith and yourself got into touch with representatives of the Ministry of Interior and of the Secret Police a number of times for the purpose of clearing up the situation in Thuringia and also that Mr. Messersmith telephoned a number of times to arrange a meeting between Minister Frick and the three English visitors.

3. I was not present when Lord Astor and Mr. Messersmith met at tea at the Hotel Bristol and so know nothing at first hand about the contents of this conversation.

4. My information from other sources do not lead me to support unreservedly Mr. Messersmith's interpretation of Lord Astor's later attitude towards the Third Reich.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

J. Evelyn Williams

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