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Trojan Horses, 1940.

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TROJAN HORSES

The Forces Which Betray and Undermine Free Peoples and Governments

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver

At The Temple

On Sunday morning, May 5, 1940 TROJAN HORSES

The Forces which Betray and and Governments Undermine Free People

Almost a thousand years before the Common Era, a great war took place around which there developed in the distant centuries many legends and myths. It was the war of the Greeks on the Trojans. That war lasted ten years. The Greeks could not reduce the City of Troy though they besieged it until the cunning Ulysses bethought himself of an artifice whereby to reduce the City of Troy. And at his suggestion a huge wooden horse was built. And at night, when that horse was completed, it was placed before the gates of the City of Troy. And inside of the horse were hidden a number of Greeks soldiers. When the morning came, and the Trojans saw that the forces of the Greeks had returned and seemingly had given up, they were ready to embark on their ships and return home. But before their gates they found this strange wooden horse, and they ordered it to be brought into the City. And it was brought into the city. That night, the soldiers hidden in the wooden horse crept out, opened the gates of the City of Troy and the forces of the Greeks rushed into the City, conquered it, destroyed it, slew most of its inhabitants - and the war, the ten year old war, was over.

So that this term, the "Trojan Horse", has been immortalized in the literature of mankind. It is a pouring from within for overcoming the enemy - not by force of arms, but by cunning artifice, by forms of treachery and betrayal.

The invasion of Norway, a few weeks ago, brought that term to the lips of men again. Men began to talk about how Norway was conquered by a "Trojan Horse," by a fifth column. And a new term was introduced which is also destined to enjoy immortality - the term "Quisling". It took an enterprising American reporter, Leland Stowe, to tell the story of how Norway was betrayed by a Trojan Horse. He tells how and why it was possible for 1500 German soldiers to take possession of Oslo, a well fortified city of 256,000 people without the firing of a shot, how it was possible for these soldiers to be so sure of victory and so sure of not being molested that they actually marched into the city three abreast to the sound of a brass band.

Stowe

And the story which Leland / told startled the world - the story of wholesale treason, connivance with the enemy, the story of how the Norwegian fleet which was ready and capable of giving as good an account of itself as any other fleet, was betrayed and its crew deliberately ordered ashore before the Nazis invaded it, how the fortresses, the fortifications, the anti-aircraft batteries didn't fire, and when they did fire, they deliberately fired wide of the mark, how mines were placed in the way of invading ships whose electrical controls had been disconnected, how fortresses and harbors, cities were surrendered without firing a shot, and of how defense positions in the army and navy were actually occupied be Nazi agents and spies, aided by Norwegians. This story which Leland Stowe told in great detail startled the world. Thus Quisling, one time Norwegian Minister of Defense, and Hitler's chief agent in Norway arranged all these details of betrayal. The ground had been prepared long in advance for this invasion by a network of spies, agents, Nazi sympathizers in Norway and also Nazi-Norwegian politicians. It had been prepared long in advance by briberies and other devices known to German espionage. And thus, a free and unsuspecting people, a free and unsuspecting government and its King were betrayed and helplessly handed over to a ruthless invader. Their liberties were now gone. Their cities bombed; men slain. They are now enslaved.

This horrible story of how Norway was "Trojan Horsed" or "Quislinged" into defeat frightened all the people of Europe and they all set about hunting down their Trojan Horses, ferreting out their Fifth Column which is always made up of Nazi agents who stealthily come into a country during peace time and who proceed to undermine it long before armed forces of the Reich/prepared to march. So in all these countries in the last few weeks, many leaders suspected of Nazi affiliations have been arrested. Spies who were known to be spies were arrested. Nazi centers were raided in these countries, and all

And yet, strangely enough, the Nazis themselves and their Furhrer have never made any attempt to cover up their real intentions in Europe. They have avowed it over and over again. They have proclaimed it as it were from the house tops. Today it is Deutschland. Tomorrow it is the "Ganze Welt." And to that end they have planned to train the whole life of Germany, of eighty million souls, to one task, to one function, to co-ordinate for that one supreme effort, the exclusive pursuit of power. And the whole life

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be organized around this one central motif, and a whole system of ideologies was constructed to rationalize and to justify this one central objective, program of the Third Reich. And even the technique by which the Third Reich intended to subdue the nations of Europe was avowed and proclaimed by the Nazis beforehand. They intended to establish in every country which they had marked off for their conquest, organizations, nuclei of sympathizers who would serve as agents, who would prepare the ground for them ideologically and who would also serve as spies, ferret out the military secrets of those countries and turn them over to the authorities in Berlin. Strangely enough people did not take them seriously.

Hermann Rauschning who wrote that startling book, "The Revolution of Nihilism" was formerly a leader under the Nazi Regime, President of the Danzig Senate, a trusted member of the Nazi Party, and a close friend of Hitler, who finally became disillusioned and disgusted with the Nazi and would not program and the Nazi acts and did not/go along with them and finally had to resigned his post. He fled from Germany. In this book, Hermann Rauchning tells the story of Nazism and among other things he tells of the Nazi program for conquering Europe. I read from this book:

"In this connection I recall a discussion concerning the importance of the creation of unrest as a weapon of the movement, at a lunch with Hitler in the summer of 1933; Hitler himself, however, took no part in it. Among those present was Prince August Wilhelm, who almost always lunched with Hitler at that time; with him were Goebbels, Schirach (the youth leader), Hofmann (Hitler's friend and photographer), Hanfstaengl (Hitler's press secretary), and other prominent persons...Someone said that in every State discord should be stirred up to such an extent that the State could easily be brought down. Objections were raised, but it was contended that it was all a question of money and

and organization. It cost more in the West that in the East; that was the only difference. There were no convictions in democracies, real convictions, for which men would stake their existence. That was the point at which to work - fear or the hope of gain would sooner or later bring capitulation in every case. There were plenty of men to be found in any country, as many as were wanted, to launch any particular movement; plenty in every grade of society and of every degree of education. Once a beginning had been made, each country would look after itself. The pople without convictions were always defeatist: it was useless, they would say, to resist. No money spent in this way was wasted: It meant that fewer army divisions would need to be sent in the end.

"Democracies, it was pointed out, were helpless against this sort of attack: it was in the nature of things that they should be, for the only way to prevent it was to become authoritarian. Dictatorships were largely protected against these weapons. This placed them in a stronger moral position which might go far to counterbalance inferiority in armament. It was objected that this set limits to the efficacy of this political expedient, since very serious conflicts to might come with non-democratic States which were immune/this device of stirring up discord. A characteristic conclusion was drawn from this consideration: our opponents would always be democracies and democracies alone, for the simple reason that they were vulnerable. We must always go in search of weaker opponents, and make friends of the dangerous ones. This sounded rather like a cheap joke. The man who said it, in all earnestness, was Hanfstaengl, next to whom I was sitting. Not until later did I discover that he had only been trying to give in a simpler form the views of the Fuhrer. I never heard a more naive admission of the character of the "dynamic" pôlitical movements.

"It is the Germans abroad that are made the medium of these activities, directed from the German Foreign Ministry by Herr Bohle. They are forced in a new

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and highly revolutionary way into political action, as bearers of "dynamism" into the country whose guests they are, and as "Stutzpunkte," key positions, for the preparation of revolution. And in the East and Couth east of Europe, where streams of German colonists have flowed for centuries into the territory of other nations, this peculiar element of Germans abroad is manifestly trained, and at times used already, for the organization of control in what is to become a great alliance of States, and for continuing in a wider field the work the party has done within the German Reich upon State and society. They are to be a factor in the Gleichschaltung, the forcing into conformity, of the population among whom they live, disciplining, watching, and influencing down to the most intimate details of private life. They are to be the propagators of unceasing "training" in the National Socialist philosophy. The most recent developments in Czechoslovakia, since the Munich agreement, have demonstrated that the long years of preparatory propaganda and organization were intended to serve the aim, only now revealed, of German hegemony."

In other words, Nazi bunds, Nazi organizations were to serve as military outposts in all the countries of Europe, and not only of Europe.

Two years ago, our own country was startled by a revelation of a Spy Ring in our own country. Eighteen Germans were indicted in the Federal Court for espionage in this country, and among these eighteen were men who were leaders of Bunds in the United States, ostensibly an organization of German sympathizers. Of these indicted it was found that they were not only sympathizers, but spies. They were caught red-handed with military secrets which had been transmitted for some years to Berlin. And Leon G. Turrow, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation a year or two ago wrote a book called "Nazi Spies in America" in which he told the story of the Nazi spy ring in the United States and how Nazi organizers, ostensibly just sympathizers,

of the Third Reich were actually a highly developed Nazi espionage system and part of a conspiracy against our national defense. Among these eighteen spies indicted were some very prominent German officials who had fled the country when they got wind of what happened. Only four actually were brought to trial, and these four were convicted.

They bore from within, these Nazis. And they have a new technique. Espionage is not new. But setting up political parties and organizations within countries which are marked off for conquest and then submitting the population of these countries to suspect and cunning and prolonged propaganda to undermine its morale, and to lead it to weakness and defenslessness when the time comes — that is the new technique that so far has been successful — a tremendously successful technique.

They have found a Trojan Horse and improved it a thousand-fold. Much that they have done in recent years has been in the way of a Trojan Horse. The anti-communist agitation of Communist Germany was a Trojan Horse by means of which they succeeded in getting into power in Germany, seizing control of the government and setting themselves up as saviors of Europe. Against these Jewish Bolsheviks they could not find in their vocabularies words contemptible enough with which to denounce them. But it was a Trojan Horse. They were not really concerned with communism. They were concerned with political racketeering, getting control of the country. When it suited their political interests to join hands with the Bolsheviki, they did it, and in grand style, as they demonstrated a few short months ago. It was a good sales talk. It persuaded industrialists like Thyssen to give them millions. Now, disillusioned, Thyssen is a refugee in France. And anti-Communism was a Trojan Horse. Anti-Semitism was another Trojan Horse. It was all good sales talk. It enabled them to get into power. That anti-Semitism, salve to that act of blaming every German misfortune on a small group in Germany was welcome/

the hurt feelings of the German people. That talk of race superiority gave the people in Germany the happy feeling of belonging to the elect, to the chosen people of the earth.

By means of anti-Semitism, the German people were exploited like a Trojam Horse by which the Nazis got into control of Germany and destroyed the German Republic and enslaved the German people.

The Nazis clamored in behalf of the poor persecuted minorities in the neighboring countries. This was also a Trojan Horse because they were never interested in minorities They are out to delude, dominate, subdue all the people including their own. But it served to persuade many people in the world that Sudentenland was a German minority and belonged to the Party.

Actually, the Nazis do not believe in rights of minorities. The

Jewish minority in Germany was most brutally shattered and they handed

over their own southern Tyrol, a German outpost, to Mussolini. In 1934

Hitler said: "The day of small states is past. I shall have a northern union

of Denmark, Norway and Sweden. If they don't like it, they can try to

drive me out." "It will be a daring but interesting undertaking, never

before attempted in the history of the world. Protected by the fleet and with the

cooperation of the Air Force, I shall order a series of unexpected individual

exploits." That is exactly what happened six years later in Norway. By

means of this Trojan Horse of "Rights of minorities," he achieved Munich,

the Sudentenland as a first step in the conquest of Czechoslovakia, six

months later, when the people of this minority race were subjugated by

the Nazis.

Why do I speak of all this? Not because of any historic significance. I speak of it as a warning. I speak of it by way of an admonishment to the citizens of our own country. Trojan Horses are possible in these United States just as they were in Norway. Quislings are here just as they were

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in Norway. The same forces are in this free country. And they will use the same Trojan Horses to undermine this free, courageous, country of ours, if they get the chance. The same Trojan Horse of anti-Communism is being used in this country by the same forces. Please understand me clearly. I am no sympathizer for communism, for its technique. I have denounced it ever since it came into power. Communists in this country should be exposed because they are no friends of Americans any more than the Nazis are. But when coupled with this attack upon communism and communists in the United tates there goes the suggestion that in order to cope with them, we must resort to anti-communist procedure - that in order to cope with them we must bring into existence private armies, implying that our own democratic agencies and institutions are no longer capable of meeting the menace of communism, I say that the suggestion that the United States ought to turn over this problem to some new vanguard to cope with, that is a Trojan Horse. That is the classic Quisling technique. That has the brand of the beast on it.

I am not under-estimating communist propaganda here or elsewhere.

There is a Third Internationale and it is known that its purpose is to carry on communist propaganda. But I should like to remind you that since the communist revolution in Russia, and in spite of communist influence all over the world, not a single country has gone communist, not a single state has advanced into a state of communist, but literally dozens of governments and states have collapsed before Fascism, have been betrayed into distatorship, the dictatorship not of the left, but of the right, so that the real menace to the surviving free democratic countries of the world is not the power of communism, but the power of fascism and Nazism.

These same forces in this country receive their inspiration from

Berlin and they will also use anti-Semitism as a Trojan Horse by which to

get into power here, just as the Nazis used it in Germany and in every other

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Anti-Semitism is today the fifth column of the German Reich. A year ago, the French government passed legislation making anti-Semitic propaganda punishable by law. It did this not because it suddenly discovered any new affection for the Jews, although the French have always been tolerant and liberal with the Jews - but because it was part of its acts for defense of France. The French were the first people clearly to understand that anti-Semitism is the first step of the Nazis to undermine a country. The French are the most clear thinking people in the world, the most logical. They were the first to understand that this anti-Semitism was something new, just as the technique which bored from within was new, that it was part of German propaganda to start a program of civil strife in France, citizen against citizen and that it is a political weapon of the most deadly sort.

These organizations in our own country who are preaching anti-Semitism, who sud enly discover that the Jews are a bad people and don't like them - these people have been instructed to set in motion an anti-Semitic movement in the United States as a means of disrupting this country with pro-Nazi sentiment. That is the Trojan Horse of anti-Semitism.

Propaganda may be a Trojan Horse. Many people under the guise of social justice are trying to prepare the mind of the American people, to suggest to the American people that our own form of democratic life is no longer good, that we need to change our system of government. That is a Trojan Horse. This talk of social justice when coupled with these other preachments are the mark of the beast.

Recently at the Chamber of Commerce, here in our own city, an organization known as Pro-America, istensibly a Republican Organization held a meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to interest people in defeating that terrible New Deal. But under this aegis, the Chamber of Commerce broughtto the city a man who is a notorious pro-Nazi, a notorious anti-Semite whose record of anti-Semitic activities

He is a friend of Fritz Kuhn and spoke more than once with him on the same platform. His own thesis is that aliens are the bane of America.

Anti-Jewishness is another Trojan Horse by which it is intended to disrupt the spiritual unity of America.

To defeat the democratic tradition in this country - the concept of the equality of all men, regardless of race or creed or religion, is to put this government into the hands of a few intolerant Fascist minded groups.

All about us are Trojan Horses. It is important to have democracies cease to be naive and trusting. Democracy has to become far more realistic, far more worldly wise to meet the cunning of these folks. Democracy must think, too, in terms of counter-propaganda. In war, the best defense is the offensive.

A great American Revolutionary leader at the time of the American Revolution said: "Vigilance is the price of liberty." That was true then, and it is true today. "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Norway was not vigilant. Neither was Poland. Nor was Austria. Let us not repeat that ftal mistake in this country.

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