

The Plot to Kill Hitler!



(Acme photo.)

Adolf Hitler is closely guarded when he appears in public. He fears the assassin. In the picture here the men in black uniforms and those wearing helmets are his picked bodyguards, members of the famous Schutz Staffel, or Black Guards. Directly back of Hitler is Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels, German minister of propaganda. At Goebbels' left is Dr. Robert Ley, labor front leader, and at Goebbels' right is Heinrich Himmler, German chief of police, head of the Gestapo (secret police) and commander of the Schutz Staffel.

NEARLY all the dictators in Europe achieved power by subterranean means; some of them began their extraordinary careers as spies. Most of them have served terms of imprisonment and rubbed shoulders with assassins and political informers. As a result of these years of mingling with the underworld characters of Europe, there is not one dictator that does not fear the assassin.

Dictators, therefore, are the most closely guarded men in the world. Because they came into power on a wave of terrorism of their own, they have acquired a knowledge of the usefulness of secret police. They, too, have their brigades of spies and are willing to pay well for useful information. They make regular use of the agent provocateur. A systematic blood purge has to be instituted. The dictator has a constant fear of the murder clubs of Europe.

Only a short while ago Europe boasted seven dictators. Now only three remain. Of the departed, two died in their beds, the hard-bitten old

Guarding the Dictator Against Assassins!

Pilsudski and Kemal Ataturk. The other two, Dollfuss and Alexander, were murdered. Of

the chances of the other dictators of escaping assassination, ask the insurance experts at Lloyd's. They are not particularly optimistic. For a rate against Hitler's life being taken by violence you would have to pay more than \$50 for every \$1,000 of insurance. And this would carry you for only a month. If your interests are in Italy, the charge against Mussolini's assassination would be \$20 for each \$500 insurance, the period being three months. Insuring the life of a dictator is one of Lloyd's biggest gambles.

The success of the attempts against King Alex-

ander and Chancellor Dollfuss have alarmed those police agents responsible for the safety of their rulers. Incidentally, they have considerably alarmed the dictators themselves. Hitler, Mussolini, and Stalin have each redoubled their guards and faithful followers.

Motives of speed and security render the activities of Hitler secretive and mysterious. Nobody knows where he will be next. Always he appears to be traveling at high speed between the chancellery in Berlin, his mountain chalet near Berchtesgaden, and his flat in Munich. He uses exclusively

the airplane and the most powerful Mercedes ever built. As far as possible he avoids railway trains. They are too dangerous.

Hitler's mode of life is military, like that of a general at the front during an offensive, rushing in person or imagination from danger point to danger point, without heed of comfort, meals, and time. Very often he may not turn up at a heralded official occasion or as unexpectedly may descend upon the stunned Nazis; Hitler flew through the night from Godesberg to have Roehm and company shot near Munich. Nobody had any idea that the leader had spent the preceding night seated at a Rhineland terrace with Goebbels, going through the death list. Both men had flown there secretly.

Because of this mode of travel by the leader, Germany has the strictest air control in the world. Any foreign machine crossing the frontier would be observed instantly. It is regarded as a potential danger when Hitler takes to the clouds. Actually the Junkers plane in which the leader flies does not possess a machine gun (Continued on page three.)

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