

DRAFT STATEMENT.

The German Government are attempting to prove that His Majesty's Government are in some way involved in the recent attempt on Herr Hitler's life. To this end they allege that the Passport Control Officer at The Hague was recently in touch with dissident persons in Germany representing themselves to be hostile to the Nazi régime, but who were actually members of the Gestapo. In order to accomplish his fell design he is also alleged to have given these persons a wireless transmitting set. It is at once apparent therefore that, if the Passport Control Officer did in fact play any part in the attempted assassination of Herr Hitler it can only have been with the connivance of the Gestapo. Actually there is not a shred of evidence to connect Mr. Stevens with the Munich incident. Nor can there be, for the following very good reasons.

The facts are these. About the middle of October, the ill-fated Mr. Stevens was approached by certain German Officers who stated that they represented a group opposed to the Nazi régime and desirous of bringing about its downfall. They enquired whether, if this were accomplished, His Majesty's Government would be prepared to "negotiate". Naturally the Passport Control Officer passed on this communication; and though there were admittedly doubts as to its genuineness, it was thought better to give some general and guarded reply. One feature of this reply certainly was that the continued existence in office of the Nazis and

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