

= Theodore N. Kaufman =

Theodore Newman Kaufman (February 22 , 1910 ? April 1 , 1986) , sometimes given incorrectly as Theodore Nathan Kaufmann , was an American Jewish businessman and writer known for his eliminationist views on Germans .

In 1939 , he published pamphlets as chairman of the American Federation of Peace that argued that Americans should be sterilized so that their children will no longer have to fight in foreign wars .

In 1941 , he wrote and published Germany Must Perish ! which called for the sterilization of the German people and the distribution of the German lands . The text was used extensively in Nazi propaganda , often as a justification for the persecution of Jews and was specifically cited as a reason to round up the Jews of Hanover , Germany .

= = Early life = =

He was born in Manhattan , New York City on February 22 , 1910 to Anton Kaufman and Fannie Newman . His parents had married on March 14 , 1909 . His father had been a reporter for the Berliner Morgen @-@ Zeitung in Berlin , Germany before emigrating to the United States in 1905 . Theodore 's three brothers were Herbert , Julian , and Leonard .

He attended South Side High School in Newark , New Jersey and graduated around 1928 .

In 1934 he was arrested along with his father , Anton Kaufman , for the robbery of Sandor Alexander Balint of Budapest . Balint had developed a process to speed the aging of wine . The Kaufmans had purchased this formula from Balint , but later came to believe that the formula was " worthless " . Theodore Kaufman 's mother died in 1939 .

Kaufman traveled to the Sahara Desert and wrote : " you look at the horizon all day long and feel that you are staring at eternity . " In Biskra he met Clare Sheridan .

Kaufman became the owner of a small advertising agency and ticket agency in South Orange , New Jersey . He published the New Jersey Legal Record . Kaufman founded the Argyle Press of Newark , New Jersey to publish his political pamphlets .

= = Life during World War II = =

Kaufman was a radical intent on preventing American involvement in future wars in Europe . In 1939 , under the auspices of the " American Federation of Peace " , an unknown entity of which he was the president and probably only member , Kaufman produced several publications . One pamphlet , titled " Passive Purchase " advocated the establishment of a two @-@ week period during which Americans would curtail their spending in order to demonstrate public opposition to American intervention in European conflicts . In a section of the pamphlet on the American Federation of Peace 's beliefs , Kaufman advocated for " the strongest possible military defense of the United States " and stated that " by keeping absolutely aloof from foreign wars and entanglements the American People face a truly great future . " That same year , the group also issued publications with more contentious messages , one of which read :

" A possible plea to Congress Have Us All Sterilized ! ... If You Plan On Sending Us To A Foreign War ... Spare Us Any Possibility Of Ever Bringing Children Into This World ? Into This Country Of Ours ! "

Two years later he shifted his focus to the forced mass @-@ sterilization of all German men under 65 and the sterilization of most German women under 45 . This would eliminate " inbred Germanism , " he proposed , thus solving a great deal of humanity 's problems . He also promoted the distribution of Germany 's lands among the neighboring countries . His effort was spearheaded by the self @-@ publication of the book Germany Must Perish !

" Since Germans are the perennial disturbers of the world 's peace ... they must be dealt with like any homicidal criminals . But it is unnecessary to put the whole German nation to the sword . It is more humane to sterilize them . The army groups , as organized units , would be the easiest and quickest to deal with The population of Germany , excluding conquered and annexed territories ,

is about 70 @, @ 000 @, @ 000 , almost equally divided between male and female . To achieve the purpose of German extinction it would be necessary to only sterilize some 48 @, @ 000 @, @ 000 -- a figure which excludes , because of their limited power to procreate , males over 60 years of age , and females over 45 Taking 20 @, @ 000 surgeons as an arbitrary number and on the assumption that each will perform a minimum of 25 operations daily , it would take no more than one month , at the maximum , to complete their sterilization The balance of the male civilian population of Germany could be treated within three months . Inasmuch as sterilization of women needs somewhat more time , it may be computed that the entire female population of Germany could be sterilized within a period of three years or less . Complete sterilization of both sexes , and not only one , is to be considered necessary in view of the present German doctrine that so much as one drop of true German blood constitutes a German . Of course , after complete sterilization , there will cease to be a birth rate in Germany . At the normal death rate of 2 per cent per annum , German life will diminish at the rate of 1 @, @ 500 @, @ 000 yearly . Accordingly in the span of two generations that which cost millions of lives and centuries of useless effort , namely , the elimination of Germanism and its carriers , will have been an accomplished fact . By virtue of its loss of self @-@ perpetuation German Will will have atrophied and German power reduced to negligible importance . "

Although Kaufman 's book had a minimal impact in the United States , it achieved notoriety in Nazi Germany , where propagandists used it as evidence of an international Jewish plan to destroy the German people . On July 24 , 1941 , the Nazi Party 's newspaper , *Völkischer Beobachter* , published a front @-@ page article on the book titled : " The Product of Criminal Jewish Sadism : Roosevelt Demands the Sterilization of the German People . " The newspaper alleged that Kaufman was a close ally of Samuel Irving Rosenman , a well @-@ known advisor to Franklin Delano Roosevelt and that : " Given the close relationship of the writer to the White House , this monstrous war program can be seen as a synthesis of genuine Talmudic hatred and Roosevelt ? s views on foreign policy . " At the time , the German leadership was engaged in a propaganda campaign designed to rally popular support for the German invasion of the Soviet Union . Antisemitism in general , and Kaufman 's ideas in particular , became a focus of this campaign .

Nazi Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels read the book in early August and immediately grasped its value , writing in his diary : " This Jew did a real service for the enemy [German] side . Had he written this book for us , he could not have made it any better . " Under Goebbels ' direction , *Germany Must Perish !* continued to receive significant media attention in Germany . Portions of the book were read on national radio , and Goebbels ordered the printing of five million copies of a pamphlet that summarized Kaufman 's ideas .

Nazi propaganda often used Kaufman 's pamphlet as a justification for the persecution of Jews . When the Nazis required German Jews to wear a yellow badge on their clothing on September 1 , 1941 , they published a flyer explaining to the German people that those individuals wearing the star were conspiring to implement Kaufman 's plan for the destruction of Germany . When the Jews of Hanover were forced from their homes on September 8 , 1941 , German authorities cited Kaufman 's book as one of the reasons . Kaufman responded by saying :

" This is just a flimsy pretext for another of the innate cruelties of the German people ... I don 't think it was my book that prompted this barbarity . They employed every possible German cruelty against the Jews long before my book was published . "

The Nazi propaganda ministry continued to publish pamphlets , posters and flyers on Kaufman 's ideas through the end of the war , and also urged newspapers and public speakers to remind Germans of Kaufman 's book . Kaufman 's last major appearance in Nazi propaganda occurred in late 1944 , when a five @-@ page section on him was included in the widely published booklet *Never !* , which described a number of alleged plots to destroy Germany . Randall Bytwerk , an historian of communications at Calvin College , concluded that " [a] German at the time could not have missed encountering " propaganda about Kaufman .

His final publication through Argyle Press was the March 1942 brochure titled " No More German Wars ! Being an outline for their permanent cessation " . It contained no more writing on the sterilization of Germans or discussion of German land distribution , but made very moderate

proposals for democratic re @-@ education of the German population .

He enlisted in the US Army in New Mexico on April 24 , 1942 . His three brothers also served .

Few Americans have ever heard of a prominent fellow @-@ citizen named Kaufmann ... In Germany every child has known of him for a long time . Germans are so well informed about Mr. Kaufmann that the mere mention of his name recalls what he stands for . In one of his recent articles Dr. Goebbels wrote , " Thanks to the Jew Kaufmann , we Germans know only too well what to expect in case of defeat . "

= = Post @-@ war years and death = =

After World War II , Kaufman disappeared entirely from public life . One scholar , Berel Lang , a Visiting Professor of Philosophy and Letters at Wesleyan University , failed to locate Kaufman in the records of the city of Newark and in other sources .

He died in April 1986 in East Orange , New Jersey .

= = Writings = =

" Life Liberty Pursuit of Happiness - Where ? In The Graves of European Battle Fields ? " American Federation of Peace , Newark , NJ , (circa 1938 @-@ 1942)

A Will and Way to Peace : Passive Purchase Theodore N. Kaufman , American Federation of Peace , Newark , NJ , 1939 , 10 @-@ page pamphlet

Germany Must Perish ! , Argyle Press , Newark , NJ , 1941 , 104 @-@ page brochure

No More German Wars ! Being An Outline For Their Permanent Cessation Argyle Press , Newark , NJ , 1942 , 16 @-@ page brochure [alternate link](#)