

JAKSCH AND BENEŠ IN EXILE IN LONDON AND THE QUESTION OF THE EXPULSION OF THE SUDETEN GERMANS

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On the basis of the papers of Wenzel Jaksch, the last chairman of the Sudeten German Social Democrats in the ČSR, depicts the features of his and his associates' policy in exile. Light is also shed on the exile policy of the Czech emigration in London and their leading figure, Edvard Beneš. The main theme of the controversy between Jaksch and Beneš in the years 1939—45 was the question of a forced expulsion of the Sudeten Germans after the end of the war. Beneš had developed such plans at a very early stage, and the course of the war increasingly gave him the opportunity to win the support of the great powers for his „final solution“ of the Sudeten question. Conversely, the room for political maneuver available to the German Social Democratic emigration grew ever smaller. The sources reveal clearly that Beneš was the *spiritus rector* of the expulsion of the Sudeten Germans. His fateful negotiations in Moscow in December 1943 also served this goal, among others.