

PERSECUTION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT
FROM THE FIRST CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC DURING
THE "PROTECTORATE"

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This contribution has its origins in a research project initiated by the Commission for the History of Parliamentarism and Political Parties (Bonn). For a start, the author explains methods and sources used and problems encountered during his research, and briefly lists his results. In a second part, eight individual biographies are sketched. The author collected biographical data on a total of 491 individuals who were members of the final prewar National Assembly of the ČSR (elected in May 1935) as either representatives (321) or senators (170). The provisional results of the project clearly show the scale of the persecution which an important part of the political élite of the First Czechoslovak Republic suffered at the hands of the German occupiers and which was quite independent of their party affiliation and nationality. Evidence of political persecution could be established with regard to 155 members of Parliament (32%). Among those who fell victim to various kinds of persecution were 9 (of a total of 15) of the female members of the two legislative bodies. 33 representatives and senators perished as a result of the persecution. This number comprises those who were executed, who died in confinement or as a result of having endured imprisonment. In a further 65 cases, imprisonment in concentration camps or jails could be established; 60 of the MP's emigrated, with six of them having died in exile before the end of the war.