

# ANTIBARBAROS – JOHANNES URZIDIL'S CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE MEDIA OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENT-IN-EXILE, 1940 – 1945

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During his London exile from August 1939 until January 1941, Johannes Urzidil continued his journalistic work with critical contributions of a cultural and political nature which were unequivocally directed at the Nazi regime. Obviously, they were written in the expectation that the Czechoslovak republic would continue to exist in a democratic way, including the German part of the population, once the war had ended. As had been prearranged with representatives of the Czechoslovak government-in-exile in London, his contributions in “Čechoslovak v Anglii” and other media of that government started to appear in March 1940. At first, Urzidil remained loyal to the politics of Edvard Beneš and kept his distance to the social democratic Sudeten German exile in Britain headed by Wenzel Jaksch. Even after Urzidil arrived at his permanent exile in New York in February 1941, he continued to contribute to the ČvA with the consent of Beneš. The changing positions of the government-in-exile concerning the ethnic Germans in the ČSR after the war and the Sudeten Ger-

man exile are mirrored in the rapidly decreasing frequency of Urzidil's contributions, climaxing in Urzidil terminating his co-operation as of November 1945. His contributions, of which there were 51, appeared until 1941 in German, later in Czech, some of them under the pseudonym "Antibarbaros".