

Empirical Study on Conservative Radicals in 1918-1928

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ABSTRACT

In the years after the First World War various paramilitary organizations were set up in Bavaria with the communicated motivation behind keeping a comrade revolution in the state. Energized by Germany's and Bavaria's Social Democratic leaders, military officers and men of means shaped Freikorps units to topple the Spartacist revolt in Berlin in January 1919 and the Räterepublik in Munich in April 1919. After the apparition of revolution retreated these groups did not disband but rather revamped themselves as paramilitary leagues. In Bavaria the most critical of these early organizations was the Civil Defense Guards, or Einwohnerwehr, which was prevailing after 1921 by Bund Bayern und Reich. In the years that took after the two groups worked perseveringly to force their ideological engraving on Bavaria, however bombed in the primary. In any case, through their endeavors they set patterns and spread thoughts that would later be taken up by Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party.

INTRODUCTION

This is an investigation of paramilitary politics in Bavaria amid the early and center a very long time of the Weimar Republic. Specifically it is an examination of two organizations: the Einwohnerwehr and Bund Bayern und Reich. These two groups assumed an essential part in encouraging a climate of hatred and resistance to Germany's first majority rules system. Asserting to ensure 'lawfulness' and the state from inward foes bowed on its obliteration, the two paramilitaries occupied with exercises that had the impact of impeding the production of a democratic republic in Bavaria, and toppling it when conceivable. Moreover, the two affiliations were basic to fanning the flares of discontent over the Treaty of Versailles, a disappointment that was vital to the world perspective of numerous ultranationalist Germans amid the Weimar

period and formed their perspective of the republic. At long last, the Einwohnerwehr and Bund Bayern und Reich offered respectability to thoughts and propensities that would be misused by organizations, similar to the Nazi Party, which much more revolutionary in their objectives.

Be that as it may, for the Nazis to succeed, the Einwohnerwehr and its successor, Bund Bayern und Reich, needed to come up short. This, at that point, is an account of the cutoff points of paramilitary politics in Bavaria in the 1920s. Notwithstanding the success the two groups had as operators of the counterrevolution, the Einwohnerwehr and Bund Bayern und Reich neglected to accomplish the ideological objectives laid out by their particular leaderships. That plan depended on a mix of old notions of federalism and states' rights extended from the imperial period and a sentimental, very adapted,

and socially despondent German patriotism that had been intensified amid the war years. Accordingly the two organizations upheld answers for the nation's issues that were both moderate/reactionary (i.e., needing to reestablish the past type of government) and more radical (the making of a völkisch perfect world) in the meantime. This investigation will take a gander at the historical backdrop of these affiliations, how every wa established, the separate ideological programs, and the exercises of the two groups to decide those components that constrained their success.

The Origins of the Patriotic Movement

The patriotic (vaterlandisch) organizations that jumped up in Bavaria after 1918 were the appearances of a long incubation period in which certain people and groups voiced their discontent with the state of issues in Imperial Germany. These faultfinders were not to be found on the political left, as one may expect, yet on the political right. They were not worried about the development of democracy, civil liberties, or more prominent economic and social justice for Germany's laborers yet with the safeguarding of a specific lifestyle and social association inside the Reich. Their compositions made an impression of an approaching emergency inside both German society and government. The organizations they propelled both extensive and little, diffused their perspectives into the more extensive society and give a layout which to compose after the armistice.

War, Revolution, & Repression in Bavaria – 1914-1919

The First World War changed Bavarian, and by expansion German, society. It enormously expanded the energy of the state in individuals' lives, conveyed vast scale industrialization to the state, and changed the relationship of Bavarians to the old regime that had existed before 1914 on both the state and government level. More imperative, radical patriotism on the model of both the völkisch movement and the patriotic affiliations ended up basic to the upkeep of mainstream bolster for the conflict, for as the military stalemate proceeded, and the nation's material condition declined, discontent started to surface among the populace that in the end finished in revolution in 1918.

The Revolution of November 1918

Revolutionary fervor held Bavaria in the fall of 1918 as German powers were crumbling, yet implications of the coming uprising permeated consistently. Toward the start of 1918 there were monstrous shows in both Munich and Nuremberg including a large number of specialists, the main such aggravation amid the war – in truth the first to have happened in Bavaria since 1848. The protesters requested a prompt end to the war without additions. Besides they requested that the monarchy be canceled for a people's state, or Volksstaat. The authorities responded quickly to these challenges by capturing the ringleaders, the most celebrated of these being Kurt Eisner, a transplanted litterateur from Berlin who came to assume a critical part in Bavaria's revolution.

In spite of the fact that suppression worked in these early months, by the fall

everything had changed so much that the government started putting out peace sensors to the partners and promising change at home. In Bavaria, as somewhere else, this included carrying the Social Democrats into the government in the expectations of hindering a Bolshevik-style revolution. The Social Democratic Party, in spite of its revolutionary talk and Marxist legacy, had turned out to be completely devoted to improving society gradually through the democratic procedure. While whispers of revolution were all over the place, the leaders of the Social Democrats – most particularly Erhard Auer – were resolved to outline a more direct way. In October the SPD, alongside Center Party, went into arrangements which delivered a protected monarchy in Bavaria.

The arrangement was superseded by occasions. Established change was passed in the Bavarian Diet (Landtag) on November 2; by November 5, 1918 revolution had effectively broken out inside the High Seas Fleet at Kiel. News of the uprising had a zapping impact all through Germany. In Bavaria the voice of revolution came to be symbolized in the individual of Kurt Eisner, who had sorted out the general strikes in Munich and Nuremberg in January. An individual from the Independent Social Democratic Party, Eisner moved to Munich from Berlin in 1906. A columnist by profession, he turned into a staff essayist for the Munich Post, which was the significant Social Democratic day by day in southern Germany. Amid the war, in the same way as other German socialists, Eisner went separate ways with the Majority Social Democrats and joined the Independent

Social Democratic Party (USPD) which had part with the bigger party over the issue of help for the war. Eisner was a tenacious faultfinder of the both the war and the German imperial framework, something that would put him inconsistent with patriotic groups; nearly as much as his Jewish legacy did.

Upon his discharge from jail on October 14, 1918 Eisner quickly turned into the voice for those Germans, socialist or something else, who were tired of the war and needed to change the German state, and Bavaria, root and branch. Before his discharge Eisner had been entered by the Independent Socialists as a possibility to succeed Georg von Vollmar, the long haul Social Democratic parliamentary boss who resigned because of sickness. This decision set Eisner against Auer, who was the possibility for the lion's share SPD. In the battle Eisner put forth his most brave expressions against the war and the Bavarian monarchy, which he accepted was similarly as complicit in causing, and drawing out, the war as the Hohenzollern illustrious family in Prussia. In an October 23 discourse in the Schwäbingerbräu Eisner asserted that a people's state that had a Wittelsbach sitting on it as ruler was no genuine change by any means. After two days Eisner made another discourse in which he said that, for Germany to push ahead, the Kaiser and his children must renounce and the nation turn into a republic.

The battle amongst Eisner and Auer was all the while continuous when revolution softened out up early November, and it was in this setting revolution came to Bavaria. On November 7, 1918 both the SPD and USPD held a joint rally in

Munich's Theresienwiese to require a conclusion to the war and produce a typical vision for what's to come.

Eisner's Death and the Radicalization of the Revolution

The success of the revolution in Munich prompted the establishment of a republican type of government in Bavaria. This government was going by Kurt Eisner, who had driven the revolutionary bands on November 7. Eisner had been dynamic amid the day, not just addressing the extensive group at the Theresienwiese, yet additionally sorting out new political structures to replace the old monitor. Under his direction the primary Worker's, Soldier's, and Farmer's Councils (Rate) were set up. The principal official demonstration of the high committee of the soldiers, workers, and farmers was to name Kurt Eisner as the new priest leader of Bavaria and, alongside him, the whole bureau. They did this in spite of the way that the high chamber itself had been unelected and quickly assembled. The chambers cleared into the power vacuum that had been made by the fall of customary government. It was trusted by the individuals who made and bolstered them that the boards would progress toward becoming in the expressions of one aficionado, "the fulfillment of their (the Proletariat's) social expectations and longings, which, notwithstanding democracy, have been already unfulfilled." This was surely the objective of Eisner, who contended that the chambers be given a noticeable place in the new republican government. In his view they would fill in as a bulwark to the parliament – a sort of auxiliary parliament to guarantee additionally changes.

The disagreement about the allotment of political power was by all account not the only purpose of conflict inside the youthful revolutionary government. Eisner would fight with his coalition accomplices over an assortment of themes. Outside strategy specifically was a flashpoint of debate. Allan Mitchell noticed that the revolution in Germany and Bavaria delivered almost inverse outcomes which compared to, from multiple points of view, the enmity that dependably existed amongst Berlin and Munich. The revolution in the capital delivered a revolutionary government that was ruled by the Social Democrats, which would have liked to keep up progression and request, with the Independent Socialists in a minority position in the bureau. In Bavaria, by differentiate; the revolutionary government was driven by the Independent Socialists with the Social Democrats out of sight. Eisner and his partners, while worried about looking after request, were significantly keener on a total separation with the arrangements, and even the elites, of the past.

Political Elites and the Creation of the Einwohnerwehr

All through the rest of 1919 the Einwohnerwehr was composed to end up a helper committed to the protection of the state, its constitution, and those state supporting (staatserhaltend) elements. It developed to include a lot of Bavaria however there would be cutoff points to its scope. These were fixing to the affiliation's belief system, which was itself an impression of the world perspective of its leaders. Their unremitting hatred of socialism alongside their romanticized perspective of Germany, and its place in

the world, precluded certain segments of the populace that did not hold to the patriot vision of the Einwohnerwehr.

Lower Level Elites and Bavarian Paramilitary Organizations

A considerable lot of the nearby Bavarian right-wing groups that had taken an interest in the suppression of the Räterepublik started to shape in the months following the November revolution in Bavaria. These organizations had a few things in like manner; they were little, exceptionally neighborhood, and completely insufficient in either counteracting radical change or toppling the new government in Munich. Be that as it may, their reality vouches for an assurance among a specific stratum of the recently uprooted political elites in Bavaria to resuscitate their places of noticeable quality inside the Bavarian state.

The men most dynamic in shaping right-wing paramilitary organizations originated from the lower compasses of the Bavarian government and civil administration. They were not individuals who, before 1918, included the commanding statures inside the state, however held positions that gave them some impact and enabled others to seek them for leadership. As a gathering they were amazed by the speed with which the old request fell in Bavaria and anticipated that would see protection from the new government shape. At the point when this did not emerge they started to sort out alone.

The procedure by which his gathering was composed given a model to the future Einwohnerwehr, in which Kanzler had a critical influence, and in addition other

paramilitary arrangements. A great part of the participation originated from a particularly working class foundation. The general population that joined Kanzler starting in December 1918 included: retailers, butchers, and tailors; men of refinement yet not extraordinary riches.

Arranging the Rosenheim national's volunteer army continued gradually at first. Kanzler had wanted to develop a power of 1,000 men, arm them with weapons seized from a store close Rosenheim, and to lead an ambush on Munich similarly that Bavarian laborers had done in 1705. This turned out to be an overwhelming undertaking as the Eisner government and the gatherings had disallowed the ownership of weapons without permit of the government. Kanzler composed that he needed to "ask and take" keeping in mind the end goal to get the weaponry required. To camouflage his exercises, he utilized his office as a weapons terminal, enrolling his coworkers in his motivation. Making things more troublesome was the choice of the chamber in Rosenheim to flame the chairman and neighborhood government councilor, individuals that Kanzler would have relied on for help.

The Bavarian Political Elite and the Creation of the Einwohnerwehr

The underlying organizations of the patriotic movement, the different Freikorps and beginning Einwohnerwehr, had been established by men who held lower level posts in the Bavarian state and armed force. While their involvement was basic both to rally support to their motivation and as far as association, these units would not have made due for long, not to mention

flourished, without the implied and dynamic investment of driving lawmakers and the Bavarian Army. The political figure most related to the movement, both at the time and thusly by students of history, was Gustav von Kahr. Amid 1919 and mid 1920 Kahr served the Hoffmann government as provincial leader of Upper Bavaria, which included Munich and the areas toward the south and east where both Escherich and Kanzler had their influence bases. Later on he moved toward becoming Minister-President of Bavaria and would remain an imperative player concerning the patriotic movement all through the period.

Following this meeting establishment of the Einwohnerwehr was sped up by Escherich, working through Kahr's office and helped by both the inside and defense services in Munich. Actually the two offices began making controls for the association before asked for to do as such by Berlin. The Ministry of Defense set up a progression of rules for the dispersion and utilization of weaponry and ammo that was coursed through the government, and given to Escherich, following the June 21 meeting. These controls were to be directed by the neighborhood defense officials, who, as noted already, were in charge of streamlining the units' exercises and ensuring the government's proclamations were taken after.

The last organizational meeting was hung on July 17, 1919. At this meeting, which was led by Kahr, the leadership was instituted for the Einwohnerwehr. Escherich turned into the state pioneer, while Kanzler turned into his appointee. Moreover, it was chosen that territorial offices of the gathering should compare to

military districts, and that the Finance Ministry should lead the pack in supporting the gathering. At long last, the members talked about various housekeeping things like character papers for the leadership and the sort of dress for the normal member.

Foundation of Bund Bayern und Reich

The thought for the Bund Bayern und Reich came to fruition as the aftereffect of an open deliberation between driving Einwohnerwehr leaders in the weeks following the associated final proposal of May 1921. A few proposition were advanced inside the association's leadership for how to manage the demands of the Control Commission. The most compelling of these, and the one in the long run embraced, originated from vice president of staff Riedel. In a memorandum he contended, "The prompt arrangement of a mystery association from the most genuine of the genuine should be all the while constituted and is currently as of now being readied." For Riedel a clandestine paramilitary gathering remained the main choice. Bavaria couldn't avoid the unified demands, in his view, since open conflict would be restricted by Social Democrats and their partners on the left, whom he accepted would go about as a fifth section in the nation, and on the grounds that there was essentially no open help for another war even among moderate and white collar class Germans. It is anything but difficult to set up such an association, he asserted, by following the cell structure of comrade groups. They could even keep a large portion of their weapons, surrendering a specific number to authorities to pacify the partners however keeping the mass

covertly covered up. What was required, as per Riedel, was a power of thirty to fifty thousand equipped men, upheld by a bigger element – made up of the main part of the Einwohnerwehr's previous individuals – who arranged the route for national reestablishment and would fill in as a hold to the more elite power.

Riedel's thoughts were embraced by the Bavarian leadership and brought about the Einwohnerwehr being rearranged as the Organisation Pittinger on June 12, 1921. The new association was mystery and essentially littler than the previous Einwohnerwehr, just being alluded to as OrgPi in official documents to keep away from doubt. All around associated with the political elite of Bavaria and to the significant figures of the patriotic movement, Pittinger would utilize these contacts to help develop the Organization Pittinger and later Bund Bayern und Reich.

Not at all like the Einwohnerwehr, which had depicted itself as running as per democratic standards, Bayern und Reich was substantially more dictator in its determination of leaders. The leadership, which was self chosen, named the provincial leaders, who at that point picked the region leaders, who at that point picked the nearby group leaders. All region and provincial leaders filled in as neighborhood assistant leaders in conjunction with the association's part as a save military power. Party politics was taboo to all individuals in the nearby, regardless of whether they were leaders or not. The legitimization for such a restriction was, to the point that the intermeshing of politics with the exercises of the gathering made conflicts of intrigue that were difficult to overcome. As far as

its participation Bund Bayern und Reich was made out of numerous men who had already been a piece of the old Einwohnerwehr, and a couple of the controls that won there were proceeded in Pittinger's affiliation. Individuals needed to have an irreproachable notoriety. They were not permitted to be individuals from radical organizations, particularly those that had a place with what the leadership called "the red universal." This incorporated the Social Democratic Party (SPD), whose individuals had been permitted to join the Einwohnerwehr, however were denied from marking on to Bayern und Reich. Moreover individuals must not be "cynics, naggers, and routine troublemakers," for these individuals were viewed as more risky than communists.

The Ideology of Bund Bayern und Reich

The principle motivation behind the Bund Bayern und Reich was to help free Germany from without and inside. In their regulations and a considerable lot of their correspondences they alluded to themselves as an "opportunity alliance," or Freiheitsbund. In this limit they tried to change the nation. "Our alliance needs to be a school for the general population, needs to join the best powers in the land, and needs to raise our young men into men." To accomplish their lofty objectives, Bayern und Reich invested a lot of energy in effort to the youthful, building up neighborhood youth sections in most Bavarian urban areas and requiring their individuals to select their youngsters in such organizations. They additionally tried to achieve German moms, whom they saw as basic for engendering the Bund's thoughts and qualities inside the family, which was the "cornerstone of the state."

Given a firm foundation in the family and with the youthful, the radical nationalist belief system of Bayern und Reich would help restore Germany.

The Constraints of Independence

The open door for patriotic (vaterländisch) organizations like Bund Bayern und Reich to oust democracy was presumably never superior to in November 1923. A time of international strife and economic crumple had left the Weimar Republic with couple of protectors. The conviction that the time was at hand stirred and radicalized the patriotic movement, pushing its different gatherings, affiliations, and paramilitaries towards activity. However contrasts among the diverse groups made a planned uprising unimaginable and safeguarded that, when it happened, it was set apart by perplexity and deferral.

Bund Bayern und Reich's part in the Beer Hall Putsch was minor, best case scenario, and this mirrored the cutoff points of its brand of paramilitary politics. Committed to the topple of Weimar democracy and disavowal of the Treaty of Versailles, Pittinger's men gotten themselves hampered in their quest for their objectives by the cozy relationship they had with the Bavarian Reichswehr. At the point when that body was for the oust of the government, they were similarly as readied to walk on Berlin as the Nazis were. At the point when the armed force upheld off, Bund Bayern und Reich remained down. The repercussions of that demonstration would influence the association for quite a long time to come.

The prelude to the failed overthrow saw an expansion in radicalism by the

organizations of the Working Group amid the spring of 1923. Specifically they disturbed illegal for the Protection of the Republic and wanted to upset the conventional May Day festivities in Munich. They were extremely open about their goal and objectives and one aftereffect of their radicalism was that it alarmed the Bavarian government to the genuine peril postured by Hitler and his partners. Settlement to their demands was not feasible for the Knilling bureau. Furthermore, authorities were genuinely undermined by different paramilitaries, especially Bund Bayern und Reich, who wanted to push their ideological program however were unwilling to go the course that Hitler planned to take. Pittinger's urgings on the protected inquiry was only one case of the weight that decreased the government's "space to move," and constrained Knilling to walk a tight rope between the two camps.

Such an exercise in careful control turned out to be more troublesome through the span of the mid year as the government needed to manage various dissents by the Nazis, who utilized the economic pain of the midyear and pre-winter a very long time as a reason for exhibitions. These were hard to put down or stay silent notwithstanding the best endeavors of the Bavarian government to quiet such movement. They additionally had a tendency to end up fierce as the Nazi Stormtroopers were similarly as ready to assault police and security powers as they were communists. One such occasion happened on July 14, 1923 where a showing on Arnulfstrasse by the Nazis was viciously separated by police. One onlooker to the occasion swore that the

police accused the demonstrators of swords and elastic truncheons; however this was gone before by the destructiveness of the protestors who moved to inside fifty meters of police, who had cordoned off the mail station.

Results of the Protest

The government's reaction to such incitements was progressively to take action against civil unsettling influence from both the left and the right. Police and prosecutors were told to embrace any quantify to safeguard security and request. In any case, even as they requested such measures the bureau kept on undermining their endeavors against Hitler and the Fighting League. They declined to move against the German Days sorted out by the patriotic movement in groups all through Bavaria. These had expanded consistently and turned out to be progressively set apart by its strident suggestions. By and by the Interior Ministry kept on being more worried about the activities of the communists, who had sorted out their own particular paramilitary association – the Communist One Hundreds – to exploit the confusion of the Ruhr Crisis.

Unwilling to move against the more radical elements of the patriotic movement, the government in Munich chose to swing to a man who had a cozy working association with them, Gustav von Kahr. In the wake of leaving the post of Minister-President in 1921 Kahr came back to his past position of commonplace legislative head of Upper Bavaria. From that point he kept on being vigorously engaged with right-wing politics and the paramilitaries. Kahr was included with a large number of the overthrows arranged

in Bavaria in 1921 and 1922, and he stayed near the leaders, for example, Pittinger and General von Möhl, who were set up to complete these. Because of these associations Kahr was reviewed to the government on September 26, 1923, however this time in the post of General State Commissioner. In this post, the previous Minister President was given virtual authoritarian powers in Bavaria

The activities of Bund Bayern und Reich amid the Beer Hall Putsch, while dubious among the enrollment, brought advantages to the association. One of these was a recharging of its superior position inside the patriotic movement. In a statement discharged after the overthrow finished, Kahr made exceptional note of the unwaveringness of Pittinger's affiliation.

CONCLUSION

At the point when Adolf Hitler was delegated Chancellor of Germany on January 30, 1933 it denoted the culmination of over a time of disturbance with respect to patriotic (vaterländisch) organizations in Bavaria, who had would have liked to see German democracy toppled since the primary stirrings of revolution in November 1918. The hatred they felt towards the Weimar Republic, which they generally related to the political left and Marxism drove the multiplication of Freikorps, paramilitaries, and political gatherings in the republic's initial years. The Einwohnerwehr and Bund Bayern und Reich were a basic piece of this development, at various circumstances, and their reality gave an institutional system by which völkisch thoughts increased far reaching acknowledgment. That numerous

individuals from the Civil Guards and Bayern und Reich discovered their way into the Nazi Party or, in any event, voted and joined associated organizations stands a testament to the part such groups played in the developmental years after 1918. This investigation of the Einwohnerwehr and Bund Bayern und Reich has taken a gander at the development of each gathering as far as its philosophy, its enrollment, and exercises. Each in its own specific manner had a particular history, yet contained attributes that made it like other patriotic substances. The essential likenesses between these two paramilitary developments and the others can be found in its hating of Marxist Socialism in every one of its structures, a forceful German nationalism, doubt, if not outright hatred, of parliamentary democracy, and a conviction that there should have been an arrival to a prior vision of the German state, or German culture, or to the beliefs of 1914. These real thoughts, for quite a while, joined the patriotic movement and gave it lucidness. Patriotic paramilitaries had different characteristics in like manner also. Most were started by men who were a piece of the lower to center spans of the Bavarian state bureaucracy. These were individuals who, had the old regime proceeded past 1918, may have one day progressed to the most elevated ranges of the state and its bureaucracy.

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