

Editors' note

The following text is a transcription and annotated German-English translation of the second of three journals of letters and diary entries held in the Hocken Collections (Dunedin, New Zealand) as part of the Kennedy Family: Bielschowsky Papers (MS1493).

With the consent of the Hocken Library the editors have decided to present the manuscript in two parts: as a transcription and annotated translation. We felt the transcription using a standardised Latin alphabet to be necessary because the text was written in an old German script (deutsche Schrift or Kurrentschrift) which fewer and fewer native speakers of German are now able to decipher. The translation, of course, opens up the text to anyone unable to read German. All translations into English from German and Spanish sources in the footnotes are by the main editor (P.B.).

Detailed annotations and an introduction have been added to provide background on the lives of Marianne Angermann and her mother, and to give historical context to the events they experienced. We have been as comprehensive as possible in our footnotes in the belief that, while the language of this journal and the events it describes may currently be transparent to the older reader, they will almost certainly require explanation in the not so distant future. This task has been time-consuming: both the introduction and the annotations set out in the letters have required extensive research in German and Spanish language sources.

For the German transcription we have decided to reproduce the text as it was written, that is to say with all its mistakes, errors, peculiar spellings and other idiosyncrasies. These are partly due to changes in spelling conventions and grammatical rules and regulations over time. In order to mark these clearly and comprehensively almost every page would have had to contain a number of corrections indicated by “[sic!]”. We have refrained from doing so for the sake of readability but we assure the reader that we are indeed aware of all these inconsistencies.

The following is a list - by no means exhaustive - of a number of irregularities:

- Terrasse is spelled most of the time Terasse
- Margarine is always spelled Magarine
- the letter “k” is often substituted by the letter “c”, like in Cöln, Commando, Konzentrationslager, Cakao, Contract etc.
- kaputt is always spelled kaput
- gibt (es gibt) is almost always spelled giebt
- bloß is always spelled blos
- Apostrophes - as in gebs Gott, wenns, obs, ists - are always omitted
- Offizier is always spelled Officier
- Oktober and Dezember are always spelled October, December
- bißchen is almost always spelled bischen
- (ihr) seid is always spelled seit
- Apparaturen is spelled Aperaturen☐

- vormittags, abends, mittags etc. are mostly spelled with capitals: Vormittags, Abends, Mittags etc.
- Artillerie is spelled Attilerie
- Ribbentrop is spelled Rippentrop
- Göring is spelled Göhring
- Neiße is spelled Neise
- Karfreitag is spelled Charfreitag
- todmüde is always spelled totmüde
- Innsbruck is spelled Insbruck

Only when a misspelling might affect comprehension has a correction been inserted in the text e.g. Peteyn[!; recte Pétain]

Two secondary sources frequently cited have been abbreviated. These are:
Bomber Command War Diaries = BCWD
Geschichte der Stadt Dresden = GdSD

By and large, the English translation has retained the original informal punctuation of the letters as well as the relaxed diction one would expect in personal correspondence. We have also reproduced the original layout which had very few paragraph breaks. Readers will also notice that some of the entries begin with uncapitalized words; this replicates the orthography of the manuscript.

We would like to thank Dr Jean Kennedy, presently at Australian National University, for her prescience some years ago in lodging Marianne and Franz Bielschowsky's papers with the Hocken Collections in Dunedin. The staff at the Hocken Library are also deserving of our thanks for their professionalism and friendly assistance. Our fellow OGS editor, Associate Professor Cecilia Novero, provided some of the photos accompanying this text while she was in Madrid in 2019. Moritz Engel kindly took time out from his busy schedule to send us the picture of the Angermanns' house in the Silberweg, Dresden. We are very grateful to both Alfonso del Barrio in Madrid for information on Hospital No. 6, and to Miguel Urech who kindly allowed us to reproduce the photo of the Convento de las Madres Reparadoras taken by his father, Manuel Urech, in 1949. Patricia González-Posada at the Historical Archive of the Spanish Communist Party greatly assisted us by providing high resolution images of Civil War Madrid. Other images were taken from the excellent online digital library of the Spanish National Library (Biblioteca Nacional de España).

Finally, as with Journal 1, we are indebted to Emer. Prof. Hansgerd Delbrück (Victoria University of Wellington) who helped us to decipher various instances of almost illegible script.

A.O.
P.B.