

LONDON-51-PRO-1

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Royal House of Bavaria, the Wittelsbachers, and is considered to be a close friend and adviser of Prince Rupprecht.

Cardinal von Faulhaber was one of the men who advocated the separation of the ~~REGIUM~~ Bavarian Populist party from the German Catholic Center party because the latter, under the leadership of Matthias Erzberger and Joseph Wirth, adopted a democratic and republican attitude. He was always contemptuous of the Weimar Republic and he caused an incident in the Annual Catholic Congress, held in Munich in 1925, by declaring that the Weimar Republic was a republic of perfidiousness, created by "revolution and felony". In order to oppose the democratic and centralistic Reich government, Cardinal Faulhaber favored the growth of the German nationalistic movement, which later became the Nazi party. But when he realized the attitudes of the Nazis, Cardinal Faulhaber did not hesitate to oppose them vigorously.

With Graf Galen, bishop of Muenster in Westfalen, and Graf Preysing, bishop of Berlin, he is the nucleus of resistance inside the German episcopate. Cardinal Faulhaber's sermons against Nazi racial theory and the official anti-Semitism of the Third Reich had the largest attendance and infuriated the Nazis who insulted the Cardinal several times in public and once stormed and stoned his residence in Munich. As adviser of the Holy See in matters concerning Germany he has always advocated an uncompromising attitude.

Various sources feel that in spite of his age, Cardinal