Eckhardt

The ally of Hitler (became in 1923 an opponent of Nazis, but opponent only to the vociferous H. nazis, who constituted the most serious menace to his future career. Nazism as a world menace never worried him. He opposed the nondescript H. nazi groups, but he was among the first who warmly congratulated Nazi Premier Imredy after his first program speech in Parl. Hitler never paid much attention to the many H. nazi groups (Szálasi etc) – but was keenly interested in the superior attainments of Imredy, who was designed (1938) as the man of the future. Imredy fell after one year (1939) but everyone in H. suspects that he will come back – after Teleki, Bárdossy, Kállay (1942)

The farthest E. was willing to go against Germany was the (emphasizing of H's indep. peculiar role and destiny, which must be preserved between the "pressure" of Russia from the East and Germany from the West — in the meanwhile he always wholeheartedly endorsed the Gov't's foreign policy, the backbone of which is "friendship and loyalty to the Axis."

After months of research in contemporary papers in Hungary and Germany (covering several years) I was unable to find a single utterance of E. showing his opposition to Nazism as a menace ag. Eur.* or the world. On the other side, there were many declarations of his published, confessing wholehearted acceptance of Axis connections. Here was one exception: after the signing of Axis pact, he criticised it. (NYT. 1940 Dec. 1 30/1)

*) In 1938 once speaks about German and Russian "pressure" on both sides of Hungary