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GENERAL HERTZOG AND SOUTH AFRICAN

NEUTRALITY

The London Times of Monday, September 10, 1934, reported a speech made by General Hertzog at Smithfield (Orange Free State) on September 7, 1934, as follows:-

The Naval Base in S. Africa

SMITHFIELD (O.F.S.), Sept. 8.--General Hertzog, the Prime Minister, who is conducting a campaign in favour of the fusion of political parties, referred in a speech here last night to the position of Simonstown, the naval base in South Africa.

Great Britain, he declared, held Simonstown under an agreement with South Africa. This agreement was entered into in peace time, and no nation could, in war time, deny Britain's right to occupy that station, or take exception to South Africa carrying out her contract.

General Hertzog drew a parallel with the British occupation of Gibraltar, pointing out that Spain remained neutral while Britain was at war with Germany.

The statement was made in reply to a question asked at a meeting opening the campaign for the new united party in the Orange Free State.-- Reuter.

W.L.M. King Papers, Memoranda and Notes, 1933-1939  
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