

# Nice Erich is so good at being the baddie

By LIZ CRAWSHAW

A GERMAN actor living in West Hampstead got to play one of the most notorious Germans of them all in the recent TV series *Mosley*.

Erich Redman, whose Teutonic accent means he gets typecast as Eastern European and German baddies, played Hitler's evil propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels in the high-profile series about British fascist Oswald Mosley, which ended last Thursday.

Mr Redman, who came to West Hampstead six years ago, said: "When I first heard about it I thought, Oh no, another Nazi part. But I was able to play him quite charmingly, and a bit differently."

More often than not, Mr Redman is called on to play not just Nazis but every other sort of baddie or shady character, from terrorists to secret agents.

But he is not too angry about being typecast.

"It's OK, if you come to a country as a guest you have to expect that," he laughed.

His life has given him more material and experiences than most actors have had to draw upon.

He was born into a strict religious community in former Soviet Union country, Tadjikstan, and his parents spent ten years in a Siberian labour camp.

The Soviets suspected German locals of collaborating with Hitler during the war.

The Redman family fled in the 1970s, after Germany gave economic aid to the former Soviet Union. In return, ethnic Germans were allowed to leave and return to their native country.

Erich Redman's future credits include a part in Steven Spielberg's latest film, *Saving Private Ryan*, which is out in May.

And, typecast yet again, he will play a



Man we love to hate: Erich Redman has the blond good looks and menacing voice to get him the parts as a baddie and, right, as Hitler's evil propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels in a scene from the recent TV series *Mosley*



Moldavian terrorist who is an expert in the explosive *Cemtex*, in the first episode of the re-make of television series *The Professionals*, to be screened this autumn.

The part is a particular favourite. He said: "*The Professionals* was very popular in Germany, I loved it."