

FBI Probes Baltimore Theater As 'Fifth Column' Center

Investigation of possible "Fifth Column" activities in Baltimore has been started by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, it was disclosed today.

Agents of the FBI, under orders to investigate all espionage and subversive activities in the nation, have requested a report on a Baltimore theater which, during the last few years, has shown many German-language films.

The theater is located in a hall which is the center for Nazi gatherings. Many of the films shown have been definitely propaganda, it was said.

Request for information was made by the FBI to George W. Mitchell, chairman of the Board of Motion Picture Censors.

Mitchell said he did not know the extent of the Federal investigation, but that the request had been received for data on all German films shown, and that this had been supplied.

At FBI headquarters here no comment was made on the investigation.

It was recalled that several weeks ago a Nazi meeting was held in the hall, during which the Swastika was flown and the "Horst Wessel" was sung by the assembly of 1,500 persons.

It was said all of the employees of the theater are Germans and that a number of them are admitted Nazi sympathizers.