

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
MONDAY, MARCH 30, 1942

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Acting Attorney General Charles Fahy today announced a series of conferences with United States Attorneys from areas with large foreign-born populations for the purpose of expediting denaturalization proceedings against citizens known to have been active in the Bund and other Axis-dominated societies.

Mathias F. Correa, U. S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, arrived in Washington this morning and has been in conference throughout the day with James Rowe, Jr., Assistant to the Attorney General; Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Criminal Division; James M. McInerney and D. E. Balch, of the Criminal Division.

J. Albert Woll, U. S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, which includes Chicago, is expected Tuesday. U. S. Attorneys from other districts in which the Bund and similar organizations have been active are expected to come to Washington for conferences during the next week.

Mr. Fahy explained that, following up the Attorney General's announcement of March 26, prompt and vigorous action is being taken to revoke the citizenship of persons whose actions subsequent to naturalization indicate that at the time of naturalization they retained allegiance to foreign countries. Holding office or active membership in the Bund and similar organizations is regarded as evidence of lack of attachment to the United States.

Mr. Fahy stated that approximately 300 cases against members of the Bund and similar organizations are now being made ready for prosecution. The number is expected to exceed 1,000 during the current year.

In his statement of March 26, Attorney General Biddle announced that he had instructed United States Attorneys to initiate denaturalization proceedings against 30 citizens "whose course of conduct, activities and statements show their true allegiance and fidelity to be to a foreign country rather than to the United States".

In outlining the policy under which these proceedings are to be brought, the Attorney General said that the cases selected for immediate action involved propaganda activities, activity in subversive organizations, or other evidence to show a persistently disloyal attitude, as well as statements disavowing allegiance and loyalty to the United States.