

# Nazis Hail Killer In Vigilante Center

Western  
Worker  
12/2/37

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## Uniformed Men Heil for Hitler As Sadist Speaks

SANTA ROSA — Baron Manfred von Killinger, San Francisco's infamous Nazi Consul, stepped out in public here last week at a meeting sponsored by the German-American Bund. The character of the meeting at Germania Hall of this city was indicated by the presence of a large Nazi Swastika flag which hung over the speakers' platform and by a dozen "storm troopers," dressed in the uniform of the Bund.

Scattered around the hall and evidently looking for trouble, these men wore military dark trousers and grey shirts with Sam Browne belts and blue overseas caps.

### Lauds Hitler

Von Killinger spoke in German for an hour about the supposedly great advances that Germany had made under the Hitler fascist dictatorship. He took particular pains to discount the innumerable press reports to the effect that the food situation in Germany is very bad.

Also featured at the meeting was Herman Schwinn of Los Angeles and coast leader of the Bund. Schwinn was attired even more elaborately than his henchmen with an immaculate blue military top coat.

Without exception, each speaker saluted the audience of predominantly middle-aged and elderly people with the traditional Nazi salute. At the close of the meeting, the chairman called for and received three vigorous "heils"—the German salutation to Hitler.

### Pretends Patriotism

Schwinn, advertised as "a genuine Nazi—just returned from Germany," tried to explain in English the harmless nature of the German-American Bund. He denied vigorously that the Bund was the American counterpart of Nazism, but maintained that the organization was "genuinely American and dedicated to the extermination of communism."

In addition to the big Swastika flag, the Italian and American flags were displayed. The proximity of the German and Italian flags, Schwinn explained, indicated the projection of the Hitler-Mussolini alliance onto American shores.

Although both speakers emphasized that reports of bad living conditions in Germany were entirely false, a collection was taken up for "Winterhilfe"—the winter relief agency which gave small donations to 13,000,000 hungry Germans last winter.

### Many Locals

Herman Schwinn attained particular eminence among pro-Nazi elements in this country since attending the Stuttgart "Congress of Germans Living Abroad" last summer. At this "congress," Germans were given detailed instructions and directions by Nazi propaganda experts on organizing Nazi movements abroad.

After the meeting it was disclosed that the Bund has locals in many cities on the Pacific Coast with gentiles of non-German descent eligible for membership. The most thriving chapter is in the Petaluma area, seat of many vigilante activities in the past.

According to recent congressional investigations, the German-American Bund has supplanted the "Friends of New Germany" as the chief avenue of pro-Nazi propaganda in this country.

Far from being alarmed by this manifestation of Nazi organization in California, the local Santa Rosa Press-Democrat viewed the event with interest and devoted a colorful feature story to the meeting.