

LABOR ATTORNEY ASKS PROBE OF ARMED U. S. NAZIS

Addresses Request to Valentine and Dewey—Cites

Yorkville Riot
4/21/38

An investigation of the armed troops which, he says, are maintained by American Nazis was urged upon public officials today by William Karlin, labor attorney and city chairman of the Social Democratic Federation.

Karlin addressed an open letter to Police Commissioner Valentine, District Attorney Dewey, and other officials protesting against the carrying of knives and blackjacks by members of the German-American Bund, as shown in a riot at Yorkville Wednesday night when American Legionnaires were attacked.

He said the attack on Dr. Charles Weiss, editor of an anti-Fascist paper and a cripple, "was still more shocking in its brutality," and added that it was apparently committed by Nazis, as one swastika was painted on his body and another was cut on his arm.

Usurp Police Powers

Karlin said an inquiry will show that the Bund provides armed and uniformed guards at their meetings, thus usurping police powers. They are also engaged in the sale of arms, banners and uniforms to their members, he said.

"Their terrorism," he continued, "has developed from subtle forms of coercion and intimidation to physical assaults on citizens. It is only when some overt acts are committed and citizens make complaints

that authorities can act. That is now the situation."

The exploding of a few stench bombs meanwhile was the only semblance of disorder yesterday when members of the Bund joined in observance of German Day at White Plains. About 500 New York Nazis attended, many in their Bund uniforms. Seventy-five police were stationed at Grand Central Terminal in anticipation of a possible attack on them.

Two Bronxville high school pupils, Philip Edwards and William McGrath, both seventeen, dropped the stench bombs at the rear of the Westchester County Center where a program was held. About 165 police were stationed there and quickly detected the youths.

"It was our sworn duty as red-

blooded Americans to do it," Edwards said.

Both were charged with disorderly conduct.

Nine members of the New Rochelle post of the American Legion attended and sat in a box as guests of the United German-Americans of Westchester County and Connecticut, the sponsoring organization. H. H. Greve, the president, said they had invited as a demonstration that the meeting was a peaceful gathering.

A group of young men and women, members of the Westchester division of the American League for Peace and Democracy, paraded in front of the auditorium shouting "Keep Hitler out of America!" prior to the meeting.