

N.Y. Times
5/8/38

KUHN PLEA ON BUND SENT TO ROOSEVELT

Nazi Leader 'Emphatically Requests Your Offices to Achieve Exoneration'

TART NOTE TO CUMMINGS

**Dickstein's Utterances Scored
5 Yaphank Camp Men Held
in \$1,000 Bail Each.**

Ernst Kuhn, national leader of American Nazis, responded yesterday to the growing opposition to his movement by requesting President Roosevelt in a telegram to exonerate the German-American Bund.

In another telegram sent to Attorney General Cummings and Speaker Bankhead, Mr. Kuhn made a similar request, but its language strongly contrasted with the diplomatic tone of the message dispatched to the President.

Mr. Kuhn, who on Thursday called on Germans to form a German bloc "to deepen the German-conscious attitude" in this country,

made his statement in the afternoon after five officers of a Nazi camp at Yaphank, L. I., had been held in \$1,000 bail in the case initiated there by the Disabled War Veterans of America.

Message to Roosevelt

To President Roosevelt Mr. Kuhn sent the following message:

"We respectfully, emphatically request your offices as Chief Executive to achieve public exoneration for the German-American Bund and investigation of pseudo-patriots attacking us."

To Mr. Cummings and Mr. Bankhead he telegraphed:

"We are sick and tired of Congressman Dickstein's ridiculous utterances and demand another investigation or a clean bill of health."

On Friday Representative Dickstein said that he and about fifty other members of Congress would demand a new and more powerful committee to investigate un-American activities, along the lines of the body that investigated the Nazis in 1934-35. Mr. Dickstein forecast favorable action on the proposal by the Rules Committee on Tuesday.

When he learned of the telegrams last night Mr. Dickstein accused Mr. Kuhn of bluffing.

"Kuhn never wanted an investigation," Mr. Dickstein said. "But I'm out for a fight and it's time for a showdown."

The five officers of the German-American League, Inc., a Bund affiliate which operates Camp Siegfried near the site of war-time Camp Upton, presented themselves

before Justice of the Peace Moses W. Drake in Bay Shore, L. I. They were accompanied by their attorney, Herman Schoenfeld of Patchogue.

The defendants were Ernest Mueller of 2,152 Himrod Street, Brooklyn; president of the league, and four directors: Addo Bielefeld, 3,697 Heath Avenue, the Bronx; Henry Wolfgang, 1,713 Stephen Street; Bruno Haehnel, 301 Reid Avenue, and Herman Schwarzman, 344 Starr Street, all of Brooklyn.

Both Factions Crowd Court

The courtroom was crowded with members of both factions in the case. It is charged that the camp organization failed to file a roster of its members as required by the State's Civil Rights Law of 1923. Several members of the disabled veterans' organization were in uniform.

Lindsay R. Henry, an assistant district attorney, warned those present that no demonstration would be tolerated.

"I know veterans will not demonstrate or do anything unmerited when this case comes to a hearing," Mr. Henry said. "I want to give ample warning to all groups, Nazi or Bund included, that we have plenty of police officers in this county. We will lock up all demonstrators summarily. We must maintain the principles of American jurisprudence."

The proceeding went ahead quietly. The defendants pleaded not guilty, and a hearing was set for May 16 at 7:30 P. M., the day when the grand jury will begin to take evidence in the case. Mr. Henry

made it known that though he was an American legionnaire, opposed to fascism, nazism and communism, he wanted the case treated fairly, as any other. So he asked Justice Drake to parole the defendants in custody of Mr. Schoenfeld.

Roy P. Monahan, a lawyer of 48 Wall Street and State Commander of the veterans' organization, who had signed the complaint, objected. He declared he had received fifteen threatening letters and that it was the purpose of the defendants to prevent his appearance at the trial.

Mr. Henry said he knew nothing of the letters but suggested in that case the question of bail might be considered. Mr. Monahan then declared: "Mueller said, 'I will get Monahan if it takes my last dollar.' Bail was fixed at \$1,000. The defendants offered the deed to the 160-acre Camp Siegfried, but this was rejected in favor of five deeds put up by Joseph E. Schmieder of Middle Island.

The deeds also covered the bail of Henry Hauck, operator of a restaurant of the camp, who was arrested Thursday. He was allowed to regain the \$1,000 cash he posted then.

Later Mueller told reporters he had said he would spend his last dollar to fight Monahan by legal means. He attributed the case to political motives arising from the defeat of Gustave Neudecker, who was running for re-election as Judge of the Peace last November. Residents of German descent were reported to have been instrumental in defeating him.