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Quiz Bund Heads in City Investigation of Sales Tax Violations

Herlands Cross-Examines Kuhn, Wheeler-Hill; Probe Firms Manufacturing Storm-Troop Uniforms; Kuhn Makes Threats

City authorities probing alleged sales tax violations by the Nazi German-American Bund yesterday cross-examined national leaders Fritz Kuhn and James Wheeler-Hill together with Bund chiefs of the Brooklyn, Bronx, Jamaica, Astoria and Richmond units, two firms which manufacture the Bund's storm troop uniforms and two printing firms putting out of Nazi material.

Those questioned, in addition to Kuhn and Wheeler-Hill were: Richard Nettin, Walter Borchers, Henry von Holt, Herman Schwartzman, Gustav Vogt, E. O. Krauss, Max Buchte, Konrad Kohler of the John Willit Press, Inc., Stapleton, S. I., and Albert Graf of the Hackl Press, Inc., 1554 Third Ave.

Karl Nicolai, Hitler official of 267 St. Nicholas Ave., Brooklyn, did not appear, though under subpoena. The Bund higher-ups promised to produce him Monday.

Nothing was made public concerning the nature of the questioning, but Commissioner of Investigation William B. Herlands told the press that "the investigation is continuing along satisfactory lines." He revealed that four of the men had been ordered to reappear Monday. These four are believed to be Krause, Kohler, Schwartzman and Buchte.

CARRIES JAIL PENALTY

It was learned that under the state and city sales tax laws failure to pay taxes is a misdemeanor punishable by an indeterminate prison sentence of from one to three years and by a heavy fine.

The questioning was carried on by Herlands, City Treasurer Almeridio Portfolio, and by Abraham Block and Bernard Newman, assistants to Herlands and Portfolio.

Kuhn, interviewed by reporters while other Bundsters were being questioned, made sneering, threatening remarks about the press. Speaking of Columnist Walter Winchell, Kuhn said:

"I will blacken both of his eyes if it takes me 20 years."

When Herlands told newspaper

men the investigation would continue, Kuhn muttered across the room: "That depends on what the Jewish Congress says to it."

Apprised of the Hitler's lieutenant's statement, Herlands characterized it as "too silly to comment on."