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'Serve America' Calls on U. S. To Revoke Kuhn Citizenship

Colonel Landes Tells Attorney General Nazi Leaders Preach Class Hatred

Attorney General Frank Murphy has been asked to investigate recent testimony of Fritz Kuhn and other leaders of the German-American Bund, with a view to canceling their naturalization, it was learned today.

The request came in a letter from Colonel Lewis Landes, attorney, of 32 Broadway, as commander of S. Rankin Drew Post, No. 340, American Legion, and chairman of a new group—Serve America, Inc.

Colonel Landes wrote that the statements of the Nazi leaders before Congressional and New York State legislative committees showed their oath that they were engaged in preaching class hatred and attempting to deprive American citizens of certain of their rights to hold public office and to exercise the right of free men, regardless of their race, color and creed. This, he indicated, Colonel Landes urged, that they had accepted citizenship with mental reservations and not believing in the principles set forth in the Constitution of the United States, which they swore to uphold.

Against All Isms

The letter, which was mailed yesterday, added the opinion that the district courts could cancel citizenship of the naturalized bund leaders upon application of United States attorneys.

Serve America, Inc. Colonel Landes said in an interview in his office, was incorporated in State court here last Monday, to encourage only Americanism.

While its first drive would be against Nazi activities, Colonel Landes said the group would oppose all hypocrisies: Americanism—Protestant—Americanism—Catholic—Americanism—Jewish—Americanism—Communism.

He said he recently had completed study of Federal laws dealing with civil liberties, and believed that no new legislation was required. One effective weapon, he said, was a long-forgotten statute of post-civil war days.

Citing this section to Attorney General Murphy, Colonel Landes said this statute made it illegal to conspire to deprive any citizen of his Constitutional rights, under penalty of ten years in prison or a \$5,000 fine.

Statute Is Sufficient

"If we follow this statute we would not need any more laws," he said. "The courts have held that under this section it is not even necessary to aver an overt act in addition to the conspiracy."

Colonel Landes said he was studying plans to determine whether he might not personally swear out a warrant under this section for the arrest and trial of bund leaders.

About one hundred prominent men have pledged "a couple of hundred dollars" to Serve America, Colonel Landes said, and a former American Ambassador and a

banker soon will announce their sponsorship.

Thus far incorporators include Dr. Leonard J. Harmon, past county commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Oliver F. W. Cromwell, an electrical engineer, Charles W. Lohman Jr., a merchant, and Dr. Julius Lannbaum, retired physician. All have been army officers.

Plans Campaign

Specific activities will begin with newspaper advertising in the next fortnight to set forth the purposes of the organization and its slogan of "Buy American First."

Colonel Landes denied any "isolationism," but said the slogan aimed to put Americans back to work making American products, with the hope that reduced unemployment might reduce support for "isms."

He hopes to send crews of workers into each neighborhood, starting with New York, to ask store owners to buy American goods first and employ Americans or foreigners with citizenship papers first.

Co-operating stores would be entitled to exhibit a plaque and would be listed in a monthly publication.

Another angle of the campaign, according to Colonel Landes, would be to seek legislation to stimulate employment of persons between 30 and 60, starting with civil service.