

Spy Freed by U. S. Met by Nazis With Band

NEW YORK, July 21 (Johanna Hofmann) German hairdresser convicted of espionage in New York in 1938, was delivered to the Germans in a brass band ceremony at the Spanish frontier in May, 1942, in exchange for a plump, 65-year-old American woman who had been running an "underground railroad" in Paris.

Mrs. Etta Shiber, the underground agent told the United Press that after she was released from a German prison, a trainload of refugees was delayed for 24 hours at Hendaye, France, on the Spanish frontier because the Germans would not let them go thru until they had welcomed Miss Hoffmann.

"When I heard music, I looked out. I didn't know what we were waiting for," she said. "But I saw an arrogant, red-haired woman received by a lot of German officers all decked out with medals — while a brass band played the Horst Wessel song."

SPY TRAVELED IN STYLE

Mrs. Shiber, who collaborated with the writers Ann and Paul Dupuy on a book called "Paris-Underground" which has been accepted by the Book-of-the-Month Club for October, said the American consul in Lisbon told her she had been exchanged for Miss Hoffmann.

She was given passage home on the diplomatic ship, the Drottningholm, in steerage. Miss Hoffmann, she said, had traveled on the Drottningholm to Lisbon. The ship's baggage master told her the

the death penalty on anyone who helped Britishers, she said. In No-

vember, 1940, Mrs. Shiber was arrested, and released for a week presumably as "bait" for her friend who was then in occupied France attempting to raise funds for their work. When she was picked up by the Germans in Bordeaux, Mrs. Shiber was

re-arrested and after a year and a half in prison, "Kitty" was sentenced to be shot, while Mrs. Shiber was given three years solitary confinement. She said she understood her lighter sentence came about thru intervention of American authorities.