

Bridges Says Rossi Attended Nazi Party Feting Czech Invasion

Storm Troopers Arrived
On German Ships for
Affair, Hearing Told

By the Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 28.—Harry Bridges, C. I. O. longshoreman leader, said yesterday that Mayor Angelo Rossi attended a Nazi affair here in October, 1938, celebrating the German occupation of Western Czechoslovakia, and that some longshoremen who picketed the building were beaten by police.

Mr. Bridges, testifying before a special State legislative committee investigating un-American activities, said Mayor Rossi was accompanied to the meeting in "the German House" by James B. McSheehy, a former city supervisor.

The Maritime Federation of the Pacific afterward adopted a resolution criticizing the alleged action of the city officials and asking an explanation. The Mayor, the witness continued, ignored the request, while Mr. McSheehy said he got into the hall "by accident, or something like that."

Storm Troopers Attend Meeting.

The meeting was attended by "German storm troopers in uniform" who, Mr. Bridges said, were unloaded here on several occasions in 1935 by German ships.

The witness recalled how after the Italian invasion of Ethiopia the longshoremen had refused to load some 200 to 300 tons of scrap metal collected by San Francisco scavengers and destined for Italy.

"We were told that the material was being collected in conjunction with the Italian Red Cross, that it was a donation by the Italian colony and that Mayor Rossi was helping the drive.

"We refused to load it because we knew where it was going. We

were opposed to sending war materials to all aggressor nations."

Rossi Denies Charges.

At that time a protest was made to Mr. Rossi, Mr. Bridges said.

"He told me it was a humanitarian gesture and there was nothing wrong with it; the only thing wrong was a bunch of Communists on the water front, like myself."

The Mayor countered Mr. Bridges' assertions in an interview later with reporters.

The scrapiron incident he termed "ridiculous," and of the alleged Nazi gathering he said: "He's a damned liar. I never attended any meeting celebrating the fall of any country."