10/25/39

Three Silver Shirts Members in Chicago Accused of Terrorism

Chicago Accused of Terrorism

Chicago Accused of Terrorism

CHICAGO, Oct. 24 (UP) Three members of the Silver Shirts, alleged fascist organization, admitted today that they smashed windows of Jewish-owned stores, according to police.

Dr. Homer Herman Maerz, 25, alleged leader; George Heppner, 35, and Joseph Schimpp, 45, were held incomunicado under an open charge. They admitted, police said, that they broke windows in a branch of the Goldblatt Department Store and other Jewish-owned establishments.

Federal Bureau of Investigation agents also questioned the men on reports that Jewish merchants had received extortion letters demanding \$50,000 under threat of shootings and bombings.

Among those to whom letters were mailed, according to Police Sergeant Ralph Miller, were the Goldblatt brothers, Maurice, Nathan, Joseph and Louis; and S. S. Kresge of the five-and-ten-cent store chain.

The letter to Mr. Kresge, who is of Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry, was signed "Hitler-Musso-Mikado-Camilli headquarters."