

# Wernecke, Bundist, And Chicago Lawyer

## Arrested by FBI

SR on 9/16/42  
Veritable Arsenal'

### Seized in Raid on Farm in Illinois

By the Associated Press.

CHICAGO, Sept. 5.—Federal agents led by J. Edgar Hoover seized William Bernard Wernecke, nationally known German-American Bund leader, in a raid on a Lake County farm today and confiscated what they termed a "veritable arsenal."

Mr. Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, announced the prisoner was charged with violating the selective service law, and said that he engaged in military drills and associated with rifle groups on his country property and possessed "a large quantity of firearms, explosives and dynamite."

In a simultaneous move, Government agents arrested Newell Mecartney, a Chicago attorney, on a charge of conspiracy to interfere with the operation of United States military and naval forces.

#### Kept Under Observation.

The FBI chief said Wernecke had been placed "under observation" before the eight Nazi saboteurs stole into this country from submarines, and that he had been seen with one of them—Hans Herbert Haupt—in June.

"Wernecke associated with Fritz Kuhn, Otto Willumeit and Elizabeth Dilling," Mr. Hoover said. "In December, 1938, Wernecke drove Willumeit and George Froboese, Bund heads in the Middle West, to New York for the German Trade Fair.

"Wernecke has corresponded with William Dudley Felley, the Silver Shirt Legion leader who was sentenced to 15 years in prison for his treasonous activities."

Kuhn, national Bund Fuehrer, is in prison. Willumeit was sentenced recently to a five-year term for conspiring to violate the espionage statutes. Mrs. Dilling has been indicted with 27 others in Washington on a charge of conspiracy to break down the morale of the armed forces. Froboese, summoned to testify before a Washington grand jury investigating seditious activities, committed suicide.

#### Given Draft Deferment.

Mr. Hoover said the 34-year-old Wernecke, who lived on a Wadsworth, Ill., farm, was granted a draft deferment on grounds that he was a conscientious objector and an ordained minister. These claims, he added, were false.

Mecartney, 52, was accused of preparing and distributing mimeographed material entitled "The Blood Sacrifice," "The British, an Inferior Breed," and "The Jew Makes a Sacrifice; the Forthcoming Collapse of America."

The complaint added that "scurrilous" and "seditious" matter prepared in Mecartney's office was mailed to college fraternities, political groups, United States Senators, Army officers and others from Chicago this year and from Wyandotte and Detroit, Mich., last year.