

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

The Department of Justice today announced that Herbert Karl Friedrich Bahr, an American citizen, twenty-nine years of age, was apprehended by the FBI in New York City on charges of violating the espionage laws of the United States.

Bahr's espionage activities were brought to light as a result of the investigation of the Federal Bureau of Investigation of passengers arriving in this country on the SS DROTTINGHOLM on June 30, 1942.

J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, made public the following facts about Bahr:

●Bahr was born in Klosperfelde, Germany, August 27, 1913. He came to the United States with his family in 1926, taking up residence at Buffalo. He returned to Germany on October 18, 1938, as an American Exchange Student to study at the Technische Hochschule at Hanover, Germany, from which he received the degree of Diplome auf Ingenieur. During the period following his arrival in Germany he attended school and worked in various plants. Bahr admitted that he was enlisted in October of 1941 by the German Gestapo for the purpose of returning to the United States to secure and transmit to Germany information pertaining to the war effort of this country.

Bahr was instructed in the art of carrying on espionage as well as methods of writing with secret ink and was furnished with cover addresses in Spain, Switzerland and South America, to be used by him for the purpose of transmitting information pertaining to the war effort of this country, in messages prepared with secret ink on the backs of innocent appearing communications, to be mailed to these addresses.

Bahr was furnished approximately \$7,000 by the German Espionage Service which was to be used by him in purchasing his transportation to the United States and in the securing of military and production information after his arrival

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During the time that Bahr was being instructed in espionage activities, he was furnished a resume of the history of a Jewish family, which he was assured could no longer be traced. This resume was furnished by the German Gestapo with instructions completely to digest and memorize it in order that he might utilize the information in establishing his background and activities to persons who might question him and further to supply an explanation for the presence of the American currency which had been given him by the Gestapo.

A complaint was filed by Special Agents of the FBI before the United States Commissioner for the District of New Jersey on July 9, 1942, charging Herbert Karl Friedrich Bahr with violation of the Espionage Laws of the United States. He is being held in New York pending arraignment before the United States Commissioner in Newark, New Jersey.