

Loath to Reveal Data, U.S. Frees Agent Suspect

**Alleged Nazi Released;
Justice Dept. Reluctant
To Reveal Information**

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By the Associated Press

Los Angeles, Sept. 10.—Charges against Herbert Hoehne, 29, accused of being an unregistered German agent, were dismissed unexpectedly in Federal Court today on recommendation of the United States Attorney General's office.

Federal Judge Leon R. Yankwich dismissed the charges on motion of United States Attorney William Fleet Palmer, who, only a moment before, had announced he believed he had a "complete case" against Hoehne and asked the latter if he wished to change his plea from not guilty to guilty. Hoehne declined.

Justice Department officials in Washington said a trial would have forced the department to reveal certain sources of information it wished to protect at present.

[They said that they felt that inasmuch as Hoehne will be leaving the United States shortly there was little to be gained by prosecuting him.]

Hoehne, arrested here June 21 as he was about to board an airplane for South America, was prepared for trial.

Federal agents said they found in his luggage numbers of communications which had been entrusted to him by Capt. Fritz Weidemann, German consul general at San Francisco, for delivery to Nazi officials in Central and South American countries.

Dr. Hoehne was held in jail three weeks, after which he was released on \$15,000 bail.

Palmer read a telegram from John Rogge, Assistant United States Attorney General, which said the arrest of Dr. Emil Wolfe, 52, German chemist, in Balboa, Canal Zone, on a similar charge and Wolfe's recent guilty plea accomplished "the object in view."

Wolfe was fined \$2,000, payment of which was suspended.