

2 Authors of Nazi Poster Which Tormented Sailor's Mother Quit Fight to Avoid Trial Here

By Dillard Stokes
Post Staff Writer

Chicago, Sept. 10.—Facing a Washington judge and jury in a few weeks—on a charge of seditious conspiracy—will be the authors of the cruel and nasty poster used by Nazi propagandists to torment the mother of a sailor killed by a Nazi torpedo a year ago.

These men, Donald J. McDaniel and Otto Brennermann, late today gave up their struggle to stay in Chicago and will stand trial beside 26 others accused with them of plotting to corrupt the loyalty of the armed forces.

However, a third alleged conspirator, Mrs. Elizabeth Dilling, who admitted today that she knew a dozen of her fellow defendants, planned a last-ditch fight against removal to Washington. Her counsel said that if U. S. Commissioner Edwin K. Walker should rule against Mrs. Dilling tomorrow, she would at once ask for a writ of habeas corpus.

Mrs. Dilling—Red baiter, fiery isolationist and organizer of "mothers" demonstrations against aid to England—agitated so furiously in Washington last year that she was twice convicted of disorderly conduct.

History of Case

Guarding a convoy, the United States destroyer Kearney was torpedoed off Iceland last October 17, the first American ship of war attacked by the Nazis. The Kearney limped into port with a great hole in her hull and 11 of her sailors dead. Their names were given out 12 days later.

One of the dead was George Alexander Calvert, jr., a farm youth from Gillespie, Ill. A week later, the Nation was shocked by the revelation, in The Washington Post, that the Nazi propaganda machine was deriding his family's grief. To his mother was sent a note blaming his death on President Roosevelt and a poster which depicted the President, Wendell Willkie and dozens of other American leaders leering with joy over the crucifixion of the traditional figure of Uncle Sam.

Special Prosecutors William Power Maloney and John T. M. Reddan observed a definite link between this poster and other propaganda which had come before them. After months of dogged detective work by the Secret Service, McDaniel was summoned before the special grand jury on Axis agents in Washington

and Brennermann was grilled by Federal grand jurors in Chicago. On July 21, the special grand jury indicted them, with Mrs. Dilling and 25 more on two counts of conspiracy.

McDaniel's Ideas

McDaniel, a dentist, was a member of the Citizens No Foreign War Coalition and the American First Committee. Both were branded by the grand jury as instruments of the alleged conspiracy. It was McDaniel who conceived three posters, one of them the blasphemous picture of Uncle Sam crucified between "peace" and "justice." He hired Brennerman, an artist, to put his ideas on paper.

As today's removal hearing opened, McDaniel and Brennerman refused even to acknowledge that they were the men named in the conspiracy indictment. To identify them Prosecutor Maloney produced Kurt Krouss, the German-born printer whose firm turned out thousands of the crucifixion posters.

Lester E. Purcell, Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co. employe who is poll clerk of the grand jury, testified to the finding of the indictment.

News After Adjournment

To meet this, Attorney Maximilian St. George offered McDaniel's denial that he wished to corrupt the Army and Navy. However, soon after the hearing adjourned until Friday morning, with the defense case only half complete, St. George informed Prosecutor Maloney that his clients would drop their resistance. Maloney demanded that this be done in open court, which is scheduled for this morning.

McDaniel in his testimony admitted acquaintance with four of his codefendants, but Mrs. Dilling confessed that she knew a full dozen of them.

Those she named were McDaniel; Gerald B. Winrod, Wichita (Kans.) agitator; Charles E. Hudson, Omaha (Nebr. editor who circulated an allegedly seditious postcard and was jailed in Washington for refusing to tell who printed it; Hudson De Priest, a collaborator of Winrod and of William Griffin of New York; Elmer J. Garner, whose paper, *Publicity*, was suppressed for alleged sedition; William Kullgren, California editor, whose magazine, *Beacon*

Light, allegedly hinted at the murder of high officials; Col. Eugene Nelson Sanctuary, who is fighting removal from New York; James C. True and Oscar Brumback, Washington antiwar agitators; Robert E. Edmondson, who is held in California, and William Robert Lyman, who is still a fugitive.

Recalls Garner-De Priest Visit

Mrs. Dilling said Garner and De Priest dropped in to see her on their way to give grand jury testimony. However, she protested furiously that he never conspired with them, or with any of the others.

Mrs. Dilling was represented by William Scott Stewart, prominent Chicago criminal lawyer, who had the encouragement of 50 women veterans of her mother's demonstrations, who crowded about the commissioner's bench, glaring at the