

DW 5/15/42

Why Did Dies Refuse to Investigate Vonsiatsky?

Why did Martin Dies refuse to investigate the fascist connections and fascist plots of Anastase A. Vonsiatsky when he was urged to do so three years ago?

The Daily Worker yesterday asked The Hour, weekly bulletin published in New York City, if it had ever asked Dies to investigate Vonsiatsky. The Hour replied that it had sent this wire to Dies on Aug. 18, 1939:

"We suggest you immediately summons for questioning A. Vonsiatsky, chief of Russian fascists in the United States, at present residing at Thompson, Conn.

"Vonsiatsky has definite information relating to Fritz Kuhn's [leader of the German-American Bund] tie-up with Berlin, in spite of Kuhn's recent denial before your committee of any relations with Germany.

"Also, according to his own admissions to us, Vonsiatsky has asked Kuhn to intercede for him in certain matters with Hitler and other Berlin superiors of the German-American Bund leader.

"Under separate cover we are air-mailing to you the July 30 and Aug. 15 issues of our publication, The Hour, containing data on Vonsiatsky and his connections with Kuhn."

Martin Dies was not interested. He never lifted a finger against Vonsiatsky.

The fascist leader was left to plot undisturbed in his palatial Connecticut estate, fitted up with an imposing arsenal and liberally decorated with swastikas, until the FBI raided the place last week on May 9 and collected information which will be placed before a special Grand Jury.

Why didn't Dies act? He should be compelled to answer to the American people.