

Dies Group to Send Fifth Column Data To President

John H. ...
Letter From Germany
Names Kappe as Head
Of 'Comradeship USA'

By the Associated Press.

The Dies Committee, it was learned authoritatively today, will send to President Roosevelt this week a copy of a confidential letter sent from Germany to trusted Nazi sympathizers in the United States advising them that Walter Kappe had been appointed to head a fifth column front in this country and paving the way for his work.

The FBI is seeking Kappe in connection with its investigation of a Nazi sabotage ring and has charged he was associated with six saboteurs executed here Saturday after a military commission trial.

Signed by Kappe, whom the FBI described as head of "a contemplated German sabotage organization," the letter, bearing the salutation "Heil Hitler," said:

"I have accepted the leadership of the Comradeship USA * * * on the grounds that a central office of the Comradeship USA must also exist in time of war. * * * I depend upon the co-operation of everyone."

Written 18 Months Ago.

In view of the fact Kappe has had more than a year and a half to operate in this country since the letter was written, the committee was reported to have taken the position that all persons identified with Nazi movements in America should be under constant surveillance.

Along with the letter, it was learned, the committee will send to the White House a list of names of approximately 17,000 persons whose past activities indicated Nazi sympathies.

Close to 3,000 of the names are of persons the committee claims contributed to the "Kyffhauserbund," and several thousand others were identified as being associated with the "American-German Volksbund," which Kappe's letter described as "by far the most active and most indoctrinated combat group in American Germanism * * *."

How the letter came into the committee's possession was not disclosed. It was written in German, dated Stuttgart, Germany, January, 1941, and bore an admonition that those who received it were to keep it confidential. It was numbered 1 of what presumably was a series of instructions sent out by Kappe from

the House of Germanism, Stuttgart.
American Germanism

"It is meant exclusively for the members of the Comradeship US," said a prefacing note.

After describing the obstacles confronted in the United States by German groups, particularly from investigations by the Dies Committee, Kappe's letter said:

"It would be a mistake, however, to conclude from what has been said in this report that American Germanism has in this fateful hour entirely failed. However, it lacks the organizational structure and it lacks, in many cases, the national strength and discipline. In their hearts the Germans of America experience very deeply the powerful revolution in Europe. They follow breathlessly on their shortwave receivers every phase of the German struggle and they always feel themselves strengthened in their pride in their Germanism through the heroism of the German soldiers."