

F 48/16/12

# F.D. Gets Dies' List of 17,000 Nazi Suspects

## Bund Was Set Up as Combat Organization, President Is Told

A list of 17,000 persons, whose activities would indicate Nazi sympathies was sent to President Roosevelt yesterday by Representative Martin Dies (D.), of Texas, chairman of the special House committee investigating un-American activities, with the recommendation that the persons named be placed under surveillance.

The list went to the White House along with a copy of a confidential letter in German and translation from Walter Kappe, being sought by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as Hitler's master spy in the United States which describes the German-American Bund as a "combat organization."

"Kappe's document clearly requires the greatest alertness on our part with respect to all organizations, which, as Kappe expresses it, belong in the category of 'American Germanism'," Dies wrote. "It is for that reason that I am submitting to you, Mr. President, the complete list of various groups which we have assembled during the last four years, in order that you in turn may transmit them to whatever Executive agencies should, in your judgment, deal with them."

"I send you herewith a list of approximately 17,000 names of persons who have been members of or otherwise sympathetically affiliated with German organizations which have supported the Nazi cause in the United States. I am sure that you will agree these 17,000 persons should have some form of surveillance over their activities."

### Sees Huge Sabotage Ring

Kappe is being sought as the brains of a huge sabotage ring which the German high command hoped to establish in the United States with headquarters in Chicago, according to Dies. He had been released from the German Army, in which he was a lieutenant, and assigned to "leadership of the German Comradeship, U.S.A."

In the document Kappe states that he accepted his assignment on the grounds that "a Central Office of Comradeship U.S.A. must also exist in time of war."

"I call your especial attention to the fact that Kappe describes the German-American Bund as the 'combat organization' in American Germanism," Dies wrote. "Kappe further remarks: 'It is true that since the beginning of the war the Bund has suffered losses in its unequal fight against a superior power. Membership has dropped and some local groups which were like fortified outposts in enemy country have had to be given up, but there are today still about 40 local groups ranged around the three centers in New York, Chicago, and San Francisco."

### Says Nazis Impeded

"I am sure that you will read with interest, Mr. President, that the cause of Nazi infiltration into the United States (both through the Bund and such official Nazi agencies as the German Library of Information, the German Railway Information and the German consulates) has received serious setbacks as the result of the investigations and denunciations of the committees.

"Kappe calls special attention of his 'comrades' to our committee's 'White Paper,' which, as you will recall, Mr. President, fully justified by its documentation the expulsion from this country of most of the official agents of the Nazi government.

"Such testimony from such a source speaks clearly enough concerning the effectiveness of our committee's work in the eyes of the

organizers of Hitler's espionage and sabotage in the United States. Kappe's report completely refutes the efforts of James Lawrence Fly to use the facilities of the Federal Communications Commission to destroy our committee."

### Final Report Due

Dies reported that his committee has in preparation for early publication a final report on various Nazi and pro-Nazi organizations. In this connection he recalled that the German-American Bund was the spearhead of Hitler's attempted penetration of this country although opponents of the committee sought to give the impression the committee was not interested in exposing Nazi activities.

"Despite the various published reports of our committee, our enemies who have from the beginning included many scoffers who hold high positions in your Administration, have done their utmost to spread the falsehood that we have failed to investigate the Bund," he said.

Dies recalled that the committee has heard 85 witnesses testify on Nazi activities and first of these was heard four years ago. In December, 1938, he recalled, the committee warned that the purpose of the Bund was to create a sabotage organization.