

DW 6/29/42

Dies Shielded Bundist Spies in U. S. for Years

Eight Nazi saboteurs landed on the Atlantic coast were members of the German-American Bund, Hitler's organization in America, which was for four years shielded by the Dies Committee.

It was upon their connections with Nazis in this country that the saboteurs pinned their hope of success in their venture of murder and destruction.

These connections are the Hitler agents that Dies could have exposed but has failed utterly to.

On Feb. 10 the National Lawyers Guild charged that "the Bund, the Klan, the Silver Shirts and similar organizations have Dies to thank for the cloak of anonymity which even now covers them."

The long record of shielding fascists and pro-fascists by the Dies Committee shows:



DIES

1. That in 1938 Dies questioned briefly and then excused George Sylvester Viereck, the No. 1 Nazi propagandist in America, and allowed him to visit Hitler in Germany.
2. That he made a farce of his quiz of Fritz Kuhn, Bund leader.
3. That he published as a great anti-Nazi expose a list of Bund leaders which had previously appeared in hundreds of newspapers.
4. That on Nov. 22, 1940, he said "I have a list of suspects I have every reason to believe are Gestapo agents in the United States." The list was never revealed.

On Aug. 20, 1940, he said he had knowledge of 1,200 Nazis in key positions in the aircraft industry. The matter dropped there.

Rep. Hamilton Fish (Rep., N. Y.), introduced George Sylvester Viereck, the Nazi spy, to Fish's secretary, George Hill.

Hill was sent to prison for sending Viereck's pro-Hitler propaganda through the mails on Fish's free congressional mailing privileges. Hill testified that Rep. Fish recommended the Nazi Viereck to him as an old friend.

In July 1939 he subpoenaed Edward James Smythe, head of the "Protestant War Veterans" and blatant pro-Hitlerite. Smythe never appeared. Dies took no action against him.

For this protection, the Nazis on their part reciprocated with praise and support for Dies.

On April 6, Charles Coughlin's Social Justice appealed for funds to keep the Dies Committee alive.

In January of this year the Federal Communications Commission monitoring station revealed that "Rep. Martin Dies is the American most frequently quoted on the Axis radio programs beamed to this hemisphere."



COUGHLIN