



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BERNARD KUEHN

PART 1 OF 7

FILE NUMBER: 65-1574

SUBJECT

KUEHN

FILE NUMBER

65-1574 SECTION 1

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

X DO NOT DESTROY
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NATIONAL ARCHIVES

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

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1574

SECTION 1

SERIALS 1-35

**Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

February 11, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

The attached anonymous memorandum contains information concerning a Mr. and Mrs. Koehn in the Hawaiian Islands who are believed to be espionage agents.

This information was transmitted to me by

[REDACTED] who in turn received the information from friends of his in the Hawaiian Islands who desire to remain anonymous. I have known [REDACTED] for some years and have found him to be thoroughly reliable.

The information is being transmitted to the Army and Navy Intelligence Units and will likewise be furnished to the San Francisco Office for appropriate attention when an Agent is next in the Hawaiian Islands.

Respectfully,

EW
F. A. Lamm.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-86 BY SP-6 JCB

1 ENCL T

RECORDED
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INDEXED

4
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 16 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
201-1000
ONE

Section 1

Koehn - address Kailua - Oahu - T.H.

Mr. and Mrs. Koehn

Daughter 22

Son 15

Son 5

Son in Nazi Bureau, Berlin (married) aged approx 26

88344

Mr. Koehn advanced student of Japanese language - entertain lavishly, particularly army officers - no apparent source of income - own two homes - one very large. Mysterious as to length of stay and reason for residing in Hawaii. Defend Hitler in clever manner.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 8-7-86 BY SP5/kyj

#268714

65-1574-

RECORDED

February 11, 1939

Washington, D. C.

I have been advised by a source which has not previously furnished information to the Bureau that a Mr. and Mrs. Koehn of Kailua - Oahu - T. H. may be espionage agents in the Hawaiian Islands.

It is stated that Mr. and Mrs. Koehn have a daughter twenty-two years of age and two minor sons in addition to an elder son who is employed in the Nazi Bureau in Berlin. The Koehns own two homes in the Hawaiian Islands, entertain lavishly, particularly Army Officers, and have no apparent source of income. They are described as "mysterious" as to their reason for being in the Hawaiian Islands and the length of time they intend to stay there. Koehn is described as being an advanced student of the Japanese language.

The Bureau has no Special Agent in the Hawaiian Islands at the present time, but it is contemplated that an Agent will be sent to Honolulu in the near future. While in the Hawaiian Islands, this Agent will conduct a discreet investigation to ascertain whatever information is possible concerning the Koehns.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER
☆ FEB 11 1939 ☆
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-7-84 BY SP-6 CJS

RECORDED

February 11, 1939

65-1574-1 ✓

Special Agent in Charge
San Francisco, California

88340

Dear Sir:

The Bureau has been advised by an anonymous source that a Mr. and Mrs. Koehn of Kailua - Oahu - T. H. may be espionage agents in the Hawaiian Islands.

The Bureau has been advised that the Koehns own two homes, one of which is very large, and that they entertain lavishly, particularly Army Officers. It is stated that they have no apparent source of income and that one of their sons is employed in the Nazi Bureau in Berlin, while Mr. Koehn is an advanced student of the Japanese language. This information has already been furnished to the headquarters of the Army and Navy Intelligence Units in Washington.

It is desired that when an Agent is next in the Hawaiian Islands appropriate discreet inquiry be made to determine whether the Koehns are in fact espionage agents.

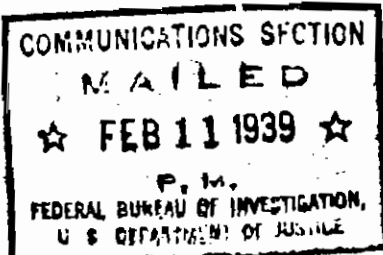
Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-80 BY SP-1 JCD

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McIntire	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

203



RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FEB 10 5 35 PM '39
FEB 14
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

St. Paul, Minnesota.

May 1, 1939.

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

RE: ESPIONAGE,
HONOLULU,
TERRITORY OF HAWAII

Dear Sir:

Confirming the information requested by long distance telephone on May 1, 1939 by [redacted] it is stated that during March, 1939 at Honolulu, [redacted] informed Agent that there is a German couple, name not now recalled, living near Honolulu on the island called Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, who are known to be German agents and who are looked on by the Naval Intelligence as being German spies; that the Naval Intelligence officers have been endeavoring for the past three years to trace the source of funds of this German couple; that the couple have large sums of money apparently at their command, and are buying property on the island of Oahu near Honolulu; that they maintain a residence there and entertain frequently and lavishly; that their guests are usually Army officers and their wives, who are stationed at the various Forts located within 25 miles of Honolulu, and Naval Officers and their wives, who are stationed at Pearl Harbor; that it has been apparent for a long time that the purpose of this couple in their entertainment of Army and Navy personnel is to secure as much information regarding the secrets and movements of the Army and Navy as they can; that within the past year a high Naval officer in the Intelligence Branch of the Navy spent considerable time at Honolulu endeavoring to get evidence of the source of the funds which this couple have, but they as yet have been unsuccessful in securing this information, and they likewise have not learned the purpose for which property is being bought by this couple on the island of Oahu.

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-2X

information to Agent in confidence.

[redacted] can undoubtedly give the name of the German

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DATE 8-7-86 BY 8800 CJS

7/12 and 7/14. O to 1/26/40

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b7c
b7d

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 3 1939

(Ltr. to Director re Espionage, Honolulu, Territory of
Hawaii)

couple, as he once furnished it to Agent.

Very truly yours,



b6

b7c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

May 1, 1939

Time: 3:50 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

I called [redacted] of the St. Paul Office and advised him that it was my understanding that he possessed information concerning a Baron or Baroness who entertained various officials at Pearl Harbor. [redacted] advised that he did have information relative to a German man and his wife in Honolulu who are trying to buy up land on the Island of Oahu, on which Island Pearl Harbor and Honolulu are located, and these individuals have been entertaining Army and Navy Officials there for several years. He stated he did not know whether these individuals were Baron and Baroness. [redacted] stated that as he understood it, these individuals' only purpose for entertaining these officials is to question them and to find out what they can as to the Army and Navy operations and secrets. He stated this man and woman have plenty of money, and the Naval Intelligence has been trying to trace the source of their money for the past three years but have been unable as yet to successfully ascertain exactly where the money comes from, but they suspect that the money comes through some source in China. [redacted] stated that the Naval Intelligence had some high official from Washington in Honolulu working on this case within the past year. He stated he did not recall this official's name but thought it was [redacted]

[redacted] advised that the source of his information on this matter was [redacted]

He stated further that [redacted]

and was also [redacted]

stated that it was his understanding that [redacted]

[redacted] advised that he did not recall the names of the two German people in question but that their names could be obtained from the Naval Intelligence Unit [redacted]

Mr. Tolson ✓
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan
Mr. Farworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Lester
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-4-80 BY SP5CJ/b

We are not to put this information in the file

all
b6
b7c
b7d

65-1574-2X1

TELEPH
TAMM

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
May 1, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. Tamm

In accordance with your request, I called [redacted] of the Office of Naval Intelligence, relative to the identity of the German man and woman residing in Honolulu who, according to [redacted] are supposed to be entertaining lavishly officers of the Army and Navy and who are indicated as being German Agents. [redacted] stated that their information is filed according to the names of the individuals, in view of which he would have to make a complete search of his files relative to this matter.

all
b6
b7c

On the morning of May 2, 1939, [redacted] called and stated that we had forwarded him information concerning a Mr. and Mrs. Koehn who were residing in Honolulu and who were alleged to be German Agents and lavishly entertaining Army and Navy officers. [redacted] stated that he had forwarded this information to Honolulu and had not received a report reflecting the results of this investigation.

Respectfully,

[redacted signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-80 BY SP5 CJC/CA

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-2X1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 15 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1 ENCL
52
21
Watt

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

May 3, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

In accordance with your instructions, the writer called Mr. Hottel, of the Washington Field Office, and related to him that it was the Director's desire we make overtures to the Office of Naval Intelligence for the purpose of identifying the names of the man and woman in Honolulu who are alleged to be German agents and entertaining lavishly officers of the Army and Navy. [redacted] of the Washington Field Office, advised the writer that the only information in the possession of the Office of Naval Intelligence was pertaining to Mr. and Mrs. Koehn which we had previously furnished to it and that he had ascertained from [redacted] that a report would be forthcoming concerning this matter within the near future, at which time [redacted] will supply us with the desired information and it will be forwarded to the attention of the Director.

Respectfully,

[redacted signature]

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DATE 11-8-86 BY SP5CJ/CA

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65-1574-2X1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 15 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 65-1574-4

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

February 8, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated February 7, 1943, from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H.

Very truly yours

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encl.

RECORD
&
INDEX
773

65-1574-3
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JAN 13 1943
JAN 15 1943

REW:VAF

RECORDED

65-1874 -3

Date: February 11, 1943

To: SAC, Honolulu

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Otto Kuehn
Prisoners' Mail.

Received 2/10/43

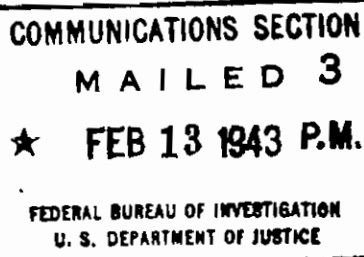
Correspondence of the above-named individual has been submitted to the Bureau from the Penal Institution of incarceration. These specimens have been examined in the Technical Laboratory for anything of significance and have been returned to Mr. Walter A. Hunter, Warden, United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

Specimens: Q793 One letter from subject to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn.

Findings: No secret writing or hidden messages were found.

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. McGuire _____
 Mr. Mumford _____
 Mr. Piper _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

Enclosure - Photostat of Q793.



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Memorandum for the
Attorney General

- 11 -

May 2, 1939

GERMANS ENTERTAINING ARMY AND NAVY OFFICERS IN HAWAII

I have information from a highly reliable and extremely confidential source that a German man and his wife (names not known), who are residing in Hawaii, are buying up land on the Island of Oahu, and that these individuals have been entertaining Army and Navy officers there for several years. According to my informant, these individual's only purpose in entertaining officers of the Army and Navy of the United States is to question them and discover what they can as to the Army and Navy operations and secrets. It appears that the German man and his wife have plenty of money and that the Naval Intelligence has been trying to trace the source of their income for the past three years, but has been unable as yet to ascertain exactly where the money originates, but they suspect that it comes from some source in China.

In this connection, I have been advised by another confidential informant that a Mr. and Mrs. Koehn, of Kailua, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, may be espionage agents in the Hawaiian Islands. It is stated that Mr. and Mrs. Koehn have a daughter twenty-two years of age and two minor sons, in addition to an older son who is employed in the Nazi Bureau in Berlin. The Koehns own two homes in the Hawaiian Islands, entertain lavishly, particularly Army officers, and have no apparent source of income. They are described as "mysterious" as to their reason for being in the Islands and the length of time they intend to stay there. Koehn is described as being an advanced student of the Japanese language, and it is alleged they defend Hitler in a very clever manner. This information, under date of February 11, 1939, was furnished to the offices of both the Military and the Naval Intelligence Service. I have instructed the San Francisco office of this Bureau to conduct an investigation relative to the activities of these two individuals when next an Agent is in the Hawaiian Islands. Mr. and Mrs. Koehn may be identical with the German couple who are alleged to be entertaining Army and Navy officers in the Hawaiian Islands, as related above.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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FOR THIS PAGE
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CONFIDENTIAL

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

65-1574

TIME: 10:00 A. M.

May 23, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

RE: MR. and MRS. KUEHN
ESPIONAGE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Referred
to Navy

b1
b6
b7c
OS

I am transmitting a copy of this memorandum to the
New York and San Francisco Field Offices for the purpose of
obtaining information as to the activities of [REDACTED]

It is recalled that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], furnished you with
information concerning the alleged espionage activities of
Mr. and Mrs. Kuehn in the Hawaiian Islands, and, further,
that [REDACTED] has received information
relative to the activities of a German man and woman at the
Hawaiian Islands entertaining lavishly army and navy officers.
It is believed that Mr. and Mrs. Kuehn are identical with
these individuals.

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-5
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAY 25 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FOI/PA # 268714

APPEAL #

CIVIL ACT. #

E.O. # 12356

DATE 8-1-86 BY SP-6

CONFIDENTIAL

Navy

65-1574

CONFIDENTIAL

May 24, 1939

RECORDED 65-1574-6

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Re: Mr. and Mrs. Kuehn,
alias Kuehn;

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Crowl
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Lester
- Mr. McIntire
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

For the information of the New York Office it may be stated that I have been advised by a source which has not previously furnished information to the Bureau that a Mr. and Mrs. Kuehn of Kailua - Oahu - T. H. may be espionage agents in the

MAY 24 1939

FOI/PA # 208714
APPEAL #
CIVIL ACT. #
O.E.O. #12356
DATE 8-7-80 INITIALS [initials]

CONFIDENTIAL

Navy

Referred to Navy
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b7c
b7d

87-86
CLASSIFIED BY: [signature]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

CONFIDENTIAL

Re: Mr. and Mrs. Koehn,
alias Kuehn;

- 2 -

May 24, 1939

Hawaiian Islands.

It is stated that Mr. and Mrs. Koehn have a daughter twenty-two years of age and two minor sons in addition to an elder son who is employed in the Nazi Bureau in Berlin. The Koehns own two homes in the Hawaiian Islands, entertain lavishly, particularly Army Officers, and have no apparent source of income. They are described as "mysterious" as to their reason for being in the Hawaiian Islands and the length of time they intend to stay there. Koehn is described as being an advanced student of the Japanese language.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC - San Francisco

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Foxworth.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. McIntire.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

19 May 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR F.B.I.

(Refer to [redacted])

SUBJECT: ^OKUEHN, Mr. and Mrs.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

*Referred
to
Navy
b6
b7c
OS*

*Info - to EPT - on 5/23
copies to Navy & [unclear]
at 5/24/39
JRS*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

CONFIDENTIAL

65-1574-6
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 25 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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65-1574-7

65-2460-1

July 6, 1939

RECORDED

INDEXED

Dear [REDACTED]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 6, 1939.

I want to express to you my sincere appreciation for your interest and courtesy in having made this correspondence available. In the event you possess any additional information concerning the individuals mentioned in your communication, it would be appreciated if you would furnish it directly to Mr. M. J. L. Pieper, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U. S. Department of Justice, One Eleven Sutter Building, Room 1729, San Francisco, California.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC SAN FRANCISCO

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DATE 8-1-86 BY SP-10/CLB

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McIntire	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

MAILED

JUL 10 1939

DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Handwritten signature/initials

65-2160-1

July 6, 1939

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

Special Agent in Charge
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith copies of a letter dated June 6, 1939, from [redacted] setting forth additional information concerning the activities of Otto Kuehn.

As soon as an Agent is available, it is desired that appropriate investigation be conducted as to the activities of Otto Kuehn in accordance with the provisions set forth in Bureau Bulletin #17, dated May 15, 1939.

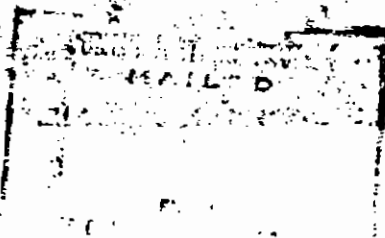
Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

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DATE 8-1-86 BY SP-5 CJB

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Crowl
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McIntire
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy



Handwritten signature
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RECORDED
&
INDEXED

July 6, 1939

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-1-80 BY SP5/clb

I am transmitting herewith copies of a letter
from [redacted] setting forth additional informa-
tion concerning the activities of Otto Kuehn at Honolulu,
Territory of Hawaii.

It will be appreciated if you will furnish me
with any additional information which you have in your
possession concerning the activities of this individual.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McIntire	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

COMMUNICATIONS SEC
MAILED

JUL 16 1939

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
F. B. I.

[Handwritten signature]
Rh

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RECORDED
&
INDEXED

July 6, 1939

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

War Department
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-28-88 BY SP-6 BJS/BJD

I am transmitting herewith copies of
a letter from [redacted] setting forth
information concerning one Otto Kuehn.

[redacted] that Kuehn would bear investi-
gation, it would be appreciated if you would furnish me with
any data in your files concerning this individual.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. Nathan	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Crowl	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Foxworth	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Harbo	.....
Mr. Lester	.....
Mr. McIntire	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

JUL 6 - 1939

RHT
JH

WAR DEPARTMENT
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 10, 1939.

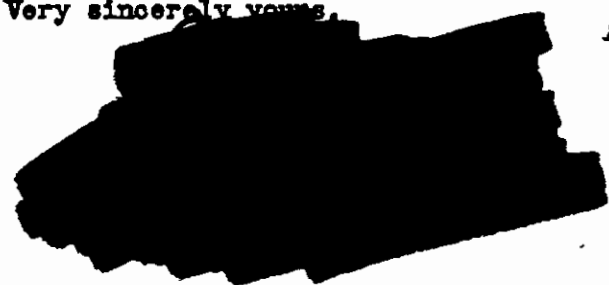
Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Sears.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

Lt. Colonel J. Edgar Hoover,
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation,
United States Department of Justice,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel Hoover:

In reply to your letter of July 6, 1939, with reference
to one Otto Kuehn, please be advised that this office has no record
of him.

Very sincerely yours,



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b7c

eb

RECORDED

65-1574-8
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 14 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM TWO

30
b6
b7c
July 24, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

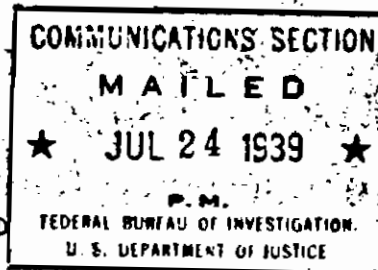
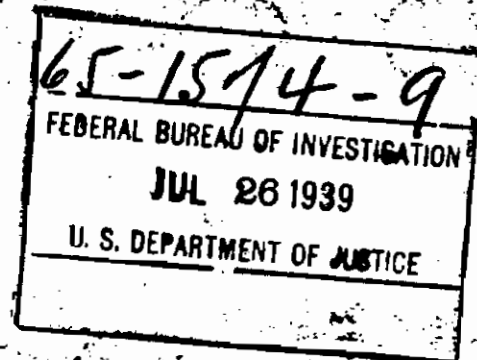
It is requested that File #65-2460 be consolidated with File #65-1574, in that it is believed that the subjects of both files are identical.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Otto Fuchner
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-17-86 BY SP-1/ckh

RECORDED & INDEXED



Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Lawler.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

40
35
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

b6
b7c
65-1574

July 18, 1939

12 Noon

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM *ETK*

13
Re: MR. AND MRS. ⁰KUEHN; ESPIONAGE

In accordance with [redacted] request of [redacted] of the Washington Field Office, the writer called [redacted] of the Office of Naval Intelligence, and he related that they had no additional information other than the data set forth in their memorandum dated May 15, 1939. *all + b6 b7c*

It is recalled that the above named individuals and their family are believed to be engaged in joint espionage activities in Honolulu.

I thanked [redacted] for his courtesy in calling these data to the attention of the Bureau.

Respectfully,
[redacted]

RECORDED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-11-86 BY SP5CJ/106

RECEIVED JUL 26 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

65-1574-10
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 26 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

7
1

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

San Francisco, California
August 14, 1939

Special Agent in Charge,
Honolulu, Hawaii.

Re: OTTO KUBEN;
ESPIONAGE.

Dear Sir:

Inasmuch as the Honolulu field division is being reopened effective August 23, 1939, Honolulu is being made the office of origin in this case and the entire file at this office is being transmitted to you herewith, and the case is being considered as referred upon completion to the office of origin.

Very truly yours,

N. J. L. Pieper
N. J. L. PIEPER,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc-Bureau ✓

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-86 BY SP5/100

65-1574-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 19 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TWO

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK CITY

NY

FILE NO.

65-357

HD

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 7/27/39	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/30/39 7/5/39	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE MR. and MRS. KOEHN, alias KOEHN			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED]

b6
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85

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-7-86 BY SP5CJ/pas

- P -

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter dated May 24, 1939.

DETAILS:

[REDACTED]

o's
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b7c
b7d

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED:

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

- 5- Bureau
- 2- San Francisco
- 1- Chicago
- 2- New York
- cc - Bureau Intelligence
- cc - 8-2

9-8-42

PV*

8/29/39 CMC

JUL 31 A.M.

TW

RECEIVED

JUL 8 1939

cc sent to G. B. Kays 7-11-42 XXX

65-387

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6
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OS



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





Mr. and Mrs.
KOEHN, Oalm, T.H., were reported to have rented a house in Hawaii
to have entertained Army officers lavishly and that they had no

65-357

apparent source of income. They were said to be evasive regarding their income and the duration of their stay on the island. They are reported to have a 21 year old daughter and two sons of minor age and an older son who is employed in a Nazi Bureau in Berlin.



* * *



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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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OS

4

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
New York, N. Y.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

65-357

July 27, 1939

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: Mr. & Mrs. KOEHN, alias KUEHN
Espionage

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth
P. E. FOXWORTH,
Special Agent in Charge.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-1574-118
65-1574-1-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 1 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. Tolson.....
Mr. Nathan.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
Mr. Clegg.....
Mr. Coffey.....
Mr. Egan.....
Mr. Glavin.....
Mr. Crowl.....
Mr. Harbo.....
Mr. Lester.....
Mr. Lawler.....
Mr. Nichols.....
Mr. Rosen.....
Mr. Sears.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
Mr. Tracy.....
Miss Gandy.....

66-2542-3922
RECORDED COPY FILED IN

ENCLOSURE
8-1-39

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

FILE NO. 65-47

REPORT MADE AT San Francisco, Calif.	DATE WHEN MADE 8/31/39	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/25/39	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE Mr. and Mrs. KOEHN, Alias KUEHN. 8786			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE
CLASSIFIED BY [REDACTED] DECLASSIFY ON [REDACTED]			ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED]

-P-

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter dated May 24, 1939, to New York City, number 65-1574.

Report of [REDACTED] New York City, dated July 27, 1939.

DETAILS:

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA:

[REDACTED]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE [Signature]	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 1 Chicago 2 New York 2 Honolulu (Enc.) 2 San Francisco		65-1574-12 SEP 15 CONFIDENTIAL	SEP 19 1939 POL/PA # 268724 APPEAL # CIVIL ACT. # E.O. # 12350 DATE 8/27/86 INITIALS

2/11/40 222

SI is Navy

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



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[REDACTED]

It was reported that they have no apparent source of income, and that one of their sons is employed in the Nazi Bureau in Berlin,

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

while Mr. KOEHN is an advanced student of the Japanese language.

The Bureau requested in this letter that when an Agent was next in the Hawaiian Islands, that an appropriate, discreet inquiry be made to determine whether the KOEHNS are, in fact, espionage agents.

[REDACTED]

The Bureau letter dated May 24, 1939 mentioned above stated that RUTH KOEHN is twenty-two years of age, and that the KOEHNS have two minor sons, in addition to the elder son who is employed in the Nazi Bureau at Berlin. It was also mentioned in this letter that the KOEHNS are described as "mysterious" as to their reason for being in the Hawaiian Islands and the length of time they intend to stay there.

ENCLOSURES. To Honolulu, Hawaii: Report of [REDACTED]
New York City, dated July 27, 1939.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION:

At Kailua, Oahu, T. H.: Will conduct discreet investigation to determine the identity of Mr. and Mrs. KOEHN, and to determine whether or not they are, in fact, espionage Agents.

SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION:

At San Francisco, California: [REDACTED]

P E N D I N G

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

FILE NO. **65-4**

JET:bu

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 9-26-39	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 9-18, 20, 21, 22-39	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE - CHANGED: MR. and MRS. OTTO K. KUHN, aliases; Mr. and Mrs. Koehn, Kuehn.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Sources of information in Honolulu indicate MR. & MRS. KUHN and family have lived in Honolulu most of the time since August 15, 1935, and until recently have lived very well on money reported obtained from Amsterdam through a New York bank, but all information now indicates KUHNs are in dire financial circumstances. The KUHNs have entertained in Honolulu extensively, and appear to have sought companionship of young Naval officers. Information indicates KUHN formerly in German Navy and is reported to have been discharged from same in 1929 for financial irregularities and was not received cordially by members of crew of German cruiser "Emden" when that ship was in Honolulu. KUHN has indicated his family life becoming unbearable due to his wife's Nazi attitude, as she has a son named LEOPOLD KUHN by a former marriage who is reported active in Nazi circles.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-86 BY [REDACTED]

REFERENCE:

Report of [REDACTED] New York, 7-27-39;
Report of [REDACTED], San Francisco, 8-31-39;
Letter from Bureau to San Francisco office dated 7-6-39,
Bureau file number 65-2460.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 65-1574-13 OCT 21 1939
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 3 - New York 3 - San Francisco (1-ONI S. F.) 1 - ONI Honolulu 2 - Honolulu		OCT 16 AM. <i>[Handwritten notes]</i>

DETAILS: The title of this case is changed to show the correct spelling of subjects' last name and to set out the first name and initial.

AT HONOLULU, T. H.

The file of confidential informant N was reviewed in connection with this case, and pertinent information is being set forth briefly herewith. The Bureau has been advised by separate letter as to the identity of confidential informant N.

OTTO K. KUHN is a native and citizen of Germany, having been born in Berlin July 25, 1895. He is reported to have served in the German Navy during the World War as an officer. Information indicates he was on the ship "Blucher" when it was sunk during the war, and was picked up by His Majesty's Ship "Lion" and interned at Edinburgh, where he remained until the end of the war and then returned to Germany. After the war he remained for some time in the German Navy, and it has been reported that he was dismissed from the navy in 1929 for alleged financial difficulties. Subsequent to the war he married one FRIEDEL BIRK on May 10, 1920 at Munchen, Germany. This woman is reported to have been the widow of a German officer killed in the war. This woman had a son, LEOPOLD, who is reported to be secretary to one of the important Nazi leaders in Germany. She also had a daughter, RUTH, who is presently in Honolulu, age about 23, and two sons have been born to the marriage of FRIEDEL and OTTO KUHN, one about 13 and the other 9. The KUHN family, until just recently, appeared to have ample and considerable funds which were transmitted to them from a New York bank from a bank in Amsterdam, however at the present time the funds seem to have been depleted or else the transmission of same has been interrupted, inasmuch as the KUHNs appear to be in dire financial straits, as premiums on insurance policies from Germany indicate that they have not been paid. Also, because of the fact that KUHN is arranging at the present time to teach classes in German at the Honolulu YMCA. It should be noted that in 1936, when the German cruiser "Emden" was in Honolulu, the ship's doctor gave out information that the officers of the "Emden" were not to have anything to do with KUHN. KUHN arrived in Honolulu August 15, 1935, having departed from Germany April 18, 1935 and temporarily lived at the Brookland Hotel, where he sought the companionship of young Navy officers and is reported to have entertained them freely. A list of his associates will be set forth subsequently in this report. KUHN gave as his reason for being in Honolulu his desire to study the Japanese language with the intention of qualifying himself to hold and work at an interpreter's or translator's position in the mercantile field in his native country. However, since he has applied for first papers in this country, it appears that this reason no longer exists. Some informants indicate KUHN'S expenditures have amounted to approximately \$500.00 per month, and it appears MRS. KUHN has money in her own right. The following extraction is quoted from the Honolulu "Advertiser" of March 4, 1938, under the caption "Court Happenings":

"Husband and wife and their daughter, all of whom came to the United States last year from Germany, filed yesterday in the office of William F. Thompson, Jr., clerk of the Federal Court, their declarations of intention to become citizens of this city. The declarants are Otto Kuehn, 45, merchant, born in Berlin; Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, 46, born in Hamburg, and Miss Ruth Kuehn, 23, born in Berlin. The Kuehns live on Kainalu Avenue, Kailua, Oahu."

b6
b7c KUHN has been suspected by some Germans of having supplied information to the Japanese government, and he has openly stated that he knows he is under suspicion of the U. S. Government. Informant N obtained information that [REDACTED] of Honolulu intended to ascertain the correct status of OTTO KUHN in Germany.

On July 14, 1938 MR. & MRS. KUHN and the two youngest boys left Honolulu via the SS TAIYO MARU for Yokohama and KUHN announced the purpose of this visit was to enable him to obtain permanent entry permits for his two youngest children upon his re-entry into this country, since the two children were at that time, that is, July 14, 1938, in the U. S. on temporary permits. It should be noted that the KUHNS at this time listed their names as follows: OTTO KUHN; MRS. FRIEDEL KUHN; MASTER EBERHARD KUHN; MASTER HANS KUHN. On September 22, 1938 OTTO KUHN returned from Yokohama on the SS ASAMA MARU alone, and gave as his Japanese address the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo. MRS. FRIEDEL KUHN, RUTH KUHN and HANS KUHN returned to Honolulu aboard the SS CHICHIBU MARU in November, 1938. It is estimated that the minimum expenses for the KUHNS to make the trip was approximately \$700.00. *See 6/14*

b7c [REDACTED]

It should be pointed out that when MRS. KUHN and her family, consisting of RUTH and the two youngest boys, arrived in Honolulu in November, 1938, they had 4,000 yen in 100-yen notes, which would be approximately \$1200.00. It appears that the Japanese law states that 300 yen is the largest amount of Japanese money that anyone can take from Japan.

KUHN has made the statement that his wife has made life unbearable due to her Nazi attitude, and there is some information to indicate that MRS. KUHN has made very definite statements concerning Nazi cond

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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At the present time OTTO KUHN is expected to teach classes in German at the YMCA Monday and Wednesday nights for the next nine months. This notice appeared in the Honolulu Star-Bulletin for Sept. 5, 1939.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] a description of subject as obtained [REDACTED] as follows:

Height - about 5'7"
Weight - about 160
Eyes - blue
Nose - snub nose
Hair - short, parted in center, light brown color
Upper lip protrudes slightly
Chin slightly pointed
Wrinkled forehead
Eyebrows slightly heavy
Wears small gold bank ring on right ring finger
Speaks with German accent.
Owns Buick convertible coupe, Hawaii license 83-111.

all
per QNI

A description of subject MRS. KUHN will be set forth at a later date.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE HONOLULU OFFICE will endeavor to secure full details as to the income of the KUHN from Europe, how it is received, and the actual amounts thereof, since reports vary considerably. [REDACTED]

Will secure a list of students studying German under KUHN at the YMCA.
Will interview [REDACTED] when he returns from his vacation, and obtain all information which he may have.

PENDING

65-1574

October 17, 1939

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-7-86 BY SP-5 CJA

Special Agent in Charge
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

Re: MR. AND MRS. OTTO KUEHN alias
KUEHN, ESPIONAGE.

Reference is made to your letter of August 14, 1939, addressed to the Honolulu office, advising that the entire file in this case was being transmitted to Honolulu, that office being designated as office of origin.

It is noted that you failed to indicate copies of that letter for the New York office, resulting in the failure of the New York office to furnish Honolulu copies of the report of [redacted] New York, dated July 27, 1939. It is suggested that you furnish the Honolulu office two copies of this report, and complete the outstanding leads in your district at an early date.

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-13X

For the further information of [redacted] DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
copies of this letter, [redacted]

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nathan
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Ladd
Coffey
Mr. [redacted]
Mr. [redacted]
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sears
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy
Miss Gandy

[redacted] of the St. Paul office that he recalled a German couple living near Honolulu near the island of Oahu, who were regarded as German spies, and the Naval Intelligence officers there had been endeavoring for the past several years to trace the source of funds of this couple. They apparently are well supplied with money and are buying property in Oahu and maintain a rather ostentatious residence, entertaining Army and Naval officers and their wives frequently and lavishly. It is reported [redacted] can be located through his [redacted]

★ OCT 17 1939 ★

F. B. I.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COPIES DESTROYED
839 AUG 4 1970

Otto Kuehn

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PUT W3 24

SAC San Francisco

October 17, 1939

It is not believed necessary to reinterview [redacted] at this time, but it is suggested that the Honolulu office give this investigation immediate and continued attention in an effort to determine the connections and activities of the Koehrs herein mentioned who are apparently identical with the individuals shown [redacted] had in mind.

The Bureau desires that this case no longer be neglected, and be given expeditious and preferred attention.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc New York
Honolulu (2)

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
NEW YORK CITY, N. Y.

65-357

October 26, 1939.

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: MR. and MRS. OTTO K. KUHN, with
aliases: Mr. and Mrs. Koehn, Kuehn.
ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the letter from the Bureau to the San Francisco Office dated October 17, 1939 (Bureau file number 65-1574) the first paragraph of which sets out that the office of origin in this investigation was being designated as Honolulu.

In view of the fact that there is no further investigation pending in the territory covered by the New York Field Division, this case is being referred upon completion to the office of origin.

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc - Honolulu
San Francisco

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-86 BY SP6 CJC/v

RECORDED

65-1574-14
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 27 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TWO hrs

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Honolulu, T. H.

FILE NO. 65-47

REPORT MADE AT San Francisco, Calif.	DATE WHEN MADE 11/8/39	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/26/39	REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em;"></div>
TITLE Mr. and Mrs. OTTO K. KUHN, with aliases: Mr. and Mrs. Koehn, Kuehn.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE.
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <div style="margin-left: 150px;"> X. </div> <div style="margin-left: 250px;"> Confidential Informant N has no additional information. </div> <div style="margin-left: 350px;"> RUC. </div>			
REFERENCE: Report of <div style="background-color: black; width: 150px; height: 1.2em;"></div> dated at San Francisco, Calif., 8/31/39.			
DETAILS: <div style="margin-left: 150px;"> <u>At San Francisco, California.</u> </div> <p style="margin-left: 100px;">Under date of October 26, 1939, Agent contacted Confidential Informant N at San Francisco, California. An examination of his records indicated that there is no additional information, other than that already in the possession of the San Francisco office.</p> <p style="margin-left: 100px;">REFERRER UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN</p>			
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8-7-86 BY SP5/CJS			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED <div style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">J. E. [Signature]</div>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <div style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">[Signature]</div>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 2 Honolulu 2 Com. CONNOR, Naval Intellig., San Francisco 2 San Francisco		COPIES DESTROYED 833 AUG 4 1970 NOV 13 A.M. <div style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">TWO [Signature]</div>	
		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">65-1574-15</div> <div style="font-size: 1.2em;">NOV 15 193</div>	

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

EAT:DM

November 17, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Some months ago [redacted] residing on the West Coast furnished information concerning the activities in Honolulu of a Mr. and Mrs. Otto K. Kuhn, who have been the subject of some investigation by the Bureau since that time and who appear to be obviously engaged in espionage activities in behalf of the German Government.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-86 BY SP5/BJA

[redacted]

Respectfully,

EDWARD A. TAMM

Better let Shivers know
+ also O'Neil.

H.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-1574-16

RECEIVED

NOV 19 1939

10-2-39

TAMM

TWO

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

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b7C
b7D

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

30 33
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
December 5, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: MR. AND MRS. OTTO K. KUHN,
with aliases - ESPIONAGE

Reference is made to my memorandum to you dated November 17, 1939, in the captioned matter, and specifically to your notation contained thereon, "Better let Shivers know and also ONI."

Please be advised that the information contained in reference memorandum has been incorporated in an investigative report submitted by the Honolulu Field Division, copies of which have been furnished to ONI and G-2.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-17-86 BY SP5CJ/CAW

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WEX 1/13

Honolulu, T. H.
March 7, 1940

Dear Sir:

The receipt is acknowledged, with thanks,
of your letter of March 5, 1940, enclosing a report
dated March 4, 1940, relating to the search of the
person and baggage of Mrs. Friedal Kuhn, upon her
departure from Honolulu aboard the SS PRES. COOLIDGE
on February 19, 1940.

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc-Bureau ✓

Re: OTTO K. KUHN, with aliases, et al;
ESPIONAGE.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-17-86 BY SP-10/CH

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT HONOLULU, T. H.

FILE NO. 65-4

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 3-22-40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3-12, 18-40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE (CHANGED) OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases: Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Koehn; FRIEDEL KUEHN, with aliases: Mrs Otto K. Kuhn, Mrs Koehn.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE.
<p>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">SUBJECT OTTO KUEHN</p> <p>was interviewed by Confidential Informant N, at which time he claimed not to be in sympathy with present German Government, but declined to work for Informant N, due to his relatives being in Germany.</p> <p>Her effects were searched by Customs Officers and the results of the search set forth.</p> <p>REFERENCE: Report of [REDACTED] Honolulu, September 26, 1939.</p> <p>DETAILS: The title of this report is being CHANGED to reflect the correct spelling of SUBJECT OTTO K. KUEHN'S name and to set forth FRIEDEL KUEHN as a separate Subject.</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
5 - Bureau 1 - New York (Information) 1 - G-2 Honolulu 1 - ONI Honolulu 2 - Honolulu		65-1574-217 APR 4 - P.M! APR 8 1940	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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 DATE 8-1-86 BY SP5CJ/CA

DIVISION ONE
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cc ONI 14-2 4/12/40 JAM
 cc 96. Org 2-11-40 LK

65-4

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Under date of December 1, 1939, Confidential Informant N furnished a memorandum to the effect that SUBJECT OTTO KUEHN, upon request, had called at the office of Confidential Informant N on November 2, 1939, at which time SUBJECT OTTO KUEHN stated that he had been a member of the GERMAN NATIONAL SOCIALIST PARTY but that later, when HITLER came into power, it was necessary for him to get out of Germany, as he did not agree with the new Government. At this time, KUEHN advised that he had been in the Naval Service of Germany and had been held prisoner by the British during the past World War.

He further stated that he owned property in Germany from which he derived an income, but that at the present time he was unable to get money out of Germany and that he had made an arrangement with his prospective son-in-law, DR. HOMBURG, of KOBE, JAPAN, whereby HOMBURG was forwarding money to him at Honolulu, and he was transferring a similar amount to HOMBURG'S credit in Germany. He stated that Doctor HOMBURG expected to marry his daughter RUTH shortly after the first of the year but that he was unable to marry for a period of five years from the death of his previous wife, who had jumped overboard from a steamer in the Red Sea.

Confidential Informant N asked Subject KUEHN if he intended to follow through with his naturalization and he replied that he had hoped to become an American citizen; that while he loved the German people, he had no sympathy with the present German Government, and when asked if he would be willing to assist Confidential Informant N in gaining information concerning un-American activities on the part of Germans, he advised that he would not accept such a job for pay but that if any such information came to his attention he would inform Confidential Informant N. He stated that he had very little contact with local Germans. SUBJECT OTTO KUEHN also stated that his son and other relatives were still living in Germany and that he could not afford to let it be known that he was performing any services against Germany.

On February 19, 1940, SUBJECT FRIEDEL KUEHN departed from HONOLULU, T.H., aboard the SS PRESIDENT COOLIDGE, enroute to JAPAN, and upon her departure, her effects were searched by Customs officials, and various papers and books were retained for examination. Customs Officials delivered to the Honolulu Office a number of clippings and a telephone directory, which clippings and directory were examined by [REDACTED], and there appeared to be no perforations in them and they did not appear to have been written on with any secret ink; however, they were not processed for same. The clippings appeared to have been cut from the HONOLULU ADVERTISER, and were from a series of articles written by E. H. BRYAN, JR., on AMERICAN POLYNESIA, and contained descriptions of the following islands:

AMERICAN ISLANDS:

Baker Island
Phoenix Island
Enderbury Island
McKean Island
Johnston Island
Howland Island

ENGLISH ISLANDS:

Birnie Island
Sydney Island
Hull Island
Gardner Island
Atafu Island

65-4

The 1939-40 Honolulu telephone directory was examined for perforations and markings, and the only markings noted were on page 1, the name [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The following names and addresses were contained in the

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

65-1574-17 pgs 6-8

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65-4

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION -

AT HONOLULU - Will maintain contact with Confidential Informant #, for the purpose of developing further information relative to Subjects. Will ascertain the identity and reputation of the individual

[REDACTED] SUBJECT FRIEDEL KUEHN.

- PENDING -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **HONOLULU, T. H.**

FILE NO. **65-4**

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 3-29-40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3-23-40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]									
TITLE OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases; FRIEDEL KUEHN, with aliases.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE									
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <p style="text-align: center;">SUBJECTS OTTO and FRIEDEL KUEHN and their daughter RUTH KUEHN filed Declarations of Intention for U. S. Citizenship at HONOLULU, March 3, 1938.</p>												
REFERENCE: <p>Report of [REDACTED] HONOLULU, dated March 22, 1940.</p>												
DETAILS: <p>AT HONOLULU, T. H.:</p> <p>The records in the office of the Clerk of Court of the United States District Court for the Territory of Hawaii reflect that on March 3, 1938, Declaration of Intention for United States Citizenship, number 4529, was filed by Subject FRIEDEL KUEHN.</p> <p>This Declaration of Intention reflects the following description of Subject FRIEDEL KUEHN.</p> <table style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Age</td> <td style="width: 10%;">-</td> <td style="width: 60%;">46 (1938) (Born 2-28-92, Hamburg, Germany)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Color</td> <td>-</td> <td>White</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sex</td> <td>-</td> <td>Female</td> </tr> </table>				Age	-	46 (1938) (Born 2-28-92, Hamburg, Germany)	Color	-	White	Sex	-	Female
Age	-	46 (1938) (Born 2-28-92, Hamburg, Germany)										
Color	-	White										
Sex	-	Female										
APPROVED AND FORWARDED [Signature]		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE [Signature]										
DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES										
<p>ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1-8-86 BY SP-10/CA</p> <p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>5 - Bureau 1 - C-1 Honolulu 1 - G-2 Honolulu 2 - Honolulu 1 - 0-2 - 4-22-40 LJB 1 - 0-2 - 4-22-40 LJB 1 - West U.G. Bureau 2-11-42 X22</p>		<p>65-1574-18</p> <p>APR 11 P.M.</p> <p>ONE HARBO</p>										

APR 15 1940

Complexion	Fair
Eyes	Grey-brown
Height	5' 8"
Weight	178 lb.
Nationality	German
Occupation	Housewife

This record further reflects that she was married to OTTO KUEHN on MAY 10, 1920, at MUENCHEN, GERMANY, and that she is the mother of the following children:

LEOPOLE KUEHN, born 7-6-11, Berlin;
present address BERLIN;

RUTH KUEHN, born 3-1-15, BERLIN;
present address Kailua, Oahu, T. H.;

BERNHARD KUEHN, born 3-30-26, BERLIN;
present address KAILUA, OAHU;

HANS JOACHIM KUEHN, born 9-22-32, BERLIN;
present address KAILUA, OAHU.

SUBJECT FRIEDEL KUEHN also stated that her last foreign address was BERLIN, GERMANY, and that she immigrated from HAMBURG, GERMANY, for permanent residence in the United States, on the SS SUTTGART, and arrived in New York City, on September 25, 1937, under the name FRIEDEL KUEHN.

Declaration of Intention for United States citizenship, #4530, was filed March 3, 1938, by RUTH KUEHN, daughter of SUBJECTS OTTO and FRIEDEL KUEHN, which record reflects the following description of RUTH KUEHN:

Age	23 (1938)
	Born BERLIN, GERMANY, 3-1-15.
Height	5' 4"
Weight	118 lb.
Color	White
Complexion	Fair
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Brown
Nationality	German
Marital status	Single
Occupation	Nurse

65-4

This record also reflects that RUTH KUEHN furnished as her last foreign address BERLIN, GERMANY, and stated that she immigrated from SHANGHAI, CHINA, to HONOLULU, for permanent residence, on the SS PRESIDENT HOOVER, arriving in HONOLULU on AUGUST 28, 1937, under the name SUSE KAETHE RUTH KUEHN.

Declaration of Intention for United States Citizenship, number 4531, was filed by SUBJECT OTTO KUEHN on March 3, 1938, and reflects the following description of SUBJECT OTTO K. KUEHN:

Age	43 (1938)
	Born 7-25-95, BERLIN, Germany.
Height	5' 6"
Weight	145 lb.
Color	White
Complexion	Medium
Eyes	Grey-blue
Hair	Brown
Nationality	German
Occupation	Merchant

This record also reflects that SUBJECT married FRIEDEL KUEHN on MAY 10, 1920, at MUENCHEN, GERMANY, and that he is the father of two children, EBERHARD and HANS JOACHIM; that he immigrated from YOKOYAMA, JAPAN, for permanent residence in Honolulu, aboard the SS TATUTA MARU, and arrived in Honolulu on October 29, 1936.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION -

* AT HONOLULU - Will maintain contact with Confidential Informant N, for the purpose of developing further information relative to SUBJECTS. Will ascertain the identity and reputation of the individual [REDACTED]

FRIEDEL KUEHN.

- PENDING -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

HONOLULU, HAWAII.

FILE NO. 65-4

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, HAWAII.	DATE WHEN MADE 5-27-40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4-22, 23; 5-13, 21-40.	REPORT MADE BY <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em; display: inline-block;"></div>
TITLE OTTO K. KUEHN with aliases; FRIEDEL KUEHN with aliases.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

FRIEDEL KUEHN returned to Honolulu from the Orient 4-20-40 on SS ASAMA MARU and her personal effects were searched by Customs Service, with negative results.

REFERENCE:

Reports of Special Honolulu, dated 3-22-40 and 3-29-40.

DETAILS:

AT HONOLULU, HAWAII:

upon being recontacted, advised that office had no additional information concerning SUBJECTS except that MRS OTTO KUEHN arrived in HONOLULU on April 20, 1940, from the Orient on the SS ASAMA MARU, and the United States Customs Service thoroughly searched her effects but found nothing pertaining to espionage activities.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 7-8-86 BY SP-5 BJS/bjs

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">R. L. Thriver</div>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: monospace;">65-15744-19</div>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - ONI Honolulu 1 - G-2 Honolulu 2 - Honolulu		<div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: monospace;">JUN 10 P.M.</div>
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Confidential Informant N referred to the report [REDACTED]
dated at Honolulu, March 22, 1940, and advised

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated at HONOLULU, HAWAII.

File No. 65-4

Report Made at: : Date Made: : Period: : Report Made By:

HONOLULU, HAWAII

7-20-40

6-22, 25; 7-10, 15-1940

Title:

OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases;
FRIEDEL KUEHN, with aliases.

Character of Case:

ESPIONAGE.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

REFERENCE:

Report of [REDACTED]
dated 5-27-40.

HONOLULU,

DETAILS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-86 BY SP-5 JCL

112

SEC

JCL

Approved
and for-
warded:

RJ Shum

SAC:

Copies:

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- 1 - ONI Honolulu
- 1 - G-2 Honolulu
- 2 - Honolulu

copy sent to [unclear] 9-8-42 PVH

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65-1574-20

AUG - 5 A.M.

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION -

Will maintain contact with [REDACTED] and obtain any information he may have concerning the activities of the Subjects.

Will also maintain contact with [REDACTED] for any information they may have of SUBJECT.

- PENDING -

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Honolulu, Hawaii
July 23, 1940

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases;
ET AL: ESPIONAGE.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report in
the above captioned case rendered at Honolulu by
[REDACTED], dated July 20, 1940.

[REDACTED]

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Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers
R. L. SHIVERS,
Special Agent in Charge.

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 4-21-53
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RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-208
65-1574-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
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DATE 8-17-86 BY SP5CJ/bdd

66-2542-5897
UNCLASSIFIED COPY FILED IN

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Honolulu, Hawaii
September 16, 1940

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases;
FRIEDEL KUEHN, with aliases;
ESPIONAGE.

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers

R. L. SHIVERS,
Special Agent in Charge.

65-4.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-80 BY SP-5 JCB

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65-1574-21
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 SEP 30 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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65-1574-22 pp 1-7

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
HONOLULU, T. H.

April 10, 1941.

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The following named individual is one who should be considered for temporary custodial detention in the event of war:

OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases:
OTTO K. KUHN, Mr. KOEHN.
Lanikai, Hawaii.

German

(1941).

OTTO KUEHN was born on July 25, 1895, at Berlin, Germany. He married FRIEDEL KUEHN on May 10, 1920, at Muenchen, Germany. He emigrated to the United States from Yokohama, Japan, for permanent residence in Honolulu, aboard the S.S. "Tatuta Maru", arriving in Honolulu on October 29, 1936. (Records of the U. S. District Court, Honolulu.)

KUEHN is reported to have served in the German Navy during the World War as an officer on the ship "Blucher"; when this ship was sunk during the war, he was picked up by H.M.S. "Lion", and interned at Edinburgh. At the end of the war, KUEHN returned to Germany, served for some time in the German Navy until dismissed, approximately in 1929, for alleged financial difficulties. Subject's wife, FRIEDEL KUEHN, is reported to have been the widow of a German officer killed in the war. This woman has a son, LEOPOLD, who is reported to be Secretary to one of the important Nazi leaders in Germany. (Confidential Informant "N", 65-4-8.)

OTTO KUEHN and wife were reported from numerous sources as pro-Nazi. (Complete details as to this may be obtained from Confidential Informant "N".)

[REDACTED]

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65-1574-23

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 APR 21 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DATA

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Director.

4/10/41.

KUEHN reported to be German movement leader in Honolulu and head of
local Bund. [REDACTED] Honolulu "Star-Bulletin"; b6
[REDACTED] b7c

Very truly yours,

R. L. SHIVERS,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc - 100-1

CONFIDENTIAL

65-1574-24

July 31, 1941

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge
Honolulu, Hawaii

Re: OTTO E. KUHN with aliases;
FRIEDRICH KUHN with aliases;
ESPIONAGE (C)

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

This is being furnished to you for the
completion of your files.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FOI/PA #	2687114
APPEAL #	
CIVIL ACT. #	
E.O. #	12356
DATE	8-7-86
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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED
JUL 31 1941

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CONFIDENTIAL

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OTHERWISE

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DECLASSIFY ON: NND

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

Referred
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Handwritten notes:
[Illegible cursive handwriting]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION **FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

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- ☐ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Honolulu, Hawaii
July 18, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE BUREAU:

Mrs. FRIEDEL BIRK KUEHN, with alias

Mrs. Friedel Birk Kuhn (Alien)

Lanikai, Oahu, T. H.

Mailing Address: Box 1476, Honolulu. (1941)

German

Mrs. FRIEDEL KUEHN, whose maiden name was FRIEDEL BIRK, age 46 (1938), was born in Hamburg, Germany, and was married to OTTO KUEHN May 10, 1920, at Munchen, Germany. OTTO KUEHN also subject of same case. Mrs. KUEHN reported to have been widow of German officer killed in first World War. Has a son, LEOPOLD, reported to be secretary to one of important Nazi leaders in Germany.

Mrs. KUEHN and husband reportedly came to Honolulu from Germany in August of 1935. Mrs. KUEHN made trip to Germany, returning in March, 1936, and has made two trips to Japan, one in July, 1938, returning November, 1938,

Latest trip to Japan in February, 1940, returning April, 1940. (Reports of [redacted] Honolulu, dated 9-26-39, entitled MR. and Mrs. OTTO K. KUHN, with aliases: ESPIONAGE, [redacted] Honolulu, dated 3-22-40, [redacted] Honolulu, dated 4-27-40, entitled OTTO K. KUEHN, was., et al.; ESPIONAGE.)

OTTO KUEHN, husband, has made statement his wife, FRIEDEL, has made life unbearable due to her Nazi attitude and there is some information to indicate Mrs. KUEHN has made very definite statements concerning Nazi conditions in Germany in the presence of guests, at which time OTTO KUEHN appears to be embarrassed. (Report of [redacted] Honolulu, dated 9-26-39, entitled MR. and MRS. OTTO K. KUHN, was.; ESPIONAGE.)

RECORDED

Address book in possession of Mrs. KUEHN reflects numerous acquaintances or contacts in Germany and Japan. (Report of [redacted] Honolulu, dated 3-22-40, entitled [redacted])

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-86 BY SP5CJ/

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July 18, 1941

Mrs. KUEHN, husband, and daughter filed Declaration of Intention for U. S. citizenship at Honolulu, March 3, 1938. (Report of Special Honolulu, dated 3-22-40.)

Mrs. KUEHN reported to have stated she had some association with youth movement in Germany prior to coming to U. S. [REDACTED]

FRIEDEL KUEHN and husband have been reported from numerous sources as pro-Nazi. (Complete details as to this may be obtained from [REDACTED] b6
[REDACTED] b7C.)

R. L. Shivers
R. L. SHIVERS
Special Agent in Charge

cc - 100-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **HONOLULU, T. H.**

Honolulu FILE NO. **65-4**

pb

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 9/20/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/16, 8/8, 11-16, 18, 19, 9/2-4, 10/11	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE (Changed) FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with aliases; Mrs. OTTO K. KUEHN, Mrs. OTTO K. KUEHN, Mrs. KOEHN.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - G
BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases; Otto K. Kuehn, Otto Kuhn, Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Koehn.			
FOI/PA 268714 APPEAL CIVIL ACT. # E.O. # 12366 DATE 8-22-86 INITIALS [REDACTED]			

SYNOPSIS of FACTS:

Subject OTTO KUEHN reportedly served in German Navy during First World War and said to have been interned in England during the course of war.

is unemployed.

8-22-80
 CLASSIFIED BY **[REDACTED]**
 DECLASSIFY ON **#268714**
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE **8-22-80** BY **[REDACTED]**
#268714

APPROVED AND FORWARDED R. J. [REDACTED]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 1574-26
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - ONI - Honolulu 1 - G-2 - Honolulu 2 - Honolulu		RECORDED INDEXED OCT 6 1941 CONFIDENTIAL

CC D. ONI 6-2
 1cc Adm. & G. Bureau
 RECEIVED 11-11-41



b6
 b7c
 b7d
 OS
 1cc [REDACTED]

65-4

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS (Cont'd):

ious income. [REDACTED]

b6
b7c
b7E
CONFIDENTIAL

REFERENCE:

Report of [REDACTED]
T. H., dated 10/31/40.

b6
b7c
Honolulu,

DETAILS:

The title of this report is being changed to reflect the full and correct names of subjects, as well as their known aliases appearing in previous reports.

Attention is directed to a letter received from the Bureau under date of July 21, 1941, concerning information received at the Bureau [REDACTED]. It

might be pointed out that this possibility has been known to the Honolulu Office for some time and, therefore, during the course of the present investigation the same has been borne constantly in mind. However, no information has been developed to indicate these names referred to the same individuals. This possibility will continue to be borne in mind in all future investigations in this case.

b6
b7c
b7d
CONFIDENTIAL

65-4

CONFIDENTIAL b6
CONFIDENTIAL

b7c
b7d

It was stated that KUERN'S son is a secretary for Nazi leaders in Germany.

b6
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CONFIDENTIAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

An article appeared in the January 2, 1941, issue of the Hawaii "Sentinel", which apparently refers to the subjects of this investigation and is quoted as follows:

"Junius would like to know when the deportation of the local Nazi family, who carry a name similar to the fellow who got the front page with his mainland Bund activities, is going to be announced officially. We hear their house set up with the bar for the service men, to get them in the mood to talk was a tip-off as to just what the little lady of the trio was up to in her playing around with the local gold braid boys. We hear the import jack has been cut to a minimum and his Berlin boss is transferring them to the Shanghai Bund. Junius hears the FBI has one swell dosier on this set-up and the family is set to get a turn down reception if they try to stop off at Manila."

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 65-1574-26 pp 5-15

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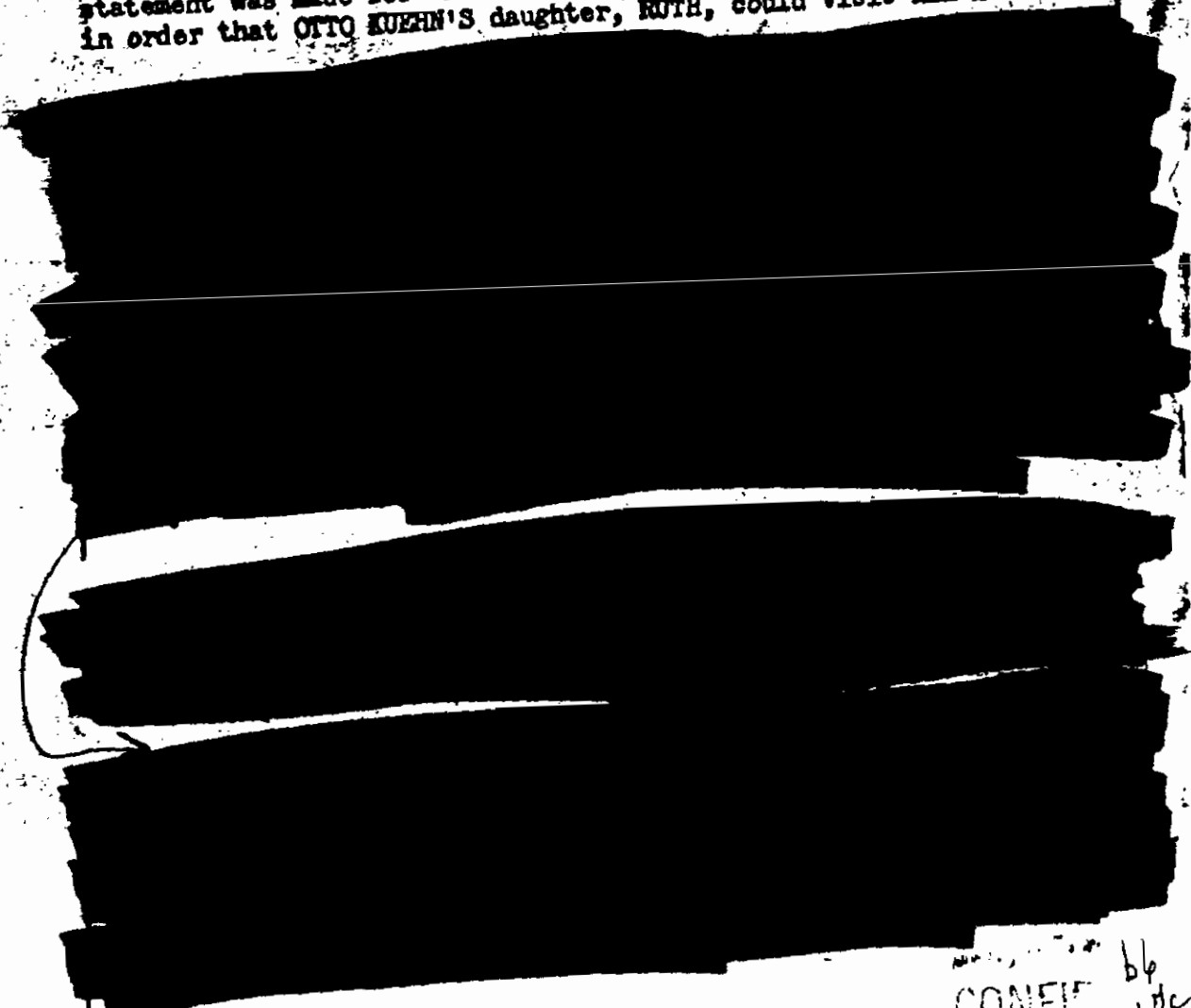
The Immigration and Naturalization file on OTTO KUEHN reflected his occupation as student, wife FRIEDA KUEHN, Lanikai, Oahu, and children, RUTH, age 21 (1936), MARTIN EBERHARD, age 10 (1936) and HANS JOACHIM, age 3 (1936). OTTO KUEHN was born in Berlin, Germany, his Berlin address being given as 2 Suedendstr., Sueden, Germany. It was noted German passport No. 191R 22635, issued at Berlin, May 27, 1935, to expire on May 27, 1940. KUEHN entered the United States as a non-immigrant at Honolulu, August 15, 1935, and was admitted for twelve months. Extension was granted to August 14, 1937, the reason given being, "To continue my Japanese studies." Statement was made by OTTO KUEHN that he was not employed but had ample funds. Income was noted as derived from investments. It was noted that OTTO KUEHN

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654

CONFIDENTIAL

married FRIEDEL BIRK on May 10, 1920, at Muenchen, Germany. OTTO KUEHN was later admitted on October 29, 1936, as a quota immigrant aboard the "Tatsuta Maru." On December 2, 1935, a notarized statement was made by OTTO KUEHN to the effect that he arrived in New York City on April 29, 1935, in transit to Japan via Honolulu, for the purpose of studying the Japanese language with the intention of qualifying in such to hold an interpreter and translator position in the mercantile field in Germany. It was stated he arrived in Japan June 18, 1935, and determined after investigation that he could make better progress in his endeavor to learn the Japanese language at the University of Hawaii. He then returned to Hawaii on August 15, 1935, and since has attended the University and has resided in the Brookland Hotel. This notarized statement was made for the benefit of the American Consul at Yokohama in order that OTTO KUEHN'S daughter, RUTH, could visit him in Honolulu.



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os

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OS

KUEHN brought with him at that time a number of private papers which proved conclusively that he was a man of means and his income from an estate and investments amounted to approximately \$5,000.00 per year. KUEHN said he expected his wife and child to join him from Germany and to remain here for approximately one year, at which time the family would return to Germany.

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OS

On November 1, 1938. OTTO KUEHN, who had also departed for Japan in July, 1938, returned to Honolulu on the "Asama Maru" on September 22, 1938.

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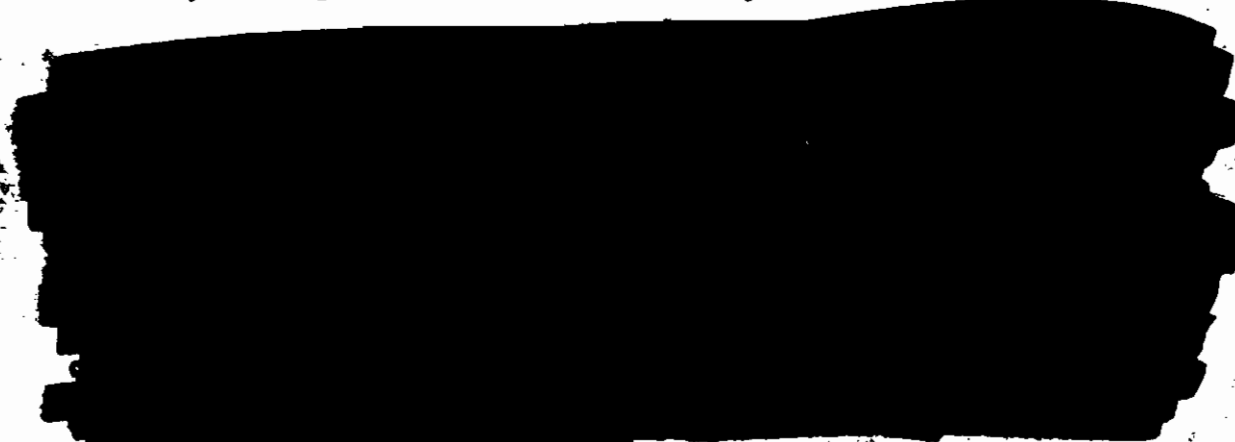
65-1574-26 pg 19-24

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A check of the records of the U. S. District Clerk's office on July 16, 1941, reflected no further information concerning naturalization proceedings with regard to OTTO, FRIEDEL and RUTH KUEHN than has previously been set forth. It might be pointed out that five years residence is required before citizenship can be obtained. Therefore, OTTO will be eligible for citizenship in October, 1941, and FRIEDEL in September, 1942. Information previously reported indicates RUTH had obtained her final papers following her marriage to an American citizen, although this information is not yet recorded.



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65-1574-26 pgs 26-31

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

HONOLULU, T. H.

Honolulu FILE NO.

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	
Miss	

pb

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 11/24/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/3, 11/7, 19, 21, 22/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
-----------------------------------	----------------------------	--	------------------------------

TITLE (Changed) FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with aliases: Mrs. Otto K. Kuehn, Mrs. Otto K. Kuhn, Mrs. Kuehn, BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases: Otto K. Kuehn, Otto Kuhn, Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Kuehn, XXXXXXXXXXXX Mrs. J. CARSON MOORE nee Ruth Kuehn.	CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE
--	--------------------------------

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]

Recent activity of KUEHNS fails to indicate they are engaged in espionage activities at present time. OTTO KUEHN scheduled to be formally admitted to U. S. citizenship in January, 1942.

Supplemental custodial detention memoranda being submitted on OTTO KUEHN

JAN 1 0 1942

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 1574-27	RECORDED
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cc to ONI, G-2, 12-10-41 RKG:um
cc to Asst. Dir. for Research 2-11-42 KZE

MEAVE Ransat

65-4

b6
b7c

REFERENCE:

Report of [REDACTED]
T. H., dated 9/20/41.

Honolulu,

DETAILS:

The title of this report is being changed to add the additional subject, Mrs. J. CARSON MOORE nee EUTH KUEHN.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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b7c
b7d

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b
[REDACTED] b
[REDACTED] b
Under date of October 27, 1941, Mr. J. P. DILLON of the Naturalization Office at the Immigration Station, advised that OTTO KUEHN filed a petition for citizenship on June 30, 1941; that he would be coming up for his final papers in December, 1941, and will be formally admitted to citizenship the last Saturday in January, 1942. [REDACTED] b

As of October 23, 1941, the address of OTTO KUEHN, his wife FRIEDEL, and his sons MARTIN EBERHARD, age 15, and HANS JOACHIM, age 8, [REDACTED] the corner of Ainoni and Kainalu Streets, Kailua, Oahu, T. H., there being no street numbers in that vicinity. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. KUEHN is employed and both are reported to remain around their residence the greater part of the time. MARTIN EBERHARD KUEHN is at present attending the Punahou School in Honolulu. The KUEHNs' daughter, RUTH, who, as reflected in reference report, recently married J. CARSON MOORE, is living with her husband at a home owned by him at Lanikai, Kailua, Oahu, T. H. 7

[REDACTED] b
[REDACTED] b
[REDACTED] b

[REDACTED] b6
b7c
b7d

(This information seems to disagree with that developed to date in this investigation. On pages 16 to 18 of the reference report, information obtained from the files of the Immigration and Naturalization Bureau reflects OTTO KUEHN first entered the United States as non-immigrant on April 29, 1935, on his way to Japan "for purposes of studying Japanese language with the intention of qualifying in such to hold an interpreter and translator position in the mercantile field in German." He later returned from Japan to Honolulu on August 15, 1935, to study the Japanese language instead at the University of Hawaii. [REDACTED] b6
b7c

[REDACTED] During questioning of Mr. KUEHN by the Director of the Immigration and Naturalization Bureau, Honolulu, on January 2, 1936, KUEHN said he expected his wife and child to join him from Germany and to remain here for approximately one year, at which time the family would return to Germany. Both Mr. and Mrs. KUEHN afterward made trips to Japan and returned to Honolulu as quota immigrants for permanent residence.)

[REDACTED] b7d

[REDACTED] KUEHN is described as a monarchist and speaks glowingly of the days of the Kaiser. He served in the German Navy during the first World War. At that time, he was interned for the greater portion of the war in England and has frequently spoken highly of his treatment by the English.

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65-1574-27 pgs 5-25

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

HONOLULU, T. H.
December 1, 1941.

Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Holloman	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Files	.....

65-4
Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Re: FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with
aliases, et al;
ESPIONAGE - C

Dear Sir:

The following information is being furnished to supplement that previously furnished by custodial detention memorandum dated July 18, 1941, relative to Mrs. FRIEDEL BIRK KUEHN, with alias, a subject in this case. FRIEDEL KUEHN is presently residing with her husband, OTTO, and their sons, MARTIN EBERHARD, age 15, and HANS JOACHIM, age 8, at the corner of Ainoni and Kainalu Streets, Kalama, Kailua, Oahu, T. H.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-8-86 BY SP-5 CJA

10 DEC 29 1941

EX-1

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**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

HONOLULU, T. H.
December 1, 1941

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Carson
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Holloman
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

65-4

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Re: FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with
aliases, et al;
ESPIONAGE - G

Dear Sir:

The following information is being submitted to supplement
that previously furnished by custodial detention memorandum dated
April 10, 1941, relative to OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases Otto K.
KUEHN, Mr. KUEHN, a subject in this case.

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DATE 8-8-86 BY SP6CJ/DA

COPIES DESTROYED
989 AUG 1961

10 DEC 29 1941

Letter to Director

- 2 -

12/1/41

[REDACTED]

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b7d

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers
R. L. SHIVERS, *may*
Special Agent in Charge

cc:
100-1

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Honolulu, T.H.

FILE NO. 65-4

REPORT MADE AT Honolulu, T.H.	DATE WHEN MADE 12/22/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/21/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE - CHANGED - FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with aliases: Mrs. Otto K. Kuehn, Mrs. Otto K. Kuhn, Mrs. Koehn; BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases: Otto K. Kuehn, Otto Kuhn, Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Koehn; Mrs. J. CARSON MOORE, nee Ruth Kuehn; EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - C
Synopsis: <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 100px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>			
- P -			
Details: The title of this report has been changed to add the additional subject: EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN. <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 150px; margin-top: 10px;"></div>			
- PENDING -			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <div style="text-align: center;"> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE </div>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">65-1574-31</div>		
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau - 1cc and d.b. [unclear] 1 ONI, Honolulu 1 G2, Honolulu 2 Honolulu <div style="background-color: black; width: 100%; height: 20px; margin-top: 5px;"></div>	20 1942 [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]		

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DATE 8-8-86 BY [unclear]

- PENDING -

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 1 G2, Honolulu
 2 Honolulu
 [unclear] [unclear]
 1-27-42
 RPC

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice**

HONOLULU, T. H.
December 1, 1941.

R. L. Shivers, SAC
Honolulu
12/5/41

65-4

MEMORANDUM FOR THE BUREAU

MOORE, Mrs. J. CARSON, nee SUSE KATTE RUTH KUEHN,
alias RUTH MOORE (citizen)
Lanikai,
Oahu, T. H. (1941)

German

Subject is daughter of OTTO and FRIEDEL KUEHN, both German aliens residing in Honolulu, who have also been reported as pro-Nazi and to be engaged in suspicious activities in Honolulu. (Refer to custodial detention memorandum on OTTO K. KUEHN submitted under date April 10, 1941, and Mrs. FRIEDEL BIRK KUEHN, with alias, submitted under date of July 18, 1941.)

RUTH has a brother, LEOPOLD, who is reported to be secretary to one of the important Nazi leaders in Germany. Confidential Informant N, September 29, 1939, Honolulu, 65-4-8.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-8-86 BY SP-10/CA

9 JAN 2 1942
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DEC 19 1941

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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65-1574-32 pp 2 + 3

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January 11, 1942

Call: 11:35 a.m.

THE DIRECTOR

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-86 BY SP-6 JCB

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

RECORDED
The Otto Kuehn case is coming along.

65-1574-328

64 JUN 19 1942

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S. DEPT.

FILE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 65-1574-328

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Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

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66
67c
January 22, 1942

65-1574-33

Personal and Confidential

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

For your information, it has been reported, although not wholly verified, that the Army in Hawaii is planning to discharge all draftees of Japanese ancestry, numbering over one thousand men.

The advantage of such procedure, of course, would be to relieve the Army of having among its fighting personnel such individuals who, because of potential loyalty to the Empire of Japan through ancestral traits and teachings, could seriously impair and disrupt the Army's success in times of combat with the Japanese forces through supplying information to the enemy as to the movements and activities of the United States forces or demoralizing our forces by actually turning on our troops. The retention of such individuals in the armed forces, possessing such potentialities, would also present the problem of possible sabotage against the supplies and equipment employed by the armed forces, particularly in time of combat.

On the other hand, the discharge of these men would result in turning loose in the Hawaiian Islands over one thousand trained young men whose potentialities, augmented by any resentment that they may feel because of this action, would be most dangerous. These men would offer a valuable field to the Japanese for the development of espionage agents and saboteurs and, in fact, as a result of their army training would, if permitted to consolidate in one group and possibly augmented by Japanese aliens and others of Japanese ancestry in the Islands, offer a serious threat to the internal security of the Islands from a military standpoint.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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23 December, 1941

#0245 (1) #PA#

From: KITA

To: Foreign Minister, Tokyo

(Secret Military message No.) (By Chief of Consulate's Code).

To: Chief of Third Section, Naval General Staff

From: FUJII

Re signals I wish to simplify communications as follows:

1. Code (following 3 section 8 line table)
Battle force, including scouting force, are about to put to sea - -

1. Several aircraft carriers plan to put to sea.
2. All Battle force has sailed 1st - 3rd dates inc.
3. Several aircraft carriers have sailed (1st to 3rd)
4. All aircraft carriers have sailed (1st to 3rd)
5. All battle force have sailed, 4th - 6th dates inc.
6. Several aircraft carriers have sailed. (4th to 6th)
7. All aircraft carriers have sailed. (4th to 6th)

2. Signal

Light in Lanikai beach house at night - - - -

One light from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. indicates "1". From 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. indicates "2". The below signals until midnight, in order indicate 3 and 4. Two lights, according to the time, indicate 5, 6, 7, 8. When not in accordance with (lights) above 1 full automobile headlight and one half light indicate 1, 2, 3, 4. Two full lights indicate 5, 6, 7, 8.

2. On the Lanikai coast during daytime from 8 a.m. until noon every hour 1 piece linen cloth (sheet) indicates 1, 2, 3, 4. Two pieces linen cloth indicate 5, 6, 7, 8.

3. In Lanikai bay during daytime in front of harbor (Offing) a star boat with one star on sail indicates 1, 2, 3, 4; a star and "III" indicates 5, 6, 7, 8.

4. Light in dormer window of Kalama house from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. every hour indicates 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

"5. "KIMB Want Ads" advertisements 9:45 a.m.

- (A) A chinese rug etc., for sale - apply P. O. Box 1476 indicates 3 or 6.
- (B) A complete chicken farm etc., apply as above indicates 4 or 7.
- (C) Beauty operator wanted - same - indicates 3 or 2.

In the event that in accordance with one of 3 items written above from Oahu a signal or radio message is impossible or Maui Island at a point located between the lower road six miles north of KULA Sanatorium and Haleakala road which can be watch from the sea to the south west and south east of Maui, until the receipt of the signal "EIEI" this (the following) will be repeated for several days: A small fire on the high peak.

7 p.m. - 8 p.m. indicates 3 or 6; 8 p.m. - 9 p.m. indicates 4 or 7
9 p.m. - 10 p.m. indicates 3 or 2."

As soon as a translation of the above messages was received, Special Agent in Charge R. L. SHIVELY and LT. COLONEL GEORGE W. BICKELL, Assistant Chief of Staff - G2, took immediate steps to institute an investigation for the purpose of locating the Japanese agents who had been assigned to the task of getting these signals out, presumably to enemy submarines off the shores of the Island of Oahu. Investigation was instituted by the Office of Naval Intelligence to cover the station in Lanikai on the windward side of Oahu. The FBI conducted an investigation at Kalama which is also on the windward side of Oahu to locate the house with the dormer window which was used to signal from 7:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. flashes that would indicate Items 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. The FBI also conducted an investigation to determine whether or not there had been any advertisements over radio station KIMB "Want Ads" advertisements at 9:45 a.m. subsequent to December 1, 1941, or any advertisements in any of the newspapers in Honolulu, relating to Items A, B or C in the above quoted paragraphs.

The Office of Naval Intelligence instituted an investigation on the island of Maui in an effort to locate and identify the person who would send out signals from that island. At the present time, it appears that the house with the "dormer window" at Lanikai or Kalama may be the house which is owned by OTTO KUHN and his wife FRIZZELL, Subject of Honolulu Field Division File 65-461, "MR. and MRS. FRIZZELL; ESPIONAGE - G." These individuals have been the subject of considerable investigation by the FBI, the Office Of Naval Intelligence as well as the Office of G-2. It is believed, although it is not

established, that the KUEHNS are the people who signaled from the house at the "dormer window." OTTO KUEHN and his wife, as well as their daughter RUTH CARSON MOORE, were picked up and interned on December 8, 1941. It is also believed that the KUEHNS as Mr. and Mrs. FRIEDEL, approached the Japanese Consul-General in Honolulu more than a year and a half ago with information for the Japanese Navy.

Certain telegrams were exchanged between the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu and Tokyo with reference to the FRIEDELLS. These messages, of course, were all in code, presumably the regular Japanese diplomatic code. Several of the telegrams were intercepted and decoded. These decoded messages were transmitted to the Honolulu Field Division by the Bureau under date of November 29, 1940. A radiogram dated July 10, 1940, from the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu to Tokyo advised that a man and his wife who called themselves "FRIEDEL" and who appeared to be Jewish or German looking, appeared at the Office of the Consulate secretly, from time to time, and requested that intelligence reports be submitted to the Japanese Navy. Inquiry was requested by the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu to investigate and find out if these persons were reliable and if so, to what extent.

Under date of July 12, 1940, a radiogram was received advising the Honolulu Japanese Consulate from Tokyo that they had inquiry of the Navy and find they have no definite recollection of FRIEDEL but they wished to advise that in case any information is furnished by FRIEDEL, it should be sent along by dispatch indicating it by some recognizable mark, and they will advise further as to handle it after the information has been looked over.

It might be stated at this time that Mrs. FRIEDEL KUEHN returned to Honolulu from Japan on the ASAMA MARU on April 20, 1940. No additional communications relating to the FRIEDELLS between the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu and Tokyo were ever brought to the attention of this office.

Translations of other messages received from MACKAY RADIO COMPANY, both incoming and outgoing, which were passed between the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu, T. H., and the Foreign Minister in Tokyo, are as follows:

MESSAGE NO. 1.

"December 3, 1941

FROM: FOREIGN MINISTER
TO: KITA, CONSUL, HONOLULU

"STRICTLY SECRET"

WOULD LIKE YOU TO HOLD ON YOUR LIST OF CODE WORDS (ALSO THOSE USED IN CONNECTION WITH RADIO BROADCAST) RIGHT UP UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE. WHEN THE BREAK COMES BURN IMMEDIATELY AND WIPE US TO THAT EFFECT.

"DOO"

MESSAGE TWO

December 4, 1941

"FROM: KITA
TO: FOREIGN MINISTER, TOKYO

AT 1300 ON THE 4th A LIGHT CRUISER OF THE NOBOLULU CLASS HASTILY DEPARTED.

KITA"

MESSAGE THREE

December 5, 1941

"FROM: KITA
TO: FOREIGN MINISTER, TOKYO

1. The three battleships mentioned in your X299 of Friday morning, the 5th entered port. They expect to depart port on the 8th.
2. On the same day the LEXINGTON and 3 heavy cruisers departed.
3. The following warships were anchored on the after-

65-114

"noon of the 5th:

8 Battleships

3 light cruisers

16 Destroyers

Sailing in were 4 cruisers of the Monolulu type and 2 destroyers.

KITA"

MESSAGE FOUR

December 4, 1941

"FROM:

KITA

TO:

FOREIGN MINISTER

ON THE AFTERNOON OF THE 3RD A BRITISH MAN OF
WAR ENTERED MONOLULU AND DEPARTED EARLY ON THE
4th. ABOUT 1100 HOURS, THE STACK, HAD A
4 INCH GUN FORE AND AFT. IMMEDIATELY AFTER
ENTERING PORT THE CREW WENT ASHORE AND WERE
RECEIVING MAIL AT THE BRITISH CONSULATE.

KITA"

MESSAGE FIVE

December 6, 1941

"FROM:

TOGO - FOREIGN MINISTER

TO:

CONSUL - MONOLULU

PLEASE INFORM US IMMEDIATELY OF ANY RUMORS OF
THE MOVEMENTS OF WARSHIPS AFTER THE 4TH.

TOGO"

65-434

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C
b6
b7D
b7E

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

65-434

[REDACTED]

-PENDING-

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Honolulu, T. H.
December 26, 1941

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: JAPANESE ACTIVITIES, HONOLULU, T. H.;
ESPIONAGE - CONFIDENTIAL (J).

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith five copies of the above-captioned report rendered in the above manner by Special Agent in Charge R. L. SHIVERS at Honolulu, T. H., December 26, 1941.

The Office of Naval Intelligence, Fourteenth Naval District, and the Office of G-2 are aware of the contents of the messages quoted in this report and are generally informed concerning the full contents of this report. It is suggested, therefore, the Bureau not furnish copies of this report to ONI or the MID in Washington, D. C. in view of the reference made to the Cryptographic Section established by the Navy at Pearl Harbor which is supposed to be one of the prime secrets in Honolulu, T. H.

Very truly yours,

(signed)

R. L. SHIVERS
Special Agent in Charge

RLS:mma
65-414

4 APR 16 1942

RECORDED

65-1574-8
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 13 1942
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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RECORDED [REDACTED] b6 b7c

January 21, 1942

[REDACTED] b6 b7c 88239
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D. C.

[REDACTED]
In connection with our national defense investigations, it is requested that we be supplied with transcripts of all monitoring being conducted by your Commission at the present time of message transmitted over the Pacific, including transmissions of Japanese radio broadcasts and the like.

Your assistance and cooperation in this respect will be sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-86 BY SP5/JPW
#2508714

John Edgar Hoover
Director

copy [REDACTED]
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DATE 7-18-85 b6 b7c
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BERNARD KUEHN

PART 2 OF 7

FILE NUMBER: 65-1574

SUBJECT

RUEHN

FILE NUMBER

65-1574

SECTION 2

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

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of				
INVESTIGATION				

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65
1574SECTION 2
SERIALS 36-55

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Vol. II

January 15, 1942

THE DIRECTOR

As you may recall, following the air attack on the Island of Oahu, copies of messages sent and received by the Japanese Consulate were obtained by the Honolulu Field Office from the commercial wireless, radio and telegraph companies in that city.

The translation of one of these messages dispatched on December 3, 1941, by Kita, Japanese Consul in Honolulu, to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo, set forth a complete system of signals to be used in communicating information to the enemy. One of the signals to be utilized was a "light in dormer window of Kalama house from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. every hour", which indicated the sailings of aircraft carriers and battle forces on certain dates. Investigation disclosed that the Kalama house with the dormer window was owned by Otto Kuahn and his wife Friedel. These individuals, with their daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, were interned at Honolulu on December 8, 1941, and following his detention, Kuahn admitted that he prepared the signaling system and took it to the Japanese Consulate on December 2, 1941. Evidence is also available indicating that Kuahn and his wife Friedel were paid agents of the Japanese Government in Hawaii.

According to Special Agent in Charge Shivers, the question arises as to what prosecutive action should be taken against these subjects inasmuch as civil courts are not functioning under the martial law which presently prevails in the Territory of Hawaii. Mr. Shivers reports that legal opinion in Hawaii indicates that the Military Commission, which exercises jurisdiction over all capital offenses and other violations, where the prescribed punishment is in excess of five years' imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine, would have jurisdiction in the Kuahn case, even though their activities occurred prior to December 7, 1941, when martial law was declared in Hawaii.

In addition to the prosecutive question, Mr. Shivers also states that a matter of policy is involved, inasmuch as the evidence necessary to convict the Kuahns in any court would show the activity of the Japanese Consul General and certain members of his staff who have diplomatic immunity.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12-8-80 BY SP-6 JCD

#268714

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-1574-36
JAN 17 1942
FIVE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 65-1574-36

Memo for the Director

- 2 -

1/15/42

Mr. Shivers has stated that he does not know whether the Army will bring Kuehn before the Military Commission without waiting for an opinion of the Attorney General or the State Department, but he suggests that this matter be brought to the attention of the Attorney General.

In view of the circumstances, it is believed that this question should be discussed by Mr. Shivers with the Military Governor and the United States Attorney at Honolulu, at which time these persons should be informed that a decision as to the place of prosecution of Subject is entirely in their hands and the Bureau will defer to their judgement in the premises.

A radiogram containing instructions of this nature is attached hereto for your approval.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

Attachment

January 19, 1942

Re: FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN
with aliases;
BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
with aliases;
ESPIONAGE (C)

Subjects first came to the attention of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in February, 1939, when a confidential informant advised that he had received a report from friends residing in the Hawaiian Islands, who desired to remain anonymous, that the Kuehns were believed to be espionage agents. This report asserted that, although Subjects had no apparent source of income, they owned two homes at Kailua, Oahu, one of which was very large and, further, that they entertained lavishly, particularly Army officers. This report was immediately referred to ONI, G-2, and the San Francisco Field Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, instructing that an investigation regarding Subjects be conducted when next an Agent was in the Territory of Hawaii.

Inquiry has disclosed that Kuehn was born in Berlin, Germany, on July 25, 1895. While serving as an Ober-Lieutenant in the Imperial German Navy during World War I, his ship was sunk and he was picked up by H. M. S. Lion. He was interned at Edinburgh until the end of hostilities, when he returned to Germany. Kuehn stayed in the German Navy for some time, eventually being dismissed therefrom in 1929 for alleged financial difficulties.

On May 10, 1920, at Munchen, Germany, Kuehn married Friedel Birk, the widow of a German officer killed during the war and the mother of two children named Leopold and Ruth. Two sons, Martin Eberhard and Hans Joachim, resulted from this union.

On August 15, 1935, Kuehn was admitted to the United States at Honolulu for a twelve-month period as a non-immigrant. At that time he gave as the purpose of his visit the desire to study the Japanese language in order that he might return to his native country and secure a position as translator and interpreter in the mercantile field. The immigration records contain a statement made by Kuehn revealing that he arrived in New York City on April 29, 1935, in transit to Japan via Honolulu. However, upon reaching the Orient, he decided he could make better progress in his study of the Japanese language at the University of Hawaii and, accordingly, returned to Honolulu on August 15, 1935, accompanied by his children Ruth and Martin Eberhard.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-28-88 BY SP-10/08

RECORDED

JAN 15 1942
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Kuehn's original entry permit was extended to August 14, 1937, to enable him to "continue his Japanese studies." Apparently he left Honolulu following this extension since he was admitted to the United States as a quota immigrant on October 29, 1936.

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

At the time of their entry into this country, Subjects stated that, although neither of them was employed, they had ample funds to cover their expenses while here.

Regarding Subjects' income, they have indicated that they were deriving their money from investments and business interests in Germany and Holland. The nature of these investments is not clear, although Kuehn claims to have been in the coffee and tea importing business in Bremen and Berlin until 1935, when he turned this company over to his stepson. In any event, it is definitely known that Subjects had over \$70,000 deposited to their credit in the Bishop National Bank in Honolulu by the Rotterdam Bank Association, Amsterdam, through the National City Bank of New York, between May 14, 1936, and February 7, 1939. Kuehn claims that his income from Germany was stopped in 1938 when someone reported to the German authorities that he and his family intended to become American citizens. It is a fact that Subjects and their daughter Ruth filed declarations of intention to become citizens of the United States on March 3, 1938. Funds which Kuehn was receiving on investments in Holland supposedly continued until that country was taken over by Germany.

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c
b7d

Immediately following Kuehn's first arrival in Honolulu in 1935, he temporarily resided at the Brooklyn Hotel, where he sought the companionship of young Navy officers, whom he reportedly entertained freely.

During the early part of 1937, Kuehn invested about \$21,000 in three pieces of property in Honolulu. One of these houses was used for a residence, the other two being rented.

On July 14, 1938, Subjects, accompanied by their sons Martin
Eberhard and Hans Joachim, left Honolulu for Yokohama, Japan. Kuehn
announced that this trip was made to enable him to secure permanent
entry permits for his two sons, who were in this country on temporary
permits. Kuehn returned to Honolulu alone on September 22, 1938, his
wife and children following on November 1 of the same year.

Through arrangements effected by Kuehn, \$100 was sent to
his family at Tokyo through the National City Bank of New York on
August 27, 1938, and an additional \$1,500 was dispatched to them in
Shanghai by the same source on September 2, 1938.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

When interviewed by ONI on November 2, 1939, Kuehn admitted having been a member of the Socialist German National Party, but claimed that when Hitler came into power it was necessary for him to leave Germany since he did not agree with the new government. He stated that he owned property in Germany and was receiving an income therefrom [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In reply to specific inquiry as to whether Kuehn would be willing to assist ONI in gaining information regarding un-American

activities in Honolulu, he stated that he would not accept such an offer for pay, but if any such data came to his attention, he would report it. He gave as his reason for refusing this proposition the fact that since his son and other relatives were still living in Germany, he could not afford to let it be known that he was working against that country.

Numerous reports have been received by the Honolulu Field Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicating that Subjects are very pro-German and pro-Nazi and interested in German clubs in Honolulu.

[REDACTED]

According to information appearing in ONI's files, when the German cruiser "Emden" was in Honolulu in 1936, [REDACTED] gave out information that the officers of that vessel were to have nothing to do with Kuehn.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Information received from ONI in the early fall of 1940 indicates that Subjects had a dormer window constructed in the attic of their residence which overlooked Kaneohe Air Station. ONI has advised that although numerous observations have been made of Subjects' house, no lights have ever been seen therein.

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

[REDACTED]

It has been asserted that Kuehn took advantage of every opportunity to observe all possible military movements, such as parades, drills, et cetera.

Investigation has revealed that Subjects have done considerable entertaining in Honolulu, exhibiting a particular interest in having Army and Navy officers as their guests. A list of Kuehn's associates, obtained from ONI, contains the names of five lieutenants. Other sources revealed that Kuehn was friendly with [REDACTED] U.S.N., [REDACTED] of the Submarine Detachment in Pearl Harbor. One [REDACTED] for the Quartermaster Corps at Hickam Field, also is mentioned as having been friendly with Subjects. The neighborhood investigation revealed that an enlisted sailor in a uniform, driving a car with Pearl Harbor tags, as well as an automobile bearing identification tags from Schofield Barracks, has been seen visiting the Kuehns.

[REDACTED]

According to ONI in San Francisco, Kuehn is also supposed to have been friendly with one [REDACTED] the S. S. Monterey, who was described as extremely pro-Nazi.

Kuehn has been suspected by some Germans of having supplied information to the Japanese Government and he has openly stated that he knows he is under suspicion by the United States Government. ONI obtained information that German Consul Robert Lang at Honolulu intended to obtain the correct status of the Kuehns in Germany.

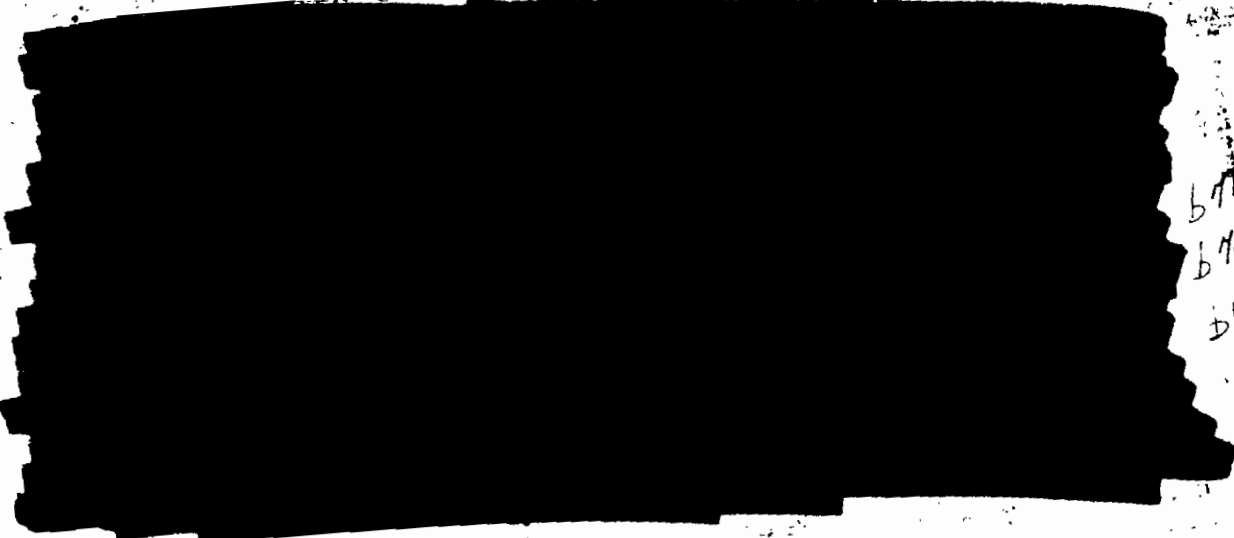
[REDACTED]

On January 2, 1941, the following article, apparently referring to Subjects, was printed in the Hawaii "Sentinel":

b6
b7c

b7E

"Junius would like to know when the deportation of the local Nazi family, who carry a name similar to the fellow who got the front page with his mainland Bund activities, is going to be announced officially. We hear their house set up with the bar for the service men, to get them in the mood to talk was a tip-off as to just what the little lady of the trio was up to in her playing around with the local gold braid boys. We hear the import jack has been cut to a minimum and his Berlin boss is transferring them to the Shanghai Bund. Junius hears the FBI has one swell dossier on this set-up and the family is set to get a turn down reception if they try to stop off at Manila."



During the investigation of this case, unsuccessful attempts were made by the Honolulu Field Division of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to enlist the cooperation of commercial radio and telegraph companies in the Hawaiian Islands in turning over copies of communications relating to the national defense of our country.

January 19, 1942

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

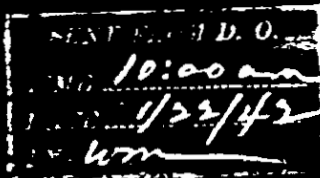
Reference is made to my memorandum of January 5, 1942 and its enclosure which recorded the translations of certain messages exchanged by the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu and the Japanese Foreign Office at Tokyo, Japan.

As you may recall, the translation of one of these messages, dispatched on December 3, 1941 by Kita, the Japanese Consul in Honolulu, to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo, set forth a complete system of signals to be employed in communicating intelligence information to the enemy. One of the signals to be utilized was a "light in dormer window of Kalama house from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. every hour", which indicated the sailing of American aircraft carriers and battle forces on certain dates.

Investigation has disclosed that the Kalama house with the dormer window mentioned in this signal was owned by Otto Kuehn and his wife Friedel. These individuals with their daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, were interned at Honolulu on December 8, 1941. Following his detention, Kuehn in a written statement admitted that he prepared the signaling system in question and furnished it to the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu on December 2, 1941. Evidence is also available indicating that Kuehn and his wife were paid agents of the Japanese Government in Hawaii.

Information has been received by this Bureau to the effect that some question arises as to what prosecutive action should be taken against these subjects inasmuch as civil courts are not functioning under the martial law which has prevailed in the Territory of Hawaii since December 7, 1941. As you probably are aware, the Military Commission is presently exercising jurisdiction in the Territory of Hawaii over all capital offenses and other violations where the prescribed punishment is in excess of five years' imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine.

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



44 JAN 19 8 35 PM '42

Gal SH En 2886 King

Memorandum for the Attorney General

- 2

In addition to the prosecutive question, it appears that a matter of policy is also involved in the proposed prosecution of the Kachns, inasmuch as the evidence necessary to convict them in any court would show the activity in the field of espionage of the Japanese Consul General and certain members of his staff who have diplomatic immunity.

Instructions have been issued to the Honolulu Field Office and this Bureau to discuss this matter with the Military Governor and the United States Attorney at Honolulu and inform them that a decision as to the place of prosecution of Kachn is entirely in their hands and this Bureau will defer to their judgment in the premises.

Since it is not known whether you are aware of this situation, it is believed that this information may be of interest to you.

For your additional information, there is attached a summary of the data contained in this Bureau's files regarding Kachn and his wife. Copies of all reports in this case have been furnished to the Office of Naval Intelligence and the Military Intelligence Division, both at Honolulu and in Washington, D. C.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

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XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Honolulu, T.H.

FILE NO. 65-414

REPORT MADE AT Honolulu, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 1/5/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/30, 31/41; 1/1-4/42	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE JAPANESE ACTIVITIES, Honolulu, T.H.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - CONFIDENTIAL

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Investigation, set forth herein, pertains to OTTO KUEHN and family, subjects of Honolulu file 65-4, and their connections with Japanese espionage activities in Honolulu. Signed statement furnished by OTTO KUEHN reflects he was former agent, German Navy, 1928 to 1930, and was considered for Gestapo post, 1932, which afterwards became occupied by REINHOLD HEYDRICH; that he contacted Japanese Consulate, Honolulu, on several occasions prior to Japanese attack, 12/7/41, and had on 12/2/41, furnished system of signalling regarding activities of U.S. Naval fleet, basically identical with plan mentioned in reference report of 12/26/41; that he received \$14,000.00 cash in latter part of October, 1941, delivered by Japanese individual to his residence at Kailua, Oahu. Search of Kailua residence disclosed correspondence indicating the KUEHNs are sympathetic with the German cause and have son presently occupying Nazi government post under JOEBBELS. KUEHN family presently being held in custody.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

DATE 7-16-82 BY SPBJE/ML

Reference:

Report of [REDACTED], dated 12/26/41, at Honolulu, T.H.

Details:

AT HONOLULU, T. H.

The entire investigation hereafter set forth was conducted jointly by [REDACTED] and the writer.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:

R. J. [Signature] IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT
 5 Bureau
 1 ONI, Honolulu
 1 G2, Honolulu
 2 Honolulu
 1 Navy, [unclear] 2/14/42
 1 [unclear] 2/14/42

<p>65-415-74</p> <p>FILE</p> <p>JAN 30 1942</p>	<p>RECORDED</p> <p>INDEXED</p>
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1-9-42 2-2-42 2-13-42

FIVE
Hallmark

9 KUEHN

Investigation reflected in this report pertains to OTTO KUEHN, his wife, FRIEDEL, daughter, RUTH, now Mrs. J. CARSON MOORE, and the KUEHNs' son, EBERHARD, all of whom are subjects in Honolulu file #65-4. Upon the basis of the information set forth in that file, all four of these individuals were apprehended by agents of this office, acting in co-operation with the military authorities, on December 8, 1941, and were placed in custodial detention, where they are continuing to be held at the present time.

OTTO KUEHN was brought to the Honolulu Field Office from detention quarters at the United States Immigration Station on December 31, 1941, for questioning. At that time he was vigorously interviewed by [REDACTED] and the writer, and submitted the following signed statement, the original of which is being maintained in the Honolulu file in this case: b6 b7c

(Signed statement will appear on next page.)

Honolulu, T.H.
January 1, 1942

I, OTTO KUEHN, make the following statement to [REDACTED] of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, knowing same to be such. No threats, inducements or promises of any kind have been made to me. I make this statement freely and voluntarily, of my own free will. u

I, OTTO KUEHN, was born on July 25, 1895, at Berlin, Germany. In April, 1915, I enlisted in the German Navy, as a Cadet, on the training cruiser, HERTHA, at Flensburg, Germany. After serving my training period, I was a midshipman on the German cruiser, BLUCHER, on which I served in the war until January 24, 1918, at which time I was captured by the British following a naval engagement in which the BLUCHER was sunk. I remained in a British camp, as a prisoner of war, until January of 1918, at which time, during an exchange of prisoners, I was sent to Holland, where I remained for the duration of the war. Following the armistice, I returned to Berlin and studied architecture for three months. Following this, I again entered naval service, as a lieutenant aboard the WITTELSBACH, the mother ship of a minesweeper flotilla. I continued this navy service for an additional six months, following which I was released and placed in the Naval Reserve Corps. I then took up the study of medicine at the University of Berlin and at the University of Munich, continuing this for a period of one and one half years. During this time, 1920, I married my present wife, FRIEDEL, in Munich. Shortly before my marriage, I purchased a 500-ton sail freighter, which operated between Finland and Rotterdam. My father had previously left me an inheritance of about \$50,000 cash, as well as a number of houses and government bonds. The sail freighter, known as the "ANTARES," ran on a reef, after which I sold the boat for about \$2,000.00. u

In about 1921, I began working in Berlin with "SEIMENS," a machinery concern engaged in the manufacture of heavy motors, etc. I continued in this employment, serving as plant protection man, for about one year, following which I entered training with the same company to learn the business, and continued in this up until 1923. I then operated a manufacturing and distributing business of sparkling water and lemonade in Stettin, Germany, operating less than a year. Afterwards, I returned to Berlin and was employed as an inspector with "POMMERSCHE MEIEREIEIEN", which business consisted in dairy products, etc. I continued in this work up until 1926, but before discontinuing this employment, about 1927, I entered into the coffee importing business in Berlin in partnership with one OVERBACK. My position was Sales Manager, and I continued the operation of the same business up until my departure from Germany in 1935. u

My first contact with the Nazi Party was attendance at a meeting called by HITLER in Kiel, Germany, in 1930. HITLER spoke at the meeting, which I attended. Following the meeting, and on that same day, I enlisted as a member of the Nazi Party, and influenced [redacted] to join the party also at the same time. I did not become active in the party until 1932, when [redacted] of the party at Kiel, advised me to go with [redacted] HEYDRICH to Munich and to see a person, name unrecalled, who later became chief of police at Munich, about securing a job with the party. [redacted] HEYDRICH by my home, and HEYDRICH and I took the night train, together, to Munich, after my having advanced HEYDRICH about a one-month mark loan. Upon reaching Munich, HEYDRICH and I went to the City Hall Restaurant, to have a cup of coffee. HEYDRICH excused himself, stating he was going to see the person to whom [redacted] had referred us, the party who later became chief of police at Munich, and it later developed he was given a position by this person, which turned out later to be chief of the German Gestapo system, working under [redacted]. The head of the entire German [redacted]. At the time [redacted] had sent us both to meet with this individual in Munich, he had indicated one or more positions were open and it is quite possible the position given to HEYDRICH was the one I, too, was being considered for. If such a position had been offered me at that time, I would unhesitatingly have accepted it.

HEYDRICH returned after about four hours to the City Hall Restaurant, where I was waiting in the company of the individual, whose name I have forgotten, who later became chief of police in Munich, and I accompanied them to HEINRICH HUMMER's home, where I spoke with HUMMER for maybe half an hour regarding Communism and the means which should be adopted in order to eradicate it from Germany, following which HEYDRICH came to me and said that HUMMER did not like me and it would be best for me to return to Berlin, which I did. Shortly after that, I received word from [redacted] that I was to be assigned to work in Altona, Germany, for the party, as an investigator for the party to determine the identity of those individuals who were Communists and ascertain who was pro-Nazi in the Altona Police Department and residents of that vicinity. I engaged in this occupation for about six months, toward the end of which time I made a report on the chief of police in Altona, who was a party member, to the effect that he was immoral in his private life, and shortly thereafter, following some other minor troubles, I was advised that my services were no longer required, so I

returned to Berlin and my coffee business.

While in Berlin, a Jewish friend of mine, [REDACTED] came to my home and some individuals notified the party of this occurrence. They then told me to leave the Nazi Party, and I was later arrested by the police when I went to the office of a Nazi Party official to request a hearing. I was held by the police for two weeks, then placed in a concentration camp for four weeks. During this time I was not questioned. OTTO STRASSER was in this same concentration camp. During the time I was confined to the camp, my wife, FRIEDEL, and son, LEOPOLD, [REDACTED] were working for me among members of the party and I was released.

[REDACTED] About three months later, I was again arrested by the police on a charge of having attended a meeting between HITLER and VON PAPEN at Coeln, and having taken pictures of this meeting and made a report of it. I was taken into the German courts and proved my alibi that I had never been in Coeln during this time, and was released. All of this occurred during the year 1935. b6
b7c

I returned to my coffee business but business was constantly going down and down and it was impossible for me to obtain re-orders and additional business, as I was no longer a member of the Nazi Party, and during the year 1934 I wrote several articles for the newspapers and magazines on the Far East, their culture and politics, and in April, 1935, I decided to go to the Orient in order to study the Japanese language. I sailed from Bremen, Germany, in April of 1935, on the SS STUTTGART. I arrived in New York, where I stayed for six days, took a train across the country to San Francisco, where I went to the German Consulate and asked for the names of some German individuals in Honolulu whom I could contact. [REDACTED] gave me the name of [REDACTED]. I sailed from San Francisco on the TATUA MARU, in company of my wife, who had been with me since I left Germany. The balance of my family had remained in Germany. On reaching Honolulu, I got in touch with [REDACTED] and he advised that I stay at the Brookland Hotel in Honolulu. I stayed there for three weeks, and then sailed to Japan, on the ASAMA MARU, with my wife. Upon reaching Japan, we went from Yokohama to Tokyo, to the Imperial Hotel, where I contacted [REDACTED] of the Imperial University, relative to the study of the Japanese language. My wife and I traveled on to Shanghai then, and she continued on to Germany. b6
b7c

Page 4

I did not start to study the Japanese language at this time, but returned to Honolulu on the CHICHINU MARU. U

My original idea in wanting to learn the Japanese language was so that I could return to Germany and teach in the universities there. I had originally planned that my wife and children would stay in Germany. However, when I decided to come to Honolulu to study the language, we thought it best that she and the children join me here. U

When I returned to Honolulu, I again stayed at the Brookland Hotel in 1935, until March of 1936. During this time I was joined by my daughter, RUTH KUENN, and son, EBERHARD KUENN, in December of 1935. During the time I resided at the Brookland Hotel, I met a [redacted] a submarine officer in the United States Navy. I also met [redacted] during this time. [redacted] introduced me to [redacted] also a United States Navy submarine officer, who he stated wanted to learn to speak the German language. b6 b7c

[redacted] also introduced me to a [redacted] Both [redacted] were interested in obtaining a job as Assistant Naval Attache in Berlin. [redacted] received the appointment. I also met [redacted] at the Naval Air Station, Pearl Harbor, during 1936. In March of 1936, I rented a home at 2369 East Manoa Road, Honolulu, T. H., and moved there with my daughter, RUTH, and son, EBERHARD, and was joined by my wife, FRIEDEL, and son, HANS, in April of 1936. During this time I was studying the Japanese language at the University of Hawaii. U

During May of 1936, I rented a home at Lanikai Beach from a [redacted]. About June, 1936, I made a trip to Tokyo, to continue my Japanese language studies, and during the time I was gone my family moved to the Lanikai Beach home permanently. I returned to Honolulu from Tokyo, where I had studied at the Japanese language school for three months, about September, 1936. I continued my Japanese language studies at the Japanese language School in Kailua, under [redacted] of that school. He gave me private tutoring at his home. U

During 1936 and 1937, I met a [redacted] of the 64th Coast Artillery, and through him I met [redacted] of the Quartermaster's Corps. I had also met a [redacted] a submarine officer of the United States Navy, at the Brookland Hotel. These individuals visited me at my home on various occasions. I was also friendly with [redacted] dentist in Honolulu, and [redacted] also met [redacted] U

Page 5

about 1938, through my children's taking music lessons from his wife. U

During 1938, I purchased the Modern Steel Furniture Company, which I operated for eight or nine months, which I finally turned over to a trustee after losing about \$15,000.00. The only other employment I have had in Honolulu was about June, 1941, when I went to work as a freight checker for the Honolulu Iron Works, which job I held for six weeks and quit as the work was too hard. I have since attempted to obtain a position with [redacted] of the Hawaiian Trust Company, with no success. U

With regard to the income which I have been able to derive locally, I might state that in 1937 I leased eight acres of land from the Kaneohe Ranch Company, and since have sub-leased seven acres to a Japanese gardener. The other acre I use to raise fruits and vegetables for my own use. I also raise chickens at my Kalamia residence, having about 200 at the present time. None of these operations are income-producing. My wife, FRIEDEL, operates the Kailua Beauty Shop, from which she derives an average income of approximately \$80.00 a month. This business was originally opened in June, 1940. U

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Other friends I have in Honolulu, not previously mentioned, are as follows: [redacted] a regular acquaintance, with whom my wife and I frequently play bridge, [redacted] Kaneohe Territorial Hospital, Kaneohe, Oahu, who prior to his divorce was a frequent visitor in my home, a slight acquaintance with [redacted] who were close associates up until the past two years, [redacted] better known to me as [redacted] at Lanikai, through whom I first met [redacted] of the Roechling Steel Works, a German firm, stationed in Tokyo, Japan, from whom I have since received some correspondence. [redacted] also a representative of the Roechling Steel Works at Tokyo, Japan, first became known to my family through RUTH, who met him in 1937, while en route to Japan on a Japanese vessel. Since that time, [redacted] has visited Honolulu on two occasions, once in early 1938, at which time he occupied my Lanikai Beach residence, for two to three weeks, and again in September, 1938, when he stopped over only for a night on his way back to Japan. U

Regarding the monies which I have received from time to time from outside sources, I wish to make the following statements: At the time I left Germany in 1935, I was only permitted to carry about ten marks with me. I have been unable since to get any of my monies out of Germany and the other members of my family were also unable to bring out additional funds. About 1918, during the first World War, I had opened a small account in a Rotterdam bank. Afterwards, during the period I owned and operated the sailing freighter ANTARES I deposited funds received from the operation of the vessel in this same bank in Rotterdam. In 1934 my [redacted] resident in Sweden, transferred to me about \$35,000.00 as my share of the inheritance which I would have received later, which money was deposited in an Amsterdam bank. During the years 1936, 1937 and 1938, I received money transfers totaling about \$30,000.00 from these accounts through the Bishop National Bank, Honolulu. I have been unable to get any additional funds from Holland since 1938. From 1938 to the spring of 1940, I received no additional funds from the outside and as a result was forced to sell one of my wife's homes at Kalama as well as mortgage my wife's other Kalama residence and Lanikai residence. I had previously acquired these three pieces of property during 1937. b6 b7c

In the spring of 1940 my wife, FRIEDEL, planned a trip to Japan in order to make arrangements with [redacted] of the German steel firm, ROECHLING STEEL WORKS, Tokyo, Japan, for further funds. At that time she borrowed money from the bank on [redacted] signature. My wife made arrangements with [redacted] to transfer her property in Germany to him for a consideration of \$40,000.00. However, he was to first have an inquiry made in Germany to determine the value of the property and arrive at the exact figure, but in the meantime he advanced my wife \$6,000.00 on account. She brought the \$6,000.00 in cash with her on her person. Upon reaching Honolulu my wife told me that [redacted] had promised to send more money after the lapse of five months. About five months later, around September, 1940, an additional \$10,000.00 in cash was brought by a [redacted] aboard the CHICHIBU MARU from [redacted]. My wife had previously made the acquaintance of [redacted] while on board the HAKUSA MARU on a trip from Shanghai to Germany in 1934. [redacted] upon reaching Honolulu, telephoned me and then brought the money to my Kalama residence. The money was made up entirely of American currency. b6 b7c

In October, 1941, following the arrival of the TATUJA MARU at Honolulu

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from Japan, a Japanese employee of this vessel called in person at my Kalama residence and delivered to me a package enclosed in cardboard which contained \$14,000.00 in \$100.00 bills. At the time the package was delivered by this Japanese he remarked that same was from [REDACTED] in Japan. The name of this Japanese is unknown to me and I had not seen him before or since. The money was afterwards given by me to my wife and I do not know where she has it hidden. However, we at no time have deposited these amounts in the banks in Honolulu, except to carry a small account. ✓

During our residence in Hawaii. [REDACTED]

I talked to [REDACTED] of the Bishop National Bank several times and asked him if he would help me, if there was any legal way he could send money [REDACTED]

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b7c

About two or three days after my first visit to the Consulate in November of 1941, I returned and this time I spoke to the man sitting behind the large desk in the back of the room, to the left of the entrance of the Consulate. He and I went across the hall into the second room on the right from the front of the Consulate. At that time he refused to send any money to my son and I offered to assist him and the Consulate in obtaining information that they might be interested in. He asked me if I knew how many ships were in Hawaiian waters and I told him I could find out. Then I left the Consulate and went home and after three or four days returned to the Japanese Consulate, at which time I spoke to the same man and KITA, the Consul himself, in that same room, the second one on the right from the front of the Consulate. At that time I made suggestions to them stating that I had a short-wave transmitter and could send messages for them if they so desired and I also outlined a system of signalling that could be used in order to furnish information relative to the types of ships in Pearl Harbor and those that had left. This system of signalling contained fifteen sets of signals. These signals were to have been given by a light in my home at Lanikai or Kalamo which could have been seen out at sea by a submarine, as follows: One light between 6 and 7 meant battle fleet in harbor; one light between 7 and 8 meant scouting force in harbor; one light between 8 and 9 meant aircraft carriers in harbor; one light between 9 and 10 meant battle fleet prepared to leave; one light between 10 and 11 meant scouting force prepared to leave; one light between 11 and 12 meant aircraft carriers prepared to leave; one light between 12 and 1 meant battle fleet left between one and two days ago; one light between 1 and 2 meant scouting force left one to two days ago; two lights between 6 and 7 p.m. meant aircraft carriers left one to two days ago; two lights between 7 and 8 p.m. meant battle fleet left three to four days ago; two lights between 8 and 9 p.m. meant scouting force left three to four days ago; two lights between 9 and 10 p.m. meant aircraft carriers left three to four days ago; two lights between 10 and 11 p.m. meant battle fleet left five to six days ago; two lights between 11 and 12 midnight meant scouting force left five to six days ago; two lights between 12 midnight and 1 a.m. meant aircraft carriers left five to six days ago.

This same set of signals could have been sent by means of linen on the clothes line at my Lanikai home, one sheet between 6 and 7 a.m. in daylight meaning battle fleet in harbor; one sheet between 7 and 8 a.m. meaning scouting force in harbor; one sheet between 8 and 9 a.m. meaning aircraft carriers in harbor; one sheet between 9 and

10 a.m. meaning battle fleet prepared to leave; one sheet between 10 and 11 a.m. meaning scouting force prepared to leave; one sheet between 11 a.m. and 12 noon meaning aircraft carriers prepared to leave; one sheet between 12 noon and 1 p.m. meaning battle fleet left one to two days ago; one sheet between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. meaning scouting force left one to two days ago; two sheets on line between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. meaning aircraft carriers left one to two days ago; two sheets on line between 3 a.m. and 4 a.m. meaning battle fleet left three to four days ago; two sheets on line between 4 a.m. and 5 a.m. meaning scouting force left three to four days ago; two sheets on line between 5 a.m. and 6 a.m. meaning aircraft carriers left three to four days ago; two sheets on line between 6 a.m. and 7 a.m. meaning battle fleet left five to six days ago; two sheets on line between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. meaning scouting force left five to six days ago; two sheets on line between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. meaning aircraft carriers left five to six days ago.

They told me at that time that this system of communication was too complicated and it would be necessary for me to simplify it. I went home. One or two days prior to the time I submitted this first set of signals I had ridden by Pearl Harbor and there were very few boats in the harbor at that time. About three days later I went back to the Consulate with a simplified system of signalling, on what I think was December 2, 1941. This set of signals contained only eight combinations, as follows: No. 1 meaning battle fleet prepared to leave; No. 2 meaning scouting force prepared to leave; No. 3 meaning battle fleet left one to three days ago; No. 4 meaning scouting force left one to three days ago; No. 5 meaning aircraft carriers left one to three days ago; No. 6 meaning battle fleet left four to six days ago; No. 7 meaning scouting force left four to six days ago; No. 8 meaning aircraft carriers left four to six days ago. These signals were to be given as follows from my Lanikai home: One light between 7 and 8 p.m. meaning No. 1; one light between 8 and 9 meaning No. 2; one light between 9 and 10 p.m. meaning No. 3; one light between 10 and 11 p.m. meaning No. 4; two lights between 7 and 8 p.m. meaning No. 5; two lights between 8 and 9 p.m. meaning No. 6, etc. These lights were to have been from a window or automobile lights. The same system could have been used with one piece of linen hung on the line at Lanikai between 6 and 9 a.m., meaning No. 1, one between 9 and 10 a.m. meaning No. 2, one between 10 and 11 a.m. meaning No. 3, one between 11 a.m. and 12 noon meaning No. 4; two pieces between 2 and 3 a.m. meaning No. 5; two pieces between 3 and 4 a.m. meaning No. 6, and so forth. It

was also arranged that a light in the skylight at my Kalam home between 7 and 8 p.m. would mean No. 1; one between 8 and 9 p.m. would mean No. 2; one between 9 and 10 p.m. would mean No. 3 and 6; one between 10 and 11 p.m. would mean No. 4 and 7; one between 11 and 12 p.m. (midnight) would mean Nos. 5 and 8. U

It was also arranged that this same system of signalling could have been used with a star boat just off the mouth of Lanikai Beach between certain hours, a star on the sail or a star and a number on the sail meaning corresponding signals as these previously given, according to the time the boat was in that position. I do not recall the exact combinations that were to have been used to indicate each signal. U

It was also arranged that on the KONA Want-Ads program in the morning the signal could be effected to indicate numbers 3 and 6 if a Chinese rug was advertised for sale, Nos. 4 and 7 if a beauty parlor operator was advertised for; and a third type of advertisement which I do not recall would indicate numbers 5 and 8. It was also arranged that if it was impossible to give this system of signals, a garbage fire on Maui in a certain locality between certain hours would indicate the above number signals, such as a fire between the hours of 9 and 10 p.m. would mean signals 3 and 6, and so forth. In mentioning this latter plan I had in mind a locality previously described to me by a friend, [redacted] where a number of vacant lots are located. I determined the exact locality of this area by reference to a map of Maui which showed the names of the two roads which border that locality and which names were mentioned in my recommended plan as bordering the area wherein the fire signals were to be effected. U

It was also arranged that this same set of signals could be given by short wave radio and arrangements were made that if the Consulate desired to contact me they could do so by sending me a postcard signed "JIMMIE", to my Box No. 1476 at Honolulu. U

This simplified set of signals was taken to the Consulate in an envelope by me about 8:30 in the morning. At the time I went to the Consulate I was accompanied by my wife, FRIEDEL, and while she remained in the car I went to the door and handed the envelope containing this set of signals and another envelope containing \$500.00, [redacted] to the Vice Consul

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whose name I do not recall. I had no conversation with him at this time but went back to my car and drove on into Honolulu.

I might point out that the plan outlined by me above and that submitted to the Japanese Consulate are probably not identical in every detail with those actually submitted, although the plans outlined above are basically the same as those submitted. Differences will probably appear in connection with the hours stated for the signals to be given.

On the same occasion that I transmitted this simplified system of signalling I had also advised the Consulate that there were seven battleships, six cruisers, two aircraft carriers, forty destroyers and twenty-seven submarines, or some similar figure, in Hawaiian waters. These figures were purely fictitious as far as I knew. This information was submitted in the same envelope as the one containing the latter plans.

Following the submission of these latter plans to the Consulate I have had no further contact with any representatives of the Consulate to date, neither have I received any correspondence or telephone messages from such representatives. Apparently no effort was made by the Consulate to carry either of the proposed plans into effect through me.

I have never been to the Island of Maui nor have I ever seen the island nor purchased any property there. I never had a short-wave transmitter, and my Lanikai Beach house is rented to Army people. I might state that [REDACTED] had no knowledge of my plans submitted to the Japanese Consulate. As a matter of fact I have not seen him or his wife since they departed from Honolulu about September, 1941. Further, I have had no correspondence with them except for one letter received from [REDACTED] about October, 1941. I rented my Lanikai residence on November 1, 1941 to two couples, one an Army doctor, age about 30, and the other an employee with the Engineers, about the same age, both of whom had been transferred from Schofield Barracks to Kaneohe. I cannot recall the names of these individuals at the present time.

The above statement consisting of eleven pages has been read by me and I have signed each page individually and I certify the same to be true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and sign the same of my own free will.

/s/ OTTO KUERN

WITNESSES:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice,
Honolulu, T. H.

It is to be noted, during this interview with OTTO KUEHN, he drew a penciled chart of each of the set of signals referred to in the above statement. These original penciled charts are also being maintained in the Honolulu file in this case.

It is also to be noted that during the interview with OTTO KUEHN, [REDACTED] and the writer were unacquainted with the set of signals outlined in reference report of Special Agent in Charge SHIVERS. The two sets of signals submitted by KUEHN were submitted of his own volition. b6 b7c

On January 3, 1942, OTTO KUEHN was again interviewed by [REDACTED] and the writer, and at that time submitted the following additional signed statement, dated January 3, 1941, the original of which is being retained in the Honolulu file in this case:

(The signed statement follows on next page.)

Monolulu, T. H.
January 3, 1941

I, Otto Kuehn, make the following voluntary statement to [redacted] whom I know to be Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and who have informed me that I cannot be required to make a statement, further that anything I might say can be used against me in court.

In July of 1936, when I made a trip to Japan to study the Japanese language, on a Japanese boat I met a [redacted] who was returning from England. [redacted] told me that he was one of the old noble Japanese families and was connected with the [redacted] family in Japan. Prior to his return from England, [redacted] had spent some time in Germany as well as England and he speaks both English and German fluently. When we left the boat in Yokohama, [redacted] asked me my address where I would be stopping and I told him the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo. He then stated that he would see me later on. Two or three days later [redacted] called on me at the Imperial Hotel. We spent the entire afternoon together, [redacted] showing me around Tokyo and I afterwards invited him for dinner at the Imperial Hotel.

I had previously told [redacted] that I had served in the German Navy as an officer during the World War and had recounted some of my experiences to him during that time. While we were eating dinner [redacted] began very tactfully to question me as to whether I would from time to time furnish him with information about Honolulu. This information, or whatever I was asked to do, was to be for the Japanese Government. I refused to have anything to do with the idea and [redacted] never mentioned the question any more. Although [redacted] never again attempted to get me to give information to the Japanese Government, he visited me quite often at the hotel and took me to his [redacted] near Gifu and he also took me cormorant fishing near Gifu. We also went to the theater and some other places and had dinner together on occasions. On all of these occasions [redacted] and I were alone with the exception of one time when [redacted], a doctor in one of the Japanese hospitals whom I had previously met in Honolulu through [redacted], was with me at a time when [redacted] called on me and [redacted] took us to dinner.

During this time [redacted] often told me that if there was any favor or anything that he could do for me, that all I need do was to ask him and he would do it. I left Japan about October, 1936, following about

a three months visit. Before leaving Japan I obtained my quota visa for permanent residence in the United States. [redacted] went to the boat with me to bid me goodbye and at that time he reminded me that if he could ever do a favor for me he would be willing to do so. From the time we parted and when I returned to Honolulu, I heard nothing from [redacted] nor did I communicate with him in any way until 1940, with the possible exception of one Christmas card I received from him in 1936.

In the spring of 1940 my wife made a trip to Japan and returned with about \$6,000.00, which she had obtained from [redacted]. Following her return to Honolulu and about four weeks later, I received a letter from [redacted] advising me that it would be necessary for me to make some arrangements to get any additional funds out of Japan; that it was becoming too difficult and dangerous for him to do this. About three weeks after receipt of [redacted] letter, I wrote him suggesting that he contact [redacted] an old friend of mine, and that [redacted] could assist us in sending the money from Japan to Honolulu. With this letter I sent a Duden (German) grammar dictionary, similar to a Webster dictionary. At the same time I retained a duplicate dictionary in my possession. In the letter to [redacted] I explained that in future communications I would use a number code which would indicate the number of the page and the word from the top of the page denoting the word intended, such as if the word "money" appeared on page 210 of the dictionary and was the sixth word down from the top, to indicate the word "money" I would send the numbers "210 -- 6." This letter and its contents, the dictionary, were sent by me from Honolulu through [redacted] on the KAMAKURA MARU, whom I had known in the past and who had previously brought presents from [redacted]. This message was sent through [redacted] during July, 1940. b6 b7c

I received no further communication from [redacted] until September, 1940, at which time [redacted] telephoned me at my Kalama residence and asked me to meet him in front of the N.Y.E. office in Honolulu. I did so and he gave me a package of money containing \$10,000.00. At the same time [redacted] gave me a slip of paper which instructed me not to write to [redacted] but rather to address my letters or communications to [redacted] at a post office box number in Tokyo.

During July, 1941, shortly after the freeze order went into effect and I was given to understand that each alien must submit a list of all of their property, I contacted a Vice Consul at the Japanese

Page 3

Consulate, Honolulu, as [redacted] the Consul, was not there. My purpose in doing so was to send a message to [redacted] through [redacted] in the pre-arranged manner. I had prepared a brief message in the coded form mentioned above which in substance read: "Please send balance as soon as possible." At first the Vice Consul was suspicious and reluctant about sending my message but I explained as follows: I told the Vice Consul I was acting for the Japanese Government and that I had an important message to go through to [redacted] an important official in the Japanese Government at Tokyo. I told the Vice Consul that I needed the money before October 29 so that I could make my statement of property under the Foreign Funds Law and so that I could include this amount in my statement of property holdings as required by the foreign funds division in order that no questions would be asked at a later date relative to my source of income and how I came into possession of these monies. I intentionally gave him the impression that the money I was to get from [redacted] was as compensation for services I had rendered for the Japanese Government. The Vice Consul agreed to send my message to [redacted] at this time. b6 b7c

After two or three weeks I came back and spoke to the Vice Consul and asked him if he had gotten an answer or any money as yet. He said no, so I again returned about three weeks later and he still said no. At that time I made arrangements with the Vice Consul that when he heard from Japan regarding the money or got an answer that he should send me a post card to my box signed "JIMMIE" and he said for me not to come too often to the Consulate.

I did not contact the Consulate again nor did I receive any post card until one afternoon in the very end of October, just after the first Japanese boat came to Honolulu, a young Japanese man came to my home in Kalaheo and he told my son that he wanted to see me. I was in the back working in my garden. My son came and advised me he was there and I went around. He very brusquely asked me if I was OTTO KUEHN and I said "Yes," and he said, "I have something for you from [redacted]" so I took him back to my little garden house where he gave me a package and a letter and I asked him if he had any other information for me and he said no. I opened the letter first and in the letter was a sheet of paper written in English asking if I had a short-wave transmitter and if I would be willing to make a test at a certain stated time which was on a night several nights later, on a certain wave length. This letter was typewritten

Page 4

and had no name on it. He gave me a sheet of paper and an envelope and I wrote on the sheet of paper that I was unable to make the test. I was quite nervous and put it in the envelope and gave it to him. I asked him if he knew what was in the package and he said no. I asked him if he wanted a receipt for the package and he said no, and he then left and I opened the package and counted the money. There were \$14,000.00 in the package, mostly in new \$100.00 bills, some \$20.00 bills. I think that this was a contact [redacted] was trying to make with me through this letter. As soon as he left I tore up the sheet of paper asking me to make this radio test and burned it up.

It was about a week after this, and after the TAIYO MARU had sailed from Honolulu, that I again contacted the Japanese Consulate and talked to the Vice Consul and asked him to send some money [redacted]. He said that he did not think it could be done and I suggested that he take it up with the Yokohama Specie Bank and I would come back two or three days later.

I went back and spoke to the Vice Consul about three days later, at which time He asked me what information I could give him about the United States Fleet and how many ships were in the harbor. He also asked me if I knew which part of the Pacific the United States Fleet usually went in on their maneuvers and how long they would be out. I told him that I could tell him how many ships there were in the harbor but that I could not tell him where the fleet was or when it would be back. He suggested that I work out a set of signals so that we could let the Japanese Fleet know how many ships were in the harbor, how many were prepared to leave and how many had already left for Japan. I told him that I could do all this.

I think that sometime between my previous contact and this time when he asked me for information about the fleet and suggested I prepare the set of signals that he had contacted [redacted] or someone in Japan about me. He appeared to me to be very glad to have me in his office and to have me do something for him.

About three or four days later I went back to the Japanese Consulate and showed him a set of signals containing fifteen numbers, each one of which was to indicate a certain situation, as to how many ships were in the harbor, how many prepared to leave, how many had left, whether they were battle fleet, scouting fleet or aircraft carriers exactly as previously told by me to [redacted]

Page 5

in my statement of January 1, 1942. He told me at this time that the system was too complicated. During this visit KITA was present in the room. I did all of my talking with the Vice Consul who would speak in Japanese with KITA, the Consul, who would in turn speak in Japanese to the Vice Consul and then the Vice Consul would speak with me in English. They said that this system was too complicated and requested me to make a simpler method of signals, which I said I would do.

On Tuesday, December 2, 1941, I went back and took them two envelopes, one containing the money to be sent to my son and the other containing the simplified system of signals as described by me in my previous statement to [REDACTED] dated January 1, 1942, and also I had written at this time some information as to the number and various types of ships in Hawaiian waters, as also set forth in that statement. I handed these two envelopes to the Vice Consul and he asked me to come in and said he would like to talk with me but I told him that it was all written out and there was no need to and turned around and went back to my car and went on into town.

I have read the above statement consisting of five pages and certify that the same is true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

*all
b6
b7c*

Otto Kuehn

WITNESSES:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Honolulu, T. H.

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

(Signed statement begins on following page.)

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On three separate and distinct occasions the KUEHN residence at Kalama has been searched for information pertinent to this case. The last search was conducted by [REDACTED] and the writer on January 1, 1942. At that time every possible place of concealment of papers, etc, was thoroughly searched. As a result, address books and correspondence, all in German, were obtained, and after being translated, the following excerpts were noted: The original correspondence, reflected here, along with the English translation, is being maintained in the Honolulu File in this case.

The address books reflect the following names:

The quotations that follow are quotations from letters received by the KUEHNS, most of which originated in Germany.

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65-1574-40 pgs 30-33

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b6
b7c

Inspector
Horse
Boat

-34-

several days before it could be placed in seaworthy condition. The only large lights observed at the Kalama residence were two lawn lights with reflectors, having about 250 to 300 watt bulbs, which were mounted one on the garage in the rear of the house and one at the corner of the house in the rear in such a manner so as to light the yard in the rear of the KUEHN'S residence. It is to be noted the rear of the residence is away from the beach side.

PENDING

b6
b7c
b7d

RECORDED

65-1574-30

February 9, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Special Agent in Charge
Honolulu, Hawaii

Re: JAPANESE ACTIVITIES,
Honolulu, T. H.;
ESPIONAGE - COMFILE (J)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of [redacted]
dated January 5, 1942, in connection with
the above captioned case.

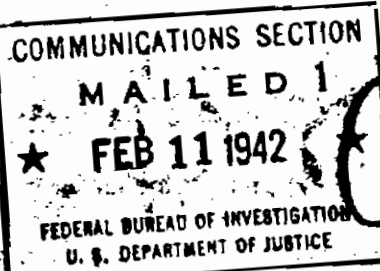
The New York Field Division should be furnished
with the necessary background information in order that it
may conduct investigation concerning [redacted] from
whom Subject Kuehn received certain correspondence during
1936 and 1937.

It is believed that every effort should be made
to check the known contacts of Kuehn in order to determine
whether they are engaging in espionage or other inimical
activities.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC New York



Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

FEB 18 1942

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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FEB 11 1942

[Handwritten signature]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Honolulu, T. H.
January 7, 1942

VIA CLIPPER

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: JAPANESE ACTIVITIES,
Honolulu, T. H.;
ESPIONAGE CONFILE -

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Holloman	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....
Files	.....

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith a report rendered in this matter January 5, 1942 by [redacted] and another report rendered under the same caption by [redacted] January 6, 1942. In this connection, reference is also made to the report rendered by Special Agent in Charge R. L. Shivers under the same caption December 26, 1941.

The report of [redacted] sets forth the activities of OTTO KUEHN and Mrs. FRIEDEL KUEHN, both of whom are subjects of Honolulu File 65-4 entitled "FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, w.a.s.; BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, w.a.s.; MRS. J. CARSON MOORE, w.a.s.; EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN - ESPIONAGE (G)" and Bureau File 65-1574.

While it is obvious that OTTO KUEHN and his wife, FRIEDEL, have not made known the full scope of their activities in their espionage work for the Japanese Government and the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu, the facts that have been established, as recorded in this report, furnish conclusive evidence that OTTO KUEHN and his wife, FRIEDEL KUEHN, were paid agents of the Japanese Government in Hawaii.

It appears from the information developed by this office and the statement of OTTO KUEHN himself that he took the signalling device system, which he himself prepared, to the Japanese Consulate on December 2, 1941. This is the system which the Japanese Consul General at Honolulu transmitted to the Foreign Minister, December 3, 1941, as set out in full in the report of Special Agent in Charge R. L. Shivers referred to above. It appears from reviewing the

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

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EX-16 65-1574-41
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JAN 30 1942

Director

January 7, 1942

information in that system that it was intended to be effective only up to and including December 6, 1941. However, it does not indicate a limitation in time for sending these signals but it seems conclusive that the signals devised would indicate one of the seven sets of facts only up to December 6, 1941.

This office has not developed any evidence that these signals were sent or given at any time between December 3 and December 6, 1941. KUEHN himself states that the signals were not used or sent.

Unquestionably there is already sufficient information developed, as the foregoing reports will reflect, to substantiate a conviction of OTTO KUEHN if he were tried in the United States Court for espionage under the appropriate Federal laws. At this time, as you know, the Federal and Civil Courts have been estopped from criminal prosecutions. There is considerable legal opinion in Hawaii at the present time that the Provost Court and the Military Commission, which have been set up under martial law, now have jurisdiction over criminal offenses committed against the laws of the United States and the laws of the Territory of Hawaii prior to the declaration of martial law, December 7, 1941. As a matter of fact, some Territorial offenses have already been tried in the Provost Court and sentences imposed after conviction. The Provost Court has jurisdiction over offenses where the penalty is not greater than five years imprisonment and \$5,000.00 fine. The Military Commission is the court which now has jurisdiction over all capital offenses and other offenses where the prescribed punishment is in excess of five years imprisonment and/or \$5,000.00 fine.

The question now arises as to what prosecutive action should be taken against OTTO KUEHN and his wife, FRIEDEL KUEHN, and whether or not jurisdiction would be in the Military Commission or in the United States District Court which is not now functioning in criminal cases. The question of policy also arises in view of the fact that the evidence which would be necessary to convict the KUEHNS in any court would involve the Japanese Consul General and certain members of his staff who have consular diplomatic immunity.

Director

January 7, 1942

It is my belief that if OTTO KUEHN is tried before the Military Commission a sentence of death will be meted out. There is no question but what a public prosecution of KUEHN and public dissemination of the evidence on which the conviction was obtained would have a good, wholesome effect on the public morale, particularly that part of the evidence which would show the center of the Japanese espionage activity in Hawaii in the Consulate itself.

I do not know as yet if the Army will be inclined to bring KUEHN before the Military Commission without waiting for an opinion from the Attorney General or the State Department but I assume they will take no action until after the Attorney General has had an opportunity to review these facts and consult with other members of the Cabinet involved. It is believed however that a decision should be reached at the earliest possible time so that appropriate prosecutive action can be taken here, not only for the effect it would have as a preventive measure but for the good of the general morale of the citizens of these Islands.

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers
Special Agent in Charge

RLS:LT
65-414

Enclosures

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

RADIOGRAM

JANUARY 15, 1942

Transmit the following message to:

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
HONOLULU, HAWAII

OTTO KUEHN WAS RECAL; ESPIONAGE (S). CONFER MILITARY GOVERNOR
AND US ATTORNEY RE VENUE AND ADVISE BUREAU WILL DEFER THEIR
JUDGMENT.

HOOVER

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DATE 11-8-80 BY 60301/0105

Sent Feb. 10 35 / 1-16-42
Initiated in Director's Office

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Jones _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JAN 16 1942

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Mr. Tolson.....
 Mr. E. A. Tamm.....
 Mr. Clegg.....
 Mr. Glavin.....
 Mr. Ladd.....
 Mr. Nichols.....
 Mr. Tracy.....
 Mr. Carson.....

ORIGINATED AT Honolulu, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 1-26-42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1-26-42	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases: Otto K. Kuehn, Otto Kuhn, Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Koehn.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - J.

Mr. Holloman.....
 Mr. Quinn Tamm.....
 Mr. Nease.....
 Miss Gandy.....
 Files.....

A portion of info this serial declassified for use in "The FBI Story" by Don Whitehead. See 65-1574-45 for details.

SUMMARY REPORT
~~**CONFIDENTIAL**~~

During November, 1941, OTTO KUEHN made contact with Vice-Consul, Japanese Consulate, Honolulu, T. H., and offered to assist him and the Japanese Consulate in obtaining information that they might be interested in. The Vice-Consul asked KUEHN for information concerning the number of ships in Hawaiian waters to which KUEHN replied he could find out. The Vice-Consul also asked whether he knew which part of the Pacific the United States Fleet usually went into on their maneuvers and how long they would be out. KUEHN replied that he could tell the Vice-Consul how many ships were in the harbor, but he could not tell him where the Fleet was or when it would be back. The Vice-Consul asked KUEHN to work out a set of signals so that the Japanese Fleet could be advised as to the number of ships in Pearl Harbor, how many were preparing to leave, and how many might have already left. Following this contact, OTTO KUEHN with his young son, HANS JOACHIM KUEHN, age 10, made a trip in KUEHN's automobile to the vicinity of Pearl Harbor Oahu, T. H., and observed the ships in the harbor at that time. About three or four days following KUEHN's afore-mentioned visit to the Japanese Consulate, his trip to Pearl Harbor having taken place in the interim, KUEHN again contacted the Vice-Consul at the Japanese Consulate, Honolulu, T. H., and conferred with the Vice-Consul and the Consul-General himself, NAGAO KITA. At that time KUEHN submitted a system of signalling that could be utilized by the Consulate in order to furnish information relative to the types of ships stationed in Pearl Harbor, the number of ships in the harbor, the number preparing to leave the harbor and the number which might have departed. Following a consultation between the Vice-Consul and the

EX-10

APPROVED AND FORWARDED [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE [Signature]	65-1574-45
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ROUTED TO Dept. Honolulu, T.H.		RECORDED AND INDEXED
RECEIVED		FILED
COPY IN FILE		

66, b7c

Consul-General KITA, the Vice-Consul advised KUEHN the system of signalling was too complicated and requested him to prepare a simpler method, which KUEHN consented to do. On Tuesday, December 2, 1941, OTTO KUEHN again contacted the Vice-Consul at the Japanese Consulate, Honolulu, T. H., and delivered to him a revised and simplified system of signalling to be used in reporting the activities and size of the United States Navy Fleet based at Pearl Harbor, Oahu, T. H. At the same time, he furnished written information concerning the number and various types of ships in Hawaiian waters. The figures submitted by KUEHN in this connection were as follows:

- 7 battleships
- 6 cruisers
- 2 aircraft carriers
- 40 destroyers
- 27 submarines

These figures were later determined to be substantially correct. b6

On or about October 25, 1941, \$14,000 cash was b7c
delivered by [redacted]
[redacted] Honolulu, to OTTO KUEHN at his residence at Kalama, Kailua,
Oahu, T. H.

OTTO KUEHN was arrested as an alien enemy on December 8, 1941, and is, at the present time, being held as such at the United States Immigration Station, Honolulu, awaiting trial before the Military Commission on charges growing out of the above activities. No formal charges have yet been preferred by Captain (Judge Advocate General's Department) EUGENE V. SLATTERY, who will act as Trial Judge Advocate in the prosecution of this case before the Military Commission, with the assistance and collaboration of Acting United States Attorney ANGUS M. TAYLOR, JR. At this time it is anticipated that charges will be brought under three counts; the first for violation of Section 34, Title 50, U.S.C.A., to wit: a conspiracy to violate Section 32, Title 50, in that OTTO KUEHN conspired with the Vice-Consul, Japanese Consulate, to transmit information pertaining to the national defense of the United States and performed overt acts to culminate the conspiracy. The second count charged will be violation of Section 32, Title 50, U.S.C.A., in that on or about December 2, 1941, OTTO KUEHN did transmit information relating to the United States Navy Fleet and national

defense of the United States to an agent of a foreign government, to wit: the Imperial Japanese Government. The third count charged will be violation of Section 31, Title 50, U.S.C.A., in that on or about November 27, 1941, in the vicinity of Pearl Harbor Navy Yard, Oahu, T. H., OTTO KUEHN did unlawfully and feloniously obtain information respecting the national defense of the United States, to wit: the number and types of United States Naval ships based at Pearl Harbor, Oahu, T. H.

WITNESSES

[REDACTED] Federal Bureau of Investigation, are either or both competent to introduce the original signed statements dated January 1st and 3rd, 1942, made by OTTO KUEHN and copies of which are attached to and made a part of this report. Both Agents can testify as witnesses to OTTO KUEHN's signature appearing on the original statements.

R. L. SHIVERS, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, can testify to the plans for signalling regarding the transmission of information concerning United States Navy Fleet activities and numbers based at Pearl Harbor which are mentioned in the signed statements of OTTO KUEHN. Mr. SHIVERS can also introduce documentary evidence consisting of rough sketched pencilled notes drawn by OTTO KUEHN himself of the signal plans mentioned in his statements.

[REDACTED] Federal Bureau of Investigation, can both testify as witnesses to the signature of OTTO KUEHN appearing on the documentary evidence introduced by Mr. SHIVERS above.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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65-1574-45 pgs 4-6

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65-414

[REDACTED]

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OTTO KUEHN was born July 25, 1895, in Berlin, Germany. In April, 1913, he enlisted in the German Navy and, following a training period, became a midshipman aboard a German cruiser serving until January, 1915, when his ship was sunk in a naval engagement and he was made a prisoner of war by the British. Following the Armistice, KUEHN returned to Berlin and re-entered naval service as a lieutenant, continuing in this work an additional six months. He then studied medicine at the University of Berlin and the University of Munich for one and one-half years, during which time in 1920 he married his present wife, FRIEDEL KUEHN in Munich, Germany.

KUEHN at that time had been left an inheritance of about \$50,000 cash as well as a number of houses and Government bonds by his father. He worked in various positions in Germany up until 1930 at which time he enrolled himself [REDACTED] LEOPOLD KUEHN, in the Nazi Party. OTTO KUEHN was inactive in the

b6
b7c

Party until 1932 when he made a trip to Munich in the company of [REDACTED] to bid for a position in the Nazi Party which was given to [REDACTED] and later developed into the position of Chief of the German Gestapo system which [REDACTED] is presently holding. KUEHN has stated if such a position had been offered to him at the time, he would unhesitatingly have accepted it. After failing to obtain this position KUEHN was assigned by the district leader of the Party at Kiel, Germany, to work for the Party in Altona, Germany as an investigator to determine the activities of those individuals who were Communists and ascertain who were pro-Nazi in the Altona Police Department and among the residents of that vicinity. He continued in this work for about six months after which he was relieved of these duties, as he had become involved in some difficulties with the Nazi Party and was held in a concentration camp for four weeks. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] KUEHN has stated he resigned from the Nazi Party and in April, 1935, sailed from Bremen, Germany for the United States.

OTTO KUEHN crossed the Mainland of the United States and came directly to Honolulu, T. H., remaining for three weeks in Honolulu, and then continued on to Japan. He returned to Honolulu from Japan almost immediately and since that time has resided continuously in Honolulu, except for two additional trips to Japan for short periods, one in 1936, the other in 1938.

OTTO KUEHN filed declaration of intention to become a United States citizen at Honolulu, T. H., March 3, 1938, following his admission to the United States at Honolulu as a "quota immigrant," on October 29, 1936. He filed his petition for citizenship June 30, 1941, at Honolulu, T. H., and his hearing had been scheduled for December, 1941. It was anticipated that he would have been admitted to citizenship on the last Saturday in January, 1942, in the event the results of his hearing had been satisfactory. However, in view of the declaration of war between the United States and Japan, no further action has been taken regarding these citizenship proceedings.

OTTO KUEHN, at the time of his arrest, was residing in Kailua, Oahu, T. H., with his wife, FRIEDEL KUEHN, and two sons, EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN, age 15, and HANS JOACHIM KUEHN, age 10. He also has one married daughter, Mrs. J. CARSON MOORE,

65-474

nee RUTH KUEHN, who has been living with her husband in Kailua, Oahu, T. H. OTTO KUEHN's father, now deceased, was a Doctor of Chemistry at Stetien, Germany, where he acted as a food inspector.

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

OTTO KUEHN has no admitted arrest record to date, and no such record is available at the Honolulu Police Department, Honolulu, T. H.

- P E N D I N G -

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65-1574-45

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : For the File

DATE: November 28, 1956

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT: Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn

There are attached hereto pages 192, 193 of "The FBI Story, A Report to the People" by Don Whitehead, which contain data taken from Bureau file 65-1574-45

The information from the file was personally reviewed and declassified by me prior to the author's use of it in the preparation of the book and the clearance procedures followed in the book were approved by the Attorney General by appropriate notation on the Bureau memorandum of July 20, 1956, outlining procedures to be followed. (62-102693-90) The declassified data has been underlined in red on the attached excerpts.

For complete information concerning data declassified in "The FBI Story," see 62-102693-356

Enclosure

b6
b7c

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ENCLOSURE

MAR 8 1957

65-1574-45X
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ORIGINAL FILED
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Kuehn told agents:

... It was also arranged [with Kita] that this same set of signals could be given by short wave radio and arrangements were made that if the Consulate desired to contact me they could do so by sending me a postcard signed "Jimmie," to my Box No. 1476 at Honolulu. . . . On the same occasion that I transmitted this simplified system of signalling I had also advised the Consulate that there were seven battleships, six cruisers, two aircraft carriers, forty destroyers, and twenty-seven submarines, or some similar figure, in Hawaiian waters . . .

Kuehn also told of receiving some \$30,000 in 1940-1941 from sources in Tokyo, money which he claimed represented transfers from property income in Germany. He said the last \$14,000 payment was handed to him by a strange Japanese, and that his wife hid all the money.

"I don't know where she has it hidden," Kuehn said. But there was testimony indicating that the stranger who gave Kuehn the \$14,000 was Vice Consul Okuda's associate, Consulate Secretary Tadasi Mori-
~~Wada.~~

Excerpt from pages 192, 193
of "The FBI Story, A Report
to the People" by Don
Whitehead

ENCLOSURE

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United States Department of Justice
HONOLULU, T. H.

January 19, 1942.

65-4

Director,
Federal Bureau of Investigation,
Washington, D. C.

Re: FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN,
with aliases, et al.
Espionage - G.

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith fingerprint impressions of BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases, and his wife, FRIEDEL AUGUSTE BARTA KUEHN, with aliases, subjects of the above-captioned case.

It is requested that these fingerprints be checked against the Bureau's identification records and the Honolulu Office advised as to the results thereof by radio.

Very truly yours,

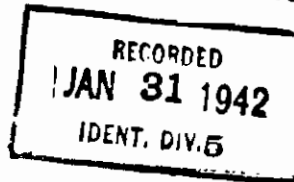
R. L. Shivers
R. L. SHIVERS,

Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosures.

VIA CLIPPER.

REC'D AIR MAIL



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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

TELE. UNIT

EX-18



Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn,
alias Otto Kuehn, Otto Kuhn

Age	46, born 7/25/95
Height	5'6"
Weight	145
Comp.	Medium
Eyes	Gray-blue
Hair	Brown
Nationality	German
Citizenship	German
Occupation-	none
Address	Kallua, Oahu

Photo taken Jan. 16, 1942

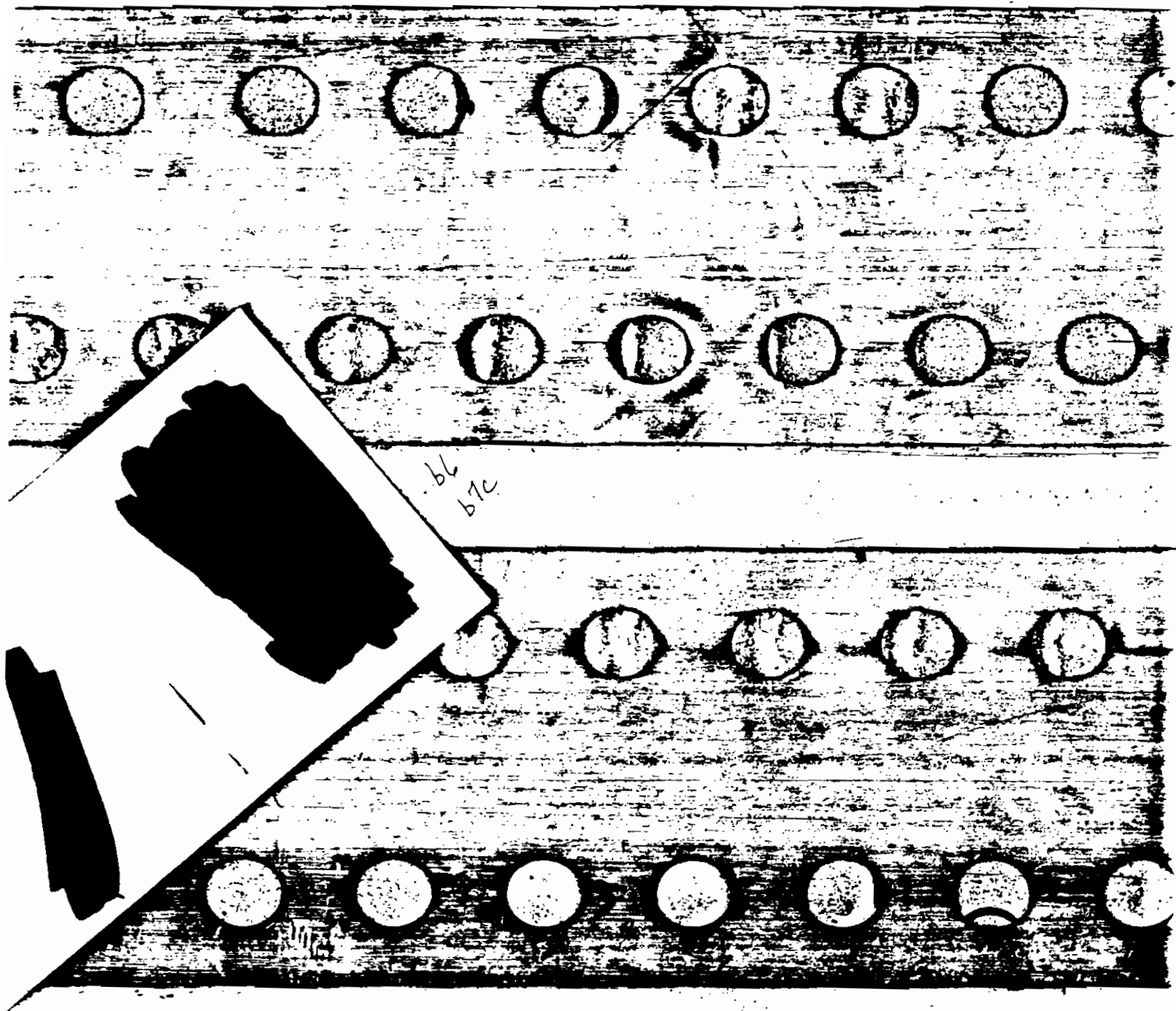
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#268714

Photo taken Jan. 16 1989

Age	[REDACTED]
Height	[REDACTED]
Weight	[REDACTED]
Comp.	[REDACTED]
Eyes	[REDACTED]
Hair	[REDACTED]
Characteristics -	[REDACTED]
Nationality	[REDACTED]
Citizenship	[REDACTED]
Occupation	[REDACTED]
Residence	[REDACTED]

b6
b7c



all b6 b7c



65-414

Investigation is continuing and an additional report will be submitted at an early date.

ENCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU:

One photograph of OTTO KUEHN.

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

PENDING

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **HONOLULU, T. H.**

Honolulu FILE NO. **65-414**

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 1/22/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/15-20/42	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] JSA:ET
TITLE JAPANESE ACTIVITIES, HONOLULU, T. H.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE (CONFILE) - J <i>b6 b7c</i>

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

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DATE 8-11-80 BY SP5/BJL/bk

#268714

Further investigation set forth regarding **OTTO** and **FRIEDEL KUEHN** in connection with Japanese espionage activities, Honolulu. On 1/16/42 **OTTO** and **FRIEDEL KUEHN** placed in adjoining cells, Schofield Barracks, through cooperation of Military. Throughout night and until afternoon of following day, conversations monitored by German interpreters and results, of little significance, set forth. Both **OTTO** and **FRIEDEL** again questioned at length without developing further pertinent facts.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of **[REDACTED]** dated January 15, 1942 at Honolulu, T. H.

DEFERRED RECORDING

DETAILS:

The investigation set forth in this report has been conducted jointly by **[REDACTED]** and the writer relative to **OTTO KUEHN** and wife, **FRIEDEL**, in connection with Japanese espionage activities in Honolulu.

DEFERRED RECORDING

Attention is directed to reference report of **[REDACTED]** page 5, wherein a plan was outlined to have **OTTO** and **FRIEDEL KUEHN** placed together or in adjoining detention cells at Schofield Barracks. The purpose in this plan, as previously mentioned, was in order to monitor their ensuing conversations in a further effort to obtain information pertinent to this investigation.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 65-1574-148	RECORDED INDEXED <i>[Initials]</i>
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (Enclosures) AIRMAIL 2 - G-2 Honolulu 1 - ONI Honolulu 1 - Honolulu File 65-4 3 - Honolulu		FEB 4 1942 <i>[Handwritten notes and stamps]</i>	

65-414

Both OTTO and FRIEDEL KUEHN were escorted by military guard from their detention cells, U. S. Immigration Station, on January 16, 1942, separately, to their adjoining cells at Schofield Barracks. Upon reaching Schofield they were placed in the cells in such a manner that each was cognizant of the fact the other occupied the next adjoining cell.

The following is quoted from a memorandum prepared by [redacted] German interpreter, of the Office of Naval Intelligence, and it is observed the time indicated in the log is Greenwich meridian time. b6 b7c

[redacted] of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and [redacted] arrived at Schofield Barracks to maintain aural surveillance on Subjects after their transfer from Honolulu. We arrived at about 1100 and completed technical and other arrangements for the surveillance together with [redacted] of the Army Contact Office. b6 b7c

"A translation from the German of all conversation that was distinct enough to catch and a running log follow. The first column represents the time at various intervals where checks were made. F stands for Friedel; O for Otto. Interpolations and explanations will be in brackets. A dotted line will indicate missing words or sentences.

1155 Arrival of O. KUEHN at barracks.

1205 Locked in solitary confinement.

1543 Arrival of F. KUEHN at barracks.

F - Are you sure you haven't done something(?)? b6 b7c

O - No.

F - Do you believe that?

O -

F - Menschenkind! (Man alive!)

O - What did you say?

F - I just made a written statement. (English down this far; switched to German.) What have we come to?

O -

F - What a stupid thing you have done!

O - You will get out of it all.... There were 30,000 crowns(?).
What about the money?

F - What did you write?

O - (A complete confession?)

F - Then they know everything.

O - In 1935 I bought the.....

F - Then have you changed your opinions completely?

O - We are going on the rocks. (We're ruined, we're sunk.)

F - You had no reason whatever to sign your name to such a document.

O - But what could I have done?

F - Why did you write all that? (The statement for the FBI)

O - What could I do?

F - Quatsch! (Rubbish!)

O - (He claimed he wanted the money for her, hence his actions.)

b6
b7c

F - What crazy things you have done!

O - You remember what the Japanese Consul sent us?

F - There was no letter, no evidence connected with it.....
Didn't you (broken off)? Didn't you.....? Oh God!

O -

F - He [redacted] asked me whether I had received a letter (from the Japanese Consul) or not, and I said no.

O - The Consul....The Japanese.....

F - Ach....(A discussion of Hans, Eberhard, and Ruth, especially their health. Guard's arrival.)

O -

F - Nobody believes me!

O - Shall I tell them what we received? (?)
(This sounds important as evidence of Otto's withholding or attempting to withhold some important bit of evidence which Friedel also knew about.)

F - From the beginning I was afraid. Did you do anything?
(Presumably anything of an overt nature.)

O - No, nothing at all! The FBI wondered where I got the money and I didn't know what to say..... (presumably an account of the source of recent money received. The last \$14,000 or \$18,000.)

F - Through the Consulate?! (This could hardly have been feigned astonishment. At this point it became very clear that Friedel was either one of the world's best actors or she was hearing of the source of the money for the first time to her utter amazement. The statement above 'No, nothing at all!' probably means that although the signals were agreed upon, they were never actually used for the purposes for which they were intended. Otto is rightly or wrongly trying to lead Friedel to believe that he thought up the signals for the money, but that he did not use them a single time.)

*all
b6
b7c*

65-414

O - (Indistinct) (The Japanese Consul called Otto up in October.)

F - (Some discussion of Hans and his role in the matter. Not clear.)
But why did you write all that?

O - I thought it was better to.

F - That sounds very funny.

O - Yes, it sounds funny, but it is true.

F - I hate these.....; I hate them. But you kept this all a secret from me. That is the worst of it all. Why did you write all that? I saw a paper that indicates that you had told everything.... They tricked you (into that confession). When did it happen? (What is 'it'?)

O - In 1934 and 1935 and again in 1936.

F - I had no idea about the 24,000 marks. How could you ever have done such a thing? (Friedel sighs over and over again. This is perhaps the most distressing part of Otto's confession as far as she is concerned. A good assumption is that some sort of extortion or blackmail scheme was resorted to to replenish Otto's depleted funds. In '34, '35, and '36 Otto either lost the 24,000 marks which were entrusted to him or received such a sum as a result of illegal pressure and blackmail. Friedel was in a state of hyperexcitation, but Otto came back with the following:)

O - And what about Ruthie (Ruthchen)?

F - Ach!.... Did you do it for money? Did you do it in 1936? (Not clear what.)

O - (An explanation which did not come through.)

F - (Another long sigh as she realizes the enormity of his danger.) How much did you pay?

O - (Inaudible)

F - If I had only imagined that it was like that!.... You gave a paper indicating that you had worked (for him, presumably Okuda or Morimura)?

all
b6
b7c

65-414

O - Yes.

F - Ach!! When did you speak to him? In October?

O - The 25th and then again on the 2nd of December.

F - The second? And the money was delivered?

O -

F - Four months ago when Homburg sent the money,.....

O -

F - I don't understand.

O - How many were there?

F - Four

O -

F - (Louder) I was so scared when you went to send the \$500.
I was so scared.

O - You.....

F - (Angry) I knew that you didn't do it and that you shouldn't
have done it!

O -

1630 F - Ach, du lieber Gott!

(Intermission for dinner; no conversation.)

1645 O - (In English) You through?

1650 F - (Friedel was crying and sobbing for quite a while.) What do
you want (propose) to do?

O - The FBI will attend to everything.

F - Our boys (she breaks off into sobs).

O - They will be all right.

F - I wish I were dead.

O - Don't go on like that on our last day.

F - It shouldn't have been like this.

O - Everything that is done is done.

F - I have already gone through so much.

O - You look after the children.

F - (Crying more and more.)

O - You will get out and you must hold (restrain, control) yourself for the children's sake. (It is perfectly clear throughout that he is calm and resigned to die tomorrow.)

F -

O - We must tell each other goodbye. We don't know.... haven't.....

F - Yes. It was so unimportant (unwichtig). I was so afraid that day when you went to the (Japanese) Consulate. You thought that the possibility of anything happening was ruled out (ausgeschlossen).

O - Did I tell you that?

F - Certainly you did. It's the truth. You shouldn't have returned it at the Japanese Consulate. You should not have telegraphed and telephoned and done all those things that arouse suspicion.

F - Did you receive the note (sketch, drawing 'Aufzeichnung') from Aunt.....? (possibly Bertha; did not sound like 'Martha' although it might have been.) You know what you received, don't you?

O - 12,800 crowns....(A great deal that followed was unintelligible. It was whispered in a very low voice and was interrupted by frequent 'Wie's (whats) from Friedel. This conversation was one of the most crucial of all and probably gave a great deal of the background for Otto's subsequent

F - "misdeeds. Money and deaths were inextricably mixed up in this part. Only further questioning can piece this together so that it will make sense.)
.....was shot to death. (The assistant heard the name as BALTHUSCH)

F - He is alive; he was not shot....

(Considerable whispering followed by the words:) in 1934.

O -

F - Did she die?

O -

F - Of course I saw her in 1935. I flew home in 1932. (?) In 1936 I saw her (stayed with her about the 1935 date) I saw her again in 1936.

O - What about 1937?

F - Mother was dead in 1937 when I got home.

O -

F - Why?

O -

F - You are fifty two. There are 42,000 dead (This last remark is absolutely incomprehensible in context, but there is no doubt as to the exact words used.)

O - There were 30,000 marks (this is another example of the frequent juxtaposition of men and money. It looks as if there were some secret connected with the family and also possibly with the Gestapo; possibility exists that Otto K. was connected with the death of the 42,000 in a Gestapo purge, because of his son's connection with the high authorities of the Propaganda Ministry, and how Otto had his conference with Heidrich and Himmler himself.)

*all
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b7c*

65-414

F - Nobody will believe me (very positive statement)

O - The FBI....

F - I am so very sorry for you. You can never get out of this. You shouldn't have written it. You shouldn't have told them anything. (long delay) You have made yourself unhappy and me unhappy and the children unhappy. I wish we were all dead..... I am feeling so bad.

(Long intermission)

(There was a long argument over when 'she' died. There is no indication of who she was. We were unfortunately unable to take down any of this conversation because of its low audibility.)

O - (Otto takes the initiative after a pause as usual)

1727 F - (Sobbing) You are to blame!

O - Wipe your tears.

F - I have no idea, no idea.

O - (They discuss some aunts and their addresses so that she can write them, presumably after his execution.)

F - In 1937 my mother died..... We bought it in 1936. (There is no indication of what 'it' was).

O -

F - (Very emphatically and each word separately) When did she die?
.....About the beginning of March, 1936.

O - You told him in Japan.....

F - Then a letter came from your son didn't it?

O - Yes. (Intermission for toilet)

F - That is all passed now (long rest)

*all
b6
b7c*

65-414

- 1820 (A few words were mumbled, but it was impossible to catch them)
- 1830 F -
- O - Why should I have?....What I have done, I have done.
(Considerable whispering, but it was impossible to understand it.)
- 1900 O - They are going back to Germany.
- F - You know very well that couldn't be. You have no reason to do that. It is simply fantastic. (Considerable explaining on his part and sighing and sobbing on hers. Individual words could hardly be made out - the question arises as to who was to go back to Germany. Plausible suggestion that the children were to return to Germany after the war.)
- 1930 (Friedel thought she was going to be shot, but he tells her not to worry because she hasn't done anything.)
- 2130 (Guard went in and Friedel was asked whether she wanted to go to sleep. The answer was no.)
- 2138 O - (Whispering to Friedel; practically inaudible but something about some one's coming, probably the guard.)
- F - I felt that something was coming when the.....broke.
- O - I said that the major could come with whatever he had. (referring to the mattresses).
- 2200 O - (Some inaudible remarks, unintelligible, about money and his mother. Note that previously the conversation has been about her mother.)
- 2202 F - What do you say to my going? (Whether this refers to her going to Germany or some other place is uncertain.)
- 2310 O - Did you manage to catch a few winks.....(Many sighs from 2300 to 2310 and after. He also remarks that tomorrow he will be shot. There was some remark about Americans but it was not distinct enough to be translated.)

65-414

"2350 (Allen reports that Mr. and Mrs. Friedel and Mr. Shivers were mentioned and that Okuda was mentioned in a disparaging tone of voice.)

F - (Something was said very vehemently, but it was incomprehensible.)

F - (To guard) How long are you on duty?

Guard - 24 hours. Do you want to go to the bath house?

F - No, come back at 2.

(End of transcription of conversation
of the 16th)

0015 O - (A word or two to Friedel and she answered back. His words seemed muffled, though sounds of scuffling or a swinging body were heard.)

0050 F - (A hard cough)

0120 F - (Another good cough)

0157 F - (A nightmare, sobbing in her sleep.)

O - Frieda! Frieda! (She subsides)

0228 F - or O (?) (snoring regular)

0250 O - (A single cough)

0320 O - (Snoring regular)

0350 O - (Snoring regular)

0420 O - (Snoring regular)

0450 O - (Snoring regular)

0505 F - (Calls guard. No answer)

0507 O - (Calls guard. No answer)

ALL
b6
b7c

65-414

0512 [REDACTED] arrives.)

0516 O - (Calls guard; no answer)

0520 F - (Asks to go to bathroom and also for breakfast hour.)

Guard - 5:30

0528 O - What did you dream about? (No reply.) Was breakfast at 5:30? (No reply.)

(Breakfast)

0543 F - (Indistinct)

0550 O - I am through.

0558 O - How did you sleep?

F - Very bad. Du lieber Gott, in Himmel, thank God this is the end (so reported by [REDACTED] heard 'thank God that you are here.' It occurred to [REDACTED] later that [REDACTED] interpretation was probably correct.)

0612 F - Gott, Ah Gott!

0615 F - Did you ask the people what.....?

O - Yes.

0618 F - If they had not brought me out here, I would not have believed it.

0625 F - (Heavy truck drove up.) Ach, mein Gott.

(Intermission)

F - Did you leave the Shriftstück (document or anything in writing) at home, the one they found?

O - Yes. (?)

F - It is all so crazy that I feel weak.

all
b6
b7c

65-414

*0700 F - (Calls guard) (To Otto:) (indistinct)

0725 O - (Still calling guard)

0728 O - Could I shave and wash my teeth?

Guard - You don't need a shave; you're not going anywhere.

O - I shave every day.

Guard - You'll have to wait till the Major gets back. He gets here about 8 o'clock.

0740 O - Do I get my trial today?

Guard - (No answer)

0745 F - (Hysterical)(loud crying)

0750 F - Can't you take me to the hospital? Can't you get me an aspirin?

0808 (He wants news as to his fate; none is vouchsafed him.)

0857 O - In 1938 when you came to America, you brought the money.

F - (She sighed and acknowledged by silence)

(From 0858 to a change in the watch, no further words were exchanged between Friedel and Otto, probably because they were asleep. On the return of Honolulu, the watch was continued by Special Agent [redacted] of the FBI.)"

The following is a continuation of the log on the activities of OTTO and FRIEDEL KUEHN beginning at 9:25 a.m., January 17, 1942, and extending to 4:10 p.m. the same date. During this time [redacted], acted as German interpreter and the writer was also present. FRIEDEL was later removed from the cell at 4:10 p.m. and returned by a military guard to her old detention cell at the U. S. Immigration Station. The following are the notes

65-414

of [REDACTED] which reflect the only pertinent data overheard by him:

Time

"0925 OTTO: 'Guard!'
0930 OTTO: 'Guard!'
0940 OTTO: 'Guard!'

Guard visits cell.

She again asks for her glasses. Guard states that the Major will not let her have glasses. Guard leaves.

0955 FRIEDEL: 'It is peculiar that they put us two together.'
OTTO: Feels that they will probably not be together for a long time.

1010 FRIEDEL and OTTO discuss family affairs again.

1015 FRIEDEL: Reference again made to what happened in '35. She cannot understand the whole thing (Alles Quatch!) Repeats over and over that she cannot understand the whole thing.

1030 FRIEDEL: Makes reference to something of an undercover (hinterbandish) which took place.

OTTO: Low speech. Y.M.C.A. mentioned twice during his whispering.

1040 FRIEDEL: 'I did not believe it (?) was time until you told me last night.'
Hamburg mentioned.
Reference made to money which passed hands on Dec. 2.

1050 FRIEDEL: \$3000 cash mentioned several times. Reference made that it all took place in '38.

(?) 1055 FRIEDEL: She brought back \$9,000 with her in '40.

1100 FRIEDEL and OTTO: Very involved discussion about large sums of money (same as last night). From time to time she says: 'Wie Konnst du so etwas machen' (How could you do such a thing).

1105 FRIEDEL: Speaks about Leopold.
(?) She tried to get him out of Germany.

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Time

"1115 FRIEDEL: Talks about Ruth - They are trying to scare her.

1130 Guard inspects.
FRIEDEL goes to bathroom.

English (1155 OTTO: Wants to know when he gets his trial.
GUARD: 'Don't worry, you'll get a fair trial.'
(OTTO: 'I know that.'

German (1205 OTTO: 'You will get a fair trial.'
(FRIEDEL: 'Who said so?'
(OTTO: 'The Sergeant.'
FRIEDEL: 'Everything has been decided.'
OTTO: 'The U.S. Government will give you a fair trial.'

1210 FRIEDEL: 'I have a feeling we do not get a trial anymore.'
OTTO: 'Don't be foolish.'
FRIEDEL: 'They do not believe a word I say.'

1215 FRIEDEL: (?) 'I had to state to the American Consul where I was
in '28.'

1220 FRIEDEL: Reference again made to October and December 2, to the
people yonder, and to Homburg.

1225 FRIEDEL: 'Are you sure that you did not tell the story to anyone,
a storekeeper, (Kaufmann) for example?'
OTTO: 'For goodness sakes, no.'
FRIEDEL: 'They knew everything.'

FRIEDEL: Belch! 'What lousy food.'

1235 OTTO: 'What will happen will happen.'

1245 FRIEDEL: 'Oh I cannot sleep.'
OTTO: 'You better try to sleep. You can not sleep much at
night.'

1300 OTTO: 'Have you slept?'
FRIEDEL: 'No.'
OTTO: 'Then try again.'

1310 FRIEDEL: 'Why doesn't somebody come and tell me what is going on?'

65-414

Time

1315 OTTO: 'Guard'

1320 Guard comes, opens FRIEDEL's cell.
She wants to see a doctor.
OTTO: Asks guard to see Major.

1330 FRIEDEL: Hysterical.
'They do not believe me. They will shoot me.'
OTTO: Attempts to comfort her.
FRIEDEL: 'I cannot stand it any longer.' - Wants to wash herself,
brush her teeth, and comb her hair.

1345 Doctor visits FRIEDEL. FRIEDEL does much sobbing.

1355 FRIEDEL: 'I cannot stand it here.'

1415 OTTO: 'It makes no difference what you tell them. They
believe what they want to.'
FRIEDEL: 'But I have not done anything wrong - you have not
done anything wrong.'
OTTO: 'That makes no difference.'

FRIEDEL & OTTO discuss the children.

OTTO: 'Did the doctor give you anything to make you sleep.'
FRIEDEL: No answer.

1420 FRIEDEL: Tells about being at the Detention Station - Mr. [REDACTED] about others that
have been released.

1440 OTTO: 'Could die Reuten? understand German?'
FRIEDEL: 'No, why?'
OTTO:

1445 FRIEDEL: Someone was held by FBI for four days and questioned.

1454 Talk about clean clothes. FRIEDEL would like to wash
her panties. OTTO offers her a clean pair of his
pajamas and shorts.

65-414

Time

"1510 OTTO: Feels he will get complete rest from the whole affair.
FRIEDEL: 'If I could only wash myself.'

1530 'Ruth sang so beautifully yesterday.'"

Just prior to the time OTTO and FRIEDEL KUEHN were transferred from their quarters at the Immigration Station to Schofield Barracks they were given physical examinations by 1st [REDACTED] U. S. Army Medical Corps, Fort Armstrong, and copies of his medical reports are being retained in the file in this case. His findings at that time were that both were in good health and suffering no physical ailments.

Regarding the examination of FRIEDEL KUEHN by a doctor at Schofield Barracks, it is pointed out that at 1:30 p.m. the writer, noting she appeared somewhat hysterical, made arrangements with [REDACTED] to allow a doctor to see Mrs. KUEHN and report on her condition. At 1:43 p.m. Captain (Dr.) [REDACTED] U. S. Army Medical Corps, examined FRIEDEL and afterwards reported her heart and blood pressure were normal; that she was only tired physically. Notations regarding the doctor's visit at that time are being retained in the Honolulu file.

OTTO KUEHN has also since been transferred under military guard back to his former detention cell at the U. S. Immigration Station on January 18, 1942.

On January 19, 1942, Agent [REDACTED] and the writer questioned Mrs. FRIEDEL KUEHN at the U. S. Immigration Station, with Dr. [REDACTED] U. S. Army Medical Corps, continually in attendance, beginning at 8:20 a.m. and continuing until 3:05 p.m., with time being taken for lunch from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m.

Mrs. KUEHN insisted throughout the interview that she had no knowledge of her husband's relations with the Japanese Consulate except his first visit made there in September, 1941, in an effort to send money to their son [REDACTED] in Germany and his last visit there

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On December 2, 1941, at which time OTTO left an envelope containing the \$500.00 to be sent through the Japanese Consulate to their son in Germany. Mrs. KUEHN remained in the car during this last visit and, according to her statements, she had not been with her husband on his first visit there in November. She insisted that the action of the Consulate in extending this favor to them by transmitting the \$500 to their son in Germany did not seem strange to her; that her husband had led her to believe the money was being sent through the Yokohama Specie Bank by the Consulate.

Mrs. KUEHN states that, at the time her husband advised her at Schofield Barracks of his relations with the Consulate, this was a complete surprise to her and was hardly believable. Remarks made between OTTO and FRIEDEL at Schofield Barracks were brought to her attention during this questioning but no significant information was developed, Mrs. KUEHN insisting in most cases that their German statements had been misinterpreted.

Mrs. KUEHN did however confirm her husband's statements to Agents regarding his activities in Germany, which are not being restated here. However, Agent [redacted] notes on this interview are being retained in the Honolulu file.

She furnished the following information which has not previously been set forth: OTTO KUEHN'S father, now deceased, was a doctor of chemistry for the German Government at Stettin, acting as a food inspector. OTTO'S brother, who is presently living in Germany, has two doctor degrees and is presently engaged in private practice. At the time OTTO was preparing to leave Germany in 1935 his Aunt MARTHA, who resides in Germany and is quite wealthy, arranged to deposit considerable funds, which in all amounted to around \$42,000, in an Amsterdam Bank for OTTO. The deposits in Amsterdam were actually made by an aunt of OTTO'S residing in Sweden out of her own funds, while Aunt MARTHA in Germany made investments of an identical amount in Germany under the name of the aunt in Sweden who was interested in making some German investments. In recent years the only adopted daughter of Aunt MARTHA has died and therefore OTTO and OTTO'S brother will share equally in Aunt MARTHA'S estate in Germany upon her death.

Regarding her own life, FRIEDEL advised that when she was about 17 years of age she met a person in Germany whom she later expected to marry; that before that time however the engagement was

broken off. She became pregnant and gave birth to her son, [REDACTED] who is the one presently serving in the Nazi Government as an assistant to GOEBBELS in the Propaganda Office. Later she met another man during the beginning of the first World War whom she also expected to marry but who was killed in a plane wreck prior to their marriage. Mrs. KUEHN again became pregnant and gave birth to RUTH who is the daughter presently residing with her in Honolulu and who was born in 1915. RUTH'S father was a Jew and because of this fact OTTO has always claimed her as his own so that she might avoid persecution in Germany.

On January 20, 1942, OTTO KUEHN was again brought to the Honolulu Field Office and questioned by [REDACTED] and the writer from 9:10 a.m. until 11:50 a.m. the same date. However he contended that he had no more information to add to the statement already ^{made} to Agents. He also insisted that his wife, FRIEDEL, had no knowledge whatsoever of his relations with the Japanese Consulate.

The numerous statements overheard between him and FRIEDEL at Schofield Barracks, as previously set forth, were brought to OTTO'S attention for appropriate explanation. However he, too, contended in most cases their German statements must have been misinterpreted in those portions where it was indicated that he had not given this office complete information regarding his relations with the Consulate and FRIEDEL'S previous knowledge of these relations. all
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As mentioned in reference report the telephone calls made from KUEHN'S Kalama and Lanakai residences, as well as the Kailua Beauty Shop, for the period from October through December, 1941, were obtained. All the questionable calls during that period have since been checked and eliminated as having any particular bearing on this case. The inquiries made in this connection are not being set forth since, as indicated, they are not pertinent to this investigation. However, the lists of these telephone calls are being retained in the Honolulu file in this case.

Both OTTO and FRIEDEL KUEHN were photographed and fingerprinted on January 16, 1942. Their fingerprints with photographs attached have since been forwarded to the Bureau for a check against the Identification Division files for possible previous records. Additional photos of these individuals are being transmitted as enclosures to the Bureau with copies of this report.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **HONOLULU, T. H.**

Honolulu FILE NO. **65-4**

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 2/7/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/6/42	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases; ET AL			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - J

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

*4 apprehensions
Lser. interned
Otto Kuehn
Friedel Kuehn
Ruth Kuehn
Eberhard Martin*

[REDACTED] OTTO KUEHN, wife FRIEDEL, daughter RUTH, and son EBERHARD MARTIN, all interned on orders of Military on December 8, 1941. Internee Hearing Board has recommended all Subjects be interned for duration of war. Prosecutive action pending concerning OTTO KUEHN in connection with Japanese espionage activities, Honolulu.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of **[REDACTED]** dated 1/31/42 at Honolulu, T. H.

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369 8-20-70*




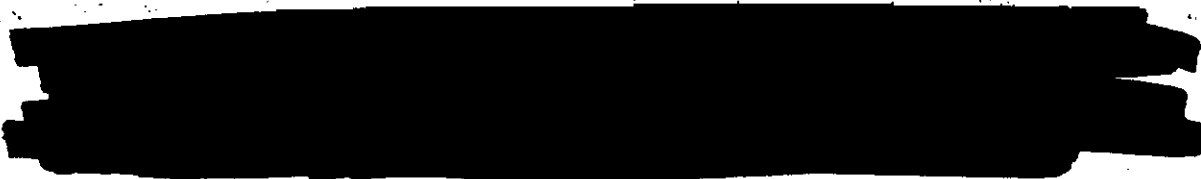
**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-86 BY 9001/hrs
#218714**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<p>COPIES DESTROYED</p> <p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 - Bureau 1 - G-1 Honolulu 1 - G-2 Honolulu 2 - Honolulu <p>FILE</p>	<p>65-11574-150</p> <p>RECORDED</p>

63-4

Details:

All four subjects of this investigation were arrested and interned upon orders of the Military authorities on December 8, 1941, being afterwards served with Warrants of Arrest issued by the Military.



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XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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[REDACTED]

The following is a record of proceedings of a board of officers and civilians which convened at Honolulu, T. H., on December 31, 1941, for the purpose of hearing evidence and making recommendations as to the internment of BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN. The findings of the Board were:

1. Citizenship: The internee, OTTO K. KUEHN, also known as BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, is a native-born citizen of Germany, hence an enemy alien.

2. Loyalty: It is believed that he is loyal to Germany.

3. Activities: No specific instances of subversive activities has been shown. The Government did not present its case. Whether or not the Board erred in calling this man out of turn and getting his side of the case with no Government evidence against him, is reported without comment. What the Government's evidence is, the Board is unable to ascertain.

The internee served in the German Army during the first World War. He admitted he was a Nazi; that his step-son is at present an official of the Nazi Party; also that they were able to get money out of Germany by having a part of their gross income as received,

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deposited in the banks at Rotterdam and Amsterdam. They also were enabled to get some money brought into this country through the good services of [redacted] connected with the German Consulate in Japan. [redacted] Internee admits that he had a great deal of photographic material and a powerful radio; that he entertained officers of the Navy and taught some of them the German language. While in Germany this internee was a member of the Nazi Party, as was his wife and children.

In view of the above, the Board recommended that the internee, **BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN**, be interned for the duration of the war.

As will be noted from recent reports submitted in this investigation, prosecutive action is presently pending concerning **BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN** in connection with Japanese espionage activities in Honolulu in which he is known to have been engaged. As stated in reference report, it is anticipated his trial before the Military Commission in Honolulu will be initiated within the immediate future.

PENDING

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **HONOLULU, T. H.**

Honolulu FILE NO. **65-**

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Rosen _____

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 1/31/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/20-29/42	REPORT MADE BY [Redacted]
TITLE BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases; ET AL			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

CONFIDENTIAL

Confidential Informant N states figures given by OTTO KUEHN to Japanese Consulate, December 2, 1941, regarding size of U. S. Naval Fleet based at Pearl Harbor were probably substantially correct about November 28, 1941. Original message dispatched by the Japanese Consulate, Honolulu, to Foreign Office, Tokyo, under date of December 3, 1941, obtained and photostatic copies forwarded by Confidential Informant N to headquarters, Washington, D. C., air mail, to be decoded and translation, officially certified, to be returned air mail, is to be used as evidence in prosecution. This message known to contain set of signals substantially identical to signals furnished Consulate by KUEHN December 2, 1941. Charges have been prepared and approved by Military (not yet preferred) accusing OTTO KUEHN of violation Sections 31, 32 and 34, Title 50, U. S. Code Annotated. Trial date anticipated within next two-week period.

ENCLOSURE **18**

DETAILS: **At HONOLULU, T. H.**

REMAINING RETAINED IN LABORATORY

COPY IN FILE

DEFERRED RECORDING

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">FEB 12 1942</div>	RECORDED INDEXED [Initials]
COPIES DESTROYED 53 300 AUG 4 1941 (5) Bureau (Enc.) 1 Capt. E. V. Glatfelter (Judge Advocate General's Dept.) Honolulu 1 ONI Honolulu 1 U. S. Attorney, Honolulu 3 Honolulu (1 Honolulu file 65-414)		

[REDACTED]

Confidential Informant N has advised the figures submitted by OTTO KUHN to the Japanese Consulate on December 2, 1941, regarding the numbers according to types of United States Navy ships based at Pearl Harbor were probably substantially correct as of November 28, 1941. It was stated the numbers of these ships in Pearl Harbor vary at different times during each day. However, during the period mentioned, November 28, 1941, it was believed the number of ships in Pearl Harbor at that time was substantially identical to the figures indicated by OTTO KUHN. A further check is being made through

[REDACTED] Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor, to definitely ascertain the numbers, according to types, of the Naval vessels in Pearl Harbor during different hours of the days covering the period around November 28, 1941. These figures are to be made available to this office as well as the United States Attorney [REDACTED] of the Judge Advocate General's Department at the earliest possible moment. It is pointed out that [REDACTED] will be the proper person to introduce this information at the trial in this case.

Attention is directed to a report of Special Agent in Charge R. L. SHIVERS dated December 26, 1941, at Honolulu, T. H., in the case entitled "JAPANESE ACTIVITIES, Honolulu, T. H. -- ESPIONAGE - CONFIDENTIAL (J)", Honolulu file 65-414. In that report a decoded message, dispatched by the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu to the Foreign Minister, Tokyo, under date of December 3, 1941, is set forth on pages five and six.

In order that the dispatch of this message, which sets forth a system of signaling substantially identical to the plans submitted by OTTO KUHN to the Consulate on December 2, 1941, might be introduced as evidence in the trial of this case as the final count in the conspiracy charge, the following action was taken.

On January 28, 1942, an order was obtained from the Executive Military Governor, Colonel THOMAS M. GREEN, ordering R.C.A. Communications, Inc., 223 South King Street, Honolulu, to turn over to this

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office the originals of the message dispatched by the Japanese Consulate, Honolulu, to the Foreign Office, Tokyo, Japan, under date of December 3, 1941. Upon presentation of this order to [redacted] A.C.A. Communications, Inc., he surrendered to the writer the two messages dispatched on that date, which are the ones in question, and at that time he made appropriate notations on these originals certifying them to be the originals of the radio telegrams dispatched by the Japanese Consulate General on December 3, 1941, and affixed his signature thereto. These originals were also initialed by the writer with the date noted 1/28/42 and were afterwards photostatted at the Honolulu Office. The original message is being retained in the safe at the Honolulu Field Division for future use in the prosecution of this case. The writer on that same date, January 28, 1942, delivered three sets of photostatic copies of these messages to [redacted]

[redacted], Honolulu, immediately prepared a letter to the Director of Naval Intelligence, Washington, D. C., enclosing these photostatic copies with the request that the enclosure be translated into English and a copy of such translation, officially certified to be a translation of the enclosure, together with the enclosure be returned to his office via air mail as soon as possible. b6 b7c

[redacted] advised he expects to receive the decoded translation, officially certified in a manner so that it might be introduced as evidence by himself, within the next week or ten days.

An additional photostatic copy of the two-page radio message referred to here is being transmitted to the Bureau with copies of this report.

On January 27, 1942, charges and specifications were drawn by United States Attorney ARTHUR M. TAYLOR, JR., Honolulu, T. H., against Subject OTTO KUENH, charging him with violation of Section 34, Title 30, United States Code Annotated, violation of Section 31, as amended, United States Code Annotated, and violation of Section 32, Title 30, United States Code Annotated. These charges and specifications, which are being preferred by [redacted] Judge Advocate General's Department, who will act as Trial Judge Advocate in the prosecution of this case before the Military Commission, are as follows:

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65-1574-51 pp 4-7

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65-4

OTTO KUEHN. Both [REDACTED] and United States Attorney TAYLOR have indicated they intend to prefer these charges in sufficient time to allow Subject KUEHN five days in which to consult his attorneys, if he so desires, before the actual trial is begun. The charges are not being preferred at this time since no definite trial date can be anticipated although it is hoped that the trial can be initiated within the next two-week period. At this time [REDACTED] and United States Attorney TAYLOR are awaiting some indication as to the date on which a reply might be expected from [REDACTED] request to the Navy Department, Washington, D. C., before the trial date is set.

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b7c

ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU

Two-page photostatic copy of coded radiogram.

PENDING

65-6

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

The HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION

At HONOLULU, T. H., will follow and report the results of Subject's trial before the Military Commission.

PENDING

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65-1574

January 7, 1942

Re: FRIEDRICH BARTHA AUGUSTE KUEHN
with aliases;
BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
with aliases;
ESPIONAGE (R)

Subjects first came to the Bureau's attention in February, 1939, when an acquaintance of Assistant Director E. A. Tamm named

submitted information which he explained was furnished to him by friends in the Hawaiian Islands, who desired to remain anonymous, indicating that the Kuehns were believed to be espionage agents. This report asserted that although Subjects had no apparent source of income, they owned two homes at Kailua, Oahu, one of which was very large and, further, that they entertained lavishly, particularly Army officers. This report was immediately referred to OMI, S-2, and the San Francisco Field Division of the Bureau, instructing that an investigation regarding Subjects be conducted when next an Agent was in the Territory of Hawaii.

Inquiry has disclosed that Kuehn was born in Berlin, Germany, on July 25, 1895. While serving as an Ober-Lieutenant in the Imperial German Navy during World War I, his ship was sunk and he was picked up by H. M. S. Lion. He was interned at Edinburgh until the end of hostilities, when he returned to Germany. Kuehn stayed in the German Navy for some time, eventually being dismissed therefrom in 1929 for alleged financial difficulties.

On May 10, 1920, at Munich, Germany, Kuehn married Friedel Birk, the widow of a German officer killed during the war and the mother of two children named Leopold and Ruth. Two sons, Martin Eberhard and Hans Joachim, resulted from this union.

On August 15, 1935, Kuehn was admitted to the United States at Honolulu for a twelve-month period as a non-immigrant. At that time he gave as the purpose of his visit the desire to study the Japanese language in order that he might return to his native country and secure a position as translator and interpreter in the mercantile field. The immigration records contain a statement made by Kuehn revealing that he arrived in New York City on April 29, 1935, in transit to Japan via Honolulu. However, upon reaching the Orient, he decided he could make better progress in his study of the Japanese language at the University of Hawaii and, accordingly, returned to Honolulu on August 15, 1935, accompanied by his children Ruth and Martin Eberhard.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11-20-80 BY SP-5/BJE

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

65-1574-5

RECORDED

INDEXED

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FIVE

Kuehn's original entry permit was extended to August 14, 1937, to enable him to "continue his Japanese studies." Apparently he left Honolulu following this extension since he was admitted to the United States as a quota immigrant on October 29, 1936.

Friedel Kuehn entered the United States as a non-immigrant for a six-month period at New York City on March 17, 1936. Thereafter, Mrs. Kuehn also requested and was granted an extension of her stay. She was admitted for permanent residence at New York City as a quota immigrant on September 25, 1937.

At the time of their entry into this country, Subjects stated that although neither of them was employed, they had ample funds to cover their expenses while here.


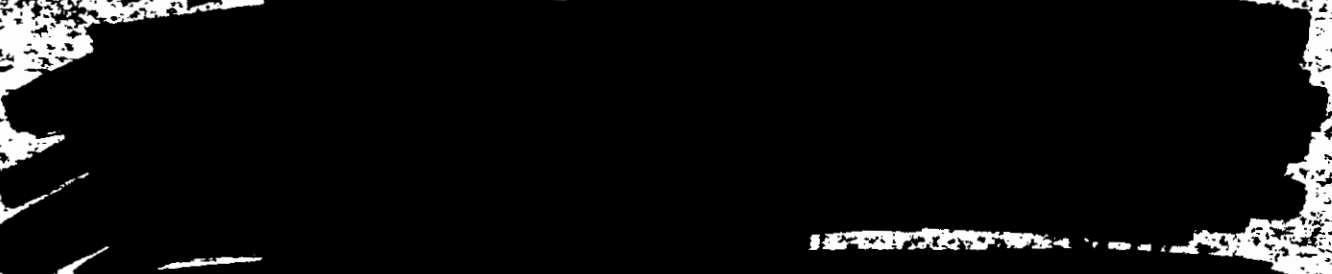


Regarding Subjects' income, they have indicated that they were deriving their money from investments and business interests in Germany and Holland. The nature of these investments is not clear, although Kuehn claims to have been in the coffee and tea importing business in Bremen and Berlin until 1935, when he turned this company over to his stepson. In any event it is definitely known that Subjects had over \$70,000 deposited to their credit in the Bishop National Bank in Honolulu by the Rotterdam Bank Association, Amsterdam, through the National City Bank of New York, between May 14, 1936, and February 7, 1939. Kuehn claims that his income from Germany was stopped in 1936 when someone reported to the German authorities that he and his family intended to become American citizens. It is a fact that Subjects filed declarations of intention to become citizens of the United States on March 9, 1936. Funds which Kuehn was receiving on investments in Holland supposedly continued until that country was taken over by Germany.

Immediately following Kuehn's first arrival in Honolulu in 1935, he temporarily resided at the Brooklyn Hotel, where he sought the companionship of young Navy officers, whom he reportedly entertained freely.

- 3 -

During the early part of 1937, Kuehn invested about \$21,000 in three pieces of property in Honolulu. One of these houses was used for a residence, the other two being rented.

On July 14, 1938, Subjects, accompanied by their sons Martin Richard and Hans Joachim, left Honolulu for Yokohama, Japan.



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

When interviewed by GHI on November 2, 1939, Kuehn admitted having been a member of the Socialist German National Party, but claimed that when Hitler came into power it was necessary for him to leave Germany since he did not agree with the new government. He stated that he owned property in Germany and was receiving an income therefrom [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

all
b6
b7c

- 3 -

[REDACTED]

In reply to specific inquiry as to whether Kuehn would be willing to assist GHI in gaining information regarding un-American activities in Honolulu, he stated that he would not accept such an offer for pay, but if any such data came to his attention, he would report it. He gave as his reason for refusing this proposition the fact that since his son and other relatives were still living in Germany, he could not afford to let it be known that he was working against that country.

[REDACTED]

According to information appearing in GHI's files, when the German cruiser "Ende" was in Honolulu in 1936, [REDACTED] gave out information that the officers of that vessel were to have nothing to do with Kuehn. [REDACTED] reported that on the last trip of the Nazi pocket battleship Karlsruhe to Honolulu, Kuehn was refused permission by deck officials to board the ship.

[REDACTED]

all
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b7d

According to information received from GHI in the early Fall of 1940, Subjects had a dormer window constructed in the attic of their residence which overlooked Kaneohe Air Station. GHI has advised that although numerous observations have been made of Subjects' house, no lights have ever been seen therein.

[REDACTED]

It has been asserted that Kuehn took advantage of every opportunity to observe all possible military movements, such as parades, drills, et cetera.

Investigation has revealed that Subjects have done considerable entertaining in Honolulu, exhibiting a particular interest in having Army and Navy officers as their guests. A list of Kuehn's associates, obtained from GHI, contains the names of five lieutenants. Other sources revealed that Kuehn was friendly with [REDACTED] U.S.N., [REDACTED] of the Submarine Detachment in Pearl Harbor. [REDACTED] for the Quartermaster Corps at Hickam Field, also is mentioned as having been friendly with Subjects. The neighborhood investigation revealed that an enlisted sailor in a uniform, driving a car with Pearl Harbor tags, as well as an automobile bearing identification tags from Schofield Barracks, has been seen visiting the Kuehns.

[REDACTED]

Kuehn has been suspected by some Germans of having supplied information to the Japanese Government and he has openly stated that he knows he is under suspicion by the United States Government.

Al
b6
b7c

GWI obtained information that German Consul Robert Lang at Honolulu intended to obtain the correct status of the Kuehns in Germany.

[REDACTED]

On January 2, 1941, the following article, apparently referring to Subjects, was printed in the Hawaii "Sentinel":

"Junius would like to know when the deportation of the local Nazi family, who carry a name similar to the fellow who got the front page with his mainland Bund activities, is going to be announced officially. We hear their house got up with the bar for the service men, to get them in the mood to talk was a tip-off as to just what the little lady of the trio was up to in her playing around with the local gold braided boys. We hear the import jack has been cut to a minimum and his Berlin boss is transferring them to the Shanghai Bund. Junius hears the FBI has one swell desier on this set-up and the family is not to get a turn down reception if they try to step off at Manila."

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

In connection with the investigation of this case, it is noted that unsuccessful attempts were made by the Honolulu Office to enlist the cooperation of commercial radio and telegraph companies in turning over copies of communications relating to the national defense.

On December 2, 1941, Subjects, with their daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, were taken into custody in Honolulu.

January 7, 1942

THE DIRECTOR

On the morning following the Japanese air attack on the Island of Oahu, the Globe Wireless and Mackay Radio and Telegraph Companies, at the request of Special Agent in Charge Shivers, furnished the Honolulu Office with copies of all messages which had been sent and received by the Japanese Consulate in that city.

The translation of one of these messages dispatched on December 9, 1941, by Kita, the Japanese Consul in Honolulu to the Foreign Minister at Tokyo, set forth a complete system of signals to be used in communicating intelligence information to the enemy. One of the signals to be used was a "light in dormer window of Kalama house from 7 p. m. to 1 a. m. every hour", indicating the sailings of aircraft carriers and battle forces on certain dates.

As soon as a translation of this message was received, the Honolulu Office, with OHI and G-2, immediately instituted an investigation for the purpose of identifying and locating the Japanese agents who had been responsible for the use of this signal. It was once appeared that the Kalama house with the "dormer window" mentioned in the above signal, was owned by Otto Kuehn and his wife Frieda, who had been the subjects of considerable investigation by the Bureau, OHI and G-2. These persons, with their daughter Ruth Carson Moore, were interned at Honolulu on December 8, 1941. Following his detention, Kuehn admitted furnishing the Japanese Consul General and Vice Consul at Honolulu with the signaling system used in furnishing intelligence information to the Japanese Government.

Pursuant to your request, there is attached a summary of the information contained in the Bureau's files regarding the Kuehns. It is noted that copies of all Bureau reports in this case were furnished to OHI and G-2, both at Honolulu and at the Seat of Government.

Respectfully,

D. H. Ladd

Original cannot be located and is not on record. When original is received in Files Division it will be filed either with this copy or may be given a new serial.

Attachment

62-7574-53

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

7 FEB 15 1942

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-80 BY SP-10/CA

2 FEB 20 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Honolulu, T. H.

FILE NO. 65-414

REPORT MADE AT Honolulu, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 1/15/42 ✓	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/5-14/42	REPORT MADE BY
TITLE JAPANESE ACTIVITIES, Honolulu, T. H.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - CONFIL (J)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Investigation continued relative to OTTO KUEHN and wife, FRIEDEL, in connection with Japanese espionage activities, Honolulu. Continued questioning of OTTO and FRIEDEL has failed to develop further information to add to previous statements. Investigation has fairly well established the \$14,000.00 cash given OTTO KUEHN in October, 1941, was delivered by a Japanese Consular official. These funds, all in \$100 denominations, are being traced from their source, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, to determine method of transmission to Honolulu.

Notebook discovered in KUEHN's possession containing numerous newspaper clippings relative to U. S. Fleet operations in Hawaiian waters. Investigation continuing.

- P -

Reference:

Report of
January 5, 1942, at Honolulu, T. H.; report of
dated January 6, 1942, at Honolulu, T. H.

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPIES OF THIS REPORT

- 5 Bureau - *cc. Asst. Dir. G. B. Borge*
- 2 New York City - *State*
- 1 ONI, Honolulu - *2-11-42 ELL*
- 1 G2, Honolulu
- 1 Honolulu File 65-4 - *64*
- 3 Honolulu

INDEXED

2/11/42

3/13/42

Details: The investigation set forth in this report has been conducted jointly by _____ and the writer relative to OTTO KUEHN and wife, FRIEDEL, subjects in Honolulu file 65-4.

OTTO KUEHN was first brought to the Honolulu Office from his detention quarters, U. S. Immigration Station, on December 31, 1941, for questioning. He was thereafter held at the field office under constant guard of agents up until 4:15 P.M., January 5, 1942, at which time he was returned to the Immigration Station and placed in an individual detention room, where he has been kept since, separated from other prisoners. During this period, and upon several more recent occasions, OTTO KUEHN has been questioned at great length in an effort to obtain further information regarding his contacts, names of other individuals who might have been engaged with him in carrying on Japanese espionage activities in Honolulu, and the specific information he is believed to have furnished the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu from time to time. However, he has consistently contended that he has nothing to add to the statements furnished by him which are contained in reference report of _____ that he never furnished the Japanese Consulate with any information regarding our defense activities, as a matter of fact, it has been KUEHN's contention that his only purpose in supplying the set of signals to the Japanese Consulate was as a means to secure their assistance in sending money to his son, LEOPOLD, in Germany. He states that he never intended to furnish the Consulate with information on our defense activities and instead intended, in effect, to "double-cross" them. He emphatically denies having ever relayed any signals for the Japanese at any time.

Although OTTO KUEHN has denied any further collaboration with the Japanese Consular officials other than that set forth in his previous statements, the information developed to date, particularly regarding the \$14,000.00 cash paid to him in October, 1941, by a person described by KUEHN as a Japanese unknown to him, would indicate otherwise.

OTTO KUEHN has stated the Japanese, unknown to him, did not tarry at his residence but departed almost immediately after leaving the \$14,000.00 cash. It is to be noted the description furnished by EBERHARD KUEHN, set forth in reference report of , is substantially similar to that of of the Japanese Consulate. On January 14, 1942, the photograph of , which is being retained in the file in this case, was exhibited to EBERHARD KUEHN, who stated same was very similar to the Japanese who called to see his father in October. Further, he believed it was very likely the same person, but he could not be positive. Also, on January 14, 1942, the photograph of was shown to OTTO KUEHN, who stated it was quite similar to the Japanese who delivered him the money; that he is positive he has seen this person (in the photograph) before, and believed this probably was the occasion. He, too, said this photograph was very likely the same individual. KUEHN, however, still contends that he was of the belief that this man received by him had been sent by from Japan. He has stated that a Japanese boat was in port on the day the money was given to him and he thought the money had been delivered by a Japanese from this boat.

It is to be noted EBERHARD KUEHN is positive the money was delivered on a Saturday, either the 18th or 25th of October. The only two Japanese vessels in the port of Honolulu around October and November, 1941, were the TATUTA MARU and the TAIYO MARU. Records from the daily report of the Customs Inspector, U. S. Customs Statistics, U. S. Post Office Building, reflect the TATUTA MARU arrived in Honolulu on Thursday, October 23, 1941, and departed at 12:25 P.M., October 24, 1941; that the TAIYO MARU arrived on November 1, 1941, and departed on November 5, 1941, at 7:45 P.M. It is definitely established there was no Japanese vessel in the port of Honolulu on any Saturday during October of 1941 and this fact must have been known to OTTO KUEHN.

Of the original \$14,000.00 cash received by OTTO KUEHN, \$5,000.00, all in new \$100.00 Federal Reserve of New York bank notes,

Plans are being effected through the co-operation and assistance of to follow the plan outlined as follows. Appropriate detention quarters are being selected at Schofield Barracks, where necessary "listening devices" will be pre-arranged, these arrangements to be made January 15, 1942. Thereafter, Mr. and Mrs. KUEHN will be transported, separately, under heavy military guard to these detention quarters, being given the impression their trial by the military is being initiated. They will then be placed in the same detention cell and left alone, while qualified interpreters will note their remarks.

Unknown today immediately besiege OTTO with questions regarding what information he has given this office. It is pointed out that they have had no contact since prior to the first interview by this office with OTTO. Upon learning what information

OTTO has given this office

The information developed from this plan will be reported without delay.

On January 5, 1942, OTTO KUEHN gave to written authority to obtain his mail from Post Office Box 1476, Honolulu, following which, with KUEHN's consent, the contents were examined, after KUEHN himself had opened the letters. However, no pertinent information was discovered. The written permission, referred to here, is being maintained in the Honolulu file in this case.

A registered mail receipt, #13994, was taken from KUEHN's person at the Immigration Station on December 12, 1941, the receipt being dated October 22, 1941, covering a one ounce letter mailed via clipper. A check through the U. S. Post Office Inspector, Honolulu, determined this was a letter from OTTO KUEHN

In his statement submitted under date of January 3, 1942, OTTO KUEHN mentioned an arrangement he had made for sending code messages through by the use of a Duden (German) grammar dictionary. KUEHN's own copy of "Der Grope Duden" (German dictionary) was obtained from his home and is being retained in the Honolulu file in this case. According to KUEHN, this is the duplicate of the one sent to

Inquiry has since been made by Special Agent in Charge R. L. SHIVERS of the telegraph and cable offices in Honolulu, but no record was located of any messages directed at Tokyo, Japan, around July, 1941, as was indicated in KUEHN's statement. It is probable that if such a message was sent by the Japanese Consulate, it was dispatched in the regular consulate code.

In the plan of signals submitted to the consulate, which were outlined by KUEHN in his statements to this office, it was noted signals might be relayed through the KGMB want-ads program by an advertisement for either beauty operators, Chinese runs or a chicken ranch for sale.

on the KGMB radio want-ads program, examined the records of ad announcements from November 24 to December 8, 1941, without discovering any announcements relative to advertisements of the nature outlined here.

Attention is directed to Page 12 of reference report of , where mention is made of the signals prepared by KUEHN which were submitted to the Japanese Consulate. It is to be noted KUEHN states that in referring to signal fire on the Island of Maui, he had in mind the locality where his

The following investigation was of conducted by the Military Intelligence Office, on January 2, 1942, at Wailuku, Maui.

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☒ Deleted under exemption(s) b 6 b 7c b 7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- ☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- ☐ Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information: _____

☒ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

65-1574-53X pgs 8-10

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

No further information of any significance was known to OTTO LEHMANN.

Referring again to the search made of the KUEHN residence, numerous moving picture films were located, all of which were reviewed and were noted as pictures obtained during travel through the Orient, scenes in Honolulu of no significance, etc. It was observed Mr. or Mrs. KUEHN, or both, are apparently excellent photographers. Numerous

photographs were also discovered, as well as photographic negatives. However, none were of any value. Photographs of KUEHN's Kalama and Lanikai Beach residences were obtained and are being retained in the Honolulu file for reference purposes. Additional correspondence, in German, was also located, pertinent portions of which are quoted as follows.

The originals of the above letters, along with their English translations, are being maintained in the Honolulu file in this case.

Among OTTO KUEHN's possessions was discovered a loose-leaf notebook containing numerous clippings, among which is a section consisting of 17 pages devoted to clippings relative to United States Fleet movements and operations in the Hawaiian waters. The captions of these articles, which are being retained in the Honolulu file in this case, are as follows:

"Pearl Harbor Aircraft Will Fly to Manila"

"Fleet Reserve Group has 185 Members"

"Six New United States Subs Leaving Here Soon to Join Asiatic Fleet."

"New Docks For Pearl Harbor"

"New Subs Are Expected For Pearl Harbor"

"Navy Seeks Land For \$4,214,000.00 Housing Project"

"Thirty Warships Here Named Fleet's Hawaii Detachment."

"Naval Forces Here Trebled"

"Rosters From Vessels In Honolulu Naval Detachment"

Photographic clippings of the following naval vessels:
Airplane carrier Enterprise.
USS Salt Lake City, USS Houston, USS Pensacola, USS
Indianapolis, USS New Orleans, USS Minneapolis, USS
Raleigh, USS Cushing, USS Dale, USS Worden.

Clipping captioned, "In Hawaii the Navy Has:

Fifteen per cent of its total personnel.
Half of the heavy cruisers of the fleet.
A Vice Admiral and six Rear Admirals.
Eighteen of the 54 new destroyers of the fleet.
A \$20,000,000.00 a year payroll.
Civilian workers numbering 3,138, with annual
payroll of \$4,846,351.50.
Building and other installations valued at \$67,737,608.89.
An outlay of nearly \$10,000 a day for food.
An unexpended balance of \$30,520,000 for expansion.
The mine craft of the powerful battle force.
Nearly 200 planes at the naval air station and aboard
the carrier Enterprise and cruisers.

News article captioned, "Navy Ships at Pearl Harbor:
Aircraft carrier - Enterprise.
Cruisers - ASTORIA, HOUSTON, MINNEAPOLIS, NEW ORLEANS,
PENSACOLA, RALEIGH, SALT LAKE CITY and NORTHAMPTON.
Destroyers - PERKINS, CUSHING, PRESTON, SMITH, PORTER,
DRAYTON, FLUSSER, LAMSON, MAHAN, DEWEY, HULL, MacDONOUGH,
WORDEN, AYLWIN, DALE, FARRAGUT, MONAGHAN, PHELPS and
LITCHFIELD.
Mine force - OGLALA, IARK, PRUITT, PREBLE, SICARD,
TRACY, Tanager, QUAIL and WHIPPORWILL.
Submarines - S-18, 23, 34 and 35, SWORDFISH, SHARK,
POLPANO, POLIACK, PLUNGER, ARGONAUT, CACHELOT,
NARWHAL, NAUTILUS, DOLPHIN and CUTTLEFISH.
Tenders and based forces - DOBBIN, WRIGHT, SWAN,
SEAGULL, PELICAN, KINGFISHER, TURKEY, AVOCET, CHILDS
and PATRIDGE."

Regarding the list of naval craft above, penciled check
marks appear above the following: HOUSTON, MINNEAPOLIS, NEW
ORLEANS, PENSACOLA and SALT LAKE CITY, among the cruisers, and
the DOBBIN, KINGFISHER, TURKEY and PATRIDGE among the tenders
and base force. The following additional captioned articles
also are included:

"Millions For Kaneohe Base"

"Mokapu Air Base Work to Start Wednesday"

"Naval Dock To Be Towed Here"

"Expansion of Hawaii Air Defenses Rushed"

"Barking Sand Areas Sought For Project" (extension of airport facilities)

"Arnold to Visit Outlying Fields" (referring to visit of Major General HENRY H. ARNOLD, Chief of Army Air Corps)

"Army Here Will Get 200 New Fighting Planes"

"Marine Force Here Will Get 700 More Men"

"Expansion To Add 3,000 To Forces Here"

"New Bomber Group To Be Set Up Today"

"Naval Survey Party Sailed For Palmyra Air Base Job"

"Twelve Millions For Three Pacific Sub Bases Proposed"

It is pointed out the dates of the above newspaper articles are not included with the clippings. However, it is obvious these were all taken from Honolulu local papers over the period of the past two years. At the time OTTO KUEHN was questioned regarding these clippings, he insisted this was merely a hobby on his part and pointed to the fact that he also had numerous other clippings contained in this notebook regarding the war in Europe, etc. It is to be noted, however, that all the news articles in this notebook pertain to the war, defense activities, or similar matters.

The investigation which follows was conducted relative to recent activities in connection with OTTO KUEHN's Lanikai Beach home at Lanikai, Oahu, which is located on the sand beach immediately next to the ocean, on the opposite side of the island from Honolulu.

The following memorandum was received under date of December 24, 1941, from Confidential Informant N:

Subject: SIGNALS FROM LANIKAI

In compliance with instructions, and the writer proceeded to Lanikai on December 11, 1941, and remained until the evening of December 19.

Over this period of time a complete and thorough canvas was made of all residences on the beach at Lanikai and all others adjacent thereto that might possibly have been used by anyone sending the type of signals reported. It was immediately learned that OTTO KUEHN owns a house on the beach at Lanikai, this being the fifth house from the junction of Lanikai and Kailua. It was determined that this house is occupied by

All of the people interviewed during the course of this investigation reported that they observed no signals nor any activity that appeared to be suspicious or could be interpreted as signaling. This statement is made with the exception of the information received from Mrs. R. C. WALDRON, whose house is the second house from the Kailua junction, who reported that at 6:45 A.M. on the morning of December 7, 1941, a Japanese, carrying a fishing pole, was observed running on the beach towards Kailua. Shortly after he left, a red flare was seen to have been sent from the vicinity of the beach

The inquiries made generally among the people residing in Lanikai, over the period of this investigation, were confined primarily to suspicious activity on the part of anyone for the period from December 1 to 7, 1941. The inquiries related generally to the possible signaling with flares or lights at night time and the presence of sail boats off the beach during the day time. Over his period, and for the three weeks preceding December 1, the waters off Lanikai were too rough for sailing and it was generally stated by the persons interviewed, most of whom are boat enthusiasts, that no star boats or other types of sailing vessels were seen near this beach over this period. It

was pointed out by many of the residents that, should a sail boat of any description have appeared in this rough weather, these residents, being interested in sailing vessels, would have remarked upon the presence of a boat off shore in this type of weather and would have remembered the presence of the boat and probably could have recalled the name of the owner.

Because of the nature of the other signals reported that could have been used in daylight hours questions, it was felt, could not be particularly asked concerning these signals without endangering the source of the information. However, in travelling about the vicinity of Lanikai, over this period, all residences were examined carefully for the purpose of attempting to determine from what residence the other day time signals might have been given. The KUEHN residence could have been used for all signals described except for the signaling with automobile headlights.

During the course of this investigation, the agents had access to, and the use of the home of

During the period of time consumed by this investigation, a watch was kept for signals and for other suspicious activity from this vantage point without results. During the interviews generally, those persons interviewed, who were found to be reputable, were advised to be on the alert for suspicious activity in this vicinity and requested to report any information considered worthy of further attention to this office.

As a result of this investigation the conclusion is reached that while all necessary preparations were taken in order to cause the sending of the described signals during the first week of December, 1941, the Fleet movements to be

indicated by these signals possibly did not occur; therefore, the sending of the signals was not found to be necessary. It would appear that, had signals of this description been sent from this location, some of the residents in the vicinity of Lanikai would have observed some activity that would have a bearing on the investigation.

On the morning of the investigation, the area around Lanikai Beach, Lanikai, Hawaii, was searched for signals of the type described in the report. No signals of this type were observed.

Investigation in this case is continuing and an additional report will be forthcoming at an early date.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City

Will report the results of the investigation conducted in compliance with the request of the Honolulu Office by letter of January 7, 1942, in connection with the transmittal of the \$14,000.00 in \$100.00 notes from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York to Honolulu. This investigation should be given immediate attention and the Honolulu Office advised by air mail special delivery letter.

- PENDING -

February 11, 1942

PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL

65-1576-
65-20029-

84588

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL BROWN

In accordance with the request contained in post memorandum of February 4, 1942, there is attached for copy such of the following reports reflecting investigation conducted by this Bureau regarding Bernard Julius Otto Kohn with aliases:

Report of [redacted] New York City, dated July 27, 1939

Report of [redacted] San Francisco, California, dated August 21, 1939

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H., dated September 20, 1939

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H., dated March 22, 1940

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H., dated March 27, 1940

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H., dated May 27, 1940

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H., dated July 20, 1940

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H., dated October 21, 1940

Report of [redacted] dated September 20, 1941

Report of [redacted] dated November 24, 1941

Report of [redacted] dated December 22, 1941

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. McGuire _____
Mr. Mumford _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

8 FEB 21 1942

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Memorandum for Assistant Attorney General Borge

February 11, 1943

84589

Report of [REDACTED] T. E.,
dated January 5, 1943

Report of [REDACTED] New York City, dated
February 2, 1943

Report of [REDACTED] Honolulu, T. E.,
dated January 20, 1943

Report of [REDACTED] Honolulu, T. E.,
dated January 22, 1943

Report of [REDACTED] Honolulu, T. E.,
dated January 15, 1943

For your additional information, there are attached copies of
the reports of [REDACTED] dated May 29 and October 7,
1941, respectively, at Honolulu, T. E., reflecting investigation conducted
by this Bureau regarding a Mr. and Mrs. Friedell, who have been determined
to be identical with Mr. and Mrs. Otto Busch.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Attachment



**Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.**

February 3, 1942

65-1574

84590

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

**Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
with aliases; et al;
ESPIONAGE (J)**

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Coffey _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Holloman _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____

As you may recall, copies of certain messages obtained from commercial radio and telegraph companies in Honolulu on the morning following the Japanese air attack on the Island of Oahu, revealed that Kita, Japanese Consul General at Honolulu, had sent to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo, a complete system of signals for use in communicating intelligence information. Investigation disclosed that the "Kalama house with the dormer window" mentioned in one of the signals was owned by Kuehn.

On December 8, 1941, Subject with his wife and daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, was interned in Honolulu. Following his detention, Kuehn admitted furnishing the Consul General and Vice Consul in Honolulu with a signaling system for the purpose of furnishing intelligence information to representatives of the Japanese Government.

The Honolulu Office by letter dated January 29, 1942, transmitted to the Bureau a copy of the charges being presented by the Judge Advocate General's Department, U. S. Army, against Subject, accusing him of violations of Sections 31, 32 and 34, Title 50, U. S. Code Annotated. This letter states that while these charges have been approved by [redacted]

and Colonel Thomas H. Green, Executive Military Governor, they have not been preferred against Kuehn, although it is anticipated that they will be preferred five days in advance of the date set for his trial.

According to the Honolulu Office, the Trial Judge Advocate plans to prefer these charges at the earliest possible moment, pending upon the return of Special Agent in Charge Shivers, who is a necessary witness in this case.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
14 FEB 18 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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