MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

I reviewed with the activities of Fritz Kuhn and existing Federal Statutes and it is the opinion of that the activities of Kuhn do not constitute a violation of any Federal Statute. You will recall that we have been endeavoring to ascertain whether Kuhn has a criminal record in Munich, Germany in the belief that possibly the existence of such a record might form the basis for prosecution for perjury in connection with his naturalization papers. I today contacted of the State Department and he stated that within the past few days the State Department had received a message from the American representative in Germany that the German Government had informed the American representative that arrangements would be made to turn over any data which was available. expressed the belief that the German Government would report that no data was available but a further communication is expected by the State Department as soon as the German Government makes some definite statement as to the existence or nonexistence of the record. I asked to press this matter closely in order that we might be advised at the earliest possible date.

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm
MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE
RE: FRITZ KUHN

While talking to you at New York, he read the following memorandum prepared by you about which there possibly might be some publicity:

"On May 29, 1939, I came into the office and stated he wished to discuss Fritz Kuhn with me for a moment. He is writing a story with respect to the activities of Kuhn. He also advised he had information to the effect that about two years ago Kuhn violated the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act in that he is alleged to have taken from Detroit, Michigan, an automobile owned by the Bund. He took this from Detroit to the West Coast and some place in California the car allegedly mysteriously disappeared from the possession of Kuhn.

It appears from the information in the possession of you that Kuhn borrowed the car for the purpose of taking a trip to San Francisco, Los Angeles and Seattle. Kuhn on this trip is supposed to have become acquainted with a woman by the name of Florence Kamp, a blonde grass widow of a once rich California oil operator. Kuhn returned without the car. He is supposed to have made the statement that he had a very narrow escape some place in California with it. When he was driving on some mountain road, the steering gear got out of order and the car plunged 600 feet over a precipice. There were, however, no scars on Kuhn and there was no report or record made of such an accident in California or the State of Washington.

stated that no charges were pressed in Michigan against Kuhn to his knowledge. stated he was submitting the information with respect to the alleged violation of the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act to this Office for such action as we desire to take. It was obvious, however that desired to be in position to say in the preparation of his story that he had consulted representatives of the FBI concerning the Federal law violation on
the part of Kuhn. I told [_____] that the Bureau is pleased to receive any information that he or any one else had relative to a violation of the law within our jurisdiction and whether or not prosecutive action would be initiated is within the province of the appropriate U. S. Attorney.

[_____] the blonde woman who appeared in Kuhn's life on the West Coast is alleged to be identical with the woman whose picture was snapped with Kuhn at the World Fair in New York City a few days ago.

[_____] also told me that [_____] is supposed to know an individual in New York City who furnished the information concerning this violation on the part of Kuhn but this individual does not speak English and apparently is German."

I advised [_____] that we would have to check this out immediately; that the [_____] would have to be contacted to find out the source of his information and should it be necessary he should secure the services of an interpreter. In the event there are any leads at other offices, the same are to be telephoned so that this might be traced immediately.

[Signature]

E. A. TAMM
Fritz Kuhn was born in Munich, Germany, on May 15, 1896. He migrated to Mexico in 1924. He arrived in Laredo, Texas, U. S. A., on May 19, 1928. He is married to Elsa Kuhn, which marriage was effected in Munich, Germany, on May 28, 1923. There are two children of this union. Kuhn became a naturalized American citizen on December 3, 1934, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. He is now the head of the German-American Bund, having been elected to that position on December 1, 1937. During the World War he was a Lieutenant in a Machine Gun Detachment of the German Army. He became a Doctor of Chemistry in 1922, and after coming to the United States was employed, for a time with the Ford Motor Company as a Chemist. He was discharged from this position with no reason given. After becoming head of the Bund, the German Government issued an order that German Nationals in the United States could not be members of the Bund or its Prospective Citizens League. Kuhn, as leader, disregarded this order, and refused, for a time, to ask German Citizens to resign their membership. On occasions, during Inner Council meetings of the Bund, Kuhn boasted of receiving secret orders from the German Secret Police, his apparent purpose being to lend an air of mystery to his undertakings. Just before the National elections of 1936, Kuhn directed a telegram to [insert] of Berlin, asking instructions as to whether the Bund was to vote for Lemke or Landon. The reply he received was to the effect that German officials were not interested in the elections in the U. S.

2 The German-American Bund had its origin first in the "Teutonia" Society, formed on October 12, 1924. This grew into the League of the Friends of the New Germany, founded on June 30, 1933. The Bund itself
was actually founded on June 3, 1936, and has its headquarters at
178 East 85th Street, New York City.

**ATTEMPTED DENATURALIZATION OF FRITZ KUHN**

In August 1937, Julius Hochfelder, then of 150 Court Street,
Brooklyn, New York, submitted to the Bureau of Immigration and Natural-
ization, 15 bound files containing newspaper articles and matters of a
related nature, together with what he termed "Factual Findings" and
"Legal Reasons" for the support of his contentions that Kuhn's citizen-
ship should be revoked. This material was reviewed by the Legal Branch
of the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization, which Branch found
that most of the material submitted was irrelevant, but did make some
suggestions for investigation based upon material submitted by Hochfelder.
The New York Division of the Immigration and Naturalization Service was
thereupon requested by its headquarters in Washington to make a thorough
investigation along certain suggested lines. No investigation, however,
was undertaken. Hochfelder, however, brought action in the court of
Federal Judge John W. Chaney, New York City, who heard arguments on
October 29, 1937, and the matter was dismissed by the court.

The points urged by Hochfelder were briefly:

1. That Kuhn is an intimate friend of Hitler, and an
ex-machine gunner in the German Army.

2. That Kuhn came to the United States to strengthen
the Nazi program, and to work in the interests of a
greater Germany.

3. That Kuhn heads the German-American Bund to
represent Hitler in America.

4. That many local leaders of the Bund were dis-
pleasing to this Government, and were recalled by
Hitler, and actually left.
5. That Hans Spanknoebel came here from Germany and acted as an Espionage Agent without the knowledge of this government.

6. That Spanknoebel fled after indictment to Germany.

7. That Kuhn is the successor of Spanknoebel.

8. That Kuhn is the Editor of Der Deutscher Weckruf und Beobachter, official organ of the German American Bund.

9. That this paper prints material from Germany which is not only un-American, but insulting to certain officials of the American government.

10. That Kuhn came here for the purpose of serving Germany and in pursuance thereof has enlisted native and naturalized Americans and aliens for military service in Germany.

11. That Kuhn invited "Young German Men" to enlist in a Regiment of the National Guard of the State of New York, which service would be in lieu of service in Germany.

12. That Kuhn dresses in the uniform of an officer of the German Army.

13. That Kuhn invites Germans and Americans to join his Bund for the purpose of undermining our Constitution, and to propagate Nazi ideas.

14. That Kuhn has collected moneys in America which he has delivered to Hitler for the German Army and Relief Fund.

15. That in August 1936, Kuhn and other members of the Bund paraded for Hitler in Hanover, Germany, and that Kuhn not only was dressed in the uniform of an officer of the German Army, but took some form
of an oath to support Germany.

16. That Kuhn received more than 80,000 enlistment papers to be signed by members of the Bund for military and labor service in Germany.

17. That Kuhn supervised the execution of the enlistment papers.

18. That one of these enlistment papers is in the possession of the former McCormack-Dickstein Committee.

19. That one copy of the enlistment paper is filed with Henry B. Hazard, Assistant to the Acting Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization.

20. That Kuhn and the Bund maintain camps where military drill is taught, where allegiance to Hitler is sworn and where training in weapons is given.

21. That since the Bund is not chartered by law to engage in such military activities, it is acting unlawfully.

22. Not included in Hochfelder's Brief.

23. That Kuhn has conferred with members of the German Embassy re the operation and purpose of the Bund.

24. That for the above reasons Kuhn obtained his naturalization by fraud.  

The files of the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization also contained data bearing upon efforts of the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, to cancel the citizenship of Kuhn. The "facts" submitted by this organization constituted a file of clippings from the "Chicago Times". A reliable representative of the "Times" advised the
Memo for Mr. Tamm

May 29, 1939

Bureau of Immigration that "nothing which had come to the attention of the Times investigators really amounted to definite evidence on which Fritz Kuhn's naturalization might be canceled".

Reinhold Spitz, a former resident of Munich, Germany, known to Fritz Kuhn practically all of the latter's life, has deposed that he conducted a clothing business in Munich, Germany; that while Kuhn was attending the University at Munich and while Kuhn was about 24 or 25 years of age, the latter stole goods, merchandise and wares at the University, and being convicted thereof, was sentenced to serve four months in prison; that after Kuhn was released from prison, the father of Kuhn prevailed upon Spitz to employ Kuhn to rehabilitate him in society; that Spitz did give Kuhn employment; that within eight weeks of this employment Spitz found Kuhn had stolen wares and merchandise valued at about 3,000 marks; that upon the pleadings of Kuhn's father, Spitz did not prosecute charges, but enabled Kuhn to flee to Mexico.

Among the requirements for naturalization is the renouncing and abjuring of all allegiance and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state or sovereignty, and proof of the attachment to the principles of the United States. A showing that at the time he was naturalized the applicant did not in good faith renounce or abjure his foreign allegiance, or was not sincerely attached to the principles of the Constitution, is sufficient to justify a revocation of the naturalization. Moreover, proof of subsequent statements or acts may be sufficient ground on which to base such a conclusion.

On the other hand, the decisions of the courts seem to indicate that proof of that character must be clear and convincing, since naturalization may not be revoked on evidence of an ambiguous or nebulous nature.

Kuhn's insincerity in obtaining his American citizenship may be measured by the fact that he devotes his entire time to the work of the Bund, among whose principles are:

Vigorous anti-Semitism; attack upon the Anti-Nazi boycott of German Goods entering America; adoption of the Nazi slogan, "The Common Good before Private Gain";
"Defense of Aryan Culture"; ",..to build a
great
American Movement of Liberation under the Swastika,
the Common Symbol of the Defenders of Aryan National-
ism."; "to combat all atrocity and boycott propa-
ganda, base defamation, distortion of news, malicious
lies..."; "to defend our Right to cherish the German
Language and German Customs and our Right and Duty to
defend the good name of all things German"; "American-
Germans are strongly under the long distance influence
of the German Reich."; "Youth Groups of the American-
German League are a real accomplishment for Germanism";
The idea must be recognized: maintenance of racial
Germanism (in America) at any price"; "The mission
which our Camp has to fulfill is a holy one just as
every service in the interest of our German racial idea
is a holy and noble one. We, the living generation
who have called into life this enterprise, consecrate
this work to the service of the German racial idea in
America."; in speaking of Camps the Bund declared, "It
is there where they (youth) shall be strengthened and
confirmed in national socialism so that they will be
conscious of the role which has been assigned to them
as the future carriers of German racial ideas in America.
Hereby we give you (Camp Nordland) to your holy mission.
We consecrate you as a little piece of German soil in
America, as a sample of our motto: "Obligated to
America, tied to Germany"; "And thus the German human
being is and remains our racial comrade regardless of
citizenship papers which he may own in any country";
the August 18, 1933, issue of the Deutscher Weckru
und Beobachter, official organ of the German-American
Bund carried the following - "One Folkdom, one Bund,
one Fuehrer".

Respectfully,

Addendum 133
**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Form No. 1**

**This Case Originated at** NEW YORK, NEW YORK

**NWK. File No.** 7½-8  glp

<table>
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<th>Date When Made</th>
<th>Period For Which Made</th>
<th>Report Made By</th>
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<td>6/1/39</td>
<td>5/23, 29/39</td>
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**Title**

FRITZ KUHN

**Character of Case**

PERJURY; IMMIGRATION; NATURALIZATION.

**Synopsis of Facts:**

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Princeton, N.J., unable to furnish information regarding Subject's career in Germany. At present in New York City.

- R. U. C. - DECLASSIFIED BY ON 31/5/67

**Reference:** Letter from New York Office dated May 18, 1939.

**Details:**

AT PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY.

[Redacted]

were interviewed at their residence, Princeton, New Jersey, and upon being questioned concerning matters contained in the reference letter, advised that they possessed no information regarding the Subject's career and antecedents in Germany. [Redacted] advised that was in New York City but might come to Princeton, New Jersey on either Saturday, May 27th or Monday, May 29th, 1939, for the Holiday.

On May 29, 1939 Agent telephonically contacted the residence in Princeton, New Jersey from the Resident Agent's Office in Trenton, New Jersey to ascertain if had come to Princeton, and it was determined that she was still in New York City, and was at present residing at the

**Copies Destroyed** 3½ MAY 17 1961

**Copies of this Report**

6 - Bureau
3 - New York
2 - Newark

**Approved and forwarded:**

[Signature]

**DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES**

June 18, 1939

**JUN 2 - P.M.**
A search of the New York Telephone Directory reflected that this

UNDEVELOPED LEAD

NEW YORK OFFICE.

At the New York City, will endeavor to locate and interview along the lines suggested in the letter of reference.

- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN -
KUHN'S ARREST CLIMAX
OF BUND'S HECTIC LIFE

American Imitation of German Nazi Party Has Failed to Pick Up Many Members in Three Years' Effort

BY HUGH O'CONNOR

With the arrest of Fritz Kuhn on charges of embezzlement, the German-American Bund has been brought again into the national limelight. For three years Kuhn has been head and front of the organization. Now he is to be tried on the charge of having taken $14,548 of the society's funds.

After the first year of his leadership, the annual meeting of the bund, in July, 1937, accepted his judgment that his conduct of its affairs during the previous year warranted his election for four more years instead of annually. He explained then that he wanted to be assured of enough time to build up an organization based on the principles of Hitler in Germany, but adapted here to the use of Americans of German origin.

As to the strength of his organization, Kuhn officially claimed a membership of 8,599 in the report which the Department of Justice, later turned over to the Dies Committee two months ago. The Department found, however, that the claims of the local bund leaders added up only to 6,617 for the nation. These, Kuhn put 5,324 in the metropolitan district of New York. The Department of Justice made the figure 4,929.

Leadership Explained

The "leader principle" under which Kuhn dominates the bund was explained by him a year ago in sworn testimony before the New York State legislative inquiry headed by Senator John J. McNaboe. He said that he leads his German-Americans in all things—in their ninety-four local organizations in the principal cities of the country in twenty-two camps where children pay for summer vacations and are joined by their parents for week-end picnics.

He publishes and edits four small weekly newspapers, each with a circulation found by the Department of Justice to be 2,000 copies at 5 cents each. He collects their dues of 75 cents a month, and admissions to meetings, usually 40 cents and up. Membership costs 25 cents. He banks the organization funds from these various sources of income. For all this, Kuhn told Senator McNaboe, he takes only $3,000 a year, although it is a full-time job to lead the German-American Bund.

Herlands' Report

Commissioner William B. Herlands, who investigated the bund's payment of sales taxes in this city, reported to Mayor La Guardia last month that Kuhn apparently had never rendered any financial accounting to the bund members.

At the McNaboe hearing Kuhn explained the principles and aims of his group. He hoped, he said, "to build an Aryan movement under the swastika to liberate America from the Jews."

Until 1938 the bund had been known as the Friends of the New Fatherland. At all other meetings only the American flag and the bund flag would appear. The bund flag carries the swastika, according to James Wheeler-Hill, national secretary of the bund, "as the sign of Aryan supremacy."

In September, 1938, the bund adopted a new name, Deutscher Weckruf und Befreiungsbund, was supplemented with an English title "The Free American." The bund at the same time substituted a song of its American aspirations in English for the previously used Nazi anthem in German, "Horst Wessel Lied.

Two Celebrities

This brings the record down to the meeting last February, when the bund hired Madison Square Garden for the much-policed celebration of Washington's birthday, with an "Americanism" meeting. The audience numbered 19,000, more than twice the total membership of the bund in the entire United States. A month later, however, when the bund wished to celebrate Hitler's birthday, the audience failed to fill Ebling's Casino in the Bronx.

Outside the bund, however, Kuhn's shift to Americanism has failed to make headway among German-Americans. He still has more members than Spanknebel and Gisibl left in 1935. In explanation, his advisers suggested that the original proscription of the bund by the German Government had hurt its prestige here. Consequently another change of name was proposed for the movement.

The bund was to remain the spearhead of Kuhn's militants, and for those who did not like the bund or its history, Kuhn's New Jersey lieutenant incorporated the German-American Front, to report the American Constitution "to avoid useless and ignoble propaganda."
"WHAT KIND OF AN AMERICAN?"

A St. Louis cartoon inspired by Bund activities—Carl Schurz was a German-American editor, Union soldier and Cabinet officer.

UNDER SPOTLIGHT

Bund leader Fritz Kuhn.
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAPP

Re: FRITZ KUHN
NATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT ACT

In accordance with your instructions, I called at New York City regarding the recent developments concerning the allegations of a violation of the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act by Fritz Kuhn. referred me to Agent who he indicated was familiar with the more recent developments.

Agent related that the New York Daily Mirror had a story regarding this automobile episode under the by-name of Mefford. stated that he knew nothing concerning this individual, but that who obtained the information relative to the indication of the violation of the NMVTA, had been interviewed. Agent related that obtained this information from a man in New York who had received letters from a woman in Detroit. The woman, according to Agent is supposed to be intimately acquainted with Fritz Kuhn. at the time of the interview, would not disclose the name of the man in New York who received the letters, but he advised that he would contact this man and endeavor to have him disclose this information to the Bureau.

Agent advised that the Bureau's informant, upon looking at the story in the Mirror, which consists of a facsimile of a letter and also the translation, stated the translation is poor and that he is inclined to believe these letters are "phony."

I told Agent you were very desirous that the allegations concerning this possible violation of the NMVTA be very carefully run out by all auxiliary offices and that you had instructed that all leads should be telephonically communicated to the auxiliary offices with the request that these leads receive expeditious attention. Agent informed that as soon as anything definite was established, he would telephonically contact those offices in which investigation was necessary.

Respectfully,
June 19, 1939

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: NAZI ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Dear Sir:

In view of the very rapid and sensational development which have occurred recently involving the German-American Bund and FRITZ KUHN, its leader, there are submitted herewith the following described newspaper clippings:

Clipping from the NEW YORK TIMES, dated May 9, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, dated May 11, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK TIMES, dated May 23, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR, dated May 25, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, dated May 25, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, dated May 26, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK TIMES, dated May 26, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK SUN, dated May 26, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR, dated May 27, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, dated May 27, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK TIMES, dated May 27, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL-AMERICAN, dated May 27, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL-AMERICAN, undated.
Clipping from the NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR, dated May 28, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, dated May 28, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, dated May 29, 1939.
Clipping from the BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE, dated May 29, 1939.
Letter to the Director

June 19, 1939

61-520

Clipping from the NEW YORK POST, dated May 29, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR, dated May 31, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, dated June 3, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK TIMES, dated June 3, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE, dated June 3, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, dated June 6, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK SUN, dated June 5, 1939.
Clipping from the NEW YORK TIMES, dated June 5, 1939.

The story as reported in the newspaper articles indicates that United States Attorney JOHN T. CAHILL, Southern District of New York received a complaint from REINHOLD SPITZ of 475 Central Park West alleging that KUHN had a criminal record in Germany and consequently violated the law when he obtained admission to this country and lied when he applied for his citizenship papers. This information appears to have been disclosed to the press through a Press Release from the Non-Secretarian Anti-Nazi League to Champion Human Rights, 20 West 47th Street, New York City. Former Magistrate JOSEPH GOLDSHEIN is stated to have admitted that he represented REINHOLD SPITZ at this time.

On May 11, 1939, the DAILY NEWS published a photograph of KUHN in company with an unknown blond with the statement that this photograph was made on May 3, 1939 at the New York World's Fair at which time KUHN had allegedly claimed that he was in California. The controversy over the date arose out of a charge made by KUHN to the effect that a police squad from the office of New York County District Attorney THOMAS E. DEWEY had broken into his office at 187 East 85th Street, New York City, without proper authority and had taken valuable papers and $1,380 in cash. KUHN's statements as to being in California on Saturday, May 3, 1939, arose seemingly from his desire to explain away the failure to report the alleged loss of papers and money sooner. When he was confronted with the picture, he, according to the NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, changed his story and admitted that he was at the World's Fair at the time. He was also quoted as stating that the woman in question would become his mate as soon as certain legal actions were ended.
On May 22, 1939, KUHN appeared under subpoena at the office of District Attorney Dewey, New York County, but did not go before the Grand Jury. This was in connection with an investigation which had been conducted by THOMAS E. DEWEY into the alleged misappropriation of the funds of the Bund by KUHN. More or less at the same time MAYOR LA GUARDIA had ordered an investigation by WILLIAM B. HERLANDS, Commissioner of Investigations into an alleged failure of KUHN or the German-American Bund to pay the New York City Sales Tax and Herlands' report in this matter was submitted to Dewey. The press stated that subsequently KUHN had declined to sign a waiver of immunity after he had practically reached the Grand Jury Room. The Press quoted him as stating that he would testify but would not sign the official waiver of immunity.

On May 25, 1939, the New York County Grand Jury returned an indictment of 12 counts of grand larceny and forgery on the charges of stealing $14,548.99 of his organization's funds, according to the Press, and three hours later, he was arrested by Detectives operating from the District Attorney's Office. KUHN apparently had been under surveillance for some time by Detectives allegedly from the time when he refused to go before the Grand Jury. He was arrested by the detectives named at Krumsville, Pa., three hours after the indictment was returned. According to the Press, the indictment charges six counts of first degree grand larceny, four counts of second degree grand larceny and two counts of third degree forgery. The first two counts accuse him of stealing $8,907.35 by misappropriating the funds collected at Madison Square Garden Rally on February 20, 1939. Two more counts alleged a further theft of $4,424.22 from a fund raised for the defense of six officials of the German-American Settlement League. Another theft of $565.76, was, according to the indictment, used to pay for the transportation of furniture of MRS. FLORENCE CAMP from Los Angeles to New York and there was a second moving of furniture, according to the indictment which was financed by $151.26 of the Bund's money. MRS. CAMP, incidentally is the blond with whom KUHN was photographed at the New York World's Fair. The indictment further alleges that KUHN stole $500 from the German-American Settlement League by drawing a check to his own order, cashing it and charging it off.
on the books to legal fees. The two final counts in the indictment charged KUHN with forgery in making false entries in the books of the organization with regard to the above item.

On May 26, 1939, KUHN was held in $5,000 bail by Judge Cornelius Collins in General Sessions on the above indictment. He was represented by Vahan R. Kalenikian. It might be noted here that at the time of his arrest at Krumsville, KUHN stated that he was on his way to Chicago to fulfill a speaking engagement. He was taken to the Barracks of the Pennsylvania State Motor Police at Hamburg, Pa., and submitted a waiver of extradition and returned to New York City. At the time of the arraignment before Judge Collins, KUHN was unable to produce the $5,000 bond, and was removed to a detention cell. The bail money was eventually furnished in small bills and KUHN was released from the Tombs where he had been detained. Prior to his arraignment, KUHN was photographed and fingerprinted and appeared in the lineup at Police Headquarters. He remained about six hours in the Detention cell.

The New York Times, dated May 27, 1939, stated that on the return trip to New York City, after his arrest in Pennsylvania, KUHN boasted that he was a close friend of Chancellor Hitler and that he had been received recently by Hitler on a trip to Germany and he intimated that he did not think much of Hitler's Minister of Propaganda, Goebbels. This same article relates that at the time of his arrest in Pennsylvania, KUHN was accompanied by Gerhardt Wilhelm Kunze, and Thomas Dixon. When he agreed to waive extradition, he was arraigned before Justice of the Peace John Green at Reading, Pa. In the meantime, the troopers had communicated with Assistant District Attorney Mark McQuillian of Berks County who prepared a waiver of extradition which KUHN signed before he went back to New York City.

The New York Evening Journal-American in an undated clipping, the date of which is probably May 26, 1939, refers to Mrs. Florence Camp as the divorced wife of a wealthy Long Beach, California, oil man. Newton Todd, Attorney, Long Beach, is referred to as being Mrs. Camp's brother. He stated that there had been a romance between them, but it has been off now for several months and Mrs. Camp's divorced husband Charles W. Camp was stated to have denied any information regarding the romance. He did state, however, that he understood that Mrs.
Letter to Director
62-520

June 19, 1939

CAMP had met KUHN on ship board while returning from England several months ago, before the Camp divorce.

On May 27, 1939, KUHN appeared at a Pro-American Rally of the Bund at Milwaukee and was alleged to have been greeted by 1,000 of his followers. Before KUHN was introduced, the audience heard speeches by COL. B. G. ELACKEY, former Surgeon General of the United States and Chief NEW MOON of the Cherokee Indian tribe.

On May 28, 1939, KUHN was at Grafton, Wisconsin to participate in the dedication of a Bund camp known as Camp Hindenburg.

On June 2, 1939, KUHN, together with his attorney, KALENDERIAN, made an unsuccessful attempt to obtain permission to examine the Grand Jury minutes and to secure the return of books of the organization.

On June 2, 1939, KUHN issued a prepared statement to the Press stating in substance that the Bund's campaign to stamp out Communism in America had been so successful that his enemies had become desperate in their attempts to cripple him. He stated that he was a victim of Press Persecution.

On June 4, 1939, KUHN was a speaker at a gathering of what was stated to be more than 400 men and woman members of the organization, at Camp Nordland, New Jersey. Kuhn apparently discussed his arrest and stated that he was innocent of the charges made against him.

The NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, dated June 6, 1939, in a special dispatch from Andover, New Jersey, stated that at the time the people at Camp Nordland were addressed by KUHN, the name of GEN. GEORGE VAN HORN MOSELEY was cheered and that of District Attorney THOMAS E. DEWEY was booed.

HUGH O'CONNOR of the NEW YORK TIMES prepared a very brief history of KUHN and his organization which is published in the NEW YORK TIMES of June 5, 1939, clipping of which is submitted herewith.

Very truly yours,

P. E. FOXWORTH
Special Agent in Charge

25 Enclosures
U.S. ARRESTS BUND SPEAKER IN ARMY GARB

Chicago, June 2 (P).—Benjamin Blackey, 71, who donned military regalia and medals to address a German-American Volksbund meeting in Milwaukee on May 27, was served with a federal warrant today seeking his removal to Milwaukee on charges of wearing a United States Army uniform illegally.

He was arraigned before Commissioner E. K. Walker and pleaded innocent. The hearing was continued to June 6 and bond was fixed at $300.

That appearance topped a day of difficulties.

First, he was convicted in the So. State St. Police Court of assault with a deadly weapon. Louis Okmin, a photographer, testified Blackey pointed a pistol at him last Wednesday, when Okmin went to his Chicago home to take a picture.

Judge Francis Borelli placed him on probation for one year.

Then Blackey admitted he was the Hugo Opitz who was charged with defrauding a Milwaukee innkeeper of $77 in 1916. He was sent to jail in lieu of $250 bail.

Assistant United States District Attorney Martin Ward said Blackey was supposed to have worn a uniform of a retired Colonel of the Army Medical Service at the Bund rally attended by Bund Fuehrer Fritz Kuhn.

Blackey said he was in the Army Medical Department during the Spanish-American War.

CLIPPING FROM NEW YORK DAILY NEWS, DATE 3-1933
FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
COMPLAINT IS FILED ON KUHN AS CITIZEN

Cahill Admits Getting Charges That Bund Leader Concealed Facts About His Past

AN AFFIDAVIT IS QUOTED

Anti-Nazi League Says Former Employer Has Sworn He Knows of Reich Jail Term

A complaint against Fritz Kuhn, leader of the German-American Bund, relating to the circumstances of his entry into this country and his subsequent naturalization as a citizen, has been submitted to Federal authorities here, the office of United States Attorney John T. Cahill admitted yesterday.

According to the Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League to Champion Human Rights of 20 West Forty-seventh Street, a sworn statement has been made by a German refugee now resident in New York, who describes himself as a former employer of Kuhn and declares that Kuhn served a prison term in Germany in 1921 for a theft. Representatives of the league said yesterday that no mention of such an incident had been made by Kuhn in entering this country or when he applied for naturalization papers, which since have been granted to him.

A statement issued by the league yesterday alleges that Reinhold Spitz of 475 Central Park West swore to the statement submitted to the Federal authorities, that Kuhn was the owner of a clothing business in Munich at the time and that Kuhn's father had a business of the same street.
How About It, Herr Kuhn?

This photo should prove most embarrassing to Fritz Kuhn. It was made at the World's Fair on May 3, when he declares he was "away in California." Kuhn, who claims police robbed his office of $1,380, declared he intends to marry the blonde shown with him.

Photo of Kuhn With a Blonde Rips His Alibi

By GUY RICHARDS.

A fur-coated blonde dropped a new mantle of mystery yesterday over the affairs of Fritz Kuhn, fuehrer of the German-American Bund, who has charged police with plucking $1,380 from his private office when he was "away in California."
The blonde, who on Kuhn's insistence must remain nameless, is soon to become—on Kuhn's assurance—his next wife. This revelation from the local fuehrer discloses for the first time that Kuhn plans to get a divorce from the mother of his two children with whom he lived at 53-42 73d St., Jackson Heights.

The advent of the blonde in the court-ridden life of the former Bavarian guardsman was detected by a News cameraman last week at the World's Fair—at a moment when, Kuhn had insisted, he was in California.

The two were strolling in the Play Center at the Fair Grounds on Wednesday of last week. Snapped by the photographer, Kuhn refused to identify his companion.

The incident was forgotten until Kuhn's indignant charges Tuesday night that a police squad from the office of District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey had broken into his office at 178 E. 85th St. without court authority and had seized valuable papers and $1,280 in cash.

The story is contradicted Kuhn.

Kuhn declared he was in California at the time and that the discovery of his loss was not made until his return two days ago.

Paul E. Lockwood, Dewey's executive assistant, asserted that Kuhn had returned to New York a week ago. The picture substantiates Lockwood's statement and contradicts that of Kuhn.

Lockwood denied Kuhn's charges in all other details. According to the Dewey assistant, a police squad was sent to the Bund's headquarters on Tuesday of last week, armed with a subpoena to investigate "certain alleged grand larcenies in substantial amounts."

The order was served, Lockwood declared, on James Wheeler Hill, Bund secretary, who offered no objection.

The following night, Kuhn was photographed at the Fair. But it was not until Tuesday, a week later, that the fuehrer made indignant announcement of his "discovery of the raid," and the shortage of $1,280.

Confronted with the picture, however, he changed his story. He consulted the calendar and decided that it was true, that he had been at the World's Fair a week ago Wednesday, and had flown from Los Angeles the previous day.

It was then that he admitted that the woman in the picture was the woman in his life. Describing her as "charming and wonderful," he said she would become the Bund fuehrer's mate, as soon as "certain legal actions are ended." This, he said, would be in about four weeks.
GRAND JURY HEARS KUHN'S LIEUTENANT

Wheeler-Hill and Bund Leader, Both Subpoenaed, Have Talk With Dewey Assistant

Fritz Kuhn, the leader of the German-American Bund in this country, and his closest lieutenant, James Wheeler-Hill, appeared under subpoenas yesterday morning in the New York County grand jury's investigation of allegations against the Bund management, but did not testify. Both merely talked with Assistant District Attorney Frank A. F. Severance, who is presenting the evidence to the grand jurors. Kuhn later said at his office in East Eighty-fifth Street.

In the afternoon, however, Wheeler-Hill returned to the grand jury room alone, and, according to Kuhn, did testify, although Kuhn insisted he had not seen Wheeler-Hill since. No word of what took place from the time the two Bund leaders first appeared at the grand jury ante-chamber was given out at District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey's office.

About six weeks ago Mr. Dewey ordered an investigation into "certain alleged substantial felonies" in the handling of the funds of the Bund and its five related corporations. Last Thursday Mr. Dewey informed Mayor La Guardia that he had ordered included in this inquiry the Mayor's suggestion in a letter the day before that the Bund's payments under the city's sales tax laws be gone into.

Mr. La Guardia, in his letter to Mr. Dewey, referred to a report he had received from William B. Herlands, Commissioner of Investigations, saying an investigation by Mr. Herlands led to the suspicion that a total of $4,856 in tax liabilities and penalties possibly was due under the sales tax laws.

On May 9, Mr. Dewey, as a part of his own investigation, had seized the books of the Kuhn corporation on a subpoena, and had them taken to his office for examination. Kuhn was out of town at the time, but about a week later, he called up Paul E. Lockwood, executive assistant district attorney, and charged that $1,380 had been taken from his private desk during the service of the subpoena, which Mr. Lockwood promptly denied.

The sudden departure of the two Bund leaders yesterday forenoon without having testified before the grand jurors led to reports that Kuhn had not kept his public promise of last Thursday to sign a waiver of immunity as a preliminary to his grand jury testimony.

This report also had it that Wheeler-Hill had fallen into step with a similar refusal as they marched out of the grand jury ante-chamber.

"The report that we refused to sign waivers of immunity is not true," Kuhn declared late in the afternoon. "We waited around there to be called for testimony. We were not asked to sign waivers of immunity before we left. We were told by Mr. Severance some time after our appearance that our testimony would not be required today. Mr. Severance told me he would let me know later the date on which I was to appear before the grand jurors.

"But did you know Wheeler-Hill went back to the grand jury room in the afternoon?" Kuhn was asked.

"Yes, I know that—and he testified. Did he sign a waiver of immunity, do you know?" "I have not seen him since," Kuhn replied.
KUHN REFUSES TO SIGN WAIVER IN DEWEY QUIZ

Fritz Kuhn, long-embattled leader of the New York German American Bund, emerged frowning from a conference in District Attorney Dewey's office yesterday after refusing to sign a waiver of immunity in testifying before the Grand Jury.

Kuhn, whose passport visa was held up at the request of Mayor LaGuardia, appeared on a "John Doe" warrant served several days ago. Earlier he had said he was willing to appear and testify.

Kuhn, according to Commissioner of Investigation Herlands, and other Bund members have failed to pay city sales taxes on Bund paraphernalia. Kuhn also has been asked to explain seeming discrepancies in Bund accounts.

He, in turn, accused Dewey raiders of "stealing" $1,300 from the safe at Bund headquarters two weeks ago when his records were seized.

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR

DATE:

FORWARDED-BY-NEW YORK DIVISION
Kuhn Stalks Out on Failure to Get Immunity

Agrees to Talk Before Grand Jury, Then Changes Mind, Leaves in Huff

Fritz Kuhn, leader of the German-American Bund, appeared at the office of District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey yesterday and announced his willingness to go before the New York County Grand Jury investigating the activities of his organization. At the door of the grand jury room, however, the bund leader suffered a change of heart, refused to sign a waiver of immunity and left in a huff.

His departure left Sewell T. Tyng and Frank A. F. Severance, Assistant District Attorneys, somewhat perplexed. Kuhn had come to the building alone, amiably informing reporters that he was about to go before the grand jury. Mr. Dewey's assistants were delighted at learning his good intentions. They marched him across the bridge to the Criminal Courts Building, where the grand jurors, informed of their next witness's identity, were waiting.

Confronted with an official waiver of immunity, Kuhn balked at putting his signature to it. Signing the document is a necessary procedure before testifying.

"I'll testify," he said, "but I won't sign."

The two assistants brought out their best arguments to persuade him to sign. The bund leader grew angry and more adamant. Muttering something about "turning out to be a John Doe," he left the building abruptly, refusing to answer questions concerning his action. Mr. Tyng and Mr. Severance returned crestfallen to report their failure to Mr. Dewey.

There was nothing more to be done about it. The grand jurors, re-informed that their next witness would not be Kuhn, went on hearing evidence of "certain alleged substantial felonies" in the handling of monies of the bund and its four allied corporations. In that connection Mr. Dewey has revealed that important shortages may be involved.

Whether Kuhn eventually appears before the grand jury, it is expected next to hear evidence of alleged evasions of sales and personal property taxes by bund leaders in selling sweatshirts, uniforms and other paraphernalia to members. That inquiry was sought by Mayor F. H. H. Guardia.
Dewey's Men Seize Kuhn in Pennsylvania

Indicted in $14,548 Theft From Bund, Leader Is Arrested on Way West

Agrees to Return And Face Charges

Followed From City by Detectives, He Lands in Hamburg Barracks

Fritz Kuhn, "Fuehrer" of the German-American Bund, was arrested by District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey's detectives yesterday at Krumsville, Pa., three hours after a New York County Grand Jury had indicted him on twelve counts of grand larceny and forgery on charges of stealing $14,548.68 of his pro-Nazi organization's funds.

Headed westward in an automobile with three companions, the forty-four-year-old bund leader was taken to the state police barracks at Hamburg, Pa., where he waived extradition and prepared to return to New York to face the charges. Apparently resigned to the swiftness of his indictment and apprehension, he refused solicitously to comment on the allegations, which, in the event of conviction, could bring him a maximum term of fifty years in state prisons.

Unquestionably pleased at the successful capture, Mr. Dewey commented: "The indictment shows that Kuhn is just a common thief."

The bund leader's movements had been closely observed by Detectives James Cashman, James Canevarolo and Joseph Norken from the time he refused to testify before the grand jury on Wednesday afternoon. When he hurriedly packed three bags yesterday morning and started west with three men, the detectives followed in another car.

Seized in Restaurant

Kuhn's first stop was the little village of Krumsville, 123 miles from New York and twenty-eight miles northwest of Reading, Pa. While an attendant filled the gas tank of Kuhn's car Detective Cashman telephoned Mr. Dewey. It was 8:40 p.m. and the detectives surprised Kuhn as he was about to sit down for a meal at a restaurant on Route 22. At 9:50 p.m. Cashman called the District Attorney again to report that their man was in custody.

Protesting that he was on his way to Chicago to fulfill a speaking engagement, Kuhn asked for a safety pin to repair a tear in his trousers before proceeding to Hamburg. One of his companions, Gerhard Wilhelm Kunze, of 24-36 Twenty-ninth Street, Astoria, Queens, went with him. The others, Thomas Dixon, of 243 West Ninety-eighth Street, and Gustave Elmer, of Hoboken, N. J., ostensibly continued their journey westward.

It was planned to book Kuhn at the Beach Street police station on his return to New York. Meanwhile, Mark McQuillen, Assistant District Attorney, left at once for Hamburg to sign the waiver of extradition.

Rally Theft Charged

Kuhn's indictment charged six counts of first-degree grand larceny, four counts of second-degree grand larceny and two counts of third-degree forgery. The first two counts accuse him of stealing $8,907.35 from the Bund by misappropriating funds collected at the organization's rally at Madison Square Garden on Feb. 20. The rally, devoted to violent denunciation of American Jewry and present heads of the American government, was guarded by one of the heaviest police concentrations ever assembled in New York.

Two more counts alleged a further theft by the bund head of $4,424.22 from a fund raised for the defense of six officials of the German-American Settlement League, which operates Camp Siegfried, near Riverhead, L. I., for Nazi sympathizers. They were convicted of violating the state civil rights law in failing to file membership lists with the Secretary of State, as required of oath-bound organizations. The verdict was reversed by the Appellate Division.

Another the,, of $367.76 of the bund's money, the indictment alleges.

Kuhn also stole $500 from the Settlement League, the indictment continues, by drawing a check to his own order, cashing it and charging it off on the books to legal fees paid to James D. C. Murray, attorney, for arguing the league's officials' appeal in the Camp Siegfried case. Mr. Murray never got the money, it is alleged.

The final two counts merely charge Kuhn with forgery in making false entries in his organization's books in regard to the Murray item.

Mr. Dewey was quick to give full credit to his two assistants, Swain Tyng and Frank A. P. Severance, for the indictment and arrest of the bund leader. Their investigation of the last seven weeks was satisfacted on May 2 when Kuhn protested the seizure of the bund's books. At that time he charged that Mr. Dewey's men stole $1,380 in currency in the process of confiscating the papers and files.

Kuhn appeared at the District Attorney's office to discuss the matter, but nothing came of it. Meanwhile, twenty of his intimate associates were appearing one by one before the grand jury to give their testimony. Another twenty refused to testify.

Then, on May 17, Mayor F. H. La Guardia asked the District Attorney to take proper "prosecutive action" against Kuhn and other Bund officials on sales tax law charges in the sale of swastikas, uniforms and other paraphernalia. Mr. Dewey promised to attend to that after his own investigation was finished. It was certain yesterday that so far as Kuhn was concerned no action on the tax charge was pending.

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE.
DATE. MAY 26 1939.

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
Kuhn, who is often called “Fuehner” by his followers, has led a stormy life as head of an organization he once said numbered 200,000, but which appears to some officials to possess about 10,000 members. A vigorous, square-jawed, unsmiling man, he was born in Munich, Germany, on May 15, 1896. In the World War he fought on four fronts as head of a machine-gun company in the Alpine Division of the Bavarian Guard.

In his autobiography, printed in the bund paper, “Deutscher Weckruf und Beobachter,” which he edits, Kuhn says he marched with Hitler on Nov. 9, 1923, in a parade that was fired on by police. That same year he came to the United States and became a naturalized citizen. For a time he was a chemist in the Ford Motor Company plant in Detroit, but his rising leadership in pre-bund circles in the Mid-West led him to abandon that occupation.

His election as national chief of the Friends of New Germany late in 1933 made him known nationally for the first time. As head of the bund he has proclaimed that his organization believes in tolerance and the Constitution, but opposes the Jews. Accustomed to being called before organizations investigating alleged un-American activities, Kuhn is scheduled to appear before a similar inquiry now under way in Washington by the House Committee on un-American Activities.

The whereabouts of the bund leader’s wife and two children is unknown at present. They were known to have been in Germany recently, and it was thought that Kuhn would join them there when Mayor La Guardia balked that possibility by asking the State Department on May 13 to withhold his passport pending the outcome of inquiries into the bund’s affairs.
KUHN IS ARRESTED IN THEFT OF $14,548 OF BUND'S FUNDS

American 'Fuehrer' Seized in Pennsylvania With 3 Aides on a Hasty Trip

DENIES HE WAS FLEEING

Being Rushed Back Here by Auto—Accused of Filching $8,000 From Garden Rally

Fritz Kuhn, the so-called Fuehrer of the German-American Bund in this country, was indicted yesterday by the New York County grand jury on a charge of the theft of $14,548 of the bund's funds. But before the indictment was handed down at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, Kuhn vanished from the city with three other Bundsmen in an automobile.

At 5:45 o'clock, however, Kuhn was arrested by Detectives James Sharpman, James Capron, and Joseph Norbury of District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey's office at Clendenk's gasoline station, a mile east of Krumsville, a hamlet about thirty miles from Allentown, Pa. Neither Kuhn nor his companions, who were not arrested, were aware that the detectives since early in the day had been trailing Kuhn in another car from Eighty-fifth Street and Third Avenue.

Kuhn had pulled up to the filling station with three traveling bags in the rear of his car, which he had gathered at three separate places in this city at the start of his trip, to place also in the car the trunk he previously had sent to Krumsville, the detectives reported over the telephone to Mr. Dewey.

Later another detective telephoned to Mr. Dewey's office and said that Kuhn would return to plead guilt to the indictment without extradition proceedings.

Identifies Kuhn's Companions

The detective also revealed that the three men in the automobile with Kuhn were Thomas Dixon, Gustave J. Elmen, a national organizer for the German-American Bund, and Gerhardt Wilhelm Kunze, a publicity agent for the Bund.

Kuhn, Mr. Dewey was told, insisted he was not in flight from arrest when he was overtaken, but that he and his companions were on their way to Chicago and Milwaukee, where Kuhn was to make speeches at Bund gatherings.

Up to the time of the actual arrest the detectives had no opportunity to get in touch with Mr. Dewey's office to learn whether the grand jury had acted in the investigation. Then one telephoned from the filling station and the arrest followed.

The detective was told that fifteen minutes after the indictment had been handed up to Judge Cornelius F. Collins in General Sessions a bench warrant had been issued for Kuhn. The detective said that Kuhn would be taken to the barracks of the Pennsylvania State police at Hamburg. After some discussion at Hamburg it was decided to take Kuhn to Reading to sign a formal waiver of extradition. He left there late last night by motor for New York.

When Mr. Dewey was asked whether he believed that Kuhn actually was in flight from arrest in the alleged thefts of the bund's funds, he said: "It looks very much like it. The indictment shows that Kuhn is just a common thief."

The prosecutor pointed out that if Kuhn is convicted on the twelve counts in the indictment he will be liable to imprisonment for a term of fifty years.

Mr. Dewey announced that he would send one of his prosecutors to the Hamburg police barracks to be present in the event Kuhn's friends attempted to obtain his release on bail before extradition papers were signed by Governor Lehman in Albany and sent to Governor James of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg.

It developed that the hamlet of Krumsville is in a district of Pennsylvania in which Nazism is strong and it was believed that friends of Kuhn secretly had taken his three trunks there at his direction.

Charges in Indictment

The first six counts of the indictment charge grand larceny in the third degree, the next four second-degree grand larceny and the last two forgery in the third degree. The evidence against Kuhn was presented to the grand jury by Assistant District Attorneys Frank A. F. Severance and Sewell T. Tyng, in an investigation of Kuhn's alleged misappropriation of the bund's funds that began seven weeks ago.

The first word that the investigation had been in progress came from Kuhn about ten days ago when he revealed that on May 2 last attachés of Mr. Dewey's office, including a detective and an accountant, had raided his office at
178 East Eighty-fifth Street and seized the books and papers of the bank and five of its related corporations, all alleged to have been under his sole control.

Kuhn at the time declared the raid was made when he was away on a trip to the West and told Paul E. Lockwood, executive assistant district attorney, over the telephone that $1,380 had been taken from his personal desk in the headquarters during the raid on a subpoena duces tecum. Mr. Lockwood promptly told Kuhn that no money had been taken from his office and invited Kuhn to call at the District Attorney's office the next day, formally to file charges of the alleged disappearance of the money.

A few days before James Wheeler-Hill, described as Kuhn's closest lieutenant in the management of the bank and its affiliated corporations, had spent several hours with Assistant District Attorneys Severance and Tyng under interrogation on the bank's finances.

On May 17 Kuhn and Wheeler-Hill appeared outside the grand jury room under subpoena, but both left without testifying. Wheeler-Hill, however, returned alone and testified under a waiver of immunity. Assistant District Attorneys Severance and Tyng admitted yesterday.

Kuhn unexpectedly again was subpoenaed for jury testimony last Wednesday, and, before going to the grand jury ante-chamber, told the two prosecutors repeatedly that he was eager to testify and would sign a waiver of immunity, but when he reached the door of the grand jury room, and the assistant district attorneys were instructed by the grand jurors to invite him inside, Kuhn announced he would not sign a waiver of immunity.

Refuses to Explain Change

When he took this surprising stand the two prosecutors stepped aside, and Kuhn walked stiffly out of the Court of Criminal Courts Building, refusing to explain why he had changed his mind. He was not aware, however, that the three detectives who placed him under arrest in the Pennsylvania hospital late yesterday afternoon had been assigned to trail him and observe his every action, indicating that Mr. Dewey suspected he would report to flight.

Last Thursday Mr. Dewey included in the grand jury investigation the request of Mayor La Guardia that an inquiry be made of alleged violations of the city's sales tax laws by Kuhn in the sale of supplies by the bank to adherents of the bank and allied corporations. At the time Mr. La Guardia referred to a report he had received from William E. Herlands, Commissioner of Investigations, that an inquiry he had conducted into the bank, at which Wheeler-Hill was among the witnesses, developed that there were irregularities involving $4,435 in tax liabilities and penalties due.

The first and second counts in the indictment alleged that last February Kuhn stole $4,900 of the bank's funds, the proceeds of a bond rally in Madison Square Garden on Feb. 20. The next two counts accuse Kuhn of having stolen and embezzled $4,435 of the funds of one of the bank's allied corporations, the German-American Settlement League, Inc., which had been gathered for an appeal from the conviction of a large number of bank members in connection with a mass meeting at Riverhead, L. I.

This money, it was alleged, was taken by Kuhn between June, 1939, and October of that year.

The fifth and sixth indictments allege that Kuhn, on July 3 last, stole $556 of the funds of the German-American bank, which he used, it was alleged, in payment for the transportation of a load of furniture belonging to a Mrs. Florence Camp from Los Angeles to this city.

Mrs. Camp, District Attorney Dewey said, is the blond woman with whom Kuhn had himself photographed recently at the World's Fair.

The next two indictments accuse Kuhn of the theft of $500 from the German-American Bank and the German-American Settlement League, Inc. The District Attorney explained that Kuhn was accused of drawing checks for the amount to his own order and cashing them and then changing the books of the bank and the league to have it appear that the money had been used in payment of legal fees to James D. O. Murray, lawyer, in connection with the appeal that was to be taken on the conviction of the bank members in Riverhead.

The ninth and tenth indictment allege that Kuhn stole another $310 from the bank to transport Mrs. Camp's furniture from this city to Cleveland. Mr. Dewey said that Mr. Murray denied he had received the money from Kuhn. The last two counts, the forgery charges, state in alleged false entries Kuhn made in the books of the bank and the league.
KUHN IS HELD IN $5000 BAIL; DENIES LARCENY AND FORGERY

BUND CHIEF IN POLICE LINE-UP

Bund Leader Fingered Bible Nervously During His Arraignment Here.

EVINCES ANGER IN LINE-UP

Calls Indictment for $14,582 Theft Nonsense—Seized in Car in Pennsylvania.

Fritz Kuhn, leader of the German-American Bund, who was on his way West when apprehended by District Attorney Dewey's detectives in Pennsylvania, was held in $5,000 bail by Judge Cornelius F. Collins in General Sessions today on a twelve-count indictment charging him with grand larceny and forgery.

The bund leader nervously fingered a witness Bible on the counsel table as he pleaded not guilty to the charges leveled against him by the New York county prosecutor. The twelve counts call for a maximum sentence of fifty years.

Appearing with the bund's Fuehrer were his counsel, Vahan H. Kalandarian and Gustav Elner, national organizer of the bund. Kuhn and Elner, in a car loaded down with suitcases and even a trunk or two, were headed for Chicago and Milwaukee when overtaken by three detectives from Mr. Dewey's office, who had been trailing Kuhn for weeks.

The arrest was made in Krumville, Pa., and Kuhn waived extradition and returned here to be locked in a cell at Police Headquarters overnight and to face the lineup early today. Fingerprinted and booked, he was asked if he were surprised at the arrest.

Nonsense, Says Fuehrer.

"Certainly I was surprised," he replied. "But don't worry about that. I'll take care of it."

As. Fuehrer A. F. Severance, assistant District Attorney, explained it, the twelve counts against Kuhn grew out of the appropriation for his own use of $14,582 of public money. The charges are nonsense, Kuhn said.

Judge Collins arrived in the courtroom about 10:30 o'clock and posed a number of pleading before Kuhn's case was called. Kuhn had been brought to the Criminal Court Building from Police Headquarters in a patrol wagon, accompanied by two of the three arresting detectives. He waited downstairs in the detention pen until his case was called.

The bund leader wore a double-breasted gray suit with a red pencil stripe and he filled it with the bearing of a storm trooper as he stood erect at the bar.

When Kuhn was called, Judge Collins read an order of the Appellate Division barring the taking of photographs in the court. There were about fifteen photographers in the jury box, who apparently did not hear the court read the order.

The court was not crowded, there being about fifty persons present, including the attendants and the principals.

Angry in Line-up.

Earlier, in the line-up at headquarters Kuhn appeared to be belligerent with repressed anger. He was

Continued on Page 12.

CLIPPING FROM NEW YORK SUN
DATE MAY 26 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
FRITZ KUHN HELD
IN BAIL OF $5,000

Continued from Page 1.

dressed in a gray hat and suit, a white shirt, and a red tie. When asked whether the accusation against him was true, he answered, "no."

"Why were you arrested, Fritz?" asked Acting Lieut. James Pyke.

"I don't know yet," replied the bund leader.

"Were you ever arrested before?"

"No."

When he was bundled into a patrol wagon to be taken to General Sessions, a crowd of fifty or more persons was standing around watching.

"Hello, Fritz," some one called. He stepped back on the step of the wagon; then some one else called: "Wie macht der Hitler? (How is Hitler faring?)" Kuhn made no answer. He climbed in and the patrol wagon rolled away.

Kuhn, who refused to testify before the Grand Jury on Wednesday, was first booked at the Beach street police station after he had waived extradition in Pennsylvania. He was traveling across country with three companions in an automobile when Mr. Dewey's detectives arrested him. Informed by the court, he said the charge was for a common thief.

"Traded by Dewey's Men."

From the time he refused to go before the Grand Jury on Wednesday three of Mr. Dewey's men—James Cashman, James Canovan and Joseph Morbury—had watched his every movement. Yesterday morning he packed three suitcases, got in an automobile with his three companions and headed west. The detectives in another automobile followed.

The first stop was in the little village of Krumsville, Pa., 125 miles from New York. Kuhn's car pulled up at a gasoline station, and the detectives stopped too. Cashman telephoned to Mr. Dewey's office in New York to ask what new development had happened. He was told that the Grand Jury had issued an indictment and that a bench warrant had been handed down.

By that time Kuhn and his friends had sat down to a meal in a restaurant on the highway. The detectives walked in and announced that he was under arrest, and then called Mr. Dewey again to report the capture. Kuhn protested that he was on his way to Chicago to fulfill a speaking engagement, but the detectives, after giving him a safety pin to fasten a rip in his trousers, took him to the barracks of the Pennsylvania State Police at Hamburg.

Waives Extradition.

One of his companions, who identified himself as Gerhard Wilhelm Kunze, of 2439 Twenty-ninth street, Chicago, quickly waived the State police. "I want to see my son, but the

other two—Thomas Dixon of West Ninety-eighth street, and Gustave Eimer of Hoboken, N. J.—continued on their way. Kuhn agreed almost immediately to waive extradition and return to New York city.

When the detectives' automobile with Kuhn in it approached the Beach street station, Kuhn apparently saw the newspaper men and photographers waiting there for him.

"Hello, boys," he called, as the car pulled to a stop. The detectives hustled him into the station and before Lieut. Fred Fleischmann.

"What's the name?" asked the lieutenant.

"Kuhn... Fritz," replied Detective Canovan.

"What's the charge?" asked Mr. Dewey, commenting: "The indictment shows that Kuhn is just a common thief."

Accused of Forgery.

The first two counts in the indictment accuse Kuhn of committing forgery in making false entries in his books in the alleged payment to Mr. Murray.

The indictment and arrest of the bund leader, who frequently is called Fuehrer by his followers, came as a result of a lengthy investigation by Mr. Dewey. It began around the first of the month when men from Mr. Dewey's office raided Kuhn's office. Kuhn protested and accused them of stealing $1,890 in currency, but Mr. Dewey then, and later, ridiculed the charge.

On May 17 Mayor LaGuardia sent Mr. Dewey a list of charges against the bund leader prepared by Commissioner of Investigation William B. Herlands and asked the District Attorney to take "proser prosecution action." Mr. Dewey said that he would attend to those charges after his own investigation had been concluded.
Kuhn Freed in Bail As Brunette Waits

A new mystery woman—this time a brunette—appeared last night in the life of Fritz Kuhn, German-American Bund leader, as his “Man Friday,” Gustave Elmer, bailed him out of Tombs prison with $5,000 cash in bills of small denomination.

The brunette, attractive and stylishly dressed, had appeared in a small car which was parked outside the Tombs for more than two hours, and made inquiries about him to Warden William Adams.

Then, just a few minutes before Warden Adams completed the task of jotting down the serial numbers of the bail money, to guard against counterfeits, she disappeared, but stepped back into the car with Kuhn after it had been driven around the block.

The indictment against him sets forth that he “is infatuated with a blonde,” although he is a married man.

Neither Kuhn, Elmer nor the woman would disclose her identity nor her connection with the case.

Until 5:20 p.m. the bespectacled Kuhn for six hours had paced the concrete floor of cell 527, while his followers, turned down by bondsmen who refused to pledge his $6,000 bail, sought support from individual Bund members whom he is accused of robbing.

Upon being released, the Bund leader was asked if he had anything to say in reply to District Attorney Dewey’s charge that he is “a common thief.”

“I have nothing to say,” he replied.

Earlier Kuhn was photographed and fingerprinted for the Rogues Gallery, appeared in the lineup at Police Headquarters and then was arraigned before General Sessions Judge Collins. He pleaded not guilty to an indictment charging larceny and forgery in the alleged disappearance of $14,543.99 of Bund funds.

Kuhn was arrested by three New York detectives in Krumsville, Pa., Thursday as he and three fellow-Bundsmen were headed west.

At the lineup, detectives questioned felons and vagrants picked up during the night, saving Kuhn for the last. Then Lieut. James Pyke read the charge against him and demanded:

“What’s this all about, Fritz? Is it true?”

“No,” Kuhn replied, surly.

“Why were you arrested?”

“I don’t know yet,” the prisoner answered.

Native of Munich

Then, in answer to routine questions, Kuhn gave his occupation as president of the German-American Bund, said he was formerly a chemical engineer last employed by the Ford Motor Co. in Detroit.

He said he was a native of Munich, Germany; has lived in the United States 14 years, and never had been arrested before.

Wearing a gray suit with a red pin striped white shirt, red tie and his hair slicked back, Kuhn, looking haggard, drummed his fingers on a Bible that lay on the table before him and waited while the clerk intoned:

“Fritz Kuhn, you are charged with grand larceny first degree, grand larceny second degree, and forgery third degree. How do you plead?”

“Not guilty,” answered Kuhn, emphatically.

Assistant District Attorney Frank Severson then asked that bail be fixed at $5,000, a figure which caused Judge Collins to look up in surprise. Said the court:

“Don’t you think that is rather low in view of the charges?”

Severson then explained that Kuhn had waived extradition at the time of his arrest, and because of that he was asking nominal bail.

“Well,” said the court, “if it was left to me I would not have fixed it so low.”

Kuhn’s attorney, Vahan H. Kaldorian, then spoke for his client, the bail was fixed and Kuhn led away across the Bridge of Sighs to his cell in the Tombs.

Meanwhile, it was reported that Mrs. Florence Camp, with whom Kuhn, according to the indictment, “is infatuated,” is here from Cleveland.

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR
DATE: MAY 27 1939
FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
Elmer was one of three men heading westward with Kuhn in an automobile when District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey's detectives arrested the "Fuehrer" late Thursday afternoon at Krumsville, 15 miles from New York. Three hours after his indictment by a New York County Grand Jury. Ostensibly on his way to a speaking engagement in Chicago, Kuhn had been under careful scrutiny since his refusal to testify before the grand jury on Wednesday.

Called "just a common thief" by Mr. Dewey, Kuhn waived extradition after a slight argument with the New York detectives over their jurisdictional rights. Arriving early yesterday, he greeted reporters with a jaunty "Hello, boys!" when he was booked at the Beach Street station. After passing a few hours in a cell as Police Headquarters, he turned out spick and span for the morning line-up, wearing a gray suit with a red pin stripe, white shirt, red tie, gray fedora hat and highly polished black shoes.

Passing off as "a lot of nonsense" the charges that could bring him a fifty-year prison term in the event of conviction and maximum sentence, he professed complete surprise at his arrest. "But I'll take care of that," he added. Asked whether it was true, as charged in the indictment, that he spent bund funds to transport a woman friend's furniture here from California, he snapped, "That's my business."

Explaining that he had been a chemical engineer with the Ford Motor Company of Detroit until the bund began taking most of his time, Kuhn denied any misappropriation of the bund's funds and said he did not even know why he was arrested. Two hundred and fifty detectives at the morning line-up listened quietly to his story. Everything was going along nicely for the bund head until he left headquarters for the Court of General Sessions after having his picture taken for the "zeug" gallery. As he stepped into the police wagon a bystander called out: "Hello, Fritz—wie macht der Hitler?" which, freely translated, means, "How's Hitler doing?"

Kuhn stopped short at the sound of the German phrase, scowled and glowered at the crowd. He drew his heavy frame erect and stamped into the wagon.
KUHN OUT ON BAIL
ON THEFT CHARGE
$5,000 in Small Bills Frees
Bund Leader—Detectives
Tell of Exciting Pursuit

Fritz Kuhn, 43 years old, the president
of the German-American Bund, was released
in $5,000 bail from the Tombs last
evening, almost twenty-four hours
after his capture in an automobile
near Krumsville, Pennsylvania
hamlet, on an indictment charging him
with the theft of $14,648 of the
bundle’s funds. Kuhn spent six and
one-half hours in a Tombs cell after
he had pleaded not guilty before
Judge Cornelius F. Collins in Gen-
eral Sessions.

He would have been taken from his cell an hour earlier, however,
but he had not been for the fact that
somebody, described briefly by Gus-
tave Elimer, a national organizer
of the bund, as a “kind friend,”
had furnished the bail in banknotes,
mostly of small denominations,
which had to be counted by
Warden William Adams in his
office.

The money was brought to the
prison by Elmer and Kuhn’s law-
yer, Voban H. Kalendarl. Final-
ly, when Warden Adams ordered
the doors on the main entrance of
the Tombs facing Center Street
opened, Kuhn and the other two
men hurried to an automobile in
which another man and a young
woman, a brunette, both of whom
refused to reveal their identity,
spotted off with the bund leader.

Kuhn’s only statement before
their departure was: “I shall pre-
pare a statement about this whole
affair later.”

Elmer Accompanied Kuhn

Elmer, the bund organizer, was
one of three men who accompanied
Kuhn on his trip through Pennsy-
lavania which started Thursday aften-
day, before the New York
County grand jury handed up the
indictment, containing six counts of
first-degree grand larceny, four of
second-degree grand larceny and
two of forgery.

The grand jurors had handed up
the indictment in an investigation
of Kuhn’s manipulation of the
bund and its five related corpora-
tions that District Attorney Thomas
E. Dewey ordered about seven
weeks ago.

When Kuhn refused to waive im-
minity at the grand jury door last
Wednesday, after he had insisted to
the prosecutors he wanted to testi-
fy, District Attorney Dewey ordered
Detectives James Canavan, James
Cashman and Joseph Norbury, who
are attached to his office, to trail
him. It developed later that the
District Attorney feared Kuhn
might attempt to escape from the
country before the indictment was
handed up.

This order, it was disclosed yester-
day, led to one of the most ex-
citing automobile chases through
three States experienced by mem-
bers of the New York police force
in years. The three detectives had
posted themselves in an automo-
 bile Thursday near Eighty-fifth
Street and Third Avenue, or within
about fifty feet of the headquarters
of the German-American Bund and
its allied corporations, at 178 East
Eighty-fifth Street, when Kuhn and
three other men drove off in Kuhn’s
automobile, with Kuhn at the wheel.

The detectives were under orders
not to arrest Kuhn until they had
had a definite word from Mr. Dewey’s
office that the indictment had been
found and a bench warrant issued.
And, above all things, they were to
be careful that Kuhn did not be-
come suspicious he was being
trailed.

Kuhn’s progress through Jersey
City and Newark was rather cau-
tious, but eventually, when he
struck Route 22, leading to Harri-
sburg, the detectives realized they had a
wild driver to follow. Kuhn, they
said yesterday, “just burned up the
road,” seldom traveling less than
seventy miles an hour.

Time and again, because of his
terrific speed and the necessity for
their remaining a safe distance be-
hind him not to arouse his suspi-
cion, Kuhn vanished, but for-
nately for the pursuers he always
had held straight to Route 22 and each
time they picked his car up again.

They had been trailing Kuhn six
hours, without being able to tele-
phone the District Attorney’s
office, when Kuhn brightened the
lives of the detectives by sudden-
ly stopping at Schenectady station
a mile east of Krumsville. De-
ective Canavan speedily hopped
from telephones and informed Mr. Dewey
of the pursuit of Kuhn. He was
told to arrest him, as the indict-
ment had been handed up almost
four hours before.

Kuhn and his companions were
adding three trunks to the three
handbags they had taken with
them when they left this city as
the detectives drove up to him and
formed him he was under arrest.

“Where are you from?” Kuhn de-
manded.


“You don’t see what State you are in
now?” was Kuhn’s next ques-
tion.

“Yes, Pennsylvania,” Norbury
interjected.

“Ha, then you have no juris-
diction here,” announced the bund
leader with an air of finality, to
which Canavan replied: “Oh, we’ll
get over that. We are arresting
you on a grand larceny indictment,
which was returned against you at
2 o’clock this afternoon by the New
York County grand jury, and we’re
going to see that you go back to
New York.”

Go to Troopers’ Barracks

In a few minutes the detectives
had communicated with the Penn-
sylvania State police barracks at
Hamburg, a short distance away,
and when two troopers appeared
soon after, Kuhn agreed to accom-
pany them to the barracks. Elmer
and the other two men in the car
with Kuhn, Gerhardt Wilhelm
Kunze, the bund publicity chief,
and Thomas Dixon, drove Kuhn’s
car to the barracks.

On the way to the barracks
Elmer announced, defiantly that
he would not return to face the
indictment unless under
extradition, but later, according to
the detectives, he soliloquized:

Well, if I don’t go back without
extradition, maybe it would look
though I was running away.

This led to Kuhn’s arraignment at
9:45 that night before Justice of
the Peace John Breen in Reading,
to which the party had driven. The
State troopers had communicated
with Assistant District Attorney
Mark McQuillan of Berks County,
in which Krumsville is situated,
and McQuillan prepared the waver
of extradition which Kuhn signed
before he started back to the city
with the faithful Elmer and the de-
ectives.

On the trip to this city, according
to the detectives, the bund leader
bepoked that he was a close friend
of Chancellor Hitler and that he re-
cently had been received by Hitler
or a visit to Germany, but he in-
nimated he did not think much of
the ability of Hitler’s Minister of
Propaganda, Goebbels.

CLIPPING FORM
NEW YORK TIMES.

DATE: MAY 27 1939
NEW YORK TIMES.

FILE: 800-1070
FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
The detectives arrived with their prisoner at the Beach Street station at 2:30 o'clock in the morning, and Kuhn promptly was lodged in a cell. He was placed in a patrol wagon with other prisoners shortly after 9 A. M., photographed and fingerprinted and placed in the line-up at Police Headquarters. There Acting Lieutenant James G. Pyke questioned him before the assembled detectives. Pyke had read the charge against him, and Kuhn had denied it was true, when the inquisitor demanded: 'Then why did they indict you?' 'I don't know—yet,' Kuhn replied.

Kuhn gave his occupation as president of the bund, said his home was at 238 East Eighty-seventh Street and that he was born in Munich, Germany. He has been living in this country for fourteen years, Kuhn added. Answering a question whether he had "any other occupation," Kuhn said he is a chemical engineer, and the last place he worked as such was at the Ford Motor Company's plant on the Rouge River, Dearborn. He also said he never had been arrested before.

As Kuhn was being put back in the patrol wagon to be taken to General Sessions, a group of about 100 men and women assembled at the entrance to police headquarters to view the prisoner. Kuhn was smiling, but when somebody in a raucous voice shouted in German: "Hello, Fritz, how's Hitler?" Kuhn's smile vanished into a frown.

His arraignment on the indictment took less than two minutes. His not guilty plea had been entered before Judge Collins and Assistant District Attorney Severance had asked the bail be fixed at $5,000, when Mr. Kaldesian, his lawyer, began a protest for lower bail.

Kuhn meanwhile was running the fingers of his right hand through the court Bible, which rested on the rail before him. Judge Collins speedily put an end to the argument, however, when he told Mr. Kaldesian that he considered the $5,000 bail suggested by the prosecutor "modest" and indicated that, had it not been suggested, he would have made the bail much higher. He will hear motions in the case on Wednesday.
Kuhn in Seclusion, Prepares Defense

Released in $5,000 bail after six hours in the Tombs, Fritz Kuhn went into seclusion today to prepare his defense to the charges that he stole $14,548 from his German-American Bund.

The Yorkville “Fuehrer,” who had promised a full statement last night in answer to the indictment which charges him with grand larceny and forgery, apparently had been advised that silence is golden.

For there was no sign of a statement from the 43-year-old Bund leader, nor much likelihood of one. At Bund headquarters, 175 E. 56th st., it was said Kuhn “would have nothing to say.”

MAP STRATEGY.

Kuhn’s lawyer, Voham H. Kalendarian, has until Wednesday to make any motions to General Sessions Judge Cornelius F. Collins.

It was reported the Bund leader and his attorney would engage in a series of heavy conferences during the week-end to map out the defense strategy.

The release from the Tombs was effected at 3:30 last evening after Kuhn had fumed and fretted, had been heckled by other prisoners, and had been subjected to a luncheon of bread, potatoes and fish, which he loathed.

A short stocky man in a brown suit and a brunette played a prominent part in the raising of the bail, which was no easy matter.

According to the best information, it appears Kuhn was able to get together about $2,500 of his own money and that the other half was raised either by contributions or as a gift to the cause by some bundsmen.

The money, in bills of $5, $10 and $20 denominations, was brought in a sack by Kalendarian and Gustave Eimer, a national organizer of the Bund. It took about an hour for Warden William Adams to count it. When reporters asked Eimer how the money was raised, he replied:

“Someone was kind enough…”

At that point the lawyer cut him off.

WAIT IN AUTO.

The unidentified man and woman who had called at the Tombs office earlier, inquiring about bail, were waiting outside in an automobile. The woman left it and strolled up Lafayette st. just before Kuhn emerged. The man started the motor running.

As soon as Kuhn and his attendants were in the car, it started off and stopped at Leonard and Lafayette st. to pick up the woman.

Kuhn was arrested Thursday afternoon in the hamlet of Krumsville, Pa., 125 miles from New York, by detectives from Dewey’s office who had been trailing him for ten days.

An extra guard of detectives, about 35 men in all from the maritime and alien squad, was at the W. 46th st. pier when the North German Lloyd liner Bremen sailed early today for Europe. There were also a group of Federal men. They denied, however, the suggestion that their presence there had anything to do with Kuhn.

Clipping from
NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL-AMERICAN

DATE: MAY 27 1934

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION
Aide Asserts 'Little Fuehrer' 'had Right' to Use $14,548; Romance Reported Called Off

At liberty under $5,000 cash bail, Fritz Kuhn, 'Little Fuehrer' of the German-American Bund, conferred with counsel yesterday on legal moves he plans to make in an effort to quash the charge that he looted the Bund treasury of $14,548.

While Kuhn remained tight-lipped and apparently little concerned by the charge, Gerhard Wilhelm Kunze, one of Kuhn's trusted lieutenants in the Bund, scoffed at the embezzlement charge. Kunze, addressing 400 members of the Bund in Chicago, said:

"Kuhn has a right to do as he pleases or seek loot with money turned over to him."

Kuhn was on his way to the Bund meeting in Chicago to make a speech when he was seized in Pennsylvania by New York detectives. He waived extradition.

GREETED BY BRUNETTE.

An attractive brunette friend of Kuhn, who greeted him on his release from the Tombs, disappeared after driving away in a car with him and his counsel.

Mrs. Florence Camp, divorced wife of a wealthy Long Beach, Cal. oil man, moving of whose furniture Kuhn is alleged to have financed with funds belonging to the Bund, was believed by relatives to be in the East.

According to his indictment, Kuhn "is infatuated" with Mrs. Camp.

SAYS ROMANCE ENDED.

Mrs. Camp's brother, Newton Todd, Long Beach attorney said:

"There was a romance between them, but it has been off now for several months."

Mrs. Camp's divorced husband, Charles W. Camp, said he knew nothing about the reported romance between his former wife and Kuhn.

He said, however, he understood that Mrs. Camp had met Kuhn on shipboard while returning from England several months before the Camps' divorce.

Kuhn has until Wednesday to file motions in his case.

Clipping from NEW YORK EVENING JOURNAL—AMERICAN

DATE:

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION
Investigate Kuhn's Use of the Mails

The Government stepped into the midst of German-American Bund leader Fritz Kuhn's muddled money, blonde, brunette and wife troubles yesterday and sought to ascertain if there are any illegalities in the way he mails his official propaganda organ, the Wochruf und Beobachter. According to the usually well-informed The Hour, a patriotic, non-profit-operated news publication, J. Edgar Hoover's G-Men and Post Office inspectors are checking to see if the American fuehrer took advantage of second class mailing privileges in such a way that the Government lost thousands of dollars in revenue last year.

"The Bund," according to The Hour, "beats the law by shipping its papers to the part of the country to which they are destined by trucks. But the Government has already taken steps to halt what practically amounts to a Federal subsidy of Hitler's American agents; it set Federal agents to work on a broad investigation of the Bund's practice."

Kuhn is at liberty on $5,000 bail posted Friday after an attractive mystery brunette interceded in his behalf when he had spent six hours in Cell 527, in Tombs Prison, as a result of his indictment for the alleged theft of $14,548.59 from Bund funds.

The indictment set forth that Kuhn "was infatuated with a blonde." It did not set forth whether this blonde was Mrs. Florence Camp, divorced wife of a California oil operator, but said that part of the allegedly diverted funds were used in bringing her and her belongings here.

This latter phase, too, is under investigation by G-Men, who have carefully inspected the indictment drawn up by District Attorney Dewey.

Ament the G-Men's activities, The Hour had this to say:

"If the question occurs as to what Kuhn might have done with the monies with the theft of which he is charged, a partial answer may be found in his pending divorce and other martial difficulties. The big blonde with whom he has been seeing the sights may be able to answer some of the official queries."

FRITZ KUHN. Missing from his Bund bant as Uncle Sam added more worry.

(Other photos on Page One)
Kuhn, Out on Bail, Speaks Before Milwaukee Bund

Passed 5 Pickets to Appear at "Pro-American" Rally

MILWAUKEE, May 27 (UP).—Fritz Kuhn, national leader of the German-American Bund, who is at liberty under $5,500 bond on forgery and grand larceny charges, appeared tonight at a "pro-American" rally of the Bund and was greeted with an ovation by 1,000 of his followers.

He entered the Milwaukee auditorium almost unnoticed until he was recognized by newspaper men. He had passed five pickets before he was recognized.

Inside the hall, Kuhn was led backstage where he remained until he was introduced to the audience by George Froboese, Middle West leader of the Bund, as the man who "got safely across the Jewish line and landed in America."

Before he was introduced, the audience heard speeches by Col. E. G. Blackey, former Surgeon General of the United States, and Chief New Moon of the Cherokee Indian tribe.

There was no violence and no evidence of Nazi emblems or symbols in the meeting hall. Bund members, who at previous meetings had appeared wearing gray uniforms, O. D. (Ordnungs Dienst) armbands and overseas cape, appeared tonight in cordons flanking the aisles of the hall, clad only in their gray uniform shirts and blue uniform trousers.

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE.

DATE: May 27, 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
Kuhn Against (Sh?) Dewey

Craefon, Wis., May 28 (U.P.)—Fritz Kuhn, national leader of the German-American Bund, told interviewers today he believed President Roosevelt might run for a third term, but said "we don't hope" he will be re-elected.

Kuhn, who was arrested Thursday by agents of District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey of New York City on charges of stealing Bund funds, said he also hoped Dewey would not be elected president.

George Froboese, mid-west director of the Bund, asserted: "We are against the Roosevelt Administration because it is under the influence of Jews."

(A. P. Wirefoto)
Fritz Kuhn (right) at Bund meeting in Milwaukee.

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS.

DATE: MAY 29 1939
FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
Kuhn Attacks F. D. and Dewey, Hopes Both Are Defeated in '40

Grafton, Wis., May 29 (AP)—Prutz Kuhn, head of the German-American Bund, dedicating a Bund camp here, attacked President Roosevelt and District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey of New York City and declared he hopes both would be defeated if they seek the presidency next year.

He said he believed Roosevelt would seek a third term. After his speech he left for Chicago. He said he would return to New York soon to make plans for a mass meeting to protest “persecution of the Bund.” He was released in $5,000 bail at New York Thursday after his arrest on a charge of embezzling $14,548 from the Bund.

George Probooe, Mid-West director, who accompanied him to the dedication, said the Bund was against the Roosevelt Administration because it “is under the influence of Jews.” He said the Bund was opposed to Dewey for similar reasons.

“Ten members of Dewey’s staff are Communists,” he said.

Kuhn did not refer to his arrest during his dedicatory speech. However, he had charged Saturday night in a speech at Milwaukee that he was being “persecuted” because Dewey was ambitious for the presidency and needed the Jewish vote to be elected.

He denied in his address here last night that military drills were conducted at Bund camps and said the purpose of the camps was to “provide recreation.” He said enemies of the Bund “have accused us of getting money even from Germany to finance the Bund activities.”

He urged his followers to “hold on to the camps and fight against any attempt to have them taken from you. Our enemies cannot kill the spirit of the Bund.”

Clipping from
BROOKLYN DAILY EAGLE
DATE: MAY 29, 1939
FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION
KUHN IN MID-WEST DENOUNCES F. D. R.

Bund Leader Also Attacks Dewey, Saying Prosecutor Seeks Jewish Vote

GRAFTON, Wis., May 29 (UP)—Fritz Kuhn, head of the German-American Bund, attacked President Roosevelt and District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey of New York City last night and said he hoped both would be defeated if they seek the Presidency next year.

He said he believed Roosevelt would seek a third term. He spoke at the dedication of a Bund camp.

After his speech Kuhn left for Chicago. He said he would return to New York soon to make plans for a mass meeting to protest "persecution of the Bund." He was released on bond in New York Thursday after his arrest on a charge of embezzling $14,548 from the Bund.

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Clipping from NEW YORK POST

DATE: MAY 29, 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION
Wife's Letter Tells Romances of Kuhn

By ARTHUR MEFFORD.

New evidence in possession of Federal and State authorities last night pictured Fritz Kuhn as a random lover who tossed off the old for the new with abandon.

Among the conquests of the portly German-American Bund leader, indicted last week by District Attorney Dewey as "a common thief," according to a letter written by his own wife, Elsa, was his capture of the heart of his best friend's wife.

Written in German aboard the S. S. Bremen three years ago, while Mrs. Kuhn, herself active in Bund circles, was accompanying her husband on a visit to Germany to attend the Olympic games and report to Adolf Hitler, the document vividly sets forth her heartache.

(Name deleted to protect the woman.)

"Dear Mr. R—: Once again I write you in good intention. All I want is to ask you to get your wife back and help me to wipe out this dirty matter. Imagine you, there are two children. Tomorrow, Walter will be 13 years old.

"My husband has no money to support your wife besides. The whole branch of the Bund at Detroit stands behind me. There will be a great scandal. I wait for your immediate answer. My behalf of our movement. I wait for your immediate answer.

"Elsa Kuhn."

Since this letter was written three years ago, Kuhn and his wife have split because of his hectic blonde, brunette and redhead troubles—the redhead being a Detroit woman named Erna, who broke with him after her 12-year-old son begged the Bund leader to marry her to avoid ignominy.

Other records in possession of U. S. Attorney Cahill purport to show that Kuhn, then a German Army petty officer, was imprisoned in Germany.

After serving four months in jail, Kuhn's brother, a Munich City Magistrate, since become prosecuting attorney and a man of honor and influence, obtained his parole.

Kuhn, according to the official records, was given employment by a Jewish business man named Spitz, a lifelong friend of his family, was again accused and, to avoid further conflict with the law, emigrated to Mexico. This was in 1923.

Three or four years later, Kuhn, according to the authorities, went to Detroit, where he won the sympathies of the German colony by his story of having been robbed of his $3,000 stock in a Mexico City jewelry store.

MRS. FLORENCE CAMP
Dewey says that part of the missing money was used to move her effects East.

address, Munich, Walhalla Str. 42.

"I don't want any more excuses from your wife; she has condemned herself. Besides, people do not like the 'secretary' of the Bund's head in Detroit. These people are not so dumb. "It was I who protected your wife, in order to prevent any dirty talking. My husband had given me his word of honor that there would be only his family he serves for; that between him and Mrs. R— everything would be finished. He declared the same thing to his daughter Waltraud (then about 13), he was only in love with her mother. "This is the truth. Now, act like a German man of honor on

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK DAILY MIRROR
MAY 5 1936
DATE.
FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
**Turned to Bund**

For a time Kuhn was active in the affairs of the Friends of Nature Club, a Detroit German Society not particularly friendly to the Nazi German Government, but switched his affiliation to the Bund when a member obtained for him a job as an X-ray plate developer in Ford Hospital.

The Federal authorities are particularly interested in the bundling Bund leader’s failure to reveal all the facts of his past to the Detroit Naturalization Bureau when he took out citizenship papers in 1934. Federal agents are also investigating the disappearance of a Bund-owned automobile which was borrowed by the usually jovial leader.

Kuhn, according to information given to authorities by Detroit Bundsmen, took a leave of absence and drove the car to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland and Seattle.

**Returns Sans Car**

It was on this trip that Kuhn became acquainted with Mrs. Florence Camp, blond grass widow of a once-rich California oil operator. It was alleged in Dewey’s indictment of Kuhn last week that part of the 14,548 he is accused of stealing from Bund funds was used to move Mrs. Camp’s belongings here from Los Angeles and thence to Cleveland.

Kuhn, according to Detroit Bundsmen, returned from the Western trip by train. Asked what he had done with the Bund car, he was quoted: “I had a very narrow escape. Driving along the Pacific Coast something went wrong with the steering gear and the car suddenly went over the cliff, falling hundreds of feet down on the rocks. It was completely demolished.”

Several Detroit Bundsmen no-
KUHN LOSES FIGHT TO GET JURY DATA

Appeal for List of Those Who Accused Him in Alleged Theft Also Rejected

BUND LEADER INDIGNANT

Says Raid by Dewey Aides on His Office Was ‘Entirely Unlawful Undertaking’

Fritz Kuhn, head of the German-American Bund, made an unsuccessful move yesterday before Judge Cornelius F. Collins in General Sessions for permission to inspect the minutes of the grand jury which recently indicted him in the alleged theft of $14,548 of the bund’s funds.

His lawyer, Vahan H. Kalendarian, had coupled this motion with another that District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey be forced to return books of Kuhn’s five corporations seized on a subpoena duces tecum last May 2 by some of the prosecutor’s aides in a raid on the bund headquarters in East Eighty-fifth Street, and a demand that Mr. Dewey also furnish Kuhn with the names of all the witnesses that had been called before the grand juries in the case.

Kuhn was not present at the argument, in which Assistant District Attorney Frank A. F. Severance opposed all three demands. 

While it was going on he issued a statement at the bund headquarters that he was absent in Los Angeles when Mr. Dewey’s men “broke into my private office without a search warrant, and took whatever they could lay their hands on.”

Insists He Alone Had Key

Kuhn, who had entered a not-guilty plea on the indictment last May 26, the day after three detectives from the District Attorney’s office captured him in an automobile trip near Krumsville, Pa., insisted in the statement that he alone had a key to his private office, and repeated his charge a week after the raid that $1,530 had disappeared from his desk.

No one seems to know what became of it,” Kuhn’s statement went on. “This breaking and entering was an entirely unlawful undertaking in the face of outraged protests by several officers of the bund who were present.

“Not content with this, agents of Mr. Dewey went so far as to illegally violate the homes of two bund officers and my own home. One of the residences thus raided was not even in New York County. Now this illegally confiscated evidence is being studied in hopes that a case against me may be constructed.”

Kuhn also insisted that he was innocent of wrongdoing in handling the funds of the bund and further charged “the basest weapons conceivable” were being used in an effort to ruin him.

Mr. Severance told Judge Collins that the books of the bund and its affiliate corporations were obtained under due process of law, in reply to the contention of Kuhn’s lawyer that the invader should have had a bench warrant.

Disposes of Kuhn’s Demand

Justice Collins disposed of Kuhn’s demand that the books be turned back to him for his defense with the comment that it had no place in the proceedings before him and more properly should be brought up at Kuhn’s trial, but could be renewed later as a separate motion if the Kuhn lawyer persisted.

On the motion for the revelation of the names of the witnesses, Judge Collins said that proceedings before the grand jury, under the law, necessarily must be secret, and the Legislature recently must have had that in mind when it enacted a law eliminating from the backs of indictments the names of grand jury witnesses.

Mr. Severance, in reply to a question by the Court, announced that Kuhn would not be called for trial until the Autumn, because preference in General Sessions trials is to be given in the Summer months to cases in which the defendants are being held in the Tombs in default of bail.

Then, as an aside, Judge Collins remarked that he did not consider the indictment was in any way involved in “politics,” but based merely on a “plain, everyday charge of larceny.”

Clipping from NEW YORK TIMES

DATE: JUN 3 1930

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION
Kuhn Says Press Persecutes Him, Sees Plot Behind Larceny Charge

Fritz Kuhn, "Fuhrer" of the German-American Bund, free in $5,000 bail pending trial on charges of embezzling $14,548.59 of his pro-Nazi organization's funds, maintained his innocence of any wrongdoing yesterday in a prepared statement picturing himself as the victim of political persecution and the misuse of law.

The statement, issued from the Bund offices at 178 East Eighty-fifth Street, coincided with the denial by Judge Cornelius P. Colling in General Sessions of the Bund head's motions to examine the minutes of the grand jury which indicted him on May 25 on twelve counts of fraud and second degree grand larceny and forgery. His trial is not expected to begin before Fall.

Charging that the bund's campaign to stamp out Communism in America had been so successful that his enemies had become desperate in their attempts to cripple him, Kuhn said that no previous investigation of the bund or himself had revealed any dishonorable or reasonable acts. He was, he said, a victim of political persecution.

"It is perfectly clear to me,"asserted the bund head, "that no means will be eschewed by my opponents to eliminate me, and that not being possible in a lawful manner, the only means left is to murder me by using the basest weapons conceivable to morally destroy me, to blacken my good name."

"I also am aware, however, that all upright and honest citizens of every race and creed realize that I am being persecuted and defamed because I am the leader of the German-American Bund, and that it will not be long before the growing number of similarly outspoken and courageous patriotic organizations will be treated in the same manner."

"The hundreds of encouraging letters reaching me are proof of the rapidly growing appreciation of the meaning of the vicious attacks to which I am being subjected. I am not dreaming of running. On the contrary, I shall fight for my rights and shall carry this struggle against all subversive elements forward as never before, until a truly free America is achieved."

Kuhn denied that he was fleeing when Mr. Dewey's detectives arrested him in a Pennsylvania village 125 miles from New York on the day of his indictment, following his refusal to testify before the grand jury. He said the District Attorney knew he was motoring to Chicago with three friends to speak at a bund rally.

"The reports indicating an indicated get-away on my part are, therefore, inspired untruths, affording the reader an excellent and inside idea into the workings of the smear campaign against me."

"As regards the charges, I decline, on my word of honor, that I am innocent. Does this action against me represent a persecution, the explanation of which must be looked for in the field of politics?"

"First, all moneys collected, and which were turned over to me will be duly accounted for."

"Second, I have not spent a single cent of the bund's money in any manner other than authorized by the national convention of the bund."

"Third, the absurd statements of some of the newspapers to the effect that I have been planning a divorce, or even a separation from my family are so ridiculous as not to require either a denial or explanation from me."

"Fourth, contrary to public statements, I have never, in my life undertaken any unlawful activity and have never, in this country, in Germany, or elsewhere, been in conflict with the authorities."

CLIPPING FROM
NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE.
DATE: JUN 3, 1939
FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
Moseley Heiled
At Bund Meeting

(Special to The News)

Andover, N. J., June 4.—The name of Gen. George Van Horn Moseley was cheered and that of District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey of New York booted when Fritz Kuhn, leader of the German-American Bund, addressed more than 500 New Jersey members of the Bund at Camp Nordland here today.

Kuhn, now awaiting trial in New York on an indictment charging grand larceny of Bund funds, said he was the victim of a frame-up and that he would fight the case to the end.

Storm Troopers in the regular black and gray uniforms, heiled their approval when William Kunze, publicity director of the Bund, said the proposed New Jersey law banning the Bund uniform was "obviously discriminatory."

CLIPPING FROM NEW YORK DAILY NEWS.

DATE. JUN 6 - 1939

FORWARDED BY NEW YORK DIVISION.
Fritz Kuhn Talks

500 at Andover, N. J. Camp Hear His Frame-up Plea.

Fritz Kuhn, leader of the German-American Bund, now awaiting trial in Manhattan on an indictment charging grand larceny, spoke yesterday to more than 500 men and women members of the bund assembled at Camp Nordland, Andover, N. J. Speaking in German, he told the group of the activities of the bund and explained that twenty-one camps were now operating throughout the country. A new unit, he said, would open in Rockland county soon.

Kuhn briefly discussed his arrest on the New York charge and declared that he had waited in his New York office for a call from authorities after he had learned action was being taken against him. "They didn't have to chase me," he declared.

Insisting upon his innocence of the charge which accuses him of appropriating funds from the bund to his own use, Kuhn said that he was the victim of a frame-up and indicated that he would fight the case to the end.

William Kunze, director of public relations for the bund, also addressed the group in German. He assailed the proposed legislation which would make it illegal for organizations such as the bund to meet in uniforms. He described the proposed measure as "discriminating against the bund."
June 5, 1939

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

Dear Sir:

RE: FRITZ KUHN
PERJURY; IMMIGRATION; NATURALIZATION

Amherst, Massachusetts, was interviewed on May 27, 1939 by Special Agent advised that he had entered the United States in 1933 and is now a citizen of this country; that prior thereto he had resided in Munich where he followed the legal profession; that he has never been personally acquainted with FRITZ KUHN, or any member of that family; that he has no recollection of the crime for which KUHN was convicted in Munich and does not recall ever hearing about it; that the first he knew of the matter was when he read an item in the New York Times dated May 9, 1939.

advised that he is acquainted with the SPITZ family, and that one member of this family resides in New York City at the present time and that SPITZ might be able to furnish information relative to FRITZ KUHN. exhibited the newspaper clipping to Agent, and it was observed that SPITZ had executed an affidavit relative to the matter and therefore no lead is being set out to interview SPITZ.

appeared to be very interested in aiding in this matter and advised that in the event further information was desired, he would be able to correspond with acquaintances in Munich and ascertain the details relative to the arrest of KUHN. In the event it is desired that contact his acquaintances in Munich, the Boston Field Division should be requested to again contact him.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

RECORDED & INDEXED

[Handwritten Note: "61-7594-21"]

[Handwritten Note: "G. Peterson"]

[Handwritten Note: "JUN 22, 1939"]
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

The Director
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Crowl

SUPervisors

35243
Files Section
Personnel Files
Identification Division
Technical Laboratory
Mechanical Section
Chief Clerk's Office
Crime Statistics
Mr. Tracy

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Miss Gandy

** **

Bring file up to date
Send File
Correct
Call me regarding this
Note and Return
Search, serialize and route
Stenographers 5724
Stenographers 5730
Stenographers 5706
Prepare tickler for

Typists - 5724
Typists - 5236
See Me

Communications

Original

E. A. TAMM - 5734.
The Director
Mr. Nathan
Mr. Tolson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Foxworth
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Crowl

Files Section
Personnel Files
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SUPERVISORS

Miss Gandy

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Stenographers 5706
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Typists - 5236
See Me

E. A. TAMM - 5734.
June 8, 1939

To the Attorney General

I am transmitting herewith copies of a letter addressed to the Attorney General under date of June 1, 1939, by together with a copy of the Attorney General's reply.

For your information, the Bureau several weeks ago requested the State Department to endeavor to verify the reported conviction of Fritz Kuhn in Germany but to date a substantiation or affirmation of this conviction has not been obtained. In view, however, of the statement of that a number of persons now residing in the United States will appear to testify concerning this conviction, I desire that you have a Special Agent call upon immediately upon the receipt of this letter in your office and obtain all the facts in his possession. The information obtained from should be transmitted immediately to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure
June 2, 1939.

I have received your letter of June 1, 1939, concerning the alleged conviction in 1926 in Munich of Fritz Kahn and appreciate your courtesy in furnishing this information to me. I am, of course, interested in learning the identity of the persons now in the United States who are able to testify to this conviction and I have accordingly requested Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to have a special agent from the Detroit office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation call upon you in order to obtain all details of the information in your possession. You may be assured that I appreciate your courtesy in transmitting this material to me.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

[Names and titles]

[Seal]
OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

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  ( ) 
Secretary  ( ) 

See Me  ( ) 
Prepare Reply  ( ) 
For Your Information  ( ) 
Note and Return  ( ) 
File  ( )

Remarks:

...
AG notes: Hoover - Atomized edge - instestant

No.

A crime. Therefore he would be deportable.

At time he had never been guilty of committing by stating he had never been a citizen or citizenship papers or time at need. Americans, citizens and other citizens, certain individuals. and stolen from the university of lunch.

Kuhn was guilty of having feloniously entered to pay fees, rec'd information to effect that Kuhn

Addressing General Fortman Letter from
My dear Governor:

I have recently come into some information through one of my colleagues which I think you should have. The information relates to Fritz Kuhn, now under indictment in New York State, but the information deals this time with a matter which appears to me to come within the jurisdiction of the Federal Government rather than the State of New York.

The information is that in 1922 one Fritz Kuhn was found guilty of a charge equivalent to burglary, having feloniously entered the chemistry laboratory of the University of Munich and stolen therefrom some platinum crucibles and several other articles. These articles were found in his domicile and he was sentenced to a jail term of three months. If this is true, and of course it is subject to investigation in order to establish its authenticity, then Fritz Kuhn committed perjury when he swore upon receiving his American citizenship papers that he had never committed a crime. If this follows, then under the decisions of the Federal courts, he never has had American citizenship and would therefore be subject to deportation.

I am informed that there are people in the United States who, if properly protected, would make depositions to the effect that Fritz Kuhn was so convicted in Munich. It might still be possible to get, through the American Consul in Munich, a record of this conviction, if it has not already been destroyed.

In other words, here is some highly interesting information which I thought you should possess so that you may take whatever action is necessary. If the committing of this crime cannot be corroborated through police records in Munich, I am informed that it can be established through reputable persons now in this country, who would be glad to testify provided they were properly protected, this proviso being due to the fact that they still have relatives in Germany. In any case, I am passing the information on to you as a matter of duty and interest for whatever action you may see fit to take.

Sincerely yours,

/s/
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

of the State Department, called
and stated that in connection with your request for the
status of the obtaining of the criminal record of FRITZ KUHN
he wanted to advise us that an employee of the State Depart-
ment had received a personal letter from a member of the
American Embassy at Munich to the effect that they are putting
all pressure possible upon the obtaining of this criminal
record of Kuhn at the University of Munich and the police de-
partment and they are having a careful check made of all press
dispatches for this purpose. related that to date
they had not been successful in obtaining any substantiation
of the alleged criminal record of Kuhn, but that he was
certain in the event the same was obtained the American Embassy
at Munich would telegraphically advise, at which time it would
be immediately brought to the attention of the Bureau.

Respectfully,

b7C
New York, New York

344A
74-130

Special Agent in Charge
Detroit, Michigan

RE: FRITZ F. HAN. PERJURY. NATURALIZATION

June 9, 1939

Dear Sir:

Efforts by this office to obtain information concerning an alleged and possible violation of the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act by FRITZ F. HAN while he was the leader of the German-American Bund in Detroit, Michigan, have to date proved unsuccessful.

Inquiries made through two different sources, one through the American-Jewish Committee, have indicated that information concerning HAN is in the possession of a woman in Detroit. However, from neither of these sources has it been possible to obtain the name of this woman, assuming of course that both are referring to the same individual.

The story about the particular automobile involved has been rumored for two or three years. As originally heard by Special Agent [redacted] of this office in 1936, it was to the effect that HAN had received a gift of an automobile from the organization, German-American Bund and had gone on a tour of the West in this automobile, returning without the car. It is alleged that he sold the car, thereby violating the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act.

While this latter was being dictated, agent [redacted] received information from [redacted] to the effect that this is alleged to have occurred about September or November of 1936, that the trip started in Detroit and the car was supposed to have been wrecked in Nebraska, according to the story told by HAN. [redacted] informant, however, indicated a belief that the car was sold in Nebraska. It is expected that further information regarding this matter will be received on June 10, 1939.
Letter to SAC, Detroit

June 9, 1939

However, it is suggested that, if the Detroit Office has any source through which information concerning Kuhn's activities can be obtained, inquiries be made to ascertain the circumstances surrounding this matter to ascertain whether or not there may be a violation of the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act.

A copy of this letter has been furnished to the Chicago Office with the request that [redacted] be interviewed to ascertain if he has any knowledge regarding this alleged violation of the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act by Fritz Kuhn.

In connection with this inquiry, it should be noted that while there is no indication or allegation to the effect that the car was obtained by Kuhn by any irregular or improper means and that it would appear that he had a perfect right to use the car, the Bureau nevertheless desires that a thorough investigation be made so that the facts may be presented to the proper United States Attorneys for their opinion as to whether prosecution will be initiated.

Very truly yours,

DD - Bureau

cc - Chicago

DEWITT BRANTLEY
Special Agent in Charge