



In Reply, Please Refer to
File No. 100-235900

90/96

DBF-90196

~~SECRET~~
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Date: October 4, 1961
To: Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Attention: Deputy Director, Plans
From: *JEA* John Edgar Hoover, Director
Subject: WALTER KLOTZ
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING

Reference is made to your communication dated
September 29, 1961, your reference CS CI 3/767,288.

Enclosed is one Photostat each of four reports,
which contain the results of an FBI investigation of the
subject which was conducted during 1943 and 1944.

This Bureau has no objection to your furnishing
background information concerning the subject which is
contained in these reports to a friendly foreign intelli-
gence service, provided the FBI is not identified as the
source.

In the event the enclosed reports contain infor-
mation which you desire to pass to your foreign contact,
other than background data, you are requested to abstract
such information from the reports and furnish it to us for
our consideration concerning its passage.

Enclosures 4

FOR COORDINATION WITH FBI

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B26
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2005

CS COPY

SECRET

☐ ✓

Subject born 4/22/1887 at Weimar, Germany. Arrived
U.S. 7/14/29 and was naturalized 7/25/34. In 1929
to 1937 subject lived in Cincinnati, Ohio. Neighbors,
friends and former employees report subject pro-Nazi
at that time. Subject has made three return trips to
Germany, last trip in 1937 at which time he remained
until 1939. Since return in 1939 has lived in New
Jersey. No indication of subversive activities in last
three years.

- P -

REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT T - 1

Confidential Informant T-1 advised that their investigation
had revealed the following information about the subject:

NATURALIZATION

Miss MARJORIE ROETTINGER, clerk, Immigration and Naturalization
Service, Federal Building, Cincinnati, Ohio, stated that
according to her records subject became a citizen of the
United States through naturalization proceedings on June 25,
1934, Certificate No. 3813456. These records further showed
that subject entered the United States January 14, 1929, at
New York City aboard the S.S. Hamburg of the Hamburg-American
Lines, sailing from Hamburg, Germany (Certificate of Arrival

RECEIVED
FBI
MAY 14 1941

No. 9-8159); that subject was born June 12, 1904, in Gelenau, Saxony, Germany; that he lived in Chemnitz, Germany, prior to emigrating to the United States; that subject's father was JOHN KLOTZ and subject's mother was MILDA KARL; that subject declared his intention of becoming a citizen on April 9, 1929, in Cincinnati, Ohio, Declaration of Intention No. 16552; that subject returned to Germany to visit his parents on the S.S. General Van Steuben in June, 1931, and re-entered the United States in October, 1931, aboard the S.S. Bremen; and that subject's witnesses at the naturalization proceedings were PAUL RICHARD NEUBAUSSER (himself naturalized June 27, 1927, Certificate No. 2593806), who had been acquainted with subject since January 15, 1929, and FERDINAND EDWARD ZULEGER (himself naturalized May 31, 1927), who had been acquainted with subject since January 17, 1929. Subject was not married, skilled as a machinist-draftsman and traveled to this country originally tourist class with a Mr. ZEISSLER, according to the naturalization records.

EMPLOYMENT

Mr. J. M. MANLEY, JR., manager of personnel records, Lodge and Shipley Machine Tool Company, 2055 Colerain Road, Cincinnati, Ohio, stated that his records revealed that the subject entered the employ of that company on February 1, 1929, and resigned on October 19, 1929, because of low wages. Other employees questioned about the subject, also employed at this plant, advised they did not recall him.

Mr. G. WEBER, Personnel Director, J. H. Day and Company, 1144 Harrison Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio, stated that his records disclosed that subject was employed as a draftsman by the company from October 19, 1929, to September 15, 1931, when he was laid off because of slow business but was re-employed January 21, 1932, and worked at a wage of 61 cents per hour until August 3, 1934, when he was laid off because of slow business. Subject was again employed November 8, 1934, and worked until April 22, 1935, when he quit because of insufficient wages. Mr. WEBER said that subject's record with the company was satisfactory. Mr. WEBER added that Mr. WALTER BACHLE, a reference, was an old and trusted employee of the company and a good American citizen.

WALTER BACHLE, Chief Engineer, J. H. Day and Company, Plant No. 1, 1215 Harrison Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio, advised that the subject was employed as a draftsman in the machine shop at various times with the company. He stated that the subject was a very capable and efficient draftsman.

Mr. J. H. DAY, President, J. H. Day and Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, advised that the subject was employed as a draftsman in the machine shop at various times with the company. He stated that the subject was a very capable and efficient draftsman.

RECORDED
INDEXED
MAY 19 1935
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION

NY 100-16837

BAECHLE mentioned that he lost the bet to subject and added that subject had always seemed very certain that the Nazi movement was a good one for Germany. He further advised that he had always been somewhat dubious about the subject's loyalty to the United States. He related the subject seemed to be especially trained in that he spoke fluent English shortly after coming to the United States for the first time.

He related that the subject had joined the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in either 1938 or 1939 and that he had filled out recommendations for him.

Mr. BAECHLE stated that subject had quit the J. H. Day Company after becoming quite worked up over the fact that he was not receiving more pay. He stated that the subject had often talked to him about a friend of his who was an engineer and who had gone to South America from Germany in connection with some gold mining proposition. He said that subject had talked as if he had almost decided to go to South America with his friend but had changed his mind at the last minute.

He stated he was acquainted with Mr. NEUHAUSSER, the subject's uncle, with whom he roomed in Cincinnati and that several years ago he had taken his watch to him to be repaired at which time he had argued against the Hitler regime and that Mr. NEUHAUSSER did not seem to like this.

Mr. ROBERT CLASEN, Officer Manager, J. H. Day Company, advised that he was very well acquainted with the subject when he worked for this company. He related that the subject was quiet and retiring but that he had always taken the German point of view in any argument.

Mr. W. G. HOELSCHER, Chief Engineer, American Tool Works Company, Pearl and Eggleston Streets, Cincinnati, Ohio, advised that the subject had worked under his supervision as a draftsman for about two years but during this period he had never noticed anything that could be considered derogatory about him.

Mr. ALBERT LIPPERT, Assistant Engineer, American Tool Works Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, advised that the employment records disclosed that the subject was employed from April 23, 1935, to July 18, 1935, when he asked for leave to visit his mother in Germany. He was re-employed July 6, 1936, and continued working until April 3, 1937, when he resigned because he wished a change of climate. He stated that the subject had told him confidentially upon returning to work for the company in July, 1936, that instead of returning to Germany he had gone to Michigan for his health.

LIPPERT advised that the subject had often remarked about how hard he had worked in Germany before coming to the United States both at a university

NK 100-16837

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

and then as a machinist. He had also talked about working in the salt mines in Germany. He said that subject's closest friend at this company was a German alien by the name of ERNEST WUSCHHAUS, 5631 Pemberton Road, Norwood, Ohio, who was one of a group of aliens rounded up by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Cincinnati. He stated that the subject's Social Security number was 268-09-2240.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Mrs. PAUL R. NEUHAUSSER, 3221 Bishop Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, stated that she was a second cousin of the subject and that the subject had lived with her during the period he had lived in Cincinnati. She related that she was the only relative of subject in the United States.

Mr. PAUL NEUHAUSSER confirmed the above information.

Mr. GEORGE GRIFFITH, mail carrier, Burnet Woods Post Office, Tilford Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, stated that both subject and the NEUHAUSSERS had formerly received occasional mail from Germany. He stated that the subject used to get German newspapers in the mail as well as mail from the members of his family.

Mrs. ROBERT LUDKE, 3016 Bishop Street, Cincinnati, was contacted with negative results.

Mrs. LUETTA RIEDENBENDER, 3223 Bishop Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, a former neighbor, stated that she had known the subject very well inasmuch as she lived next door to him for eight and a half years and inasmuch as he and his wife were close friends of PETER KALMUS formerly of 3209 Bishop Street, and he and KALMUS spent much of their time "courting" her two daughters MARY RIEDENBENDER and Mrs. FERDINAND PRIOR, 531 West 122d Street, Apartment D-65, New York City.

She related that the subject had made at least three return trips to Germany and on the last trip PETER KALMUS had accompanied him. She related that she had heard through her married daughter in New York City that the subject had attended a meeting of the German American Bund in New York City after returning from Germany. She advised that after one of his earlier trips to Germany he had praised Hitler and had preached for one hour one night with religious fervor about the new abundance of food, the improved roads and living conditions, and the other wonders wrought in Germany by Hitler and the Nazi regime. He said that also he had made fun of the Jewish race and its accomplishments. He mentioned in particular an incident when subject had ridiculed the moving picture actor PAUL MUNI because of his Jewish blood.

She said that PETER KALMUS had come to the United States from Germany when he was about 19 or 20 years old and that he was at one time sympathetic

NR 100-14937

to the Nazi regime but that his ideas had changed completely as a result of his last trip to Germany with the subject in 1937-1938. She related an incident told to her by Mr. KALMUS in which he was apprehended by the secret police in Germany on a secret charge. She further advised that subject was formerly a member of the now defunct International Club of Cincinnati of which she had discovered had a faction of Nazi sympathizers.

She advised that PETER KALMUS would know more about the subject than anyone else and that he was presently employed by the American Steel and Wire Company at Cleveland, Ohio, and was living at 6103 Meadowbrook Road, Cleveland.

Miss MARY BIEDENBENDER, 3223 Bishop Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, advised that she had known the subject very well and substantiated everything that her mother had said.

ACQUAINTANCES

Miss ANNE MARIE CLAUSE, 531 Terrace Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio, advised that she was a teacher at the Holmes High School. She said that she and her sister had been leaders in the International Club of Cincinnati, an organization for foreign students and through this club she and her father had come to know the subject well and had entertained him at her home. She related the subject had completed his naturalization course with honors. She said that subject had been a very good student, intelligent, industrious; however she could not recommend him for any government job because of his German background, connections and sympathies.

She remarked that since 1937 he had returned to Germany to visit his step mother, several brothers, and friends and had stayed for almost two years; also that the subject had been in close contact with one PAUL WEINERT, whom she knew to be a rabid German and Nazi sympathizer.

Mr. OTTO KALMUS, Sumlak Company, 226 East 6th Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, advised that he had known the subject for about ten years through his step son PETER F. KALMUS who was the subject's best friend. He seemed to indicate that he felt the subject was loyal to this country.

CREDIT AND CRIMINAL

DOROTHY M. SMITH, clerk, Retail Merchant's Credit Bureau Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, stated that the only black mark on subject's record was a \$2 account which the Physician's Business Bureau reported on December 22, 1934, as unpaid by the subject. The records of the police department of Cincinnati were checked with negative results.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

NK 100-16837

REPORT OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT T-2

Subject was employed as a draftsman by the Kearny Manufacturing Company, 681 Schuyler Avenue, Kearny, New Jersey, from July, 1939, to October, 1940.

CHARLES F. DULKIN, president of the Kearny Manufacturing Company, advised that the subject had been a capable draftsman. However, he did not have the ability to control men and to properly supervise them. He was dismissed by this company.

NEIGHBORHOOD

Subject has resided for the past two years with Mr. and Mrs. JEAN FORREST at 1 Fuller Place, Kearny, New Jersey. Both these individuals are of Scotch ancestry and naturalized United States citizens. Subject is very close to these people and spends a great deal of time with them.

Mrs. MARY STRACHAN, 3 Fuller Place, Kearny, New Jersey, advised that the subject had never done anything to indicate he was pro-German to her knowledge.

Mrs. MARY KREINE, 7 Fuller Place, Kearny, was also contacted with negative results.

MISCELLANEOUS INVESTIGATION

Mr. LOUIS WOLFSON, 10 Fairview Avenue, New York City, advised he had at one time reported the matter of KLOTZ to the F.B.I. in Washington, D.C. He stated that he thinks now the war is on, KLOTZ has slowed down and is more cautious. He advised he would talk to the subject and try to get something concrete to report.

In a letter dated May 8, 1942, he advised he had talked with KLOTZ and there seemed to be no factual basis for further action. He stated that his previous remarks were chiefly due to the current hysteria at that time, due to our declaration of war on Germany and advised that he was unable to give any actual proof to justify his suspicions other than his patriotic emotions.

Subject's application on file in the office of the Navy Electrical Engineering Department, 11 Broadway, New York City, reveals that subject was born in Galenau, Germany, on June 6, 1904. Subject immigrated to the United States in January, 1929, and has been a citizen since 1934. He resides at 1 Fuller Place, Arlington, Hudson County, New Jersey, in care of Mrs. JEAN FORREST. He speaks English and German. His religion is non-sectarian and he is single. His height is 5' 8" and his weight is 150 pounds. He gives on his record as his education in the United States as a two year evening course

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

NK 100-16837

that he believed the German system was much better and further remarked that he admired Hitler very much. She said that he seemed to worship Hitler. She further advised that the subject seemed to feel a keen humiliation of Germany as a result of the last war and he seemed to have a great deal of pride in the German system.

Mr. MARTIN, principal engineer, Navy Electrical Engineering Department, 11 Broadway, New York City, who employed the subject, stated that the subject had never shown anything that would lead him to believe he was disloyal.

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent MARTIN J. LUKOSKIE:

NEIGHBORHOOD

MARIE STRACHAN, 3 Fuller Place, Kearny, New Jersey, advised that she is 17 years of age and has known the subject for the past three years. He is very well mannered and apparently well educated. He drives a new car in the upper price range and rents a garage from her parents and pays promptly. He resides with Mr. and Mrs. JOSIAH FORREST, and appears to be more than just a boarder. He is more friendly with Mrs. FORREST than with Mr. FORREST. Other members of the household are Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE S. AYTON, the FORREST's son-in-law and daughter, who are about 25 years of age. Mr. AYTON was born in England and is a pianist. She does not consider the family to be patriotic, as they have paid no attention to the ban on pleasure driving. Miss STRACHAN went to a German camp near Tuxedo Park in New York with the EINERTS with whom subject formerly resided. EINERT often wore a black shirt, black tie, black stockings and knickers, but she does not know whether it was a uniform. The subject also went to the Camp with the EINERTS. Miss STRACHAN advised that she did not observe anything unusual at the camp, except that German was quite generally spoken and people danced folk dances. She has never seen KLOTZ in any kind of uniform.

Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAM REID, 21 Fuller Place, Kearny, New Jersey, had a daughter who also went to the same camp, but knew little about the camp. She was not acquainted with the subject.

Mrs. ARTHUR KREINER, 7 Fuller Place, Arlington, New Jersey, stated that she has lived there only since 5/1/42, but is not acquainted with the subject and has no reason to be suspicious of him.

EMPLOYMENT

CHARLES F. DOLKIN, president of the Kearny Manufacturing Company, advised that KLOTZ worked for his concern from 7/17/39 to 10/23/40 and he

NY 100-1007

considered him to be very reliable. He had no reason to believe subject to be un-American and considers him a good citizen. He was surprised to learn that the subject was under investigation.

P. LAVALL of the Personnel Office of the Worthington Pump Machinery Company, Harrison, New Jersey, advised that the subject was employed by that company since 1/14/43. There is no notation in the records as to his reason for leaving his job in New York City. He is employed as an inspector and receives \$40 a week. He gave as references; Mr. G. R. MARTIN of the United States Navy Department, 11 Broadway, New York City, and Mr. P. W. FROHEWITZ, 414 East Third Street, Roselle, New Jersey, and Mr. J. A. DEPPEY, 459 47th Street, Brooklyn, New York.

WILLIAM MASTERS, General Foreman of the Newark Plant of the Worthington Pump Machinery Company at 110 Pedie Street, where the subject is employed, advised that none of the men knew the subject personally as he does not mix with other employees. He has never made any remarks relative to the war and they have no reason to suspect him of being un-American. He suggested that the subject's immediate supervisor, Mr. THOMAS SHEPARD of the Harrison plant be contacted for information about the subject.

SELECTIVE SERVICE

Local Board #36 authorities, Roosevelt School, Kearny, New Jersey, advised that subject registered on 2/15/42. He resided at 1 Fuller Place, Arlington, New Jersey, and was born 6/12/04 in Gelenau, Saxony, Germany. He was employed by the Office of the Supervisor of Shipbuilding, 11 Broadway, New York City.

Color	White
Height	5' 8"
Weight	150
Eyes	Hazel
Hair	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Physical defects	Punctured ear drum hay fever lumbago palpitation of the heart

His education consisted of grade school, two years of high school, engineering college at Zwickau, Germany, and one term at Cincinnati University where he took factory management. He has also had three terms of a special condensed course in Marine Engineering at New York University.

NK 100-16837

His duties with the Supervisor of Shipbuilding, United States Navy, New York City, were to supervise the United States Navy vessels under construction. He advised he was single, with no dependents. On 10/1/42 he was classified 2-B and on 2/1/43, he was reclassified to 4-H. The writer requested the Board to notify this office of any change in the subject's classification.

CREDIT

The Retail Merchants Credit Bureau had no record of the subject.

Mr. THOMAS SHEPHARD advised the writer that the subject was his immediate supervisor. He said that during the period he had been employed by Worthington Pump he had never noticed anything of a derogatory nature. He related subject appears to work very hard and conscientiously. He further advised that KLOTZ's work is that of inspector and that he goes from one plant to another and as a result does not become acquainted with anyone.

- PENDING -

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

FILE NO. **100-4331**

REPORT MADE AT CINCINNATI, OHIO	DATE WHEN MADE 11-26-43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11-23-43	REPORT MADE BY J. JOSEPH HENRY
TITLE WALTER KLOTZ		CHARACTER OF CASE DENATURALIZATION PROCEEDINGS	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Several former friends and fellow employees consider subject sympathetic to Nazi government during the time he was in Cincinnati. Pro-Nazi remarks of subject set out. Subject reported to have joined German Labor Front while in Germany in 1938. Information from subject's Immigration & Naturalization file set out. Credit and criminal negative.

RUC

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent OSCAR J. CONRAD, JR. dated October 4, 1943, at Newark, New Jersey.

DETAILS:

AT CINCINNATI, OHIO

Miss ROZELL CORIN, Clerk at the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization Service, Federal Building, produced the naturalization file of WALTER KLOTZ. The preliminary form for petition for citizenship in this file was dated January 29, 1934 and was serialized #9-8159. In this form it was stated that KLOTZ arrived in New York City on the SS Hamburg on January 14, 1929 and left immediately for his permanent residence at 3221 Bishop Street, Cincinnati, Ohio. The form provides the following further information:

KLOTZ was born at Gelenau, Saxony, Germany, his father being JOHN KLOTZ and his mother MILDRED KARL. The last residence of WALTER KLOTZ was listed as Chemnitz, Germany and he embarked at Hamburg traveling tourist class. KLOTZ traveled as a passenger by the name of ZEISSLER and came to the United States to the home of his uncle, PAUL NEUHAUSSER

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

100-4331

in Cincinnati. The record reveals that KLOTZ returned to Germany from June 1931 to October 1931 to visit his parents and showed his employment by the tool firm of Lodge & Shipley on Colerain Avenue in Cincinnati from February 1929 to October 1929 and by the J. H. Day Company from October 1929 until the date of the execution of the form.

The file further shows a petition for citizenship serialized #10772, listing PAUL R. NEUBAUSSER, 3221 Bishop Street, and FERDINAND ZULEGER of 3209 Bishop Street, as witnesses. The affidavit's witnesses were dated March 17, 1934.

Miss COREN stated that the office of prosecution should apply to the Commissioner of Naturalization, Bureau of Immigration & Naturalization, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for certified copies of naturalization petitions of WALTER KLOTZ if it is necessary to have them produced in court.

GEORGE R. SUTPHIN, Superintendent of J. H. Day Company, 3256 Spring Grove Avenue, produced an employment record showing that WALTER KLOTZ was first employed by that organization on October 19, 1929 as a designer. The record shows that KLOTZ left that employment on September 15, 1931 and was reemployed on January 21, 1932. KLOTZ left this employment again on August 2, 1934 and was reemployed on November 8, 1934. KLOTZ left this employment on April 22, 1935.

ROBERT CLASEN, Cost Accountant of J. H. Day Company, 3256 Spring Grove Avenue, stated that he knew WALTER KLOTZ very well during the time KLOTZ worked for the Day Company and had worked in the same room with KLOTZ during that time. CLASEN said that KLOTZ often got into arguments with fellow employees in which KLOTZ defended the Nazi government, but CLASEN said that KLOTZ never compared the Nazi government with the government in the United States. According to CLASEN, KLOTZ would compare the present German government with past German governments and argue that Hitler was doing more for the people than any German in history. CLASEN stated that he believed that KLOTZ was essentially loyal to this country, although retaining an affection for Germany and an interest in its progress and welfare.

HUBERT P. DAVIS, Stock Supervisor at the J. H. Day Co., stated that he also worked with KLOTZ in the Day Company and was familiar with the arguments in which KLOTZ made many pro-Hitler statements. DAVIS said that he could not remember specific statements or ideas expressed by KLOTZ which could substantiate this personal opinion.

100-4331

WALTER BAECHLE, Engineer at the J. H. Day Company, stated that he has suspected KLOTZ of being a Nazi agent, but on further questioning admitted that his opinion was influenced by the fact that KLOTZ had been investigated by the Navy and by the FBI. BAECHLE said that in 1937 KLOTZ inherited some money from his father and told BAECHLE that he was going over to Germany to spend it because the money would go much farther in Germany. BAECHLE said that KLOTZ always seemed to have plenty of money and in BAECHLE's belief KLOTZ lived beyond his means and must have had additional income. BAECHLE stated that in 1934, in one of his arguments with KLOTZ, KLOTZ said, "In 1913 and 1914 most of the German Jews sent their money to France. After the war they brought the money back and practically bought up all of Germany". BAECHLE said that KLOTZ was very bitter toward the Jews and often stated that they were only getting what they deserved at the hands of Hitler. BAECHLE said that KLOTZ, during this same period argued that Hitler was injecting new blood into Germany and would make Germany a great nation. BAECHLE said that he could not recall KLOTZ ever comparing Germany with this country and he does not remember KLOTZ ever stating that Germany would be the supreme world power. BAECHLE said that KLOTZ apparently had access to much German literature, inasmuch as he often brought German magazines and pamphlets into the office. BAECHLE said that most of this literature propagandized the health conditions and health programs in Germany. According to BAECHLE, KLOTZ showed in his arguments that he was well versed in Nazi propaganda and knew all the propaganda answers. BAECHLE said that it is his personal belief that the primary loyalty of WALTER KLOTZ during the years 1929 to 1935 was with Germany rather than the United States, although BAECHLE said that he could offer no further substantiation to prove this opinion. BAECHLE said that KLOTZ often had heated arguments with BENJAMIN LIEBERMAN, a Jewish employee at the J. H. Day Company.

BENJAMIN LIEBERMAN was interviewed on October 26, 1943 and voluntarily offered the following signed statement:

"Oct 26, 1943.

"I, BENJAMIN LIEBERMAN, make the following statement to J. JOSEPH HENRY, whom I know to be a Special Agent of the F.B.I. I realize that I do not have to make a statement, and I realize that this statement may be used in court. No threats or promises have been made to induce me to make this statement.

"I live at 223 Forest Ave., in Cincinnati, Ohio, and

100-4331

an employed as a Stockkeeper at the J. H. Day Co., 3256 Spring Grove Ave., Cincinnati.

"I am acquainted with one WALTER KLOTZ who was employed at the J. H. Day Co several years ago. During the period between 1933 and 1935, WALTER KLOTZ, on many occasions, engaged in arguments with me concerning the merits of the Hitler Nazi government. On all of these occasions, KLOTZ praised the Hitler government and expressed complete approval of everything the Nazis did. Praise and admiration for the German government was his favorite topic of discussion. He would never mention the United States government but would give his listeners the idea that he preferred the German government by his constant defense of the way they did things.

"On one occasion, sometime between 1934 and 1935, WALTER KLOTZ showed me a postcard on which was drawn a picture of the world with the sun rising over the horizon. On the sun, a Nazi Swastika was drawn. As WALTER KLOTZ handed me the postcard, he said, "I don't care who knows about it, this is the coming world".

"KLOTZ often showed me magazines praising the German government and showing the German persecution of the Jews and on these occasions, KLOTZ expressed his approval of these things.

"On one occasion, when I was listening to KLOTZ praise Hitler and the German government, I asked him, "Why don't you go over there, if you like it so much". KLOTZ answered, "I don't have to go over there", and he walked away.

"On the basis of my conversations with KLOTZ during the years 1933 to 1935, I am firmly convinced that his loyalty was completely with Nazi Germany rather than with this country at that time.

"I have read the foregoing statement of 3 pages and believe it to be absolutely correct. Below is my signature to this voluntary statement.

ESW LIBERMAN

W. C. HORNBECKER, Chief Engineer at the American Tool Works Company, Pearl & Eglerston Streets, and ALBERT LIPPERT, Assistant to

100-4331

HOELSCHER at the same organization, were interviewed and offered exactly the same information as previously reported in this case.

ERNEST BUSCHHAUS, employee at the American Tool Works Company, stated that he resides at 5631 Pemberton Avenue in Cincinnati and added that he knew WALTER KLOTZ quite well during the time that KLOTZ worked at that organization. BUSCHHAUS stated that he believes WALTER KLOTZ to have been completely loyal and patriotic during his stay in Cincinnati and added that he never heard KLOTZ express sympathy with the German government and never heard KLOTZ express a desire to return to Germany to live permanently.

Miss ANNE MARIE CROUSE, 531 Terrace Avenue, stated that she is a former school teacher and former Secretary of the International Club, an organization sponsored by the Cincinnati Y.M.C.A. Miss CROUSE stated that she taught KLOTZ the English language at night school in Cincinnati and came in close contact with him during that association and during his membership in the International Club. Miss CROUSE stated that she believes KLOTZ completely loyal to this country. At first Miss CROUSE stated that KLOTZ always argued and expressed comments in opposition to the Nazi regime and further said that KLOTZ always opposed the Nazi persecution of the Jews. Later, however, on further questioning during this same interview, Miss CROUSE admitted that KLOTZ did argue in favor of the Nazis, but she believes he did it "just to take the other side of the argument."

Miss CROUSE was quite vague about statements made by KLOTZ and was unable to offer any quotations, but Miss CROUSE insisted that KLOTZ was being persecuted by Federal Authorities and added that she would stake her reputation on his loyalty to this country. Miss CROUSE stated that the International Club was organized by the Y.M.C.A. many years ago and in its by-laws limited German membership to 20%. Miss CROUSE stated that the organization was disbanded in the Summer of 1941 because non-German members were losing interest in the organization.

Miss CROUSE said that she had been interviewed some time ago by another investigator and at that time highly recommended WALTER KLOTZ for government employment. It will be noted that in the report of Confidential Informant T-1 contained in the referenced report, it is stated that Miss CROUSE would not recommend KLOTZ for government

BEST-5-AVAILABLE COPY

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

100-4331

employment because of his sympathies and background.

On further questioning, Miss CROUSE said that the associate of WALTER KLOTZ, PETER KAIMUS, said on his return from Germany with KLOTZ in 1938, "KLOTZ can't seem to understand the evil in the Nazi government. He can only see good in what they do". Miss CROUSE stated that PETER KAIMUS is now working in Cincinnati at the Sperti Manufacturing Company.

Miss CROUSE produced a letter written by her late father, Captain R. C. MacFall, U. S. Navy (Retd) Third Naval Intelligence District. Miss CROUSE said the letter was Chaplain, National Society, Sons of the American Revolution, Ohio Society. The letter contained a strong testimonial of WALTER KLOTZ and expressed indignation that KLOTZ was being investigated and prejudiced against.

EDGAR F. MARTIN, Executive Secretary, Y.M.C.A., Walnut Hills Branch, 1228 E. McMillan Street, stated that the International Club was organized in 1919 as a Y.M.C.A. project for the benefit of foreign students. MARTIN said that it was the purpose of the organization to conduct social activities for the foreign students in order to make them feel at home in Cincinnati. MARTIN said that speakers and forums were provided at meetings as an educational program. MARTIN said that WILLIAM B. COUGHLIN, former Executive Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. was in charge of the organization during many years of its existence and would be able to offer complete information concerning its inception and activities.

WILLIAM B. COUGHLIN, former Executive Secretary of the Y.M.C.A. Branch and now retired, offered the same information as offered by Mr. MARTIN concerning the background and activities of the International Club, adding that the organization attempted to broaden the outlook of all members by the injection of travel information in their educational entertainment programs. COUGHLIN said that all of the members were asked to impart to the others their knowledge of the lands in which they were born and in which they had traveled. COUGHLIN said that the organization was limited to a 25% membership of Germans, inasmuch as the largest single foreign element in Cincinnati was German and added that membership was more or less by invitation. COUGHLIN stated that to his knowledge the forums never got out of hand and became political discussions and added that he felt that there was no political significance to the organization in any

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

100-4331

way. COUGHLIN said that he remembers WALTER KLOTZ as a quiet individual who had very little to say. COUGHLIN said he could offer no further information concerning the subject.

Mrs. LUSTIA BIEDENBENDER, 3223 Bishop Street, offered substantially the same information as previously reported in this case, adding that she believes that KLOTZ was primarily loyal and sympathetic to the German government rather than the United States Government during the time he was in Cincinnati, but added that she could offer no proof of that claim. Mrs. BIEDENBENDER added that PETER KALMUS, close associate of WALTER KLOTZ, is now in Cincinnati and added that his home address could be secured from his Draft Board, which is #13 at 2550 Vine Street.

ESTHER RABER, Clerk of Local Draft Board #13, 2550 Vine Street, produced the file on PETER B. KALMUS, which showed that he is now residing at 3538 Beldaire Avenue in Cincinnati and is employed in the Electronics Division of the Sperti Manufacturing Company at Norwood, Ohio.

It is noted that the referenced report requested the Cleveland Field Division to interview PETER KALMUS. In an exchange of teletypes between Cincinnati Field Division and Cleveland Field Division, both dated October 30, 1943, the Cincinnati office was authorized to interview KALMUS in the Cincinnati Field Division.

PETER KALMUS, 3538 Beldaire Avenue, stated that his full name is PETER FRKOVIC KALMUS and that he is employed as Production Manager in the Electronics Division of the Sperti Manufacturing Company, Norwood, Ohio.

KALMUS stated that he was associated with KLOTZ as a friend during the time KLOTZ spent in Cincinnati and he has seen him several times since KLOTZ left Cincinnati. KALMUS reported that KLOTZ went to Europe in the Fall of 1937 and added that he, KALMUS, met KLOTZ in Europe the following year and traveled throughout Germany with him. KALMUS said that KLOTZ told him that he had worked in the textile factory owned by his father during his stay in Germany and KALMUS said that he believes that if this is true KLOTZ would have had to join the German Labor Front. KALMUS reported that he does not believe that KLOTZ was in favor of the Nazi regime except in the fact that employment was given to many people in Germany and there were many civic and social improvements. KALMUS said that he believed that KLOTZ's arguments with others concerning the Nazi regime were really arguments in favor of the German people. KALMUS said that he believed KLOTZ to be opposed to the principles of the Nazi Party but had argued because KLOTZ does not like to have "anything proven against the Fatherland". KALMUS stated that when war was declared KLOTZ said to him "They asked for

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

100-4331

it and they got it". KALMUS said that he knows that KLOTZ was referring to the German government in this remark rather than Allied governments.

KALMUS indicated that he knew the present investigation was going on and indicated that he was told of the current investigation by ANNE MARIE CROUSE. KALMUS stated that he has seen KLOTZ several months ago and also saw him during the Christmas Season of 1939.

MARY BIEDENBENDER, 3223 Bishop Street, stated that she is the daughter of Mrs. LUETTA BIEDENBENDER, previously interviewed, and added that she often went out on dates with PETER KALMUS and WALTER KLOTZ while both were living in that neighborhood. Miss BIEDENBENDER says that she is convinced that both KLOTZ and KALMUS were sympathetic to the Nazi government during the time they were in Cincinnati and added that she felt that if both had been required to make a choice between this country and Germany at that time both would have chosen Germany. Miss BIEDENBENDER said that she and others had given a farewell party to PETER KALMUS in 1938 prior to his departure for Europe and in the table decorations for the party she had prepared a patriotic display. Miss BIEDENBENDER said that the American flag was predominant in the display and that during the party all those in attendance saluted the flag except PETER KALMUS, who stolidly refused to do so. Miss BIEDENBENDER said that those at the party condemned KALMUS for this act and called him a Nazi. Miss BIEDENBENDER said that KALMUS made no reply and she added that this incident spoiled the party, which ended shortly thereafter.

Miss BIEDENBENDER said that on one occasion following KLOTZ's first return to Germany he had argued extensively in BIEDENBENDERS's home in favor of the Nazi government. Miss BIEDENBENDER said that she could not recall that KLOTZ contrasted the German government with the American government, but rather had praised Hitler to the highest in his accomplishments in the Fatherland. Miss BIEDENBENDER could remember no statements made by KLOTZ.

The records of the Cincinnati Credit Bureau, Sixth and Sycamore Streets, show only that WALTER KLOTZ was employed as a draughtsman at the J. H. Day Company, on March 16, 1932.

The records of the Bureau of Identification and the Bureau of records of the Cincinnati Police Department were checked against the name of WALTER KLOTZ with negative results.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NY FILE NO. 100-53716 RUC

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 11/19/43	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/21, 11/9/43	REPORT MADE BY HERBERT J. TRAMER
TITLE [REDACTED]			CHARACTER OF CASE DENATURALIZATION PROCEEDINGS - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Original informant advises he has never seen or known subject and that he had merely reported a rumor. Two of subject's acquaintances advise he has not been engaged in subversive activities. One WALTER KLOTZ is engaged in international monetary transactions.

- RUC -

REFERENCES:

Report of Special Agent Oscar J. Conrad, Jr., dated 10/1/43, at Newark, New Jersey.

DETAILS:

Mr. LOUIS GULFSON, 2490 Davidson Avenue, Bronx, New York stated that he has never known or seen the subject and that upon reporting instant matter in the first place, he was reporting only a rumor that he heard shortly after Pearl Harbor and believes now that instant rumor was based upon hysteria rather than upon fact. He had no further information to offer concerning the subject and refused to disclose the source of his information, although he implied that it was received from a fellow employee of the subject.

Mr. J. A. DEMPSEY, 459 47th Street, Brooklyn, New York, advised that the subject was employed at the Supervisor of Ship Building, United States Navy, 11 Broadway, New York City and that he was a fellow employee of the subject. He stated that he did not know subject prior to this employment but became very friendly with him and has continued to be friendly with him since his discharge from that company. He stated that he believes the subject is loyal to the United States, that he is a fine worker, and that he is presently living at Arlington, New Jersey and is employed by the

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

NY 100-53716

Northington Pump Company or a branch of that company in Northington, New Jersey. He further advised that he believed the subject was discharged from his former employment because he was suspected of subversive activities but that most of the employees felt that the subject was loyal and that the subject himself felt very badly that he could not prove his loyalty.

Mrs. FERDINAND PRIOR, 531 West 122 Street, New York City, advised that she has known the subject about fifteen years. She had previously stated that she would not recommend him for defense work because of his German background and recent visits to Germany but that she felt he was perfectly harmless. She advised that she knew subject as a neighbor in Cleveland, Ohio; that he is a very peculiar individual and is very fussy and effeminate to the point of becoming repulsive. She advised that when the subject returned from Germany after a visit in about 1937, he stopped in New York to see her and brought with him one PETER KALMAS, who had gone to Germany after the subject also on a visit. She stated that the purpose of subject's going to Germany was to spend some money which he had inherited, which he was not allowed to take out of Germany. She stated that he made general statements to the effect that he approved of a system of government of a fascist nature and statements to the effect that a Fascist government may be a good thing for people who don't know how to govern themselves. She did not conclude from these statements that the subject was speaking of Fascism for the United States but merely commenting upon his observations of the working of Fascism in Germany. She concluded that while she could not recommend subject for employment in a position of confidence in defense work because of his general background, she believed that he was not dangerous to the United States.

A review of the files of the New York Field Division reflects that one HILMER KLOTZ, 1 Fuller Place, Arlington, New Jersey received \$276, from the Deutsche Reichsbank on November 30, 1949 and that he received credit from the Zurich, Switzerland Bank issued to the North Arlington National Bank.

REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEWARK, NEW JERSEY**

NK FILE NO. 100-16837 RMM

REPORT MADE AT NEWARK, NEW JERSEY	DATE WHEN MADE 1/29/44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/6,7/44	REPORT MADE BY BERTRAM N. YOUNG, JR.
TITLE WALTER KLOTZ		CHARACTER OF CASE DENATURALIZATION PROCEEDINGS - G	

RECEIVED
RES

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Former supervisor of subject at U. S. Navy office, New York City, expressed confidence in subject's ability and loyalty. Landlady where subject roomed for past 4 1/2 years at Kearny, N. J. stated subject very patriotic and loyal. Subject in interview explained three visits to Germany, denied membership in any German organization in Germany or the United States. Stated that in the summer of 1939, he received pamphlets from German Library of Information without his solicitation.

- C -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent J. JOSEPH HENRY dated 11/26/43 at Cincinnati, Ohio.

DETAILS:

PAUL H. FROHEIN, 414 East Third Street, Roselle, New Jersey advised that he was the Senior Marine Engineer in the office of the Supervisor of Shipbuilding of the U. S. Navy at 11 Broadway, New York, New York, and that he had been the subject's immediate superior in that office. FROHEIN stated that his grandfather, who was born in Germany, had settled in Elizabeth, New Jersey in 1854 and that he and his parents were born in Elizabeth, N. J.



NK 100-16837

The subject was interviewed by FROHWEIN in the summer of 1941, having been sent to the office of the Supervisor of Shipbuilding by the United States Civil Service Commission because he had attained a Civil Service rating and was looking for a job. Subject had a Professional Rating No. 2 in marine and ship drafting.

Shortly after this interview, the subject commenced work in FROHWEIN's office and was one of a group of approximately thirty draftsmen and engineers whose duties were to inspect plans submitted by Naval architects in shipbuilding plants throughout the country to approve such plans prior to the construction of Naval vessels for the U. S. Navy.

FROHWEIN stated he had been connected with the U. S. Navy as a civilian employee and engineer from 1911 to 1929 and since 1933. Based upon that experience, FROHWEIN felt that he was competent to judge the subject and stated that he was a very fine and conscientious worker. He said subject had never violated any confidence placed in him, and believed subject could be trusted implicitly. He pointed out that the men in that office were of varied nationalities and that the subject was well regarded and liked by all of them.

After the subject was discharged from that office in September 1942, his fellow workmen learned that he had spent all of his funds attempting to disprove the charges brought against him and to obtain letters of recommendation from persons who had known him well since he came to the United States. They felt so badly about the situation that they took up a collection which was sent to the subject as a loan.

FROHWEIN stated that the subject has repeatedly said that he has never been fully informed of the nature of the charges made against him, and FROHWEIN feels that if that is true a grave mistake has been made.

FROHWEIN described the subject as very studious and ambitious and very clean in habits and speech. While he has not been personally acquainted with the subject outside of contacts in the office, he stated that nothing has happened to indicate the slightest disloyalty on the part of the subject or any interest in international politics or in the Nazi Party, and that the subject's only topics of conversation, outside of those pertaining to work in the office, were skiing, ice skating, and outdoor sports.

FROHWEIN suggested that if any further investigation was necessary, Mr. GEORGE R. MARTIN, the Principal Marine Engineer in the office of the Supervisor of Shipbuilding, could be helpful, inasmuch as he was thoroughly familiar with the subject's case.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

MRS. JEAN FORREST, 1 Fuller Place, Kearny, New Jersey, a Scotch woman who has been in the United States for 21 years and who has become naturalized, advised that the subject had had a room in her home for the past four and a half years. She advised that her husband, JOSIAH FORREST, her daughter, MRS. DOROTHY AYTON, and her son-in-law, GEORGE S. AYTON, were all born in Scotland and are naturalized citizens of the United States.

MRS. FORREST advised that they first became acquainted with the subject in 1939, while he was visiting with PAUL EINERT, who then resided at 7 Fuller Place. The subject then stated he was living in the Y.M.C.A. near Central Park in New York City and wanted to get out of New York City and live in some quiet place. EINERT knew that MRS. FORREST had a spare bedroom in her home and as a result of inquiring about it, succeeded in obtaining the room for the subject.

MRS. FORREST advised that although open and free discussions of the war have been held in their home in the presence of the subject, he has never indicated the slightest disloyalty to this country or the Allies and gave them the impression that he was thoroughly Americanized. As an illustration to support that conclusion, she pointed out that he often referred to the activities of this country and its people in the first person plural by the use of the pronoun "we."

The subject has stated to her that he does not know why he was discharged from the U. S. Navy office and that tears came into his eyes when he was talking to her about it. He talked to her about an interview he had had with an aide to the admiral supervising that office, and said that the aide had pointed out that it was against public interests to have German born engineers in that Naval office.

MRS. FORREST stated that the subject receives no mail from Germany or from any foreign country. She cleans his room and keeps it in order and has never observed any German books, pictures, or literature. She said the only books and magazines she has observed were those relating to engineering subjects.

Subject has told her that his father and mother are dead and he has not heard from his four brothers in Germany for many years. She stated he had mentioned two or three trips to Germany since his arrival in the United States and that they were made to seek treatment in sanatoriums there. She said he has been suffering from a stomach condition which he described as a "sensitive stomach" and that he is periodically

NY 100-16377

distressed with attacks of fever. The subject has often been forced to seek medical treatment and has sometimes found relief by vacation trips to high altitudes. She does not recall whether the subject mentioned anyone accompanying him on his trip to Switzerland and Germany in 1938 and 1939.

MRS. FORREST stated that the subject works long hours at the Worthington Pump Company and seems sincerely interested in his job. He has often been angry over the tardiness and lack of interest of his fellow workmen there and condemns particularly those workmen who won't work hard to help the war effort. She advised that his friends whom she has met have all been American or British and that he still retains his friendship with several men with whom he formerly worked in the U. S. Navy office.

In conversations concerning Hitler, the subject indicated that he had no use for Hitler and stated that the youth in Germany became so powerful a force that they literally placed Hitler in power.

The subject votes at every election and usually accompanies Mr. and Mrs. FORREST to the polls and takes a sincere interest in the welfare and problems of the Government of the United States.

The subject was interviewed at 1 Fuller Place, Kearny, N. J. on January 7, 1944 by the writer and Special Agent CHRISTOPHER C. ISHELL. After confirming background information previously reported, subject stated that his schooling consisted of eight years elementary school followed by three and a half years apprenticeship as a machinist and draftsman during the period from 1918 to 1921, which was followed by two years of the equivalent of our high school in liberal and technical subjects.

After working in various jobs from 1923 to 1925, he attended an engineering school in Zwickau in Saxony, Germany from 1925 to 1927, from which he received a degree as a mechanical engineer. Following his graduation, jobs were scarce and he was not able to obtain employment until January 1928.

He emigrated from Hamburg, Germany and arrived at New York City in January 1929. He proceeded directly to Cincinnati, Ohio. He went there at the suggestion of P. R. MEUHAUSSER, who resided at 3221 Bishop St., Cincinnati, Ohio and who had been immigration sponsor for him. He stated that MEUHAUSSER was a watchmaker who had become a naturalized citizen many years ago and whose wife was related to the subject's aunt.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

He stated that early in 1931 his father wrote to him stating that he was very ill and wanted to see him. His father offered to pay his expenses, if the subject would come to Germany to see him. Subject accepted his father's offer and remained in Germany until after his father's death. In 1932, he began to be troubled with hay fever and went to various doctors in and near Cincinnati, Ohio to seek relief. In 1935, he was in a run-down condition as a result of continued attacks of hay fever, nervous stomach condition and palpitation of the heart. Upon the recommendation of the examining physician for the insurance company which carried the insurance on the employees of the J. H. Day Company, Cincinnati, Ohio, he made inquiries about medical care and sanatoriums. He stated that he knew he could get treatment at some of the European spas and that expenses there would be very much cheaper than sanatoriums in this country, due to the difference in prices and the then favorable rate of exchange.

He went to Europe and visited several spas, including those at Weisbaden, Baden-Baden, and a sanatorium in Switzerland. He returned to the United States in the spring of 1936 and was re-employed at the American Tool Works in Cincinnati, Ohio.

In the summer of 1937, he sailed again to Europe for additional treatment for hay fever and stayed at the Zurich Sanatorium in Zurich, Switzerland for several months. He later spent a number of months at the family home in Chemnitz in the state of Saxony, Germany, where his brother still resided.

During the winter of 1938, he attended the Olympic Games in a town close to the Austrian border. He advised that this trip was financed from savings from his earnings in the United States and from money in a savings account in a bank in Chemnitz, Germany which had been frozen but which could be used by him if he stayed in Chemnitz. He said this savings account was the result of his earnings from childhood up to the time he left Germany.

In reference report, PETER KALMUS, a friend of the subject, is noted as having stated that he met the subject in Europe in 1938 and the subject had informed him that he spent some time working in a textile factory owned by his father. KALMUS also stated that the subject must have belonged to the German Labor Front in order to obtain employment anywhere in Germany at that time.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

In this interview, the subject denied that he had worked at all during his stay in Europe from 1937 until February 1939, and denied that he had joined the German Labor Front or any organization in Germany. He stated that with the exception of routine questions by customs officials and other Government officials, he was treated exactly the same as any foreigner who was a traveler in Germany.

Early in 1939, he could see that conditions were becoming increasingly serious in Europe and he returned to the United States. He first stayed at SLOAN's House in New York City and later moved to the 63rd Street Y.M.C.A.

He became a member of the Society of American Engineers and spent a number of months trying to find a job suited to his experience and education. Early in July 1939, he obtained a position at the Kearny Manufacturing Company in Kearny, New Jersey and worked there about 1½ years until November 1, 1940. Having had contact with the United States Civil Service Commission since 1935, he received notification of an opening in the office of the Supervisor of Shipbuilding of the U. S. Navy, and after a few weeks of coaching school, he took and passed an examination and began work about December 1, 1940 in the office of the Supervisor of Shipbuilding.

After passing through the status of temporary employee and probationary employee, he became a regular full-time employee in that office. He stated that in September 1942, he received a letter from the Office of the Admiral who had jurisdiction over the office of the Supervisor of Shipbuilding, stating that information had been received that he had Nazi sympathies and that he was given five days time in which to prove or disprove such information.

After endeavoring for several months to ascertain the specific nature of the charges made against him, and to secure letters and affidavits to disprove the allegation of Nazi sympathies, he found that he was making no progress and asked for a release so that he could seek another job, as he was "broke." In November 1942, he received a letter signed by J. H. WARMAN for Admiral J. M. IRISH, stating that there was no objection to the subject's seeking another job with some other agency.

In January 1943, he obtained a job with the Worthington Pump Company, Harrison, New Jersey where he is still employed.

He stated that as a result of persistent inquiries, he received a second letter of "amplified charges" which advised him that he was supposed to have expressed sympathy with the present German government and to have maintained contact with it by recent trips.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

When questioned about organizational activities, subject stated that he had never received an invitation to join the Friends of New Germany, the German-American Bund, or the German-American Vocational League, or any other German or German-American organization. He stated that he felt he had become Americanized and that he preferred the American way of life and the democratic form of government. He stated that the only organizations in which he has held membership were the American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the American Ski Club.

He volunteered the information that during the summer of 1939 he received pamphlets from the German Library of Information, and from the headlines on them he became aware that they were propaganda pamphlets. He therefore threw them away without reading them carefully. He did not think much about the receipt of such literature at that time, but when he later read that the German Library of Information had been closed, he became more aware of the nature and purpose of such pamphlets. He stated that he has never been to the German Embassy or the German Consulate and has no idea of how his name was obtained for their mailing list unless it was taken from the sailing lists of passengers who had gone to Germany.

When questioned concerning the presence of his name on the mailing list of the Benz Travel Bureau of Newark, New Jersey, subject stated that the only transaction he can recall with that organization was the sending of a Christmas package to his stepmother in Germany in 1939 or 1940, after she had written to him mentioning the scarcity of coffee there. He later received a card from Germany verifying the receipt of the coffee.

He stated that he had no money invested in Germany and that he had never purchased any Rueckwanderer marks. When asked about receiving a check for \$196 in November 1940 from the Reichsbank, he stated that he had received a notice from some large bank in New York City that such sum was awaiting him there. He stated that the only possible explanation he could give for that was the fact that in 1935 he saw an opportunity to buy Reichsbank shares on the market at a very low rate, which he thought he could use on a contemplated trip to Germany for his health. He bought \$400 or \$500 worth of such shares but later found that he was not able to use them and believes that \$196 which was received from the Reichsbank was in settlement for that transaction.

Subject stated that he preferred the United States to Germany and considered himself Americanized and a thoroughly loyal citizen. He advised that if he were within the age and could qualify physically for military service, he would fight for the United States against Germany, even if it were necessary to fight on German soil.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Subject furnished the following information about his relatives in Germany:

- Brother HANS, age 49. Last heard from in 1939; was in the hosiery business in Chemnitz, Germany.
- Brother FRITZ, age 41 to 42. At Chemnitz, Germany; in the same business.
- Brother RUDY, age 37. Owner of a small retail store in Chemnitz, Germany.
- Brother ALFRED, age 34. Clerk in the office of the hosiery business run by his brothers.
- Stepmother ELIZABETH KLOTZ. Chemnitz, Germany.

The subject stated that when he left Germany in 1939, the indications were that his brothers would eventually be called for service in the German Army, but he has not received definite information indicating whether they were so called or not. He believes that they must have belonged to the German Labor Front, but feels that they would only be connected with the Nazi Party under compulsion.

He stated that his father died in 1931 and left an estate consisting only of the family home in Chemnitz, Germany and that the shares of the sons have not been determined.

Subject declared that he does not yet know exactly why he was discharged from the office of the Supervisor of Shipbuilding, and that he feels deeply hurt that his loyalty to this country has been so questioned, inasmuch as he has considered himself as having become thoroughly Americanized. He wanted to know if there was any way that this matter could be brought to a head at some kind of hearing, where he might be faced with any persons who could state under oath that he has exhibited Nazi sympathies or that he has been in any way disloyal to the United States Government. The only guess that he can make about being accused of having Nazi sympathies relates back to his return from Germany in 1936. At that time, fellow workmen in Cincinnati asked him many questions about his trip to Europe and conditions in Germany. He stated that he gave them his observations of what he had seen in Germany as accurately and truthfully as he could, and that he had found conditions there at that time.

NK 100-16837

better than when he left Germany in 1929. He stated that possibly some of the workmen misinterpreted what he said as indicating a sympathy for the Hitler regime rather than a comparison with the conditions in 1929 and 1936.

In spite of vigorous interrogation, the subject steadfastly denied that he had ever made any statements indicating admiration for Hitler and his methods or any statements indicating lack of loyalty to the United States.

This case is being closed upon authority of the Special Agent in Charge.

- - C L O S E D - -

BEST AVAILABLE COPY