

'VALTIN' REVEALS GESTAPO ACTIVITY IN UNITED STATES

German Secret Police Have Card Index On Strength of Other Nations, Is Claim

Washington, May 27.—(AP)—Richard Krebs, who wrote the book, "Out of the Night," under the pen name of Jan Valtin, told the house committee on un-American activities today that the German Gestapo had a complete "card file" designed to provide Germany with a "constant barometer" of the strength of other nations.

Before the war, he said, New York was the clearing house of the Gestapo in the United States, but, he added, "there is every indication that the clearing house has been moved to San Francisco."

Krebs attributed the shift to San Francisco to "undisturbed channels from there to Germany" and to the fact that Fritz Weidmann, German consul there, is a "trusted lieutenant" of Adolf Hitler.

Became Gestapo.
Germany has thought, the witness said, that if the United States got into a war, it would be with Japan, "and therefore a large part of the German efforts have been concentrated on the west coast."

Krebs testified that he had gone to Germany from Moscow in 1933, later broke with the Communist Internationale and became a Gestapo agent. He learned, he said, that the real aim of Germany was "world domination."

The Gestapo foreign division in Hamburg, Krebs said, "does espionage and police work in favor of the German government" outside Germany. Describing the Hamburg office, he said:

"One of the larger rooms was used for card files containing the names of citizens of other nations classified as enemies, friends and an independent class."

Constant Barometer.
Such lists, he said, provided a "constant barometer of the strength, morale and weakness" of other nations and listed the "elements which could be brought into harness for the German movement."

Krebs said he was born in Germany, December 17, 1905, and first came to the United States in 1921. He added that he had been "in and out" of the United States four times, last entering in March, 1938.

Krebs said that he broke with the Communist Internationale in December, 1937.

He had been sent to Germany from Moscow in 1933, he asserted, but added that he was "betrayed by Nazi spies" and arrested a short time later. He was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

During his imprisonment, the witness said, he was questioned frequently by Gestapo agents who wanted to "find out how far my break (with Russia) was sincere."

Americans Watched.
While in a concentration camp, he said he managed to win the confidence of Nazi agents and worked his way into the Gestapo.

Krebs said a close check was kept by the Gestapo on Americans traveling abroad, on the theory that many of them were naturalized citizens going home on vacations. This check, he said, was valuable for many purposes, including the prospect of putting "duress" on friends and relatives abroad of naturalized American citizens "when the time comes."

The witness translated for the committee two cablegrams from

Germany to Transocean news headquarters in the United States as requests for information about Joseph Curran, president of the CIO national maritime union. He said Transocean News was formed to supply the people of North and South America with "propaganda not readily recognized as such," and was a "front" for the Gestapo.

Gestapo Policy Told.
Krebs said that the "Gestapo attack" also was directed toward undermining activities of the United States in Latin America.

"The Gestapo follows a policy of not openly antagonizing public opinion in the United States," he asserted, adding that the German-speaking people in South America constitute "an ideal recruiting ground" for the Gestapo.

The Gestapo, he continued, has sent its agents into the United States both as political refugees and as legal quota immigrants.

Before the current war, he said, the secret police's main contact with the United States was through trained German seamen who eventually became members of the seamen's unions in this country.

He said that "political prisoners" were sent to the United States to make reports while their families were kept under surveillance in Germany. These persons, he asserted, were told that if their reports did not come in regularly or were not accurate, their families would be arrested.

The witness asserted that Gestapo did not make a direct campaign to infiltrate agents into labor unions because the Communist-controlled national maritime union plays exactly the same game Hitler and Goebbels want a trade organization to play."

LINER MAKES RICH AMBERGRIS HAUL

Jersey City, N. J., May 27.—(AP)—The American export liner Siboney, completing her last Atlantic trip in commercial service before becoming a United States army transport, arrived from Lisbon today with a probable fortune of \$2,000,000 worth of ambergris.

Capt. Wenzel Habel said he thought assays would identify the white, 3-ton mass found floating 300 miles east of Bermuda as ambergris, a valuable whale secretion used in perfume making.

YEAR IN PRISON FOR ARMY DODGING HOPI

Phoenix, Ariz., May 27.—(AP)—Five Hopi Indians held steadfastly today to their position that they "want no part of the white man's war" and were sentenced to a year and a day in prison for failure to register.

The Indians told Federal Judge Dave W. Ling they would not turn against the prophecy they said was written on stone tablets advising the tribe not to become involved in the white man's conflicts.

40 MILLION WOMEN WILL BE ORGANIZED TO AID IN DEFENSE

Atlantic City, N. J., May 27.—(AP)—The General Federation of Women's clubs created today a new department designed to organize "at least forty million American women" into a national defense campaign.

This new department was set up by the federation's committee, with instructions to organize "every group of women in every county of the United States."

Mrs. John L. Whitehurst of Baltimore, president of the federation, said the proposed women's defense organization would be "the mightiest ever witnessed anywhere in the world," and that "when it begins to function Hitler won't dare attack us."

Every women's organization in the country would be enlisted, Mrs. Whitehurst said, adding that "this federation will

TOWNSEND CLUB 5 MEETS THURSDAY

Carl Fichtner, president of Townsend club No. 5, has called a special meeting for 8 p. m. Thursday in the Kurtz music studio on North Ivy street to elect delegates to the sixth national delegation.

President Fichtner pointed out that the special meeting for No. 5 members only has been called in order to conform with the instructions in the "convention call" and club manual and because of the fact that a previous election had not followed the rules in several phases.

As other important business in connection with the convention and club activities will be acted upon, the president urged that all members attend.

Closing time for Too Late to classify Ads is 1:30 p. m.

GOVERNMENT POWER OVER STATE BALLOT IS DEFINED BY COURT

Washington, May 27.—(AP)—The supreme court held today that the federal government's power to regulate elections includes a state primary to select a nominee for congress.

Justice Stone delivered the 4 to 3 decision, involving a question described by the justice department as "paramount public importance."

Justices Douglas, Black and Murphy dissented and Chief Justice Hughes did not participate.

Stone asserted that "we think that the authority of congress . . . includes the authority to regulate primary elections when as in this case, they are a step in the exercise by the people of their choice of representatives in congress."

He explained that this question had not been passed on specifically in any previous de-

PASTOR IS READY TO DEFEND NATION

Tacoma, May 27.—(AP)—The Rev. Arthur Bell, rector of St. Luke's Episcopal church who came to Tacoma in 1922, stood

in a line of foreign born citizens and took the oath of allegiance to the United States government here today.

Shortly before becoming a U. S. citizen he had given a crisp "yes" to the question concerning his willingness "to take up a gun and defend this country" if

his services were demanded. "You have no scruples?" the examiner persisted. "No," answered the minister, who came here from Canada.

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To me, a real vacation means two whole weeks free from worry about beds, and meals, and cleaning up the house. We always stop at hotels because my husband says I deserve a taste of the kind of service I give at home the rest of the year.

A lot for your money



To me a hotel means a place to entertain our friends, a forwarding address for mail, having my car worked on at night while I get a real sleep in a comfortable bed, in quiet, safe surroundings. Hotels mean every service I desire—under one roof.

It's fun to travel with Dad



My Dad's First Class—he takes mother and us children to hotels at night. We think that's half the fun of traveling. We always see lots of interesting things to tell our friends about. When I get big I'm always going to stay in hotels, too.

I like to stay in town



A big part of my vacation is the shops and stores of other cities. When we stay at hotels—right in town—I see them all. And a hotel gives us a headquarters where we can meet at anytime, without depending on the car to get us back and forth.

I'm convinced that staying at hotels pays plenty of dividends in comfort and convenience. Sure, sometimes it costs a few cents more. But when I consider all the extra fun and pleasure it brings my family, I figure I'm money ahead to travel First Class and stop at hotels all the way.

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