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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BERNARD KUEHN

PART 1 OF 7

FILE NUMBER: 65-1574

SUBJECT

KUEHN

FILE NUMBER

65-1574 SECTION 1

15-31-50

U. S. Department of Justice

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

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

X DO NOT DESTROY
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1574

65

SECTION 1
SERIALS 1-35

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

February 11, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

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

This information was transmitted to me by

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

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

Respectfully,

EW

F. A. Lamb.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 7-86 BY SP5/BJD/ab

[REDACTED]

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INDEXED
INDEXED

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FEB 15 1939 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
201-5311 ONE

Section 1

Koehn - address Kailua - Oahu - T.H.

Mr. and Mrs. Koehn

Daughter 22

Son 15

Son 5

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

88344

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

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DATE 8-17-86 BY SP5/ajg

#268714

65-1574-

RECORDED

February 11, 1939

[REDACTED]
Washington, D. C.

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

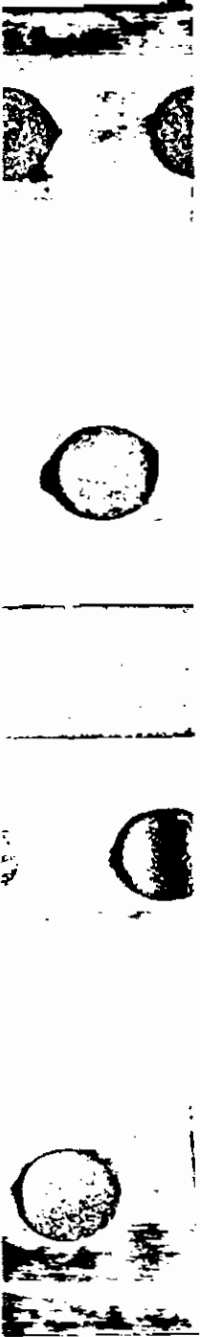
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER
★ FEB 11 1939 ★
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 8-7-89 BY SP-6/CLD

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RECORDED

February 11, 1939

65-1574-1 ✓

Special Agent in Charge
San Francisco, California

88340

Dear Sir:

K

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

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

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

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-80 BY SP5/CLJ/CLD

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ FEB 11 1939 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 14 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

St. Paul, Minnesota.

May 1, 1939.

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

RE: ESPIONAGE,
HONOLULU,
TERRITORY OF HAWAII

Dear Sir:

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

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RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-2X

information to Agent in confidence.

[redacted] OF INVESTIGATION
3 193
OF JUSTICE

[redacted] can undoubtedly give the name of the German

7/14 and Mrs. O. F. O'Brien

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DATE 8-7-86 BY 8800/CLH

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389 AUG 4 1970

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

couple, as he once furnished it to Agent.

Very truly yours,



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b7c

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

May 1, 1939

Time: 3:50 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

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

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

He stated further that [redacted]

and was also [redacted]

stated that it was his understanding that [redacted]

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

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-80 BY SP5/CLB

We are unable to get this information.

all
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[redacted] 65-15711-2X1
TELEPH Tamm

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

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

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

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

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

Respectfully,

[redacted signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-8-80 BY SP5CJ/CA

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-2X1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 15 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

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

May 3, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

Hawaii

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

Respectfully,

[redacted signature]

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-8-80 BY SP5CJ/CA

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65-1574-2X1
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 15 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TAMM

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

February 8, 1943

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

Re: KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

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

Very truly yours

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encl.

RECORD
&
INDEX
773

65-1574-3
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEB 13 1943
INITIALS C

REW:VAF

RECORDED 65-1874 -3

Date: February 11, 1943

To: SAC, Honolulu

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

Subject: Otto Kuehn
Prisoners' Mail.

Received 2/10/43

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

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

Findings: No secret writing or hidden messages were found.

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

Enclosure - Photostat of Q793.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 3
 ★ FEB 13 1943 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 8-1-80 BY BSC/led

XOR

Handwritten notes and signatures:
 [Illegible signature]
 [Illegible signature]
 [Illegible signature]
 [Illegible signature]

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Memorandum for the
Attorney General

- 11 -

May 2, 1939

GERMANS ENTERTAINING ARMY AND NAVY OFFICERS IN HAWAII

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

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

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CONFIDENTIAL

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

65-1574

TIME: 10:00 A. M.

May 23, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

RE: MR. and MRS. KUEHN
ESPIONAGE

EW

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

[REDACTED]

*Referred
to Navy*

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OS

[REDACTED]

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

It is recalled that [REDACTED]

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

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RECORDED & INDEXED

CLASSIFIED BY: SP5/CL/DA
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
#268714
8.7.86

65-1574-5
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 25 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FOI/PA # 268714
APPEAL #
CIVIL ACT. #
E.O. # 12356
DATE 8-1-86 BY SP5/CL/DA

CONFIDENTIAL

b1 [REDACTED] Navy

CONFIDENTIAL

May 24, 1939

RECORDED

65-1574-6

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

SPECIAL DELIVERY

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

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

MAY 24 1939

FOI/PA # 208712
 APPEAL #
 CIVIL ACT. #
 O.K.O. # 12356
 DATE 8-7-80 INITIALS [initials]

CONFIDENTIAL

8-7-80

CLASSIFIED BY: [signature]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

Referred to Navy b1 b6 b7c b7d

[Handwritten signature]

b1 [REDACTED] Navy

CONFIDENTIAL

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

- 2 -

May 24, 1939

Hawaiian Islands.

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

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC - San Francisco

Enclosure

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

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

19 May 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR F.B.I.

(Refer to [redacted])

SUBJECT: ^oKUEHN, Mr. and Mrs.

[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted]

Refer to Navy
b6
b7c
OS

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

[redacted]

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-1574-6
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 25 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
<i>[Signature]</i>

CONFIDENTIAL

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65-2460-1

July 6, 1939

RECORDED

INDEXED

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

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

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

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC SAN FRANCISCO

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/1/86 BY SP5CJC/ab

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

MAILED
JUL 10 1939
D.F.

[Handwritten signatures]

65-2160-1 b6 b7c

July 6, 1939

65-1574-7

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

Special Agent in Charge
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting herewith copies of a letter dated June 6, 1939, from [redacted] setting forth additional information concerning the activities of Otto Kuehn. b6 b7c

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

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

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

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

MAILED

[Handwritten signature]
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c

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

July 6, 1939

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

65-1574-1

Navy Department
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-80 BY SP5/CLB

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

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

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

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

COMMUNICATIONS SEC
MAILED

JUL 16 1939

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten initials]

C

62-2460-1

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

July 6, 1939

65-1574-7

BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

War Department
Washington, D. C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7/28/88 BY BKREU/ed

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

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

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

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

JUL 6 - 1939

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten mark]

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

July 10, 1939.

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

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

Dear Colonel Hoover:

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

alt
release

Very sincerely yours,



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b7c

eb

RECORDED

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

P X

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b7c

July 24, 1939

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

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

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Otto Kuchel

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-7-86 BY SP5/ckh

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-9
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 26 1939
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ JUL 24 1939 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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

Handwritten mark

Handwritten signatures and initials

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

40 30

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

65-1574

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July 18, 1939

12 Noon

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

[Handwritten signature]

Re: MR. AND MRS. KUEHN; ESPIONAGE

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

all + b6
b7c

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

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

Respectfully,

[Redacted signature block]

RECORDED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-86 BY SP5/BJD

RECEIVED
JUL 26 1939

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

TAMM

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8

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

San Francisco, California
August 14, 1939

Special Agent in Charge,
Honolulu, Hawaii.

Re: OTTO KUHN;
ESPIONAGE.

Dear Sir:

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

Very truly yours,

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

8-12
cc-Bureau ✓

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-17-86 BY SP5/ef/eds

65-1574-

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

THOMAS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

NEW YORK CITY

NY FILE NO. **65-357** HD

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 7/27/39	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/30/39 7/15/39	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE MR. and MRS. KOEHN, alias KOEHN			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED]

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**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-7-86 BY SP5C/pas**

- P -

REFERENCE:

Bureau letter dated May 24, 1939.

DETAILS:

[REDACTED]

o/s
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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 65-1574-11	JUL 8 1939
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		JUL 31 A.M.	
5- Bureau 2- San Francisco 1- Chicago 2- New York cc - Bureau Intelligence cc - 8-2		Copy to [REDACTED] 9-8-42 PV* 8/29/39 CMC 8/29/39	TWA HANCO R/R

cc sent to G. C. [REDACTED] 7-11-42 XXX

65-387

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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OS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

65-357

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

* * *

[REDACTED]

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os

[REDACTED]

65-357

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] had no information regarding MR. and
MRS. KOEHN alias KUEHN.

[REDACTED]

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

[REDACTED]

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os

- PENDING -

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

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

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

[Redacted]

65-357

July 27, 1939

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

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

Dear Sir:

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Very truly yours,

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

RECORDED
&
INDEXED.

65-1574-118

65-1574-1-1

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

66-2542-3982

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

ENCLOSURE BY SPICER
ON 8-1-39

Handwritten notes on left margin

Handwritten initials

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK**

FILE NO. **65-47** *b6, b7c*

REPORT MADE AT San Francisco, Calif.	DATE WHEN MADE 8/31/39	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 8/25/39	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
--	----------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------

TITLE Mr. and Mrs. KOEHN, Alias KUEHN. <i>8.7.86</i>	CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE
--	---------------------------------------

CLASSIFIED BY: *[Signature]*
DECLASSIFY ON: *[Signature]*

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE**

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: **[REDACTED]** *Navy Info*
OS

-P-

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

Report of **[REDACTED]** New York City, dated July 27, 1939. *b6, b7c*

DETAILS: AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA: *OS*

[REDACTED]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		65-1574-12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 Bureau 1 Chicago 2 New York 2 Honolulu (Enc.) 2 San Francisco 	<i>copy sent 9/8/42 PVH</i> CONFIDENTIAL	SEP 15 POL/PA # 268724 APPEAL # CIVIL ACT. # E.O. # 12350 DATE 8/7/86 INITIALS

B. 11/10/39

SI is Navy

CONFIDENTIAL

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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os

[REDACTED]

For the information of the Honolulu Office, the first information received by the San Francisco Office on this case was a letter from the Bureau, dated February 11, 1939, in which the Bureau advised that Mr. and Mrs. KOEHN of Kailua, Oahu, T. H. might be espionage agents in the Hawaiian Islands; that they own two homes, one of which is large, and that they entertain lavishly, particularly Army Officers.

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

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

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

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

[REDACTED]

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

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

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION:

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

SAN FRANCISCO FIELD DIVISION:

At San Francisco, California: [REDACTED]

P E N D I N G

CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **NEW YORK CITY**

FILE NO. **65-4** JET:bu

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 9-26-39	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 18, 20, 21, 22-39	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
--	----------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------

TITLE - CHANGED: MR. and MRS. OTTO K. KUHN, aliases Mr. and Mrs. Koehn, Kuehn.	CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE
--	---------------------------------------

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

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

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-86 BY BSC/CLB**

OTTO KUHN



REFERENCE:

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

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

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

AT HONOLULU, T. H.

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

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

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

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

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

b7E
It should be pointed out that when MRS. KUHN and her family, consisting of RUTH and the two youngest boys, arrived in Honolulu in November, 1938, they had 4,000 yen in 100-yen notes, which would be approximately \$1200.00. It appears that the Japanese law states that 300 yen is the largest amount of Japanese money that anyone can take from Japan.

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

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Person

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

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

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

all
per Q.N.I.

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

[REDACTED]

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

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

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

PENDING

2-25-41
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65-1574

October 17, 1939

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-7-86 BY SP-5 JCS/BJA

Special Agent in Charge
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

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

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

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

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RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-13X

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

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

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

★ OCT 17 1939 ★

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

COPIES DESTROYED
839 AUG 4 1970

PUT [redacted]

Otto Kuehn

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3
SAC San Francisco

October 17, 1939

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

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

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc New York
Honolulu (2)

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

[Redacted]

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b7c

65-357

October 26, 1939.

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

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

Dear Sir:

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

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

Very truly yours,

P. E. Foxworth

P. E. FOXWORTH,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc - Honolulu
San Francisco

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

RECORDED

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

S

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Honolulu, T. H.

FILE NO. 65-47

REPORT MADE AT San Francisco, Calif.	DATE WHEN MADE 11/8/39	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/26/39	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE Mr. and Mrs. OTTO K. KUHN, with aliases: Mr. and Mrs. Koehn, Kuehn.		CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE.	
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: <p style="margin-left: 40px;"> Confidential Informant N has no additional information. </p> <p style="text-align: center; margin-left: 100px;">RUC.</p>			
REFERENCE: <p style="margin-left: 40px;"> Report of [REDACTED] dated at San Francisco, Calif., 8/31/39. </p>			
DETAILS: <p style="margin-left: 40px;"> <u>At San Francisco, California.</u> </p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"> Under date of October 26, 1939, Agent contacted Confidential Informant N at San Francisco, California. An examination of his records indicated that there is no additional information, other than that already in the possession of the San Francisco office. </p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;"> REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN </p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">65-1574-15</div> <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold; text-align: center;">NOV 15 1939</div>	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau 2 Honolulu 2 Com. CONNOR, Naval Intellig., San Francisco 2 San Francisco		COPIES DESTROYED 833 AUG 4 1970 NOV 13 A.M. 	

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 8-7-86 BY [signature]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

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

EAT:DM

November 17, 1939

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

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

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

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-86 BY SP5/SLJ/CA

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Respectfully,

EDWARD A. TAMM

Better let Shivers know
+ also @ Tol.

H.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-1574-16

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NOV 19 1939

TOLSON TAMM TWO

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

30 03
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
December 5, 1939

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

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

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

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

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

Respectfully,

E. A. Tamm

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DATE 8/18/80 BY SP5/CLW

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RECORDED

65-1574-16
FEBRUARY 1940
DEC 7 1939

TOLSON

TRX

Honolulu, T. H.
March 7, 1940

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Dear Sir:

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

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers,
Special Agent in Charge.

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

#268714

63

cc-Bureau ✓

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

65-1574-
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
4 MAR 20 1940
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ONE 1/3

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

FILE NO. 65-4

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 3-22-40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3-12, 18-40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE (CHANGED) OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases; Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Koehn; FRIEDEL KUEHN, with aliases: Mrs Otto K. Kuhn, Mrs Koehn.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/1/86 BY SP5/CJA**

SUBJECT OTTO KUEHN
was interviewed by Confidential Informant N,
at which time he claimed not to be in
sympathy with present German Government, but
declined to work for Informant N, due to his
relatives being in Germany.

Her effects were searched by Customs
Officers and the results of the search set
forth.

REFERENCE:

Report of [REDACTED]
Honolulu, September 26, 1939.

DETAILS:

The title of this report is being CHANGED to
reflect the correct spelling of SUBJECT OTTO
K. KUEHN'S name and to set forth FRIEDEL
KUEHN as a separate Subject.

**RECEIVED
DIVISION ONE
APR 10 1940**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT		65-1574-217
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 - Bureau 1 - New York (Information) 1 - G-2 Honolulu 1 - ONI Honolulu 2 - Honolulu 		APR 8 1940
		APR 4 - P.M!

cc ONI 14-2 4/12/40 JAM
cc 196. Org 2-11-40 JAM

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

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

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

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

AMERICAN ISLANDS:

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

ENGLISH ISLANDS:

Birnie Island
Sydney Island
Hull Island
Gardner Island
Atafu Island

65-4

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

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[REDACTED]

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65-4

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

The following names and addresses were contained in the

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

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

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

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-17 pages 6-8

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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65-4

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION -

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

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT FRIEDEL KUEHN.

- PENDING -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

FILE NO. **65-4**

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 3-29-40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3-23-40	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]												
TITLE OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases; FRIEDEL KUEHN, with aliases.		CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE													
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: SUBJECTS OTTO and FRIEDEL KUEHN and their daughter RUTH KUEHN filed Declarations of Intention for U. S. Citizenship at HONOLULU, March 3, 1938.															
REFERENCE: Report of [REDACTED] HONOLULU, dated March 22, 1940.															
DETAILS: AT HONOLULU, T. H.: The records in the office of the Clerk of Court of the United States District Court for the Territory of Hawaii reflect that on March 3, 1938, Declaration of Intention for United States Citizenship, number 4529, was filed by Subject FRIEDEL KUEHN. This Declaration of Intention reflects the following description of Subject FRIEDEL KUEHN.															
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 100px;">Age</td> <td style="width: 100px;">-</td> <td style="width: 100px;">46 (1938)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>(Born 2-28-92, Hamburg, Germany)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Color</td> <td>-</td> <td>White</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sex</td> <td>-</td> <td>Female</td> </tr> </table>				Age	-	46 (1938)			(Born 2-28-92, Hamburg, Germany)	Color	-	White	Sex	-	Female
Age	-	46 (1938)													
		(Born 2-28-92, Hamburg, Germany)													
Color	-	White													
Sex	-	Female													
APPROVED AND FORWARDED [Signature]	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES													
RECEIVED 5-2 Bureau 1 - C-1 Honolulu 1 - G-2 Honolulu 2 - Honolulu 1 - 0-2 - 4-22-40 LJB 1 - 0-2 - 4-22-40 LJB 1 - West U.G. Bureau 2-11-42 X22		65-17574-18 APR 11 P.M. ONE HARBO	APR 15 1940												

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11-86 BY SP5/CJA

DECLARATION OF INTENTION
B-I
ED-HV4920
1354

MAY 10 1940
D. C. C. E.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

65-4

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

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

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

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

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION -

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

FRIEDEL KUEHN.

- PENDING -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **HONOLULU, HAWAII.**

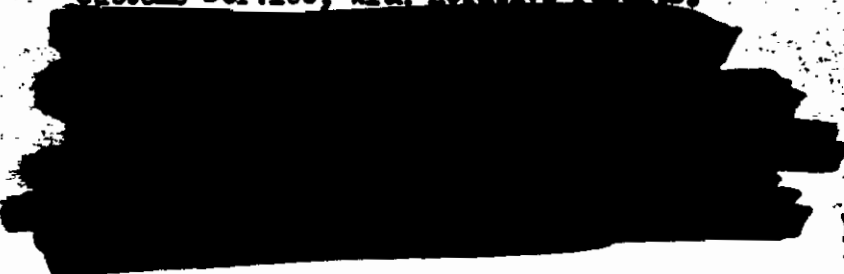
FILE NO. **65-4**

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, HAWAII.	DATE WHEN MADE 5-27-40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4-22, 23; 5-13, 21-40.	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
--	----------------------------------	--	-------------------------------------

TITLE OTTO K. KUEHN with aliases; FRIEDEL KUEHN with aliases.	CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE
---	---------------------------------------

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

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



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REFERENCE:

Reports of Special **[REDACTED]** Honolulu, dated 3-22-40 and 3-29-40.

DETAILS:

AT HONOLULU, HAWAII:

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

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-8-86 BY SP-5 JCB**

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	65-15744-19
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 5 - Bureau 1 - ONI Honolulu 1 - G-2 Honolulu 2 - Honolulu		JUN 10 P.M.	JUN 28 1940
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1 CC - 27.86 - Bureau - 2-11-42 EXX

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Confidential Informant N referred to the report [REDACTED]
dated at Honolulu, March 22, 1940, and advised

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION -

AT HONOLULU - Will consider the advisability of interviewing the SUBJECTS in this case, concerning their activities in this Territory.

- PENDING -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This Case Originated at HONOLULU, HAWAII.

File No. 65-4

Report Made at: HONOLULU, HAWAII ; Date Made: 7-20-40 ; Period: 6-22, 25; 7-10, 15-1940 ; Report Made By: [Redacted] b6 b7c

Title: OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases; FRIEDEL KUEHN, with aliases. ; Character of Case: ESPIONAGE.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [Large Redacted Block] b6 b7c

REFERENCE: Report of [Redacted] HONOLULU, dated 5-27-40. b6 b7c

DETAILS: [Large Redacted Block] ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8-1-86 BY SP-5 JCL

Approved and forwarded: [Signature] SAC: [Signature] AUG 10 1940

Copies: 5 - Bureau 1 - ONI Honolulu copy 9-8-42 PVH 1 - G-2 Honolulu 2 - Honolulu FIVE HARBOR

65-4

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION -

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

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

- PENDING -

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Honolulu, Hawaii
July 23, 1940

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

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

Dear Sir:

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

[REDACTED]

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Very truly yours,

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

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RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1674-208
65-1574-2

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

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 4-21-55
22

[REDACTED] 65-4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
2 JUL 25 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FIVE

66-2542-5897
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4

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Honolulu, Hawaii
September 16, 1940

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

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

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers

R. L. SHIVERS,
Special Agent in Charge.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-17-86 BY SP5/CLB

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&
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65-1574-21
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 SEP. 30 1940
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-22 pp 1-7

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
HONOLULU, T. H.

April 10, 1941.

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

Dear Sir:

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

OTTO K. KUEHN, with aliases: German
OTTO K. KUHN, Mr. KOEHN.
Lanikai, Hawaii. (1941).

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

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

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



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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-14-86 BY SP8CJ/ok
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65-1574-23
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 APR 21 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
[Signature]

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Director.

4/10/41.

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

Very truly yours,

R. L. SHIVERS,
Special Agent in Charge.

cc - 100-1

CONFIDENTIAL

[Redacted]

65-1574-24

July 31, 1941

RECORDED

Special Agent in Charge
Honolulu, Hawaii

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

*Referred
to Navy
b1*

Dear Sir:

[Redacted]

(S-1)(C)

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

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CLASSIFIED BY: *SSS/DB*
DECLASSIFY ON: *SP08*

8-7-86

FOI/PA #	<i>2687114</i>
APPEAL #	
CIVIL ACT. #	
E.O. #	<i>12356</i>
DATE	<i>8-7-86</i> INITIALS <i>CH</i>

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

★ JUL 31 1941 ★

P. M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CH

Handwritten notes and signatures, including "What for?" and "of 2 of 2"

CONFIDENTIAL

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

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Honolulu, Hawaii
July 18, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR THE BUREAU:

Mrs. FRIEDEL BIRK KUEHN, with alias
Mrs. Friedel Birk Kuhn (Alien)
Lanikai, Oahu, T. H.
Mailing Address: Box 1476, Honolulu. (1941) German

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

[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

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

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

RECORDED

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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

Friedel Kuehn

13

July 18, 1941

OTTO K. KUEHN, was., et al.; ESPIONAGE.)

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

[REDACTED]

(Report of [REDACTED] Honolulu, dated 7-20-40, entitled OTTO K. KUEHN, was., et al.; ESPIONAGE.)

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

[REDACTED]

(Report of [REDACTED] dated 10-31-40, entitled OTTO K. KUEHN, was., et al.; ESPIONAGE - G.)

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

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Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers

R. L. SHIVERS
Special Agent in Charge

[REDACTED]

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cc - 100-1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

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

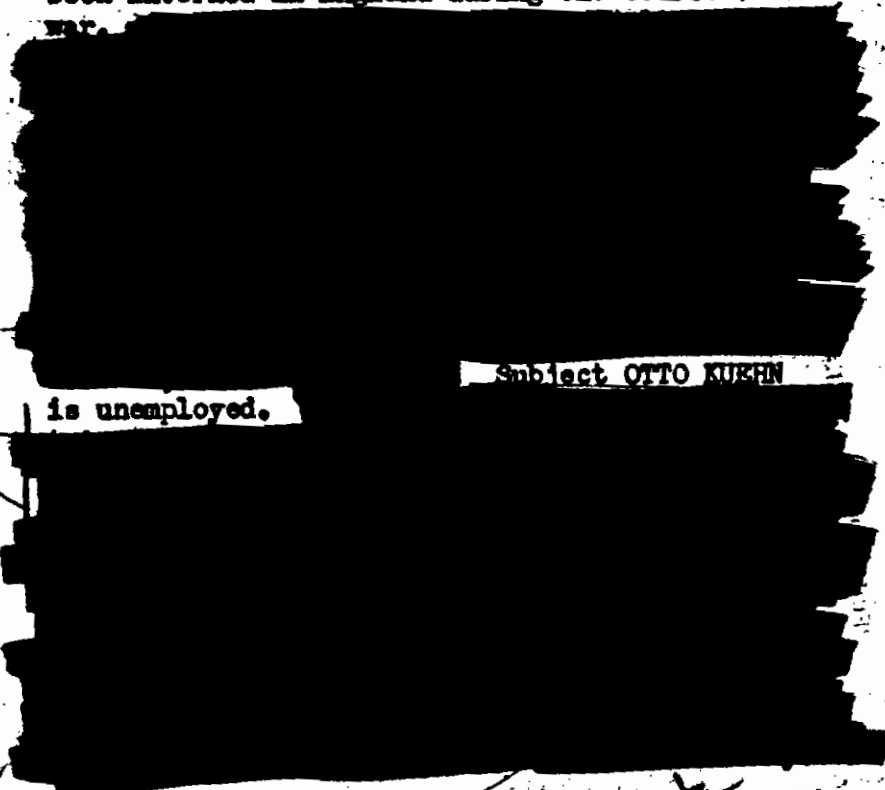
Honolulu FILE NO. **65-4**

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REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 9/20/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/16, 8/11-16, 18, 19, 9/2-4, 10/11	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE (Changed) FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with aliases; Mrs. OTTO K. KUEHN, Mrs. OTTO K. KUEHN, Mrs. KOEHN.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - G
BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases; Otto K. Kuehn, Otto Kuhn, Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Koehn.			
		FOI/PA 268714	
		APPEAL CIVIL ACT. #	
		E.O. # 12366	
		DATE 8-22-80	INITIALS [REDACTED]

SYNOPSIS of FACTS:

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



is unemployed.

8-22-80
CLASSIFIED BY: *[Signature]*
DECLASSIFY ON: *[Signature]*
#268714

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 #268714

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 1574-26	RECORDED
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RECEIVED OCT 6 1941		INDEXED	

1 cc sent to G. B. Benson 2-11-42

65-4

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CONFIDENTIAL

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS (Cont'd):

ious income. [REDACTED]

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Honolulu,

REFERENCE:

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

DETAILS:

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

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

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

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

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

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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65-1574-26 pp 5-15

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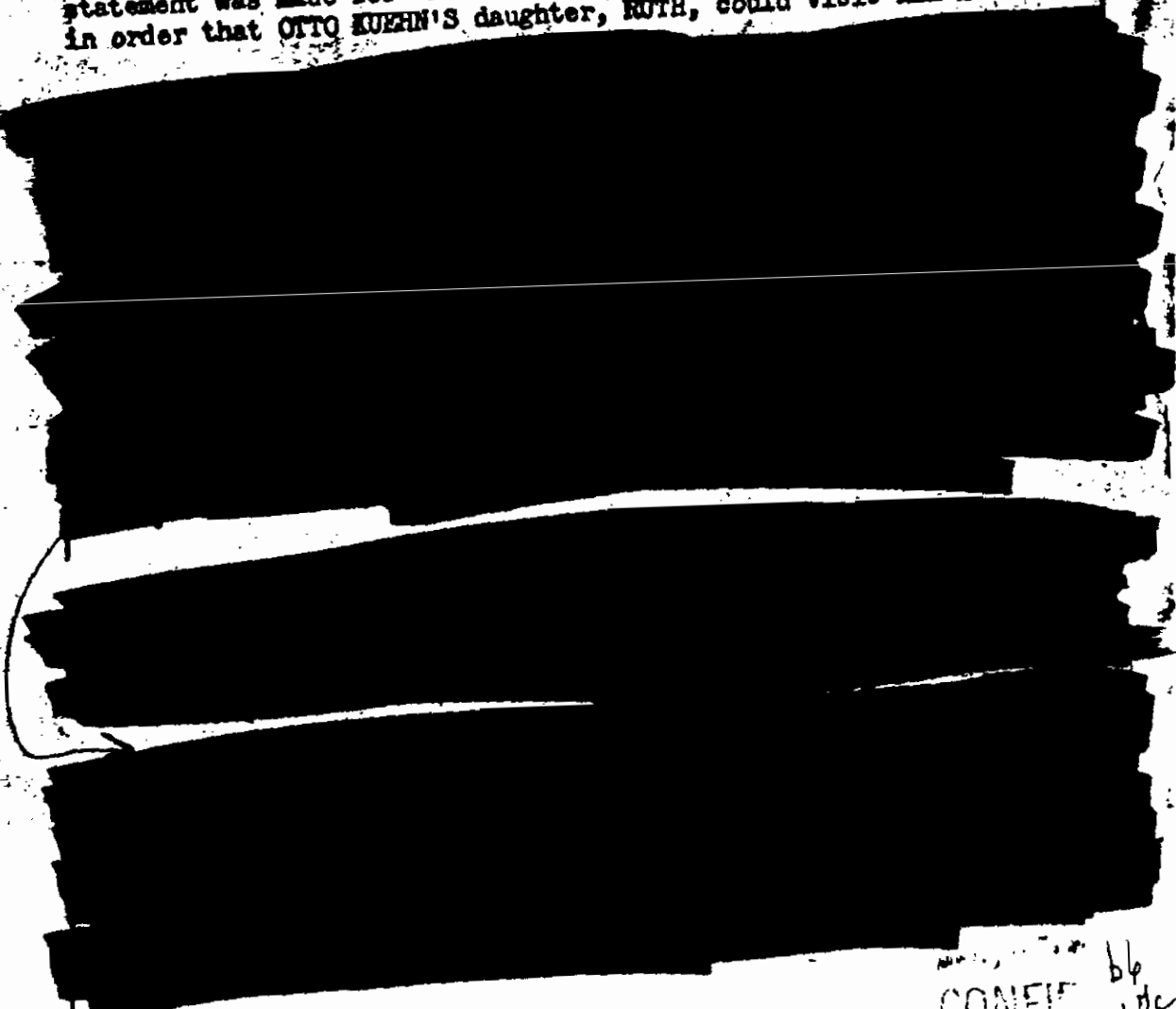
The Immigration and Naturalization file on OTTO KUEHN reflected his occupation as student, wife FRIEDA KUEHN, Lanikai, Oahu, and children, RUTH, age 21 (1936), MARTIN EBERHARD, age 10 (1936) and HANS JOACHIM, age 3 (1936). OTTO KUEHN was born in Berlin, Germany, his Berlin address being given as 2 Suedendstr.,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

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CONFIDENTIAL

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



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

[REDACTED]

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

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65-1574-26 pg 19-24

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CONFIDENTIAL

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

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65-1574-26 pgs 26-31

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

HONOLULU, T. H.

Honolulu FILE NO.

65-4

pb

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 11/24/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 10/3, 11/7, 19, 21, 22/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
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TITLE (Changed) FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with aliases: Mrs. Otto K. Kuehn, Mrs. Otto K. Kuhn, Mrs. Kuehn, BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases: Otto K. Kuehn, Otto Kuhn, Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Kuehn, Mrs. J. CARSON MOORE nee Ruth Kuehn.	CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE (Gen.)
---	---------------------------------------

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



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

Supplemental custodial detention memoranda being submitted on OTTO KUEHN

ADDRESS RECORDED

JAN 1 0 1942

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 65-1574-27
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cc to ONI, G-2, 12-10-41 RKG:um
cc to Asst. Dir. in Charge 2-11-42 KZE

NEGATIVE
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b7c

REFERENCE:

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

DETAILS:

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

654

[REDACTED] b
[REDACTED] b7
[REDACTED] b7
Under date of October 27, 1941, Mr. J. P. DILLON of the Naturalization Office at the Immigration Station, advised that OTTO KUEHN filed a petition for citizenship on June 30, 1941; that he would be coming up for his final papers in December, 1941, and will be formally admitted to citizenship the last Saturday in January, 1942. [REDACTED]

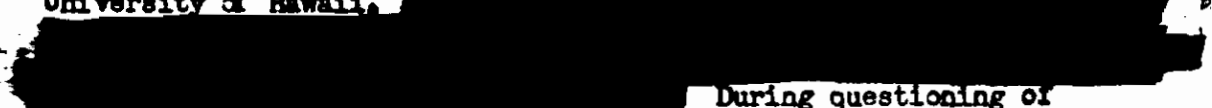
[REDACTED] b
As of October 23, 1941, the address of OTTO KUEHN, his wife FRIEDEL, and his sons MARTIN EBBERHARD, age 15, and HANS JOACHIM, age 8, [REDACTED] the corner of Ainoni and Kainalu Streets, Kailua, Oahu, T. H., there being no street numbers in that vicinity. Neither Mr. nor Mrs. KUEHN is employed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

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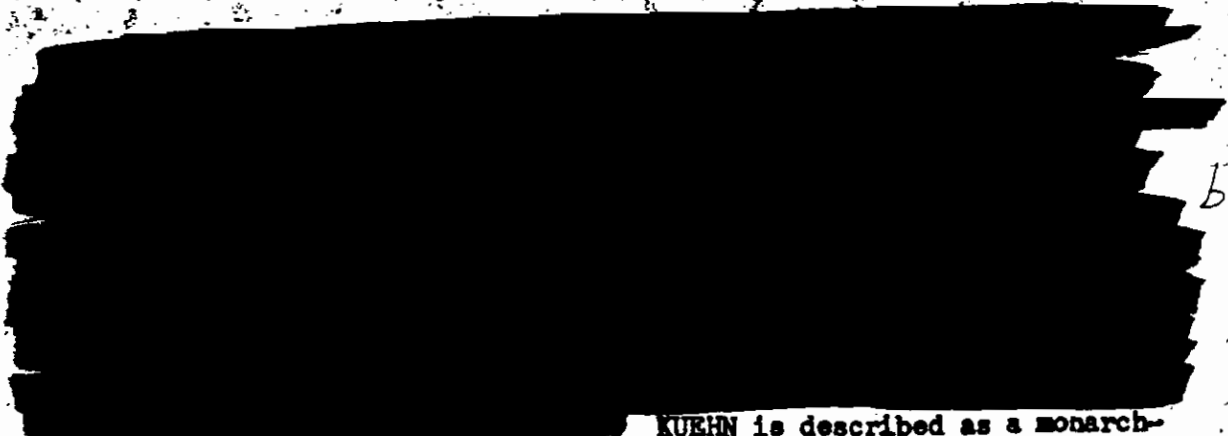


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(This information seems to disagree with that developed to date in this investigation. On pages 16 to 18 of the reference report, information obtained from the files of the Immigration and Naturalization Bureau reflects OTTO KUEHN first entered the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



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



b7d

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

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65-1574-27 pgs 5-25

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

HONOLULU, T. H.
December 1, 1941.

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

65-4

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

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

Dear Sir:

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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DATE 8-8-86 BY SP5/CJA

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 29 1941

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

HONOLULU, T. H.
December 1, 1941

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

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b7c
65-4

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

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

Dear Sir:

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

[REDACTED]

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DATE 8-8-86 BY SP5CJ/af

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989 AUG

10 DEC 29 1941

Letter to Director

- 2 -

12/1/41

[REDACTED]

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Very truly yours,

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

cc:
100-1

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Honolulu, T.H.

FILE NO. 65-4 b6
b7c

REPORT MADE AT Honolulu, T.H.	DATE WHEN MADE 12/22/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12/21/41	REPORT MADE BY
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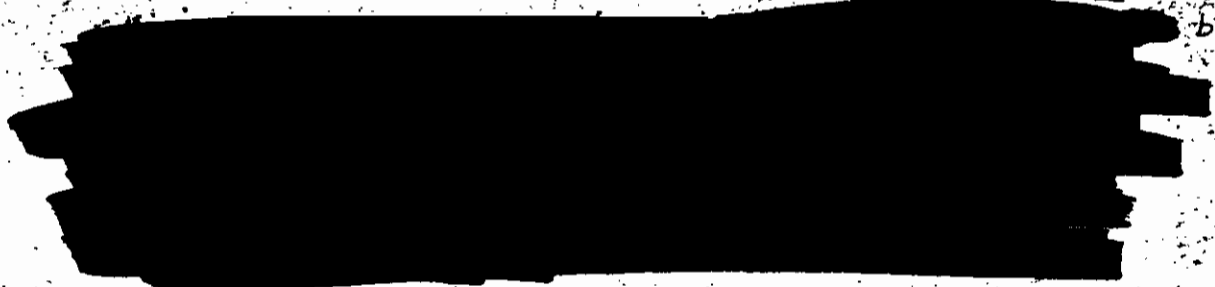
TITLE - CHANGED - FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with aliases: Mrs. Otto K. Kuehn, Mrs. Otto K. Kuhn, Mrs. Koehn; BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases: Otto K. Kuehn, Otto Kuhn, Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Koehn; Mrs. J. CARSON MOORE, nee Ruth Kuehn; EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN	CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - G
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Synopsis:



- P -
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-8-86 BY SP8 CJK/...

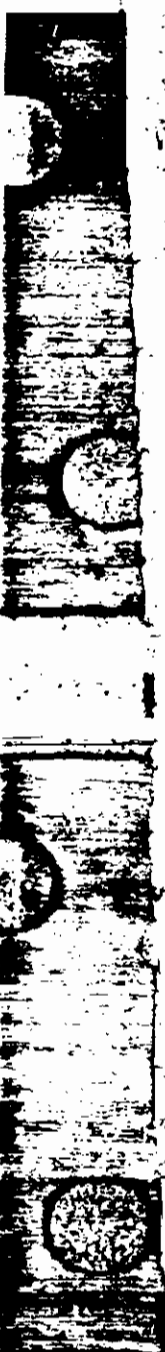
Details: The title of this report has been changed to add the additional subject: EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN.



- PENDING -

Status correct

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R. P. [Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 65-1574-31 2-11-42 REX 20 1942 [Handwritten notes and signatures]
COPIES OF THIS REPORT: 5 Bureau - 1cc and d.b. [Signature] 1 ONI, Honolulu 1 G2, Honolulu 2 Honolulu [Handwritten notes: 1-27-42, RPC]	RECORDED [Handwritten notes: COMM]



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

R. L. Shivers, SAC
Honolulu

12/5/41

HONOLULU, T. H.
December 1, 1941.

65-4

~~MEMORANDUM FOR THE BUREAU~~

MOORE, Mrs. J. CARSON, nee SUSE KAEITE RUTH KUEHN, German
alias RUTH MOORE (citizen)
Lenikai,
Oahu, T. H. (1941)

German

[REDACTED]

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

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

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 8-8-86 BY SP5/CAJ

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U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
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January 11, 1942

Call: 11:35 a.m.

THE DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-80 BY SP-6 JCD

ORIGINAL FILED IN 65-1574-37
05
b6
b7c

RECORDED
The Otto Kuehn case is coming along.

65-1574-37X

05

6 JUN 19 1942

[REDACTED]

S. DEPT.

[Signature]

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Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

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b6
b7c

January 22, 1942

65-1574-33

Personal and Confidential

X

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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

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

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

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

copy - bww

2 JAN 2

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JAN 22 1942

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30
30
3 December, 1941

#0245 (1) "PA"

From: KITA

To: Foreign Minister, Tokyo

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

To: Chief of Third Section, Naval General Staff

From: FUJII

Re signals I wish to simplify communications as follows:

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

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

2. Signal

Light in Lanikai beach house at night - - - -

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

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

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

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

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

- (A) A chinese rug etc., for sale - apply P. O. Box 1476 indicates 3 or 6.
- (B) A complete chicken farm etc., apply as above indicates 4 or 7.
- (C) Beauty operator wanted - same - indicates 3 or 8.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MESSAGE NO. 1.

"December 3, 1941

FROM: FOREIGN MINISTER
 TO: KITA, CONSUL, HONOLULU

STRICTLY SECRET

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

"DDO"

MESSAGE TWO

December 4, 1941

"FROM: KITA
TO: FOREIGN MINISTER, TOKYO

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

KITA"

MESSAGE THREE

December 5, 1941

"FROM: KITA
TO: FOREIGN MINISTER, TOKYO

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

65-114

Force of the 5th:

8 Battleships

3 Light cruisers

16 Destroyers

Going in were 4 cruisers of the Monaghan type and 2 destroyers.

KITA

MESSAGE FOUR

December 4, 1941

FROM:

KITA

TO:

FOREIGN MINISTER

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

KITA

MESSAGE FIVE

December 6, 1941

FROM:

TOOO - FOREIGN MINISTER

TO:

CONSUL - HONOLULU

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

TOOO

65-111

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7C
b6
b7D
b7E

[REDACTED]

65-414



- PENDING -

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Honolulu, T. H.
December 26, 1941

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

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

Dear Sir:

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

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

Very truly yours,

(signed)

R. L. SHIVERS
Special Agent in Charge

RLS:mma
65-414

4 APR 16 1942

RECORDED

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

DECLASSIFIED BY SP-6 JAS
ON 8-2-86

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Otto numbers

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65-574-35

January 21, 1942

RECORDED

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b7c

89239

Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D. C.

[REDACTED]

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

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

Sincerely yours,

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

John Edgar Hoover
Director

copy [REDACTED]
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DATE 7-18-55 b6
b7c

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BERNARD KUEHN

PART 2 OF 7

FILE NUMBER: 65-1574

SUBJECT

RUEHN

FILE NUMBER

65-1574

SECTION 2

U. S. Department of Justice

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

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SERIALS	REQUESTERS FULL NAME	COMPUTER NUMBER	DATE	BY
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of				
INVESTIGATION				

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1574

SECTION 2
SERIALS 36-55

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HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

Vol. II

b6
b7c

January 15, 1942

THE DIRECTOR

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

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

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

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12-8-80 BY SP-6 JCD

#268714

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

RECORDED & INDEXED

60-1574-36

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 17 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FIVE

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-1574-36

Memo for the Director

- 2 -

1/15/42

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

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

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

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd

Attachment

January 19, 1942

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

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

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

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

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-28-87 BY SP5CJ/CD

#208774

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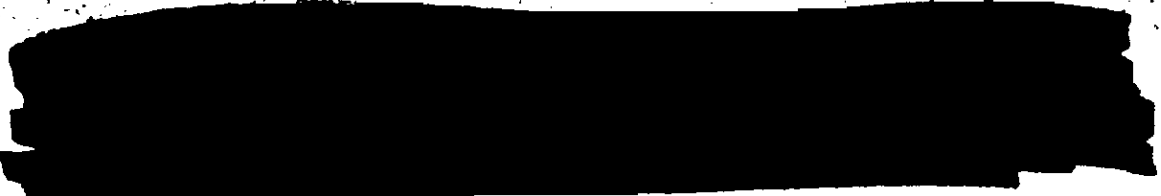
15-15-36

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

JAN 22 1942
FIVE

RECEIVED FEBRUARY 19 1942

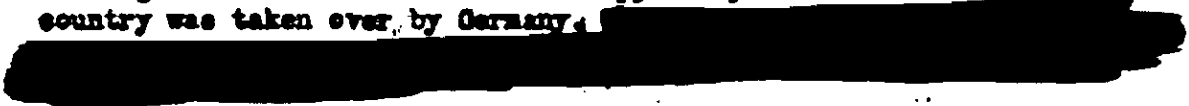
Kuehn's original entry permit was extended to August 14, 1937, to enable him to "continue his Japanese studies." Apparently he left Honolulu following this extension since he was admitted to the United States as a quota immigrant on October 29, 1936.



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

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



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b7d

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

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

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

[REDACTED]

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b7d

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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b7c
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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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


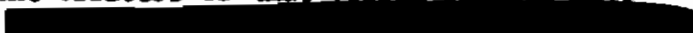
[REDACTED]



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


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


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



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

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



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

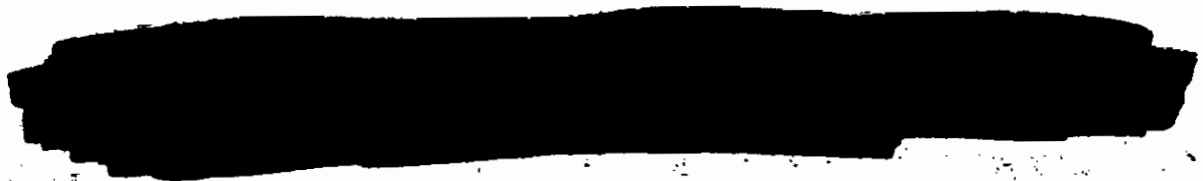
Investigation has revealed that Subjects have done considerable entertaining in Honolulu, exhibiting a particular interest in having Army and Navy officers as their guests. A list of Kuehn's associates, obtained from ONI, contains the names of five lieutenants. Other sources revealed that Kuehn was friendly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



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

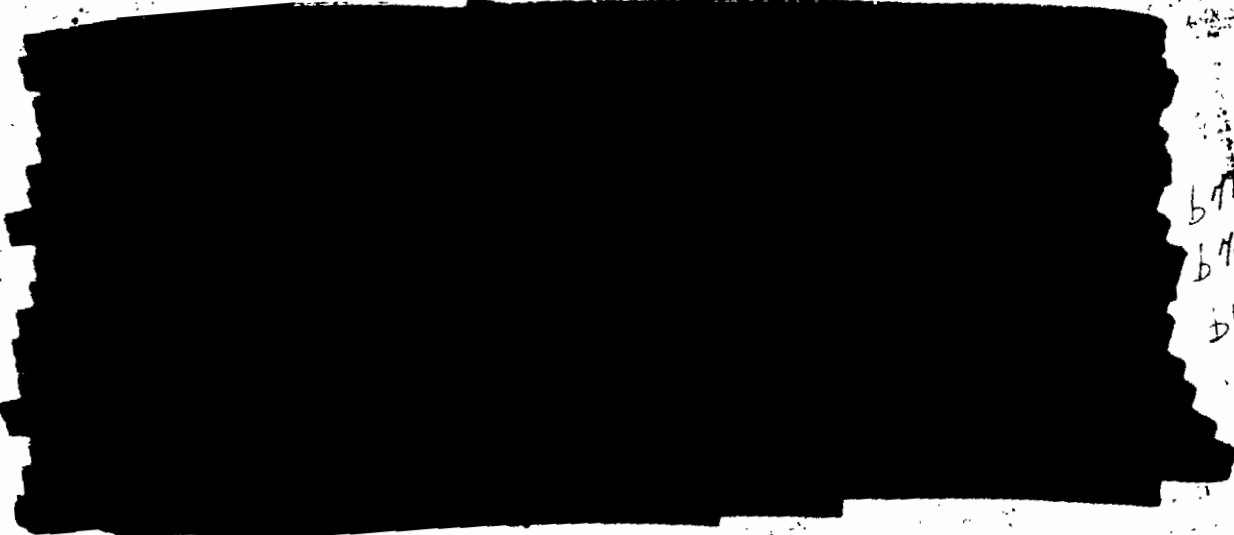
Kuehn has been suspected by some Germans of having supplied information to the Japanese Government and he has openly stated that he knows he is under suspicion by the United States Government. ONI obtained information that German Consul Robert Lang at Honolulu intended to obtain the correct status of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



b7E

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

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



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

January 19, 1942

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

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

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

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

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

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

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Memorandum for the Attorney General

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

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

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

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

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1, b6, b7c, b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

For your information: _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

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

FILE NO. 65-414 b6
b7c

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

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

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

#2687K
8-11-86
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 7-16-82 BY SPBJE/MLC
CO#26,853

Reference: Report of [REDACTED], date 12/26/41, at Honolulu, T.H.

Details: AT HONOLULU, T. H.
The entire investigation hereafter, set forth was conducted jointly by [REDACTED] and the writer.

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R. J. Shultz</i> IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 5 Bureau 1 ONI, Honolulu 1 G2, Honolulu 2 Honolulu <p>Ex. Summary Copy 2/11/42 ZZZ then to Honolulu 2-9-42 ZZZ 15/42 2/13/42</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">FILE</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">JAN 30 1942</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">RECORDED</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">INDEXED</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">FIVE</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-weight: bold;">Holloman</p>

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KUEHN

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

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

Honolulu, T.H.
January 1, 1942

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

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

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

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

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

returned to Berlin and my coffee business.

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

[REDACTED] About three months later, I was again arrested by the police on a charge of having attended a meeting between HITLER and VON PAPEN at Coeln, and having taken pictures of this meeting and made a report of it. I was taken into the German courts and proved my alibi that I had never been in Coeln during this time, and was released. All of this occurred during the year 1935. b6
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I returned to my coffee business but business was constantly going down and down and it was impossible for me to obtain re-orders and additional business, as I was no longer a member of the Nazi Party, and during the year 1934 I wrote several articles for the newspapers and magazines on the Far East, their culture and politics, and in April, 1935, I decided to go to the Orient in order to study the Japanese language. I sailed from Bremen, Germany, in April of 1935, on the SS STUTTGART. I arrived in New York, where I stayed for six days, took a train across the country to San Francisco, where I went to the German Consulate and asked for the names of some German individuals in Honolulu whom I could contact. [REDACTED] gave me the name of [REDACTED]. I sailed from San Francisco on the FAYUA MARU, in company of my wife, who had been with me since I left Germany. The balance of my family had remained in Germany. On reaching Honolulu, I got in touch with [REDACTED] and he advised that I stay at the Brookland Hotel in Honolulu. I stayed there for three weeks, and then sailed to Japan, on the ASAMA MARU, with my wife. Upon reaching Japan, we went from Yokohama to Tokyo, to the Imperial Hotel, where I contacted [REDACTED] of the Imperial University, relative to the study of the Japanese language. My wife and I traveled on to Shanghai then, and she continued on to Germany. b6
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Page 4

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

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

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

Both [redacted] were interested in obtaining a job as Assistant Naval Attache in Berlin. [redacted] received the appointment. I also met [redacted] at the Naval Air Station, Pearl Harbor, during 1936. In March of 1936, I rented a home at 2569 East Manoa Road, Honolulu, T. H., and moved there with my daughter, RUTH, and son, EBERHARD, and was joined by my wife, FRIEDEL, and son, HANS, in April of 1936. During this time I was studying the Japanese language at the University of Hawaii. U

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

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

Page 5

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Page 7

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

During our residence in Hawaii. [redacted]

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

/s/ OTTO KUERN

WITNESSES:

[redacted] b6
[redacted] b7c
Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice,
Honolulu, T. H.

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

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

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

(The signed statement follows on next page.)

Honolulu, T. H.
January 3, 1941

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

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

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

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

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

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

b6
b7c

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

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

Page 3

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

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

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

Page 4

and had no name on it. He gave me a sheet of paper and an envelope and I wrote on the sheet of paper that I was unable to make the test. I was quite nervous and put it in the envelope and gave it to him. I asked him if he knew what was in the package and he said no. I asked him if he wanted a receipt for the package and he said no, and he then left and I opened the package and counted the money. There were \$14,000.00 in the package, mostly in new \$100.00 bills, some \$20.00 bills. I think that this was a contact [redacted] was trying to make with me through this letter. As soon as he left I tore up the sheet of paper asking me to make this radio test and burned it up. 7

It was about a week after this, and after the TAIYO MARU had sailed from Honolulu, that I again contacted the Japanese Consulate and talked to the Vice Consul and asked him to send some money [redacted]. He said that he did not think it could be done and I suggested that he take it up with the Yokohama Specie Bank and I would come back two or three days later. b6 b7c

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

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

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

Page 5

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

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

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

*all
b6
b7c*

Otto Kuehn

WITNESSES:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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



b6
b7c

(Signed statement begins on following page.)

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c b7d b7E with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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65-1574-40 pgs 21-28

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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On three separate and distinct occasions the KUEHN residence at Kalama has been searched for information pertinent to this case. The last search was conducted by [redacted] and the writer on January 1, 1942. At that time every possible place of concealment of papers, etc, was thoroughly searched. As a result, address books and correspondence, all in German, were obtained, and after being translated, the following excerpts were noted: The original correspondence, reflected here, along with the English translation, is being maintained in the Honolulu file in this case.

b6
b7c

The address books reflect the following names:

[Large redacted block of text]

all
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b7c
b7d

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

[Large redacted block of text]

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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For your information: _____

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65-1574-40 pgs 30-33

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

The above-quoted letter was not brought to KUEHN'S attention during that interview.

*Inspection
Houma
Boat*

During a visit to OTTO KUEHN'S Kalama residence on January 4, 1942, by [REDACTED] and the writer, it was ascertained that it is possible to observe the large dormer window at the top of his two-story residence in Kalama from almost any vantage point off the mouth of Lanakai Bay; even in the daylight agents could observe and distinguish this residence with its red rooftop and dormer window from a point at Lanakai Point located right on the beach at a distance of about one and one-half miles from the Kalama house. Neighbors in the immediate area of KUEHN'S residence informed that when lights in the house were on the reflection through the dormer window was clearly visible.

It was also ascertained at OTTO KUEHN'S Lanakai Beach home that a clothesline is strung on the beach side of the house and, further, if linen was strung on this line there is nothing to obstruct its view from any point at sea within the Lanakai Bay area.

It was also observed at OTTO KUEHN'S Kalama residence that he keeps a star sailboat and sails for same. One of these sails bears the Roman numeral III in letters about 16 inches high and 2 inches wide of green cloth. The star boat apparently has not been in the water for a period of time as the seams are drawn so that it would probably take

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

PENDING



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b7d

RECORDED

65-2574-30

February 9, 1942

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Special Agent in Charge
Honolulu, Hawaii

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

Dear Sir:

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

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

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

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

CC New York

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 1
★ FEB 11 1942 ★
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
RECEIVED
FEB 11 1942

[Handwritten signature]

FEB 18 1942

DECLASSIFIED BY SP5CJ/TW
ON 8-11-86
#268714

All
b6
b7c

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

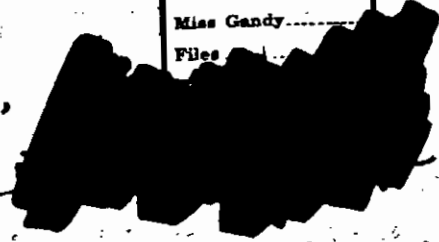
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Honolulu, T. H.
January 7, 1942

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

VIA CLIPPER

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

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



Dear Sir:

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

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

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

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-80 BY SP5/BJD/STP

*To incl in
1-20-42*

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EX-16 65-1574-41
RECORDED
JAN 30 1942
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b7c*

Director

January 7, 1942

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

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

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

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

Director

January 7, 1942

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

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

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers
Special Agent in Charge

RLS:LT
65-414

Enclosures

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

RADIOGRAM

JANUARY 15, 1942

Transmit the following message to:

**SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
HONOLULU, HAWAII**

165-1524-47
Amelia
RECORDED

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

ROOVER

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-20-80 BY 60310/CLS**

Sent Sat. 10 35 AM 1-16-42

Initiated in Director's Office

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

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

JAN 16 1942

SENT VIA

Bureau Radio 1146 AM

Per

Handwritten signatures and initials: ECF, Kim, JH, LSP

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

ORIGINATED AT **HONOLULU, T. H.** FILE NO. **65-1574-45**

Honolulu, T. H. DATE WHEN MADE **1-26-42** PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE **1-26-42** REPORT MADE BY: **[REDACTED]**

TITLE: **BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases: Otto K. Kuehn, Otto Kuhn, Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Koehn.** CHARACTER OF CASE: **ESPIONAGE - J.**

SUMMARY REPORT
~~**CONFIDENTIAL**~~

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

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

65-1574-45
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 MAR 14 1942
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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: **[Signature]** SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 FEB 4 1942

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
 ROUTED TO: **[Signature]**

RECEIVED Dept. Honolulu, T.H.

COPY IN FILE

66, b7c

65-424

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

7 battleships
6 cruisers
2 aircraft carriers
40 destroyers
27 submarines

These figures were later determined to be substantially correct. 66

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

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

65-414

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

WITNESSES

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

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

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

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

b6
b7c

65-114

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

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

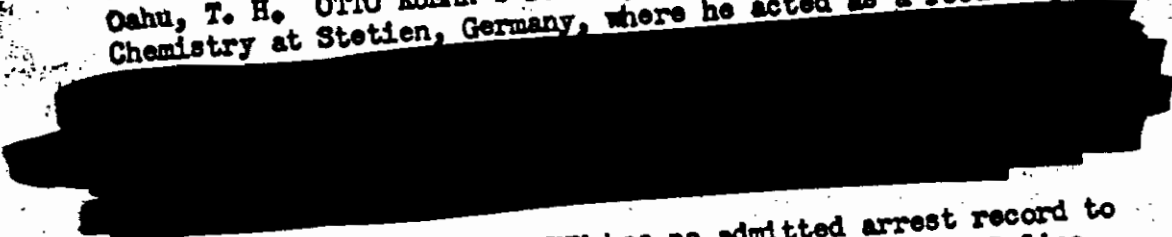
OTTO KUEHN crossed the Mainland of the United States and came directly to Honolulu, T. H., remaining for three weeks in Honolulu, and then continued on to Japan. He returned to Honolulu from Japan almost immediately and since that time has resided continuously in Honolulu, except for two additional trips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

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

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

65-474

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



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

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : For the File

DATE: November 28, 1956

FROM : L. B. Nichols

2B

SUBJECT: Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn

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

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

For complete information concerning data declassified in "The FBI Story," see 62-102693-352

Enclosure



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ENCLOSURE

MAR 28 8 1957

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ORIGINAL FILED

Kuehn told agents:

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

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

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

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

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DATE 8-11-86 BY SP-11/CAB

ENCLOSURE

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United States Department of Justice
HONOLULU, T. H.

January 19, 1942.

65-4

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

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

Dear Sir:

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

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

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers
R. L. SHIVERS,

Special Agent in Charge.

Enclosures.

VIA CLIPPER.

REC'D AIR MAIL

RECORDED
JAN 31 1942
IDENT. DIV. 5

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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

IDENT. UNIT

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EX-11



Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn,
alias Otto Kuehn, Otto Kuhn

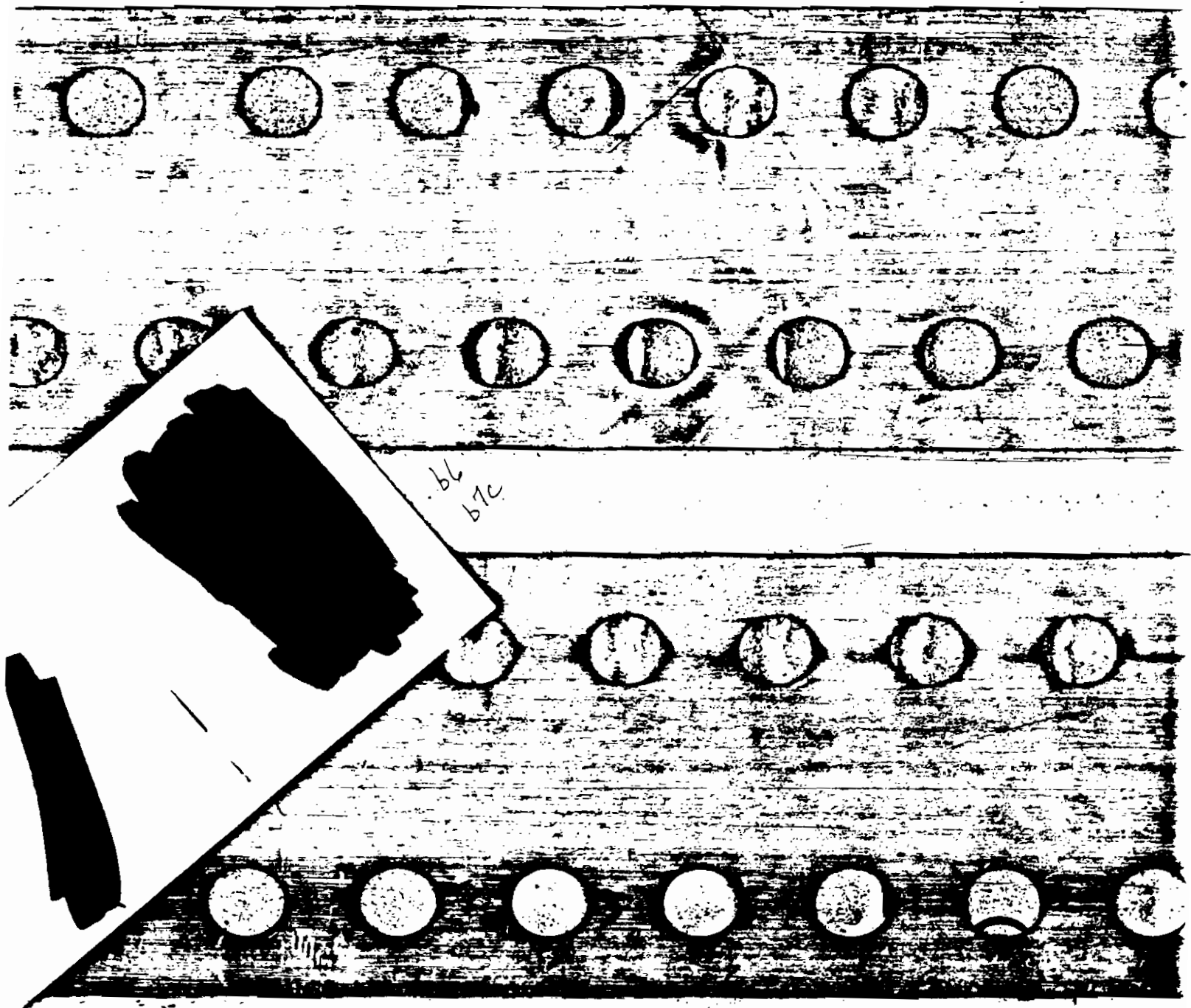
Age	46, born 7/25/95
Height	5'6"
Weight	145
Comp.	Medium
Eyes	Grey-blue
Hair	Brown
Nationality	German
Citizenship	German
Occupation	none
Address	Kallua, Oahu

Photo taken Jan. 16, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-80 BY SP5D/pce
#268714

Age
 Height
 Weight
 Comp.
 Eyes
 Hair
 Complexion
 Residence
 Occupation
 Citizenship
 Nationality
 Photo taken Jan. 16 1968
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 DATE 8-11-86 BY 60301 JES
 #268714

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 b7c



b6
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Age
Height
Weight
Comp.
Eyes
Hair

Characteristics

Nationality
Citizenship
Occupation
Residence

Photo taken Jan. 16, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-11-86 BY SP8/CJ/CR

#268714

Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn,
alias Otto Kuehn, Otto Kuhn

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

Photo taken Jan. 16, 1942

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DATE 8-11-86 BY SP8/CJ/CR

#268714

Age
Height
Weight
Comp.
Eyes
Hair

Characteristics

Nationality
Citizenship
Occupation
Residence

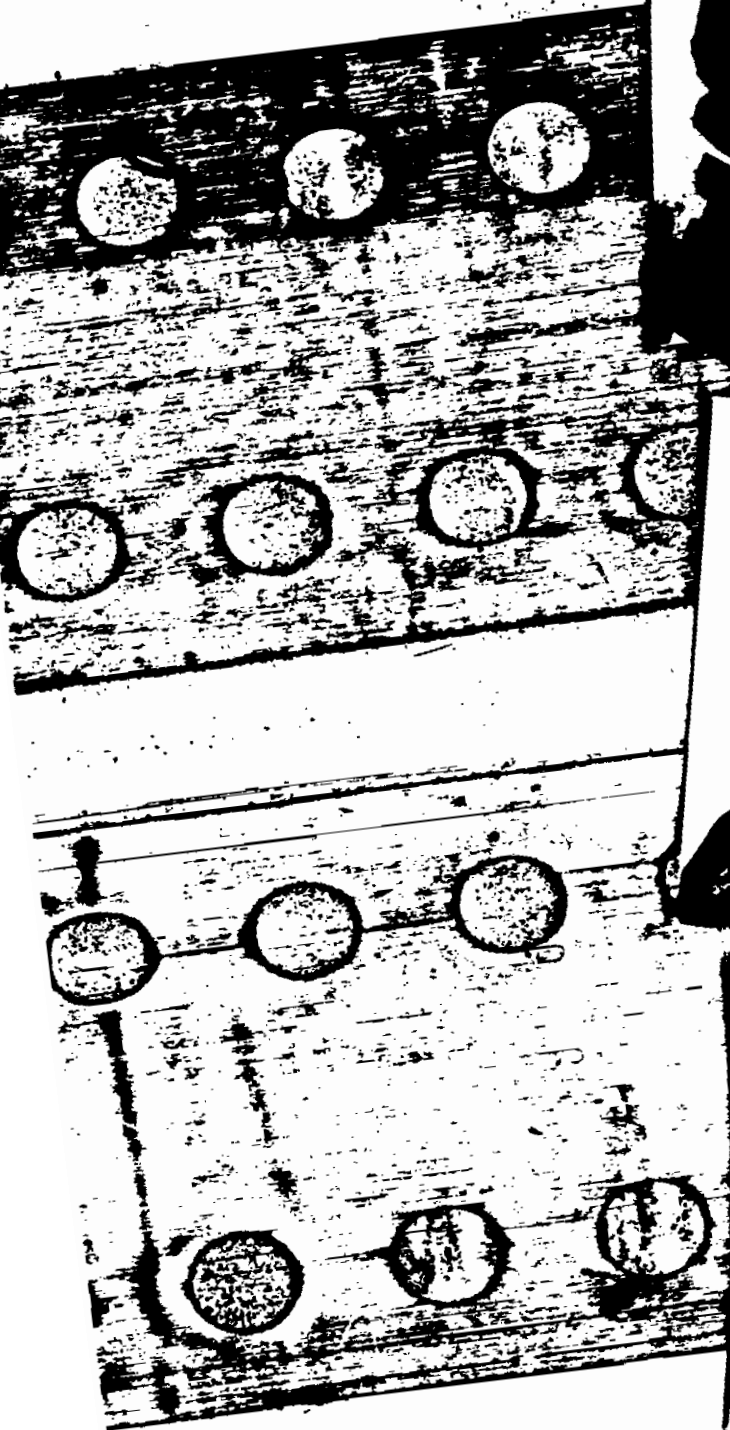
Photo taken Jan. 16, 1942

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DATE 8-11-86 BY SP8/CJ/CR

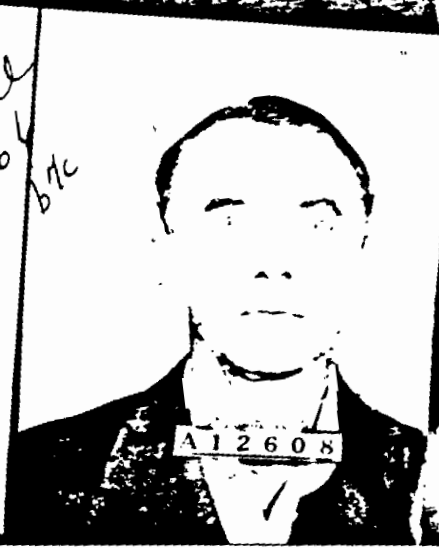
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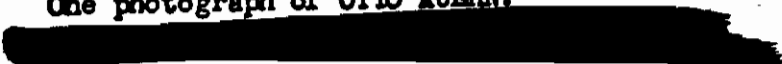


65-434

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

ENCLOSURES TO THE BUREAU:

One photograph of OTTO KUEHN.



b6
b7c

PENDING

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

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

Honolulu FILE NO. **65-414**

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

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 11-80 BY SP5/BJL/bak**

#268714

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

- P -

REFERENCE:

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

DEFERRED RECORDING

DETAILS:

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

DEFERRED RECORDING

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

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
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5 - Bureau (Enclosures) AIRMAIL		FEB 4 1942
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1 - ONI Honolulu		<i>RAH</i>
1 - Honolulu File 65-4		<i>b6 b7c</i>
3 - Honolulu		<i>CONFIDENTIAL</i>

Place in Case [REDACTED]
9-8-42 PVM

65-414

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

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

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

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

1155 Arrival of O. KUEHN at barracks.

1205 Locked in solitary confinement.

1543 Arrival of F. KUEHN at barracks.

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

O - No.

F - Do you believe that?

O -

F - Menschenskind! (Man alive!)

O - What did you say?

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

O -

F - What a stupid thing you have done!

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

F - What did you write?

O - (A complete confession?)

F - Then they know everything.

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

F - Then have you changed your opinions completely?

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

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

O - But what could I have done?

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

O - What could I do?

F - Quatsch! (Rubbish!)

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

b6
b7c

F - What crazy things you have done!

O - You remember what the Japanese Consul sent us?

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

O -

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

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

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

O -

F - Nobody believes me!

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

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

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

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

*all
b6
b7c*

65-414

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

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

O - I thought it was better to.

F - That sounds very funny.

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

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

O - In 1934 and 1935 and again in 1936.

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

O - And what about ~~Ruthie~~ (Ruthchen)?

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

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

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

O - (Inaudible)

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

all
b6
b7c

65-414

O - Yes.

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

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

F - The second? And the money was delivered?

O -

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

O -

F - I don't understand.

O - How many were there?

F - Four

O -

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

O - You.....

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

O -

1630 F - Ach, du lieber Gott!

(Intermission for dinner; no conversation.)

1645 O - (In English) You through?

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

O - The FBI will attend to everything.

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

O - They will be all right.

all
b6
b7c

65-414

F - I wish I were dead.

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

F - It shouldn't have been like this.

O - Everything that is done is done.

F - I have already gone through so much.

O - You look after the children.

F - (Crying more and more.)

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

F -

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

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

O - Did I tell you that?

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

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

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

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

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

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

O -

F - Did she die?

O -

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

O - What about 1937?

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

O -

F - Why?

O -

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

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

*all
b6
b7c*

65-414

F - Nobody will believe me (very positive statement)

O - The FBI....

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

(Long intermission)

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

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

1727 F - (Sobbing) You are to blame!

O - Wipe your tears.

F - I have no idea, no idea.

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

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

O -

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

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

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

O - Yes. (Intermission for toilet)

F - That is all passed now (long rest)

*all
b4
b7c*

65-414

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

b6
b7c

65-414

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

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

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

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

F - No, come back at 2.

(End of transcription of conversation
of the 16th)

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

0050 F - (A hard cough)

0120 F - (Another good cough)

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

O - Frieda! Frieda! (She subsides)

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

0250 O - (A single cough)

0320 O - (Snoring regular)

0350 O - (Snoring regular)

0420 O - (Snoring regular)

0450 O - (Snoring regular)

0505 F - (Calls guard. No answer)

0507 O - (Calls guard. No answer)

ALL
b6
b7c

65-414

0512 [REDACTED] arrives.)

0516 O - (Calls guard; no answer)

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

Guard - 5:30

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

(Breakfast)

0543 F - (Indistinct)

0550 O - I am through.

0558 O - How did you sleep?

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

0612 F - Gott, Ah Gott!

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

O - Yes.

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

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

(Intermission)

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

O - Yes. (?)

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

all
b6
b7c

65-414

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

0725 O - (Still calling guard)

0728 O - Could I shave and wash my teeth?

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

O - I shave every day.

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

0740 O - Do I get my trial today?

Guard - (No answer)

0745 F - (Hysterical)(loud crying)

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

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

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

F - (She sighed and acknowledged by silence)

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

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

65-414

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

Time

- 0925 OTTO: 'Guard!'
0930 OTTO: 'Guard!'
0940 OTTO: 'Guard!'
Guard visits cell.
She again asks for her glasses. Guard states that the Major will not let her have glasses. Guard leaves.
- 0955 FRIEDEL: 'It is peculiar that they put us two together.'
OTTO: Feels that they will probably not be together for a long time.
- 1010 FRIEDEL and OTTO discuss family affairs again.
- 1015 FRIEDEL: Reference again made to what happened in '35. She cannot understand the whole thing (Alles Quatch!) Repeats over and over that she cannot understand the whole thing.
- 1030 FRIEDEL: Makes reference to something of an undercover (hinterbandish) which took place.
OTTO: Low speech. Y.M.C.A. mentioned twice during his whispering.
- 1040 FRIEDEL: 'I did not believe it (?) was time until you told me last night.'
Hamburg mentioned.
Reference made to money which passed hands on Dec. 2.
- 1050 FRIEDEL: \$3000 cash mentioned several times. Reference made that it all took place in '38.
- (?) 1055 FRIEDEL: She brought back \$9,000 with her in '40.
- 1100 FRIEDEL and OTTO: Very involved discussion about large sums of money (same as last night). From time to time she says: 'Wie konnst du so etwas machen' (How could you do such a thing).
- 1105 FRIEDEL: Speaks about Leopold.
(?) She tried to get him out of Germany.

ALL
b6
b7c

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Time

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

1130 Guard inspects.
FRIEDEL goes to bathroom.

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

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

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

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

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

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

FRIEDEL: Belch! 'What lousy food.'

1235 OTTO: 'What will happen will happen.'

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

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

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

all
66
67c

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Time

1315 OTTO: 'Guard'

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

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

1345 Doctor visits FRIEDEL. FRIEDEL does much sobbing.

1355 FRIEDEL: 'I cannot stand it here.'

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

FRIEDEL & OTTO discuss the children.

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

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

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

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

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

b6
b7c

65-414

Time

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

1530 'Ruth sang so beautifully yesterday.'"

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

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

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

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

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

65-414

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The numerous statements overheard between him and FRIEDEL at Schofield Barracks, as previously set forth, were brought to OTTO'S attention for appropriate explanation. However he, too, contended in most cases their German statements must have been misinterpreted in those portions where it was indicated that he had not given this office complete information regarding his relations with the Consulate and FRIEDEL'S previous knowledge of these relations.

all
b6
b7c

As mentioned in reference report the telephone calls made from KUEHNS' Kalama and Lanakai residences, as well as the Kailua Beauty Shop, for the period from October through December, 1941, were obtained. All the questionable calls during that period have since been checked and eliminated as having any particular bearing on this case. The inquiries made in this connection are not being set forth since, as indicated, they are not pertinent to this investigation. However, the lists of these telephone calls are being retained in the Honolulu file in this case.

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

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

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

Honolulu FILE NO. **65-4**

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

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

*4 apprehensions
Ser. Alien
Otto Kuehn
Friedel Kuehn
Ruth Kuehn
Eberhard Martin*

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

- P -

REFERENCE:

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

*Page 8 of copie
is missing
369 8-20-70*

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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[REDACTED]

63-4

Details:

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

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

all
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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

1. Citizenship: The internee, OTTO K. KUEHN, also known as BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, is a native-born citizen of Germany, hence an enemy alien.
2. Loyalty: It is believed that he is loyal to Germany.
3. Activities: No specific instances of subversive activities has been shown. The Government did not present its case. Whether or not the Board erred in calling this man out of turn and getting his side of the case with no Government evidence against him, is reported without comment. What the Government's evidence is, the Board is unable to ascertain.

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

65-4

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

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

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

PENDING

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

Honolulu FILE NO. **65-**

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

REPORT MADE AT HONOLULU, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 1/30/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/20-29/42	REPORT MADE BY <i>[Signature]</i>
TITLE BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases; ET AL		CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

ENCL. **18**

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

EVIDENCE CONTAINED IN LABORATORY

CLASSIFIED BY *[Signature]*
DATE *[Signature]*

RECEIVED
FEB 10 10 50 AM '42

COPY IN FILE

DEFERRED RECORDING

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED 59	65-1579-151
300 AUG 24 1941 5 Bureau (Enc.) 1 Capt. E. V. Blattery (Judge Advocate General's Dept.) Honolulu 1 ONI Honolulu 1 U. S. Attorney Honolulu 3 Honolulu (1 Honolulu file 65-416)	RECORDED INDEXED FEB 12 1942 FEB 10 10 26 AM '42

[REDACTED]

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

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

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

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

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

65-4

office the originals of the message dispatched by the Japanese Consulate, Honolulu, to the Foreign Office, Tokyo, Japan, under date of December 3, 1941. Upon presentation of this order to

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

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

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

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

On January 27, 1942, charges and specifications were drawn by United States Attorney ANCUS M. TAYLOR, JR., Honolulu, T. H., against Subject OTTO KUENH, charging him with violation of Section 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated, violation of Section 31, as amended, United States Code Annotated, and violation of Section 32, Title 50, United States Code Annotated. These charges and specifications, which are being preferred by [redacted] Judge Advocate General's Department, who will act as Trial Judge Advocate in the prosecution of this case before the Military Commission, are as follows:

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

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

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

For your information: These pages contained duplicate information found in 65-1574-43

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-51 pp 4-7

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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65-4

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

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b7c

ENCLOSURE TO THE BUREAU

Two-page photostatic copy of coded radiogram.

PENDING

65-6

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

The HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION

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

PENDING

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

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

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

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-52

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C U C D

65-1574

January 7, 1942

Re: FRIEDEL BERTA AUGUSTE KUHN
with aliases;
BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUHN
with aliases;
ESPIONAGE (R)

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

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

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

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

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 11-20-80 BY SP5CJ/SA #26874

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65-1574-5

RECORDED

INDEXED

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FIVE

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

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

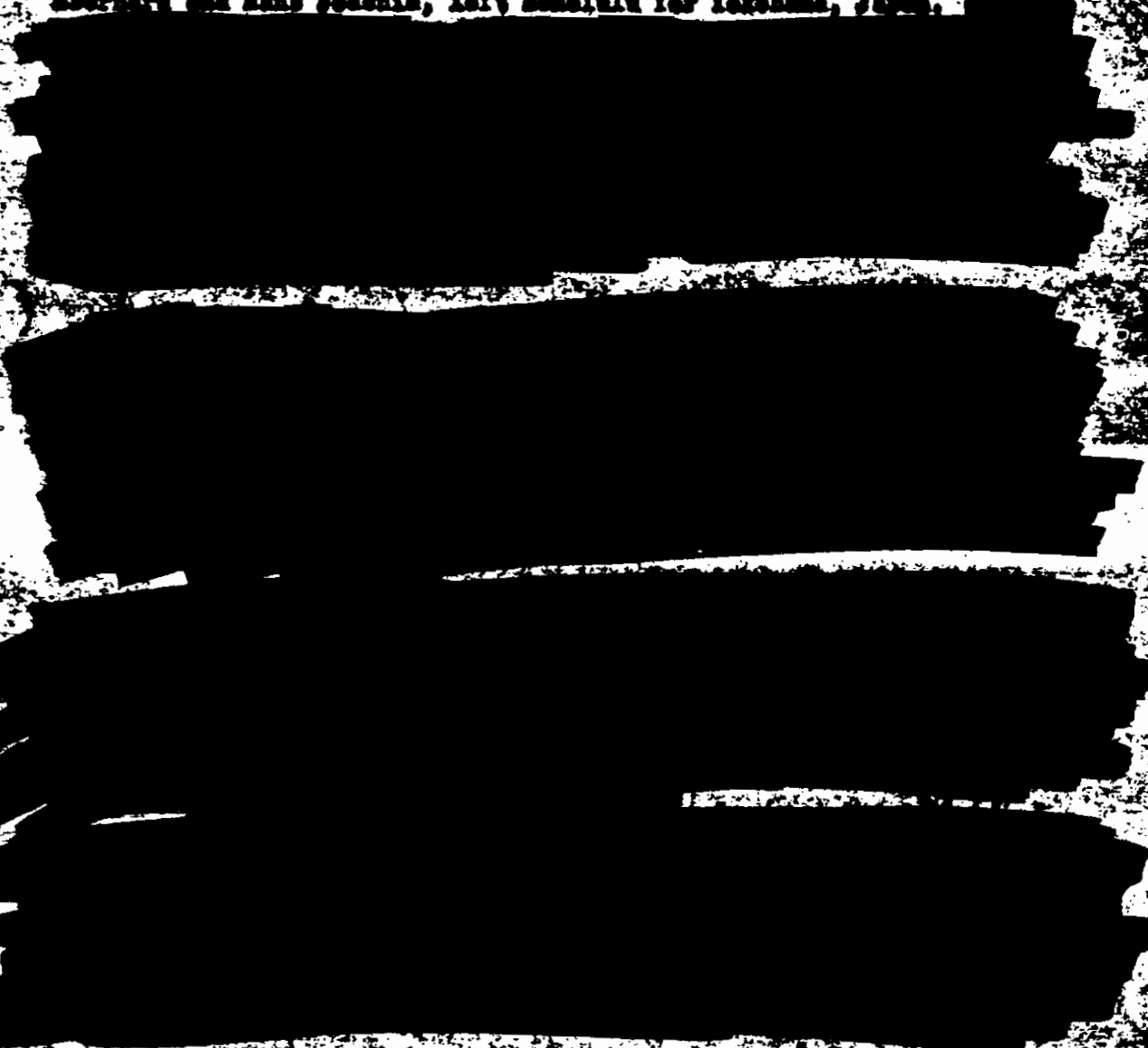
At the time of their entry into this country, Subjects stated that although neither of them was employed, they had ample funds to cover their expenses while here.

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

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

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

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



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

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- 3 -

[REDACTED]

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

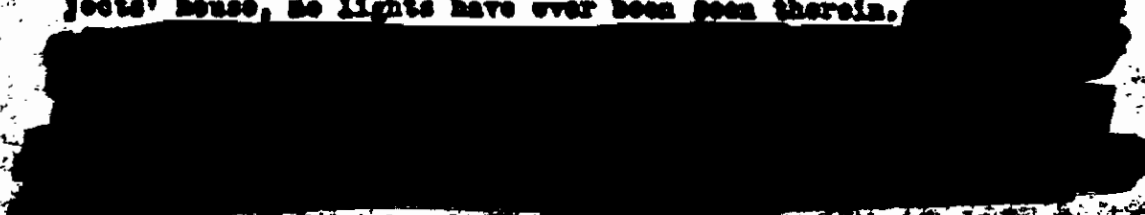
[REDACTED]

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

[REDACTED]

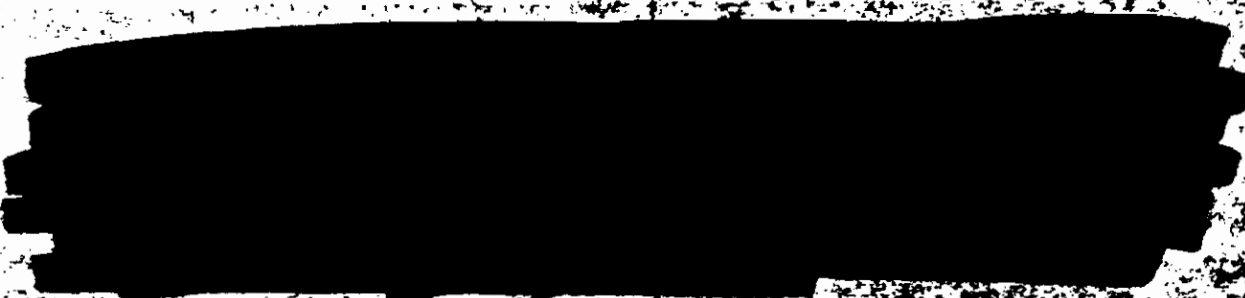
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According to information received from GHI in the early Fall of 1940, Subjects had a dormer window constructed in the attic of their residence which overlooked Kaneohe Air Station. GHI has advised that although numerous observations have been made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



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

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



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

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



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

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



[REDACTED]

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

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

January 7, 1942

THE DIRECTOR

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

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

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

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

Respectfully,

D. H. Ladd

62-7574-53
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
7 FEB 15 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ENCLOSURE

Original cannot be located and is not on record. When original is received in Files Division it will be filed either with this copy or may be given a new serial.
Attachment
1/5/42
OHP
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DATE 8-11-80 BY SP-10/CAS

2 FEB 20 1942

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

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

FILE NO. **65-414**

REPORT MADE AT Honolulu, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 1/15/42 ✓	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1/5-14/42	REPORT MADE BY 2
TITLE JAPANESE ACTIVITIES, Honolulu, T. H.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - CONFIL (J)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

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

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

- P -

10/21/42
 1/15/42
 2/1/42

Reference:

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

10-18-42
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APPROVED AND FORWARDED <i>[Signature]</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 Bureau - <i>cc. [unclear] [unclear]</i> 2 New York City 1 ONI, Honolulu 2 G2, Honolulu 1 Honolulu File 65-4 3 Honolulu		[Stamp: INDEXED] [Handwritten initials and numbers]

2/1/42 3/13/42

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

OTTO has given this office

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

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

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

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

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-53X pp 8-10

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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No further information of any significance was known to OTTO LEHMANN.

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

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

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

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

"Pearl Harbor Aircraft Will Fly to Manila"

"Fleet Reserve Group has 185 Members"

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

"New Docks For Pearl Harbor"

"New Subs Are Expected For Pearl Harbor"

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

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

"Naval Forces Here Trebled"

"Rosters From Vessels In Honolulu Naval Detachment"

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

Clipping captioned, "In Hawaii the Navy Has:

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

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

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

"Millions For Kaneohe Base"

"Mokapu Air Base Work to Start Wednesday"

"Naval Dock To Be Towed Here"

"Expansion of Hawaii Air Defenses Rushed"

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

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

"Army Here Will Get 200 New Fighting Planes"

"Marine Force Here Will Get 700 More Men"

"Expansion To Add 3,000 To Forces Here"

"New Bomber Group To Be Set Up Today"

"Naval Survey Party Sailed For Palmyra Air Base Job"

"Twelve Millions For Three Pacific Sub Bases Proposed"

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

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

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

Subject: SIGNALS FROM LANIKAI

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

... Beach,
...
tain...

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

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION

At New York City

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

- PENDING -

February 11, 1942

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

65-1576-
65-20029-

84588

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL BROWN

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H., dated October 11, 1940

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H., dated September 20, 1941

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H., dated November 24, 1941

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H., dated December 22, 1941

Handwritten notes: "mb", "8-11-80", "ADP", "8-11-80", "#268714", "M158922"

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65-1576-59
65-1576-0
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 11 1942
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

8 FEB 21 1942

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 3
★ FEB 12 1942 ★

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Handwritten signature

Memorandum for Assistant Attorney General Sargo

February 11, 1943

84589

Report of [redacted] T. H.,
dated January 9, 1943

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

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H.,
dated January 20, 1943

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H.,
dated January 21, 1943

Report of [redacted] Honolulu, T. H.,
dated January 19, 1943

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

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Attachment



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

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

February 3, 1942

84590

65-1574

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. E. A. TAMM

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

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

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

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

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

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-30-88 BY SP-5/CLJ/STP
#268714

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DATE: 4-9-82
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65-1574-55

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

14 FEB 18 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Memo for Mr. E. A. Tamm
Re: BERNHARD JULIUS OTTO KUSHN
was; et al; ESPIONAGE (J)

- 2 -

2/3/42

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Briefly, the charges pending against Subject are as follows:

1. Commencing on or about November 20, 1941, up to January 27, 1942, the date the charges were filed, Kushn with Otojiro Okada and Nagao Kita, Vice Consul and Consul respectively of the Japanese Government in Honolulu, conspired to communicate and transmit to the Japanese Government certain writings relating to the movements and positions of several units of the United States Fleet at Pearl Harbor in violation of Section 34, Title 50, U. S. C. A.

Eight specific overt acts are listed in connection with this conspiracy.

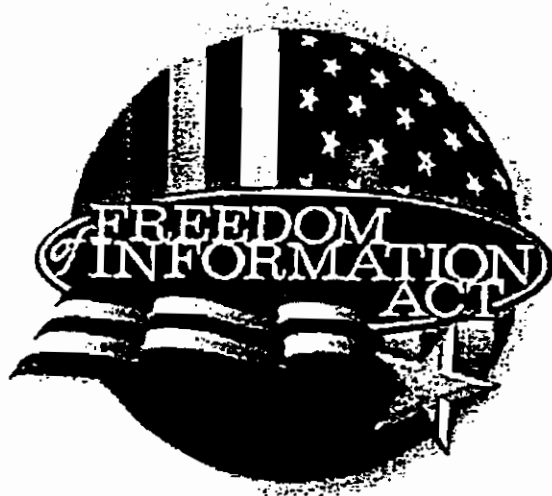
2. On or about November 28, 1941, Kushn visited Pearl Harbor for the purpose of obtaining information respecting battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, submarines, owned, constructed and under the control of the United States, in violation of Section 31, Title 50, U. S. C. A.

3. Kushn on or about December 2, 1941, unlawfully disclosed to agents of the Japanese Government information relating to United States battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers and submarines at Pearl Harbor, in violation of Section 32, Title 50, U. S. C. A.

The prosecution of Subject will be followed closely and you will be kept advised of developments.

Respectfully,


D. M. Ladd



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BERNARD KUEHN

PART 3 OF 7

FILE NUMBER: 65-1574

SUBJECT

KUEHN

FILE NUMBER

65-1574

SECTION 3

U. S. Department of Justice

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



SERIALS 56-115

65- HQ-1574

SECTION 3

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

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HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

SECTION 3
SERIALS 56-115

for Cell 421

Section 3
Section 4

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

FILE NO. **654**

REPORT MADE AT Honolulu, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 2-13-42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 2/11-13/42	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases; ET AL.			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - J.

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Table set forth reflecting numbers, according to types, of United States Navy ships in Pearl Harbor at the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., daily, from November 22nd through the 30th, 1941, as a basis of comparison with figures given by OTTO KUEHN to Japanese Consulate, Honolulu, on December 2, 1941. Detailed figures set forth on numbers and movements of ships in Pearl Harbor throughout the day of November 28, 1941. Post Office Box 1476, Honolulu, mentioned in signal plan furnished by Japanese Consulate to Foreign Office, Tokyo, December 3, 1941, is rented to OTTO KUEHN. Check of fingerprints of OTTO KUEHN and wife FRIEDEL fails to reveal previous records.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 8-11-80 BY SP-5/CJK
 #268714

REFERENCE:

Report of **[REDACTED]** at Honolulu, T. H., dated January 31, 1942.

DETAILS:

AT HONOLULU, T. H.

In order to serve as a basis of comparison with the figures submitted by Subject OTTO KUEHN to the Japanese Consulate, Honolulu, on December 2, 1941, regarding the size according to types of the United States Naval Fleet based at Pearl

1 ENCL. 28
1-1-42
0/44

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>R. L. Shuman</i>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES DESTROYED 36 95 AUG 4 1970 COPIES OF THIS REPORT Bureau (Enc.) - AIR MAIL cc on - 2-2-42 1 - [REDACTED] (Judge) 1-15-45 cate General's Dept.) Honolulu 1 - ONI, Honolulu 1 - U.S. Attorney, Honolulu 3 - Honolulu (1 - Hono. File 65-414)		1574 + 56 RECORDED INDEXED FEB 1942 EX-18

65-4

Harbor, T. H., the following table was prepared by [REDACTED] who advised that the figures reflected therein were made up by [REDACTED] Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor, T. H.:

TABLE SHOWING NUMBERS OF BATTLESHIPS, HEAVY CRUISERS, LIGHT CRUISERS, AIRCRAFT CARRIERS, SUBMARINES, DESTROYERS, AND DESTROYER-TYPE VESSELS IN PEARL HARBOR, AT 0800 AND 1800, 22-30 NOVEMBER, 1941.

		Types of Ships									
DATE	TIME	BBs	CAs	CLs	CVs	SSs	DDs	DMs	AVDs	(#)	
11-22	0800	3	6	1	1	4	21	8	2	31	
	1800	3	6	1	1	4	22	8	2	32	
11-23	0800	3	6	1	1	4	22	8	2	32	
	1800	3	6	1	1	4	22	4	2	28	
11-24	0800	3	6	1	1	4	21	4	1	26	
	1800	3	6	1	1	4	21	4	2	27	
11-25	0800	3	6	1	1	4	24	5	2	31	
	1800	3	10	1	2	4	26	8	3	37	
11-26	0800	3	10	1	2	4	24	8	2	34	
	1800	3	11	1	2	4	23	8	3	34	
11-27	0800	3	11	1	2	4	23	8	3	34	
	1800	3	11	1	2	4	28	8	3	39	
11-28	0800	1	8	0	2	4	11	4	3	18	
	1800	7	8	5	1	2	26	4	3	33	
11-29	0800	6	7	6	1	2	24	4	3	31	
	1800	6	7	5	1	2	26	4	3	33	
11-30	0800	5	7	5	1	2	25	4	3	32	
	1800	5	7	5	1	2	26	4	3	33	

Key: BB - battleship; CA - heavy cruiser; CL - light cruiser; CV - aircraft carrier; SS - submarine; DD - destroyer; DM - light mine layer (destroyer type); AVD - seaplane tender (destroyer type).

(#) - Total of destroyer type craft. DMs and AVDs were built as destroyers and converted to their present use. To the untrained eye, they would appear as destroyers.

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TABLE OF NUMBER AND MOVEMENT OF SHIPS IN PEARL HARBOR, BY
TYPES, AT VARIOUS TIMES BETWEEN 0600 AND 1800, 28 NOVEMBER,
1941

BATTLESHIPS (BBs)

0600 - At moorings (ARIZONA, NEVADA, OKLAHOMA)	3
0658 - NEVADA underway	3
0705 - ARIZONA underway	3
0748 - NEVADA cleared	2
0801 - ARIZONA cleared	1
1045 - PENNSYLVANIA entered	2
1053 - CALIFORNIA entered	3
1102 - MARYLAND entered	4
1110 - TENNESSEE entered	5
1123 - WEST VIRGINIA entered	6
1155 - PENNSYLVANIA moored	6
1210 - CALIFORNIA moored	6
1232 - MARYLAND moored	6
1240 - TENNESSEE moored	6
1306 - WEST VIRGINIA moored	6
1547 - UTAH moored (#)	7
1648 - UTAH moored (#)	7
1800 - At moorings	7

(#) The UTAH was commissioned as a battleship, but later demilitarized and used as a target ship. To the untrained observer, she might appear to be a battleship.

HEAVY CRUISERS (CAs)

0600 - At moorings	11
0625 - NORTHAMPTON underway	11
0632 - CHESTER underway	11
0640 - SALT LAKE CITY underway	11
0718 - NORTHAMPTON cleared	10
0727 - CHESTER cleared	9
0735 - SALT LAKE CITY cleared	8

LIGHT CRUISERS (CLs)

0600 - Underway in harbor (DETROIT)	1
0637 - DETROIT cleared	0
1138 - HELENA entered	1
1131 - HONOLULU entered	2
1148 - ST LOUIS entered	3
1200 - PHOENIX entered	4

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LIGHT CRUISERS (CLs) - cont'd.

1212 - RALEIGH entered	5
1250 - HELENA moored	5
1300 - HONOLULU moored	5
1300 - RALEIGH moored	5
1305 - PHOENIX moored	5
1328 - ST. LOUIS moored	5
1350 - DETROIT entered	6
1510 - DETROIT moored	6
1800 - At moorings	6

AIRCRAFT CARRIERS (CVs)

0600 - At moorings (LEXINGTON, ENTERPRISE)	2
0735 - ENTERPRISE underway	2
0838 - ENTERPRISE cleared	1
1800 - At moorings	1

SUBMARINES (SSs)

0600 - At moorings	4
1254 - ARGONAUT underway	4
1300 - TROUT underway	4
1340 - ARGONAUT cleared	3
1350 - TROUT cleared	2
1800 - At moorings	2

DESTROYERS (DDs)

0600 - At moorings or underway	26
0602 - MUGFORD cleared	25
0605 - GRIDLEY cleared	24
0608 - MAURY cleared	23
0612 - BAGLEY cleared	22
0617 - HENLEY cleared	21
0620 - CRAVEN cleared	20
0621 - PATTERSON cleared	19
0623 - BALCH cleared	18
0625 - HELM cleared	17
0628 - RALPH TALBOT cleared	16
0630 - FANNING cleared	15
0632 - McCALL cleared	14
0640 - DUNLAP cleared	13
0641 - BENHAM cleared	12
0647 - CONYNGHAM cleared	11

DESTROYERS (DDs) - cont'd.

1205 - WORDEN entered	12
1221 - ALYWIN entered	13
1228 - CONYNGHAM entered	14
1232 - CASSIN entered	15
1236 - HULL entered	16
1243 - DALE entered	17
1245 - REID entered	18
1247 - DOWNES entered	19
1254 - DEWEY entered	20
1300 - MONAGHAN entered	21
1308 - TUCKER entered	22
1318 - CONYNGHAM moored	22
1330 - FARRAGUT entered	23
1333 - CASE entered	24
1336 - MacDONOUGH entered	25
1340 - PHELPS entered	26
1345 - CASSIN moored	26
1350 - ALYWIN moored	26
1350 - REID moored	26
1407 - DOWNES moored	26
1412 - TUCKER moored	26
1425 - WORDEN moored	26
1435 - DALE moored	26
1440 - CASE moored	26
1446 - MONAGHAN moored	26
1446 - HULL moored	26
1459 - DEWEY moored	26
1459 - FARRAGUT moored	26
1515 - PHELPS moored	26
1530 - MacDONOUGH moored	26
1800 - At moorings	26

MINESWEEPERS (DSm)

0600 - At moorings	8
0610 - GAMBLE underway	8
0612 - MONTGOMERY underway	8
0615 - BREESE underway	8
0625 - RAMSAY underway	8
0652 - GAMBLE cleared	7
0655 - MONTGOMERY cleared	6
0657 - BREESE cleared	5
0700 - RAMSAY cleared	4
1800 - At moorings	4

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SEAPLANE TENDERS (AVDs)

0600 - At moorings
1800 - At moorings

3
3

It is again pointed out that [REDACTED] is the proper person to introduce this information at the trial in this case. It will be recalled the figures submitted by OTTO KUEHN to the Japanese Consulate on December 2, 1941, as described by him in his statement furnished this office, were as follows:

7 Battleships
6 Cruisers
2 Aircraft carriers
40 Destroyers
27 Submarines

It is observed that while KUEHN's figures are remarkably accurate regarding battleships, cruisers, aircraft carriers and destroyers in Pearl Harbor as of November 28, 1941, his figures regarding the number of submarines are highly inaccurate. It is to be noted the largest number of submarines in Pearl Harbor at any time during November 28, 1941, is four.

It is pointed out, however, that due to the location of the submarine base in the harbor, it is hardly possible to observe the submarines from any point outside of the Naval Reservation.

For the information of the Bureau, there is being enclosed with copies of this report a diagram of a Pearl Harbor Mooring and Berthing Plan which was drawn up January 10, 1941, and which is self-explanatory.

Attention is directed to the report of Special Agent in Charge R. L. SHIVERS, dated December 26, 1941 at Honolulu, in the case entitled, "JAPANESE ACTIVITIES, Honolulu, T. H. ESPIONAGE - J (CONFIDENTIAL)". In this report there is set forth the decoded message transmitted by NAGAO KITA, Japanese Consul-General, Honolulu, to the Foreign Office, Tokyo, under date of December 3, 1941, which describes a signal plan for transmitting information

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65-4

to the Japanese Government regarding United States Navy Fleet activities at Pearl Harbor, T. H. One of the means by which such information was to be transmitted as described in the Consulate message was through, "KEMB want-ad advertisements, 9:45 a.m., (A) A Chinese rug, etc., for sale - Apply Post Office Box 1476, indicates 3 or 6."

It has been determined that Post Office Box 1476 is rented to OTTO KUEHN. Subject in this case.

Under date of January 19, 1942 fingerprint impressions of BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN and his wife, FRIEDEL AUGUSTE BERTHE KUEHN, were forwarded to the Bureau for a check against the records in the Identification Division for any previous records on these Subjects. The Bureau advised by wire of February 1, 1942 that there are no previous records of these individuals on file in the Identification Division.

- P E N D I N G -

654

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE HONOLULU FIELD DIVISION:

AT HONOLULU, T. H.:

Will follow and report the results of
OTTO KUEHN's trial before the Military
Commission.

- P E N D I N G -

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- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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SECRET

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

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

65-1574

February 19, 1942

Received 4:50 p.m.
Dictated 4:55 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

RE: OTTO KUEHN, with aliases; et al
ESPIONAGE - J

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-18-86 BY SP-11-86
#268714

[REDACTED]

For your information, Count 8 is the last of the specific overt acts alleged in the charges preferred against Kuehn. It reads as follows:

"(8) Honolulu, T. H. On or about the third day of December, Nagao Kita did transmit a plan and system of signals previously prepared by Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn to the Foreign Minister of the Imperial Japanese Government at Tokyo, Japan."

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

Attachment

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333 AUG 14 1970

2 MAR 3 - 1942

COPY IN FILE **SECRET**

65-1574-57
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
10 FEB 28 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

2/27/42

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Transcribed 2/23/42

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

65-1574-60

RECORDED
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mgf x-12

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Further reference is made to my memoranda of January 5, and January 19, 1942, regarding certain messages dispatched by Nagae Kite, the Japanese Consul in Honolulu, Hawaii, to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo, setting forth a complete system of signals to be employed in communicating intelligence information to the Japanese Fleet.

As you may recall, it was determined that Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn was responsible for the preparation of the signaling system in question, which he furnished to representatives of the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu on December 2, 1941.

On February 19, 1942, Kuehn went on trial before the Military Commission in Honolulu following the preferring of charges by the Judge Advocate General's Department, United States Army, alleging a violation of Sections 31, 32 and 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated. Specifically, Kuehn was charged with conspiring with the Japanese Vice Consul in Honolulu to transmit information to Japan pertaining to the national defense of the United States and performing certain overt acts to culminate this conspiracy. Further, he was charged with the transmitting, on or about December 2, 1941, of information relating to the United States Fleet and the national defense of America to an agent of the Imperial Japanese Government. Kuehn was also charged with the unlawful obtaining of information regarding the number and types of United States vessels based at Pearl Harbor, with the intent and reason to believe that the information obtained was to be used to the injury of the United States and to the advantage of Japan.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP5 RSC/CLW
ON 8-11-86
#268717

The Military Commission on February 21, 1942, returned a verdict of guilty on the above charges and sentenced Kuehn to be shot. The information with reference to the verdict in this case was furnished to the Bureau in the strictest of confidence, with the request that it not be divulged.

As the execution of this sentence will constitute the first death imposed on a subject in an espionage case in this country during the present World War, it is believed that you may be interested in this information.

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

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 10:10
DATE 2-28-42
BY

RECEIVED-ROOM 5542
FBI
FEB 28 1942

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEB 25 1 41 PM '42
DIRECTOR

COPY)

January 27, 1942.

In reply refer to
FC 702.9411A/44

PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL

My dear Mr. Hoover:

I acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letters of January 5 and January 21, 1942 addressed to Mr. Berle concerning certain activities on the part of the Japanese consular staff at Honolulu, Hawaii, and in response to the latter communication wish to state that

- (1) This Department has plans under way for the transfer of the members of the Japanese consular staff, their families and entourage to continental United States;
- (2) A subsequent exchange of American and Japanese consular personnel is planned;
- (3) It does not seem advisable to take action looking to the prosecution of the members of the Japanese consular staff, their families and entourage at Honolulu for espionage and other subversive activities;
- (4) There is no objection to the questioning of the members of the Japanese consular staff, their families, and entourage at Honolulu regarding intelligence activities, including the activities of third persons;
- (5) It is important that the questioning by the Federal Bureau of Investigation there be done promptly so it will not necessitate delay in the sailing of the Japanese official personnel from Honolulu;
- (6) The date of the departure of the Japanese from Honolulu is not yet known to the Department of State;
- (7) The Department of State will be pleased to have the Japanese from Honolulu detained at a place and under conditions of custody agreeable to the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and
- (8) The Department of State would appreciate receiving from the Federal Bureau of Investigation suggestions as to suitable places for their detention.

Sincerely yours,

BRECKINRIDGE LONG
Assistant Secretary

J. Edgar Hoover, Esquire,
Director, Federal Bureau of
Investigation,
Department of Justice.

EE 11 15 5 16 11 95
Conf. letter to Amos 2/11/42 KYZ
BEV-160

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

146-7-1382

February 4, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER,
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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

Reference is made to your memorandum of January 21, 1942, and previous memoranda concerning the possible prosecution of Nagao Kita, Japanese Consul General, and Atojiro Okuda, Vice-Consul at Honolulu, in connection with their espionage activities during the week prior to December 7, 1941.

I have discussed this matter with Breckinridge Long, Assistant Secretary of State, and have been advised by him that the Department of State cannot, in view of the pending negotiations for the exchange of American and enemy diplomatic and consular officials, consent to the detention and prosecution of Japanese officials who are subject to the exchange agreement.

Mr. Long stated, however, that Consul General Kita might be interrogated concerning his activities and the activities of other persons who are not under the protection of the exchange agreement. Mr. Long advised me in confidence that Kita has been detained incommunicado, which action was taken in retaliation for similar treatment accorded to an American consular official in Southeastern Asia.

~~DEFERRED RECORD~~

With respect to the prosecution of persons (other than consular officials) who may have participated in espionage activities, it is suggested that prosecution be instituted in accordance with the law now prevailing in the Territory of Hawaii. Your memorandum of January 19, 1942, states that the Military Commission established in the Territory of Hawaii is presently exercising jurisdiction over all capital offenses and other violations where the prescribed punishment is in excess of five years' imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine.

It is requested that reports covering the investigation of the activities of Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, his family and associates, be furnished to the Criminal Division.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge

WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 11 1942
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Confid Letter to Honolulu 2-11-42 XXX

File

February 11, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

Special Agent in Charge
Honolulu, Hawaii

Re: JAPANESE ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES;
COMFILE - J

Dear Sir:

There is quoted hereinafter a memorandum dated February 4, 1942, received by the Bureau from Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge:

Reference is made to your memorandum of January 21, 1942, and previous memoranda concerning the possible prosecution of Hideo Kita, Japanese Consul General, and Atojiro Okuda, Vice-Consul at Honolulu, in connection with their espionage activities during the week prior to December 7, 1941.

I have discussed this matter with Breckinridge Long, Assistant Secretary of State, and have been advised by him that the Department of State cannot, in view of the pending negotiations for the exchange of American and enemy diplomatic and consular officials, consent to the detention and prosecution of Japanese officials who are subject to the exchange agreement.

Mr. Long stated, however, that Consul General Kita might be interrogated concerning his activities and the activities of other persons who are not under the protection of the exchange agreement. Mr. Long advised me in confidence that Kita has been detained incommunicado, which action was taken in retaliation for similar treatment accorded to an American consular official in Southeastern Asia.

With respect to the prosecution of persons (other than consular officials) who may have participated in espionage activities, it is suggested that prosecution be instituted in accordance with the law now prevailing in the Territory of Hawaii. Your memorandum of January 19, 1942, states that the

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 3
 FEB 12 1942
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

SAC Honolulu

- 2 -

2/11/42

Re: JAPANESE ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES;
COMPILE - J

Military Commission established in the Territory of Hawaii is presently exercising jurisdiction over all capital offenses and other violations where the prescribed punishment is in excess of five years' imprisonment and/or \$5,000 fine.

"It is requested that reports covering the investigation of the activities of Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, his family and associates, be furnished to the Criminal Division."

It is suggested that your investigation in this case be conducted in accordance with the instructions contained in the above memorandum.

For your information, the Department has orally advised that the statement contained in paragraph three of the quoted memorandum to the effect that Consul General Kita might be interrogated is not intended to limit your investigation or questioning to that individual.

The Department of State has also advised the Bureau that it would interpose no objection to the questioning of the members of the Japanese consular staff, their families and entourage at Honolulu regarding intelligence activities, including the activities of third persons. The State Department added that it is important that the questioning by the Bureau be done promptly so it will not necessitate delay in the sailing of the Japanese official personnel from Honolulu.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

65-1574

Transcribed 2/23/42

MEMORANDUM

Re: BERNHARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN

Kuehn has been the subject of an intensive investigation by Special Agents of the FBI and representatives of ONI since February, 1939, when information was received by the FBI that he was suspected of being an espionage agent. Kuehn was reported to have no apparent source of income although he maintained two homes in Hawaii and entertained lavishly.

Investigation disclosed that Kuehn was born in Berlin, Germany, on July 25, 1895, and served in the Imperial German Navy during World War I. Following a sea battle with an English war vessel, his ship was sunk and Kuehn was taken captive by the English and interned until the end of hostilities. After his return to Germany, he studied architecture and again entered the German naval service as a Lieutenant aboard the mother ship of a mine sweeper flotilla. After thus serving for about six months, Kuehn was released and placed in the Naval Reserve Corps. He studied medicine at the University of Berlin and the University of Munich for about a year and a half and then engaged in various occupations in Germany.

Subject became associated with the Nazi Party in 1930 following his attendance at a meeting called by Hitler in Kiel, Germany. According to Kuehn, he was considered with Reinhold Heydrich for the position of Chief of the German Gestapo under Heinrich Himmler, but because of Himmler's dislike for Kuehn, Heydrich received the appointment.

On May 10, 1920, at Munich, Germany, Kuehn married Friedel Birk, who although previously unmarried was the mother of two children, Leopold and Ruth. Two sons, Martin Eberhard and Hans Joachim were born of this marriage. (Leopold Kuehn is presently serving the Nazi Party as assistant to Propaganda Minister Goebbels.) Ruth Kuehn married J. Carson Moore, with whom she resided in Honolulu until December 8, 1941, when she was taken into custody as a German alien by Special Agents of the FBI.

Kuehn was first admitted to the United States at Honolulu on August 15, 1935, for the ostensible purpose of studying the Japanese language. Investigation disclosed that over \$70,000 was deposited to the credit of Kuehn and his wife in the Bishop National Bank at Honolulu by the Rotterdam Bank Association, Amsterdam, through the National City Bank of New York between May 14, 1936, and February 7, 1939. This income supposedly accrued from investments and business interests held by Subject in Germany and Holland. During an interview with Subject by representatives of ONI on November 2, 1939, Kuehn asserted that he was receiving money from property

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DATE 8-11-86 BY SP5/BJL/CK
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- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

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65-1574-6
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 15 1942
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

250

which he owned in Germany, as a result of an arrangement effected with his

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

In the early Fall of 1940, according to information received from OWI, Kuehn had a dormer window constructed in the attic of his residence overlooking Kaneohe Air Station.

[REDACTED]

Investigation has disclosed that Kuehn has done considerable entertaining in Honolulu, exhibiting a particular interest in Army and Navy officers. It is also known that an enlisted sailor in a uniform, driving a car with Pearl Harbor tags, and also an automobile bearing identification tags of Schofield Barracks, has been seen visiting Subject.

- 3 -

According to information received from G-2, on January 20, 1940, reliable sources indicated that a couple identified as Mr. and Mrs. Friedel, apparently German, frequently had secretly approached the Japanese Consulate General in Honolulu and had requested that he transmit some information to the Japanese Navy. On July 10, 1940, the Japanese Consulate General requested the Tokyo Foreign Office to advise them of the reliability of the Friedels. Two days later, according to G-2, the Foreign Office replied, stating in effect that the Japanese Navy could not place the Friedels very well but they would like to receive their information by wire with a notation that it emanated from them. G-2 added that the Japanese Navy apparently was prepared to compensate the Friedels for their information according to its value. The Friedels in all probability are identical with Kuehn and his wife.

On October 25, 1941, \$14,000 cash was delivered by [REDACTED] to Kuehn at his residence at Kalana, Kailua, Oahu, T. H.

On February 19, 1942, Kuehn went on trial before the Military Commission in Honolulu for violations of Sections 21, 32 and 34, Title 30, U. S. C. A. Briefly, these charges alleged that Kuehn conspired with the Vice Consul in Honolulu to transmit to Japan information pertaining to the national defense of the United States and perform certain overt acts to subvert the conspiracy. Further, on or about December 2, 1941, Kuehn transmitted information relating to the United States Naval Fleet and national defense of America to an agent of the Imperial Japanese Government. Kuehn was also charged with unlawfully obtaining information respecting the number and types of United States naval vessels based at Pearl Harbor with the intent and reason to believe that it was to be used to the injury of the United States and to the advantage of the Japanese Government.

A verdict of guilty on each of the above charges was rendered by the Military Commission on February 21, 1942, and Kuehn was sentenced to be shot.

RECORDED

65-1574-62
Transcribed 2/23/42

**PERSONAL AND
CONFIDENTIAL**

Major General Edwin M. Watson
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

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

As you may recall, the translation of one of these messages, dispatched on December 3, 1941, by Nagao Kita, the Japanese Consul in Honolulu, to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo, set forth a complete system of signals to be used in transmitting information to the Japanese fleet pertaining to the number and movements of United States vessels stationed at Pearl Harbor. One of the signals to be employed was a "light in dormer window of Kalama house from 7 p. m. to 1 a. m. every hour", which was to indicate the sailings of American aircraft carriers and battle forces on certain dates.

Investigation has disclosed that the Kalama house with the dormer window mentioned in this signal was owned by Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn and his wife Friedel. These individuals, with their daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, were interned at Honolulu on December 8, 1941. Following his detention, Kuehn in a written statement admitted that he prepared the signaling system in question at the request of officials of the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu, furnishing it to them on December 2, 1941. It is also known that Kuehn on one occasion received \$14,000 from a Japanese Consulate official in Honolulu.

Charges against Kuehn for violation of the Federal Espionage Act were preferred by the Judge Advocate General's

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

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ON 08-11-80
#118022

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
★ FEB 25 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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F. B. I.
FEB 25 9 19 AM '42
45981
Handwritten signatures and initials are present over the stamps.

FEB 25 1942

(1) (1)

Major General Edwin M. Watson

- 2 -

Department, U. S. Army, at Honolulu, T. H., and on February 21, 1942, Kuhn was convicted by the Military Commission and sentenced to be shot.

Attached hereto, as of possible interest to the President and you, is a memorandum reflecting a brief summary of the information contained in the files of this Bureau concerning Kuhn.

With assurances of my highest regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

Attachment

BY SPECIAL
MESSENGER

DE

b6
b7c



March 3, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON
MR. TAMM
MR. LADD

In conference with the Attorney General today I suggested that he give his very prompt attention to the memorandum that had been directed to him concerning Bernard Julius Otto Buchn, the German alien who has been tried by Military Court in Hawaii and ordered to be shot. I advised the Attorney General that the decision in this case was secret, but I believed he should immediately discuss the matter with the President, the State Department, and the War Department in order that an early decision could be made as to the disposition of the same with due consideration to any possible retaliation against nationals of this country in either Germany or Japan.

Very truly yours

151 J. E. H.

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-8-86 BY 8801/CA
#268714

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

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TIME 7:10
DATE 3/3/42

65-1574 63
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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MAR 5 1942
210
32

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

SECRET

March 5, 1942

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

[REDACTED]
65-1574-51

MEMORANDUM FOR [REDACTED]

Re: Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn,
with aliases; et al.; Espionage-
J.

At the request of [REDACTED] of the National Defense Division, the two photostatic copies of a coded radiogram, designated as Q1, which were submitted to the Bureau with an Investigative Report made in Honolulu on January 31, 1942 by [REDACTED] in connection with the above-entitled case were examined.

Specimen Q1 is apparently transmitted in Japanese Diplomatic Code to Gaimudaijin, the foreign office at Tokio, and is signed Kita, the cable signature for the Japanese Legation at Honolulu. This message is apparently transmitted in Japanese Diplomatic Code or enciphered code and could not be decoded in the Laboratory inasmuch as the necessary code books are not available.

The photostats submitted are being retained in the files of the Laboratory [REDACTED] In the event that any additional information is received regarding this code and a decode is effected your office will be advised.

Respectfully,
[REDACTED]

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OTHERWISE

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DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
#268714

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65-1574-14
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
14 MAR 3 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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b1
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R.14

Honolulu, T. H.
February 24, 1942

65-414

Special Agent in Charge
New York, New York

Re:
INTERNAL SECURITY - C;
(Alien Enemy Control)

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated February 9, 1942, in the case entitled, "Japanese Activities, Honolulu, T. H.; ESPIONAGE-CONFILK (J)," of which the New York City Field Division was furnished a copy, Bureau file #65-1574.

For the information of the New York Field Division, reference Bureau letter makes reference to an investigation of one **BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN**, better known as **OTTO KUEHN**, by the Honolulu Office, in connection with the Japanese espionage activities in Honolulu, T. H. **OTTO KUEHN** was born July 25, 1895, in Berlin, Germany. In April, 1913, he enlisted in the German Navy, and became a midshipman aboard a German cruiser, serving until January 1915, when his ship was sunk and he was made a prisoner of war by the British. Following the armistice, **KUEHN** returned to Berlin, remaining in Germany up until April, 1935. During that period, in 1930, he, together with his wife and son, became a member of the Nazi Party. On one occasion, in 1932, by his own statement, he was considered for a position with the Nazi Party which was instead given to **REINHOLD HEYDRICH** and which later developed into the position of chief of the German Gestapo system. After failing to obtain this position, **KUEHN** worked for a brief period as an investigator for the Nazi Party, but became involved in some difficulties with the party and was forced to resign, following which, in April, 1935, he left Germany with his wife, proceeding to Honolulu, where he has since remained. At the present time,

Investigation by the Honolulu Office has developed that **KUEHN**, during November, 1941, worked closely with the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu in furnishing information regarding the numbers and types of United States Navy ships in Pearl Harbor, T. H., and also devised a plan of signals by means of which information regarding the movements of United States Navy ships in Hawaiian waters might be transmitted to the Japanese Fleet.

Bureau

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MAR 3 1942
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SAC, New York, New York

February 24, 1942

As a result of OTTO KUEHN's activities in this connection, he has
faced trial before a military commission, which convened at Honolulu
on February 19, 1942. Although the trial was completed on February 21,
1942, the verdict of the commission has not been made public, the
entire proceedings having been conducted in strictest privacy.

SAC, New York, New York

February 24, 1942

For the information of the Bureau, the necessary inquiries have been made by the Honolulu Field Office to determine the contacts and acquaintances of OTTO KUBEN over a period of time, and all such persons have either been subjects of separate investigations by the Honolulu Field Office or have been appropriately eliminated as ones who might be engaged in any activities inimical to the interests of the United States Government.

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers
Special Agent in Charge

cc Bureau ✓

February 16, 1942

65-1574

MEMORANDUM

RE: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
with aliases; Otto K. Kuehn, (Otto Kuhn),
Otto E. Kuhn, Mr. Koehn;
ESPIONAGE - G - J

Subject first came to the attention of the Bureau in February, 1939, when an acquaintance of Assistant Director E. A. Tamm named [redacted]

[redacted] submitted information which, he explained, was furnished to him by friends in the Hawaiian Islands, who desired to remain anonymous, indicating that subject and his wife, Friedel Barta Aguste Kuehn, were believed to be espionage agents. This report indicated that although the Kuehns had no apparent source of income, they owned two homes at Kailua, Oahu, one of which was very large and, further, that they entertained lavishly, particularly Army officers. This information was immediately referred to ONI and G-2. The San Francisco Field Division of the Bureau was instructed to conduct an investigation regarding the Kuehns when an Agent was next in the Territory of Hawaii.

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

Kuehn married his wife Friedel on May 10, 1920. At that time Friedel was the mother of two children, named Ruth and Leopold.

[redacted] two sons, Martin Eberhard and Hans Joachim, resulted from the Kuehns' marriage.

Kuehn admittedly has been associated with the Nazi Party since 1930, although he contends he did not become active until 1932. At the latter time, he assertedly accompanied [redacted] Munich to see an official about securing a job with the Party. Through a ruse, [redacted] supposedly got to the official before Kuehn and, as a result, received the position which subsequently developed to be Chief of the German Gestapo system, working under [redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED.
DATE 8-12-86 BY SP5/JOB

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

65-1574-66

b6
b7c

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

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

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

b6
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Immediately following Eshn's first arrival in Honolulu in 1935, he temporarily resided at the Brookland Hotel, where he sought the companionship of young Navy officers, whom he reportedly entertained freely.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c
b7d

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c
b7d

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

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

[REDACTED] Japan, who was forwarding money to subject in [REDACTED] and the subject was transferring a similar amount to [REDACTED] Germany.

This stated arrangement appears to be contradictory to correspondence appearing in OHI's file indicating that it was impossible for

b6
b7c

Hamburg to arrange for the transmittal of funds from Japan to Kuehn in Honolulu.

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

Numerous reports have been received by the Honolulu Field Office indicating that the Kuehns are very pro-German and pro-Nazi and interested in German clubs in Honolulu.

[REDACTED]

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According to information received from ONI in the early Fall of 1940, Kuehn had a corner window constructed in the attic of his residence overlooking Kaneohe Air Station. ONI has advised that although numerous observations have been made of subject's house, no lights have ever been seen therein.

[REDACTED]

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

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

Investigation has revealed that Subject has done considerable entertaining in Honolulu, exhibiting a particular interest in having Army and Navy officers as their guests. A list of Kuehn's associates, obtained from ONI, contains the names of five lieutenants.

[REDACTED]

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b7d

According to information received from G-2, on January 20, 1940, reliable sources indicated that a couple identified as Mr. and Mrs. Friedal, apparently German, frequently had secretly approached the Japanese Consulate General in Honolulu and had requested that he transmit some information to the Japanese Navy. On July 10, 1940, the Japanese Consulate General requested the Tokyo Foreign Office to advise them of the reliability of the Friedals. Two days later, according to G-2, the Foreign Office replied, stating in effect that the Japanese Navy could not place the Friedals very well but they would like to receive their information by wire with a notation that it emanated from them. G-2 added that the Japanese Navy apparently was prepared to compensate the Friedals for their information according to its value. The Friedals in all probability are identical with Kuhn and his wife.

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

[REDACTED]

b7E

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

The translation of one of these messages dispatched on December 3, 1941, by Kita, the Japanese Consul in Honolulu to the Foreign Minister at Tokyo, set forth a complete system of signals to be used in communicating intelligence information to the enemy. One of the signals to be used was a "light in dormer window of Kalama house from 7 p. m. to 1 a. m. every hour", indicating the sailings of aircraft carriers and battle forces on certain dates.

As soon as the translation of this message was received, the Honolulu Field Office with ONI and G-2, instituted an investigation for the purpose of identifying and locating the persons responsible for this signal. It at once appeared that the Kalama house with the "dormer window", mentioned in the above signal, was owned by Kuehn.

Subject, with his wife and daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, were taken into custody on December 8, 1941, after the declaration of war against the United States by Germany.

Kuehn was interviewed several times and on December 30, 1941, he submitted a statement, admitting that he had prepared the system of signals for the Japanese Consul General which were set out in the Consul's telegram of December 3, 1941. He also stated that his home at Kalama and his beach house at Lanikai were the places from which the signals were to have been sent by him. He did not admit ever sending any signals, however, and stated that he had no intention of doing so at the time he furnished them to the Consul General.

In this connection, Kuehn explained that he contacted the Japanese Vice Consul in Honolulu during November 1941, and offered to assist in obtaining information of interest. The Vice Consul assertedly asked Kuehn for data regarding the number of ships in Hawaiian waters, to which Kuehn replied he would find out. The Vice Consul also asked Kuehn about maneuvers of the United States fleet in the Pacific, but Kuehn contended he could not ascertain this information. Thereupon, the Vice Consul supposedly requested Kuehn to work out a set of signals whereby the Japanese fleet could be advised as to the number of American ships in Pearl Harbor and their movements. Following this contact, Kuehn with his son, Hans Joachim, age ten, drove to the vicinity of Pearl Harbor and observed the ships there at that time. Three or four days later, subject again contacted the Japanese Vice Consul at which time he also conferred with the Consul General, Nagao Kita. It was on this visit that Kuehn submitted his signalling system. However,

following a consultation between Kita and the Vice Consul, the latter told Kuehn the system was too complicated and requested him to prepare a simpler method. This Kuehn did and delivered the revised system to the Japanese Vice Consul on December 2, 1941. On the same date he furnished written information concerning the number and various types of ships in Hawaiian waters, which data were subsequently determined upon inquiry to be substantially correct.

It is noted that on or about October 25, 1941, \$14,000 cash was delivered by Tadasi Morimura, Fourth Secretary of the Japanese Consulate, Honolulu, to Kuehn at his residence at Kalama, Kailua, Oahu, T. H.

At the present time Kuehn, with his wife and daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, is detained at the Immigration Station in Honolulu. It is anticipated that charges will be preferred against Subject in the immediate future by the Judge Advocate General's Department, U. S. Army, at Honolulu. These charges will be brought under three counts. The first count will allege a violation of Section 34, Title 50, U. S. C. A., to wit: a conspiracy to violate Section 32, Title 50, in that Otto Kuehn conspired with the Vice Consul, Japanese Consulate, to transmit information pertaining to the national defense of the United States and performed overt acts to culminate the conspiracy. The second count will charge a violation of Section 32, Title 50, U. S. C. A., in that on or about December 2, 1941, Otto Kuehn did transmit information relating to the United States Navy Fleet and national defense of the United States to an agent of a foreign government, to wit: the Imperial Japanese Government. The third count will allege a violation of Section 31, Title 50, U. S. C. A., in that on or about November 27, 1941, in the vicinity of Pearl Harbor Navy Yard, Oahu, T. H., Otto Kuehn did unlawfully and feloniously obtain information respecting the national defense of the United States, to wit: the number and types of United States Naval ships based at Pearl Harbor, Oahu, T. H.

February 16, 1942

65-1574

THE DIRECTOR

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
with aliases;
ESPIONAGE (C-J)

For your information, there is attached a summary memorandum concerning the above mentioned subject.

Kuehn, with his wife and daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, is presently detained at the Immigration Station in Honolulu and it is anticipated that charges will be preferred against him in the immediate future by the Judge Advocate General's Department, U. S. Army.

It is noted that the preferring of charges against Subject was delayed pending the return to Honolulu of Special Agent in Charge Shivers, who is a necessary witness in this case.

Respectfully,

D. H. Ladd

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DEPT OF JUSTICE
FEB 18 1942
RECEIVED
ATTACHMENT

DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FEB 18 1942
RECEIVED
FILES DIVISION

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

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

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INDEXED

65-1574 66

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1 MAR 13 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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

WB:EDD:mac

146-7-1882

March 16, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDGAR HOOVER,
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION.

Re: Friedel Barta Auguste Kuehn
with aliases
Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn
with aliases
Espionage (G)

Reference is made to the Report of [redacted] dated January 5, 1942, at Honolulu, T. H., in the above-entitled matter, which refers to the Report of Special Agent R. L. Shivers, dated December 26, 1941, at Honolulu, T. H.

It is requested that the Federal Bureau of Investigation transmit to the Criminal Division a copy of the above described Report of Special Agent R. L. Shivers dated December 26, 1941 at Honolulu, T. H.

Respectfully,

Wendell Berge
WENDELL BERGE,
Assistant Attorney General.

FOR DEFENSE



RECORDED

65-1574-67
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
10 MAR 18 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

*Memo to Asst. A. G. Berge (encl.)
re Ser. 330, 65-9748
to State, On 3 + G-2 by routing slip
3/24/42 4-2-42
222*

RECORDED

65-1574-67

April 2, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL WENDELL BERGE

Re: FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUERN with aliases;
BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUERN with aliases;
ESPIONAGE G and J

Pursuant to the request contained in your memorandum of March 16, 1942, your reference WB:KDD:mac, 146-7-1382, there is attached a copy of the report of Special Agent in Charge E. L. Shivers, dated December 26, 1941, at Honolulu, T. H., reflecting information regarding the above captioned case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Attachment

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-86 BY SP8CJL/OW
#28714

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 7
APR 2 1942 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

REC-14
22 APR 7 1942

APR 2 2 27 PM '42

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]

March 4, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn was responsible for the preparation of the signaling system used in connection with messages dispatched by Nagao Kita, the Japanese Consul in Honolulu, Hawaii, to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo, setting forth a system of signals to be employed in getting intelligence information to the Japanese fleet.

Kita was court-martialed, charged with transmitting information to Japan regarding our vessels at Pearl Harbor, and on February 21, 1942, was found guilty and sentenced to be shot.

I am advised that the Japanese Consul, who of course was a part of the conspiracy, is being sent to this country and will be presumably exchanged in due course.

The sentence of Kuehn perhaps raises a question of policy about which you may wish to consult the Secretary of State. I am today sending him a copy of this memorandum.

Francis Biddle
Attorney General

0 COPY

March 6, 1942.

SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE:

What do you think? I am inclined to think that Kita, on arrival in the continental United States, should be kept incommunicado and not placed with the other Diplomats. Plenty of food but no communications in or out.

F.D.R.

C O P Y

March 6, 1942.

My dear Mr. President:

I am returning to you herewith the memorandum addressed to you by the Attorney General under date of March 4 which you sent me with your memorandum of March 6.

I think the steps which you yourself suggest are wisest under the circumstances. I am afraid that if we undertake criminal proceedings against Kita, the Japanese will immediately retaliate against a number of our own consuls now within their jurisdiction.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,

SUMNER WELLES

Enclosure:

To the President from the
Attorney General, March 4, 1942,
re Nagao Kita, Japanese Consul
in Honolulu.

The President,

The White House.



Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D.C.

March 9, 1942

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

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER

I am enclosing herewith a copy of my memorandum addressed to the President under date of March 4, with reference to Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn and Nagao Kita. I am also enclosing a copy of the President's memorandum of March 9 to which he attached a copy of a memorandum to the Acting Secretary of State and a copy of the State Department's reply.

These are transmitted for your information.

frb
Francis Biddle
Attorney General

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65-1574-68
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
12 MAR 14 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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Hank
3/13/42

2/2/42

3
COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

March 9, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE

ATTORNEY GENERAL:

FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

F. D. R.

15-15714-17

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65-1574-68

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65-1574-80
3/11/42

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Reference is made to my memorandum to you dated February 26, 1942, and to your memorandum dated March 9, 1942, with enclosures, concerning Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn and former Japanese Consul General Kage Kita of Honolulu, Hawaii.

45-1574

100-62207

It is noted in the enclosed copy of your memorandum for the President dated March 4, 1942, that you indicate in the second paragraph of that memorandum that "Kita was court-martialed....". I hasten to respectfully call your attention to the fact that the name Kita was apparently inadvertently transcribed into your memorandum at that point rather than the name Kuhn. As reflected in my reference memorandum, it was Kuhn who was court-martialed and found guilty, and sentenced to be shot. No charges whatsoever were ever placed against Japanese Consul General Kita.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover
John Edgar Hoover
Director

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MAR 11 3 25 PM '42

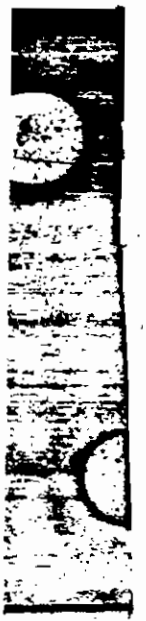
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#2687K

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

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 12:52 PM
DATE 3-12-42
BY [Signature]

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
MAR 11 6 36 PM '42

RECEIVED-ROOM 5640
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
MAR 11 6 20 PM '42



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Honolulu, T. H.
February 23, 1942

PERSONAL ATTENTION

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
with aliases, ET AL;
ESPIONAGE - J.

Dear Sir:

The trial of BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN before a
Military Commission at Honolulu, was begun at 9:30 A.M. February
19, 1942 in the courtroom of United States Federal Judge INGRAM
M. STAINBACK.

During the course of the trial which extended through
February 21st, the courtroom was closed to all outsiders, the trial
being conducted in strictest privacy. Before the announcement of
the verdict at 1:30 P.M. February 21, 1942, the courtroom was cleared
of everyone with the exception of prosecution and defense counsel,
the court reporter and members of the Commission. All there present
at the courtroom, upon the pronouncement of sentence, were sworn to
secrecy.

Immediately following the trial [redacted]
[redacted] was informed in the closest confidence and unofficially
by Colonel THOMAS GREEN, Executive Military Governor, that Subject
KUEHN had been convicted on all three counts named in the charges
incorporated in the report of [redacted], dated January 31,
1942; further, that he had been sentenced to death before a firing
squad. Colonel GREEN emphasized that this information could not be
officially given out and that same should be restricted to myself

He specifically requested that Washington not be
notified immediately until Commanding General DELOS C. EMMONS of the
Hawaiian Department had had an opportunity to be advised of these
proceedings, following which he would notify the Honolulu Office so
that you might be furnished with the verdict simultaneously with the
transmittal of this information to the War Department. It was as a
result of these arrangements that my wife of the 22nd was dispatched
advising you of this verdict. Following a receipt of your wire of
this date requesting advice as to what restrictions had been imposed

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INDEXED
JUN 11 1942

65-1574-
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
11 MAR 30 1942

Handwritten initials and routing slip with names: Mr. Tolson, Mr. E. A. Tamm, Mr. Clegg, Mr. Glavin, Mr. Ladd, Mr. Nichols, Mr. Rosen, Mr. Tracy, Mr. Carson, Mr. Coffey, Mr. Hendon, Mr. Holloman, Mr. Mumford, Mr. Quinn Tamm, Mr. Nease.

Handwritten: 12121, 15, 136

Handwritten: JUN 19 1942

Handwritten: all, b6, b7c

Letter to the Director
Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
with aliases, ET AL;
ESPIONAGE - J.

- 2 -

2-23-42

on the secrecy of the proceedings, [REDACTED] again contacted Colonel GREEN for his comments.

Colonel GREEN stated in his wire to the War Department of the 22nd instant, he had indicated the verdict in this case had been furnished to no one, but suggested that same be transmitted to the Department of Justice at Washington, D. C., since the F.B.I. had been instrumental in the investigation and success of the case. At the same time he had suggested to the War Department that this verdict be taken up with the State Department and White House prior to execution of sentence since reprisals against our own nationals in Japan and Germany might result.

Colonel GREEN is of the opinion that premature publicity might also bring about this result and therefore, he suggested that publicity be avoided for the moment. He suggested however that you might wish to take this matter up directly with Brigadier General LEE of the Military Intelligence Division at Washington or with Major General KRAMER, Judge Advocate General, regarding the issuance of any news releases; that he has no objection following any procedure agreeable to these men. Colonel GREEN did request however that such a contact be discreetly made in such a manner that the War Department would not be cognizant of our previous knowledge of the verdict in this case.

I might state that our relations with Colonel GREEN and his office have been extremely cordial and I therefore feel that every effort should be made to protect the confidence he has placed with [REDACTED] and myself in this matter. b6 b7c

Very truly yours,


R. L. SHIVERS
Special Agent in Charge.

RLS:mma
65-4
cc: 65-414

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

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

March 25, 1942.

65-4

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

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
with aliases, ET AL.
Espionage - J and G.

Dear Sir:

As a matter of interest to the Bureau, in the above-captioned case, attention is directed to an article which appeared on Page 36 of the February 23rd issue of "Time" Magazine, regarding the rise to power of the Chief of the German Gestapo, REINHARD HEYDRICH, whose photograph also appears on the magazine cover.

It is interesting to note that this article reports HEYDRICH extorted from a Prussian official, as a result of letters obtained reflecting correspondence between this official and one GREGOR STRASSER, a recommendation to HEINRICH HIMMLER resulting in his appointment to a post with the Munich Elite Guard. Thereafter, it was reported his rise to Chief of the German Gestapo was rapid. It was also mentioned in connection with the blood purge of June 30, 1934, that HEYDRICH supervised the Berlin end of the massacre and "found time to take personal care of GREGOR STRASSER, firebrand adherent of the "Roehm Rebels."

Attention is directed to the signed statement of OTTO KUEHN, Dated January 1, 1942, contained in the report of [redacted] dated January 5, 1942, entitled JAPANESE ACTIVITIES, HONOLULU, T. H., Espionage, Confile-J. It will be observed, on page 2 of this statement, KUEHN advised that he and HEYDRICH had both made a bid for a Nazi government position in Munich but that HEYDRICH had been selected. KUEHN also volunteered the information which was incorporated in his statement that he had been in a concentration camp with one OTTO STRASSER, the identity of this individual being unknown to this office. It is thought perhaps GREGOR STRASSER is identical with OTTO STRASSER, referred to by KUEHN.

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APR 6 1942

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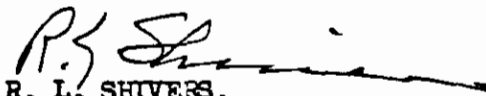
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1 APR 1 1942
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Director.

3/25/42.

The above has been brought to the Bureau's attention as a matter of interest only, although it tends also to bear out the truth of KUEHN'S statements concerning his activities in Germany.

Very truly yours,


R. L. SHIVERS,
Special Agent in Charge.

CUSTODIAL DETENTION APPREHENSION FORM

Reference:- HONOLULU LETTER 12-17-41

Taken into custody.

The following individual was:

NAME:- OTTO K. KNEHN (C-RELAY)

PLACE:- TERRITORY OF HAWAII

DATE: 12-17-41

REMARKS:

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-86 BY SP5/BJL

10 APR 7 1942

65-1574.
NOT RECORDED
S. J. [Signature]

CUSTODIAL DETENTION APPREHENSION FORM

Reference:- HONOLULU LETTER 12-17-41

Taken into custody.

The following individual was:

NAME:- MR. FRIEDRICH BARTHA AUGUSTE KUEHN (GERMAN)
ALIAS -- MRS. OTTO K. KUEHN

PLACE:- TERRITORY OF HAWAII

DATE: 12-17-41

REMARKS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 8-12-86 BY SP5/CJ/CD

52)
10 APR 7 1942

65-15741
NOT RECORDED
<i>Col. T. H. ...</i>

*h
cur*

CUSTODIAL DETENTION APPREHENSION FORM

Reference:- HONOLULU LE TER 12-17-41

Taken into custody.

The following individual was:

NAME:- ER ⁰ RICHARD M. RUTH KIMBURN (GREEN)

PLACE:- TERRITORY OF HAWAII

DATE: 12-17-41

REMARKS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-86 BY SP5/BJA

APR 7 1942

65-1574
NOT RECORDED
<i>5 1/2 ...</i>

Law

CUSTODIAL DETENTION APPREHENSION FORM

Reference:- HONOLULU LETTER 12-17-41

Taken into custody.

The following individual was:

NAME:- MRS. J. CARSON MOORE (GREEN) NEE -- RUTH KUHN;
ALIAS -- SUSE KAETE RUTH KUHN; RUTH MOORE

PLACE:- TERRITORY OF HAWAII

DATE: 12-17-41

REMARKS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-86 BY SP5/BJE/STW

8 APR 1942
77

65-1574
NOT RECORDED
Sub [unclear] [unclear]

RECEIPT FOR GOVERNMENT PROPERTY
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

I certify that I have received the following
Government property for official use:

RECEIVED:

Manual of Rules and Regulations #

RETURNED:

Old Manual of Rules and Regulations #

READ!

The Government property which you hereby acknowledge is charged to you and you are responsible for taking care of it and returning it when its use has been completed. DO NOT MARK OR WRITE ON IT OR MUTILATE IT IN ANY WAY.

Very truly yours,

CUSTODIAL DETENTION APPREHENSION FORM

Reference:- HONOLULU LETTER 12-12-41

Taken into custody.

The following individual was:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/12/80 BY SP5/CJ/CA

NAME:- MRS. FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE ^{OK} KUEHN (GERMAN)

PLACE:-

DATE: 12-12-41

REMARKS:

8 APR 8 1942

17

65-1574-
Apr 11

**RECEIPT FOR GOVERNMENT PROPERTY
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

I certify that I have received the following
Government property for official use:

RECEIVED:

Manual of Rules and Regulations #

RETURNED:

Old Manual of Rules and Regulations #

READ!

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Very truly yours,

CUSTODIAL DETENTION APPREHENSION FORM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-86 BY SP5CJ/cdb

Reference:- HONOLULU LETTER 12-12-41

Taken into custody.

The following individual was:

NAME:- OOTO K KUEHN (GERMAN)

PLACE:-

DATE: 12-12-41

REMARKS:

Kuehn, Otto K

9¹⁷ APR 8 1942

65-1574-
SEARCHED
INDEXED
Open Kuehn

RECEIPT FOR GOVERNMENT PROPERTY
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

I certify that I have received the following
Government property for official use:

RECEIVED:

Manual of Rules and Regulations #

RETURNED:

Old Manual of Rules and Regulations #

READ!

The Government property which you hereby acknowledge is charged to you and you are responsible for taking care of it and returning it when its use has been completed. DO NOT MARK OR WRITE ON IT OR MUTILATE IT IN ANY WAY.

Very truly yours,

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CUSTODIAL DETENTION APPREHENSION FORM

Reference:- HONOLULU LETTER 12-12-41

Taken into custody.

The following individual was:

NAME:- MRS. J. CARSON MOORE (GERMAN)

PLACE:-

DATE: 12-12-41

REMARKS:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 6/2/86 BY SP-6/BJD

65-1574
FBI - HONOLULU
J. C. [Signature]

APR 8 1942



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

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

Time 12:15 p.m. April 21, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: OTTO KUEHN;
ESPIONAGE - J.

Reference is made to your request to be advised concerning the present status of Kuehn, who has been convicted by a Military Court Martial at Honolulu, Hawaii, and was sentenced to be shot as a Japanese spy.

[redacted] made inquiries at the Military Intelligence Division today and was advised that the conviction of Kuehn was referred, as is the general policy, to the office of the Judge Advocate General in Washington for review. The Judge Advocate General upheld the finding of the Court.

The matter was then referred by Secretary Stimson to the State Department. The State Department replied that they would defer to the judgment of the War Department in this regard.

Recently Secretary Stimson also referred this matter to the Attorney General, requesting his advice as to the matter. No reply has been received from the Attorney General.

[redacted] stated that he was advised that if a reply is received from the Attorney General indicating that he will defer to the judgment of the War Department, arrangements will be made for the early execution of Kuehn.

Respectfully,

[redacted signature block]

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-86 BY SP5/CJA

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

MAY 29 1942

[Signature]



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

February 16, 1942

65-1574

b6
b7c

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

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
with aliases;
ESPIONAGE (G-J)

For your information, there is attached a summary memorandum concerning the above mentioned subject.

Kuehn, with his wife and daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, is presently detained at the Immigration Station in Honolulu and it is anticipated that charges will be preferred against him in the immediate future by the Judge Advocate General's Department, U. S. Army.

It is noted that the preferring of charges against Subject was delayed pending the return to Honolulu of Special Agent in Charge Shivers, who is a necessary witness in this case.

Respectfully,

[Handwritten signature]
D. M. Ladd

Attachment

[Handwritten note:] see 65-1574-53
62

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-8-80 BY SP5/CLP/ST

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&
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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

ST
2 MAY 19 1942

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



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

April 30, 1942

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

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, was;
ESPIONAGE (G), (J).

For your information, there is attached the summary memorandum concerning the above mentioned subject originally submitted to you under date of February 16, 1942, which has been brought up do date as of today.

On February 19, 1942, Kuehn went to trial before the Military Commission in Honolulu following the preferring of charges by the Judge Advocate General's Department of the United States Army alleging a violation of Sections 31, 32 and 34 of Title 50, United States Code Annotated. This Commission on February 21, 1942, returned a verdict of guilty on the above charges and sentenced Kuehn to be shot on the same date. The Military Intelligence Division advised that the conviction was referred as is the general policy to the Office of the Judge Advocate General in Washington for review, who incidentally upheld the finding of the Court.

The matter was then referred by Secretary Stimson to the State Department who replied that it would defer to the judgment of the War Department and this matter was recently brought to the attention of the Attorney General for his advice. The Military Intelligence Division has advised that if a reply is received from the Attorney General indicating he will defer to the judgment of the War Department, arrangements will be made for an early execution of Kuehn.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-86 BY SP5/CLL

Regulation
Attachment
see 6-25-42
65-1574-53
62
42
888
again

Respectfully,

[Signature]
D. M. Ladd

RECORDED

65-1574-73

17 MAY 8 1942

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Signature]

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



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

July 9, 1942

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Foxworth _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. [REDACTED]

Re: OTTO KUEHN
ESPIONAGE

At the request of [REDACTED] the writer requested [REDACTED] to determine whether or not the Department of Justice had answered the State Department's inquiry with reference to the legality of the court martial of Kuehn in Hawaii.

[REDACTED] has advised the writer that [REDACTED] of the Judge Advocate General's Office has informed him that no answer has been received from the Department of Justice as yet but [REDACTED] believes an answer will be received shortly because the men working on the Kuehn case in the Department of Justice are also working on the [REDACTED] and he believes that this case will stimulate them into making a reply.

all
bb
b7c

Respectfully,
[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-86 BY [REDACTED]

RECORDED

65-1574-74
13
Director

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EX-112

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

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



July 9, 1942

65-1574

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
was; ESPIONAGE (G) (J)

As you may recall, Kuehn, a German citizen, on February 21, 1942, was convicted of espionage and sentenced to be shot by the Military Commission at Honolulu.

Pursuant to the usual policy, this decision was referred to the Office of the Judge Advocate General in Washington, which upheld the finding of the Commission and then referred it through Secretary Stimson to the Department of State. The Department of State indicated it would defer to the judgment of the War Department regarding subject's execution, and the decision was then brought to the attention of the Attorney General for his advice. The Military Intelligence Service has indicated if the Attorney General will defer to the judgment of the War Department, arrangements will be made for an early execution of Kuehn.

[redacted] of the Military Intelligence Service has been contacted by the Bureau from time to time regarding Kuehn's status, and he has advised that the Judge Advocate General's Office has not as yet received any advice from the Department of Justice regarding the matter. According to [redacted] of the Judge Advocate General's Office has expressed the opinion that a decision from the Department of Justice should be forthcoming in the immediate future, inasmuch as the same men considering the Kuehn case are presently tied up on the [redacted] and [redacted] believes that the latter will act as a stimulant for the Department's decision concerning Kuehn.

It is noted that this matter has been before the Department of Justice since April, 1942.

Respectfully,

D.M. Ladd
D. M. Ladd
65-1574-71

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-80 BY SP6 CJS

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED STATES
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AND STAMPS

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EX-18

AUG 7 1942

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Tr. 8-6-42
65-1574

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Reference is made to my memoranda of January 5, January 19, and February 26, 1942, as well as our conversation on March 3, 1942, regarding Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn. As you may recall, Kuehn, a German alien, on February 21, 1942, was found guilty by the Military Commission in Honolulu and sentenced to be shot because of his preparation of a signalling system for the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu, which was transmitted to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo, to be used in furnishing intelligence information to the Japanese fleet.

We have been informed that the decision of the Military Commission, pursuant to the usual policy, was referred to the Office of the Judge Advocate General in Washington, which upheld its finding and then referred the matter through Secretary Stimson to the Department of State. The Department of State reportedly has indicated it would defer to the judgment of the War Department regarding Kuehn's execution, and we understand that the decision was then submitted to you for your advice. We have been informed by the Military Intelligence Service of the War Department that if you see fit to defer to the judgment of the War Department in this matter, arrangements will be made for an early execution of Kuehn.

I would appreciate being advised at your earliest convenience as to your decision in this matter.

Respectfully,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

RECEIVED
AUG 7 11 36 AM '42
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 3:50 P
DATE AUG 7 1942
BY B

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 7 1942
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

16 AUG 8 10 42
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CLASSIFIED BY [unclear]
ON 8-12-86

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

la

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
September 3, 1942

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

MEMORANDUM TO J. EDGAR HOOVER, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

From: Oscar Cox, Assistant Solicitor General

I shall be grateful if you will arrange to have sent to me your file on Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, who was recently sentenced to death by a military commission in Hawaii.

Oscar Cox

*Trans Mr. Cox
9-9-42
BVK*

DEC 11 1942
RECORDED

65-1574-76
7 SEP 15 1942
FILE



RECORDED 7/9/42

65-1574-76

**MEMORANDUM FOR MR. OSCAR COX,
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL**

Reference is made to your memorandum of September 3, 1942, in which you requested the file on Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, who was sentenced to death by a military commission at Hawaii on February 21, 1942.

In accordance with your request there are attached hereto the following reports:

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

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

Report of [redacted] dated September 26, 1939, at Honolulu, T. H.

Report of [redacted] dated March 22, 1930, at Honolulu, T. H.

Report of [redacted] dated March 29, 1940, at Honolulu, T. H.

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

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

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

Report of [redacted] dated September 20, 1941, at Honolulu, T. H.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-12-80 BY SP6 CJC/CD

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 12
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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10-7-42
Cox
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Report of [REDACTED] dated
November 24, 1941, at Honolulu, T. H.

Report of [REDACTED] dated
December 22, 1941, at Honolulu, T. H.

Report of [REDACTED] dated
January 5, 1942, at Honolulu, T. H.

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

Report of [REDACTED] dated
January 22, 1942, at Honolulu, T. H.

Report of [REDACTED] dated
January 26, 1942, at Honolulu, T. H.

Report of [REDACTED] dated
January 31, 1942, at Honolulu, T. H.

Report of [REDACTED] dated February 2,
1942, at New York City

Report of [REDACTED] dated
February 13, 1942, at Honolulu, T. H.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Attachment

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65-1574
Transcribed 9

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-16 BY SP5C/CLS

On the morning following the Japanese air attack on the Island of Oahu, the commercial telegraph, radio and wireless companies, at the request of the Honolulu Field Office, furnished it with copies of all messages which had been sent and received by the Japanese Consulate in that city.

The translation of one of these messages dispatched on December 3, 1941, by Kita, the Japanese Consul in Honolulu, to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo, set forth a complete system of signals to be used in communicating intelligence information to the Japanese.

Investigation has disclosed that Kuehn, who had been the subject of considerable investigation by the Bureau, OHI and G-2, was responsible for the preparation of the signal system.

Kuehn was born at Berlin, Germany, on July 5, 1895, and served in the Imperial German Navy during the First World War. He became associated with the Nazi Party in 1930 and claims that he was considered with Reinhold Heydrich for the position of Chief of the German Gestapo under Heinrich Himmler, but because of the latter's dislike for Kuehn, Heydrich was given the appointment. Kuehn is a German citizen, is married, and a stepson named Leopold [redacted]

Kuehn, with his wife Friedel and daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, was interned at Honolulu on December 8, 1941. Following his detention, Kuehn admitted his responsibility for the preparation of the mentioned signalling system in a written statement. He advised this had been done at the request of officials of the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu, and had been furnished to them on December 2, 1941. It has also been determined that Kuehn on one occasion received \$14,000 from a Japanese Consulate official in Honolulu.

- Mr. Tolson _____ Charges against Kuehn for violation of the Federal Espionage Act
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____ were preferred by the Judge Advocate General's Department, United States
- Mr. Clegg _____ Army, at Honolulu, T. H., and on February 21, 1942, Kuehn was convicted
- Mr. Glavin _____ by the Military Commission and sentenced to be shot. To date, this
- Mr. Ladd _____ sentence has not been carried out.
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____ On April 21, 1942, inquiry was made at the Military Intelligence
- Mr. Tracy _____ Division relative to the status of this case and it was determined that
- Mr. Carson _____ the conviction of Kuehn was referred, as is the general policy, to the
- Mr. Coffey _____ office of the Judge Advocate General in Washington for review and that
- Mr. Hendon _____ the Judge Advocate General upheld the findings of the court.
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-76
ENCLOSURE
EX-44

126 102
28 1942
273

The matter was then referred by Secretary Stimson to the State Department, which replied that it would defer to the judgment of the War Department in this regard. Secretary Stimson also referred this case to the Attorney General, requesting his advice as to the matter. To date, no action so far as is known has been taken by the Department in this regard, although in a memorandum dated September 3, 1942 from Assistant Solicitor General Oscar Cox, it was requested that this Bureau's file in this matter be referred to him. Accordingly, all investigative reports submitted have been transmitted to Assistant Solicitor General Cox.

This matter is being closely followed and a memorandum is being directed to Assistant Solicitor General Oscar Cox requesting that the Bureau be promptly advised of any action taken in this case.

65-1574

10-7-42

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. OSCAR COE,
ASSISTANT SOLICITOR GENERAL

Reference is made to my memorandum to you of September 11, 1942, with which I transmitted reports setting forth the results of the investigation of Bernard Julius Otto Knahn, who was sentenced to death by a military commission at Hawaii on February 21, 1942, for engaging in espionage activities on behalf of the Japanese.

It would be appreciated if you would promptly advise me of the action which is taken by the Department in this case.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-86 BY SP3C/efk

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 2

OCT 9 1942 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

65-1574-77
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 14 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

109

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

MEMORANDUM

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

Handwritten initials and marks

October 10, 1942

TO: Mr. J. Edgar Hoover

FROM: Oscar Cox

SUBJECT: Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn

Handwritten signature: R. L. ...

I appreciate your memorandum of yesterday about the Kuehn case. Before handing down an opinion, we are waiting for the opinion from the Supreme Court on the saboteur case. This is so because, undoubtedly, the Supreme Court will express some views about the powers and jurisdictions of military commissions. In all probability, the Supreme Court opinion will be handed down on Monday, October 12.

Handwritten signature: Hodges
(5)

We should be ready shortly thereafter with the Kuehn case opinion.

Handwritten signature: Oscar Cox



RECORDED

65-1574-79

F	B	d
12	OCT 15 1942	

Handwritten marks and initials

NOV 27 1942

~~PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL~~

65-1574
11/24/42

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

As you will recall, Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, a German alien, was convicted of espionage on behalf of the Japanese on February 21, 1942, by a Military Commission at Honolulu, T. H., which sentenced Kuehn to death.

Thereafter, the findings of the Military Commission were referred to the Office of the Judge Advocate General in Washington, which upheld the conviction. Through the Secretary of War, the case was then submitted to the Department of State, which deferred to the judgment of the Judge Advocate General's Office. It is understood that thereafter during April of 1942, this matter was submitted to the Department of Justice for an opinion.

The Military Intelligence Service of the War Department has advised that if the finding and sentence of the Military Commission are deferred to by the Department of Justice, arrangements will be made immediately for an early execution of Kuehn.

In accordance with the request of Mr. Oscar Cox, Assistant Solicitor General, all investigative reports in the Kuehn case were submitted to him for consideration on September 11, 1942. Thereafter on October 10, 1942, Mr. Cox advised me by memorandum that prior to handing down an opinion, it was desired that the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dasch sabotage case be reviewed inasmuch as the Supreme Court would undoubtedly express views relative to the powers and jurisdiction of military commissions. Mr. Cox indicated that the Department of Justice would be ready shortly thereafter with the Kuehn case opinion.

It is understood that the Supreme Court on October 29, 1942, handed down its opinion in the Dasch sabotage case.

It would be greatly appreciated if you would advise me at your earliest convenience when your opinion in this matter will be forthcoming.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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

DECLASSIFIED BY SP5/CLJ/CAD
ON 8-12-80

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NOV 27 1942
5 23 PM '42
65-1574-79
DIRECTOR
DEPT. OF JUSTICE

NOV 30 1942



UGO CARUSI
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C.

November 30, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOOVER

This refers to your undated memorandum which reached the Attorney General on November 27, inquiring when the Attorney General's opinion in the case of Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn will be rendered.

You will recall that Kuehn, a German alien, was convicted of espionage by a military commission in Hawaii, and sentenced to death. I am now advised that the sentence has been commuted to fifty years, and that the request for the opinion has been withdrawn.

Consequently, so far as the Department of Justice is presently concerned, the matter is closed.

Ugo Carusi
Executive Assistant to
the Attorney General

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Egan
Mr. Kramer
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy
Files

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memo for the Director
12-3-42 PVH



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65-1574

December 7, 1942

SAC, Honolulu

Re: **BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUHN**
with aliases; et al;
ESPIONAGE - J and C

Dear Sir:

The Bureau has been advised by memorandum dated November 30, 1942, from the Department that the death sentence received by Kuhn has now been commuted to fifty years.

It has also come to the attention of the Bureau that this commutation has been known to your office. However, the Bureau file fails to reflect the receipt of any communication relative thereto.

It is requested that you promptly advise the Bureau in this regard.

Yours truly,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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DATE 8-12-88 BY SP5CJ/CD

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

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

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 10 1942
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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[Handwritten initials]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

100-287



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

November 24, 1942

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

65-1574

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN was;
ESPIONAGE - J

The purpose of this memorandum is to set forth the present status of this case.

As you will recall, Kuehn was convicted for espionage activities on behalf of the Japanese and sentenced to death by a Military Commission at Honolulu, Hawaii, on February 21, 1942. In accordance with the usual policy in these matters, the sentence of the Military Commission was referred thereafter to the Office of the Judge Advocate General in Washington, which upheld the finding and sentence of the Commission, and then through the Secretary of War the case was referred to the Department of State. The State Department indicated that it would defer to the judgment of the War Department regarding Kuehn's conviction and sentencing, and the matter was then brought to the attention of the Attorney General for an opinion. The Military Intelligence Service has advised that if the Attorney General defers to the judgment rendered, arrangements will be made immediately for the execution of Kuehn.

As of this date, this matter is still in the hands of the Attorney General. By memorandum to the Director dated September 3, 1942, Mr. Oscar Cox, the Assistant Solicitor General, requested that investigative reports in this case be submitted to him for his consideration. By memorandum dated September 11, 1942, copies of all reports submitted relative to the investigation of Kuehn were transmitted to Mr. Cox. On October 9, 1942, Mr. Cox was requested by memorandum to promptly advise the Bureau of the action which would be taken by the Department in this case. Mr. Cox thereafter replied, stating that prior to handing down an opinion in this matter, his office was awaiting the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dasch sabotage case. Mr. Cox indicated that this was necessary inasmuch as the Supreme Court would undoubtedly express some views about the powers and jurisdiction of military commissions, and that the opinion in the Kuehn case would be ready shortly after the Supreme Court acted

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DATE 8-12-86 BY SP8UC/CA



BUY UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS

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Memo for Mr. Ladd
Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN was;
ESPIONAGE - J

- 2 -

11/24/42

It is understood that the Supreme Court handed down an ^{b6} opinion in the ~~Dutch~~ sabotage ~~case~~ on October 29, 1942. A memorandum is being transmitted to the Attorney General requesting advice as to when a decision will be forthcoming relative to Kuehn's conviction and sentence. It should be noted that this case has been before the Department since April, 1942.

Respectfully,


H. M. Kimball

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287



0
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

December 3, 1942

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

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65-1574

7-11-9

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN;
ESPIONAGE-J

You will recall that Kuehn, a German subject residing in Honolulu, Hawaii, on February 21, 1942 was sentenced by a Military Commission at Honolulu to death for his espionage activities on behalf of the Japanese prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor.

In a memorandum dated November 30, 1942, from Mr. Ugo Carusi, Executive Assistant to the Attorney General, it is stated that Kuehn's sentence has now been commuted to fifty years, and so far as the Department of Justice is concerned, the matter is closed.

Respectfully,

D. M. Ladd
D. M. Ladd

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DATE 8-12-80 BY SP5/CJ/CPA

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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Honolulu, T. H.
December 15, 1942

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

65-4

~~PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
with aliases; et al;
ESPIONAGE - G & J

Dear Sir:

Although to date no official notification has reached this office as to the sentence imposed upon BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, who was tried before a Military Commission at Honolulu, T.H., on February 19, 1942, for violation of Sections 31, as amended, 32, and 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated, [REDACTED]

that BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN was duly convicted on February 21, 1942, by a Military Commission duly appointed for the Territory of Hawaii by the Military Governor of the Territory of Hawaii, of the charges previously stated, and although he was sentenced on February 21, 1942, by the Military Commission to be shot to death with musketry, on October 26, 1942, the sentence was commuted to confinement at hard labor for a period of fifty years and KUEHN was ordered confined to the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas.

No disposition sheet is being forwarded to the Bureau in this matter, although fingerprints for subject were forwarded to the Bureau, as subject's arrest, trial, conviction, and sentence have not as yet been made a matter of public record.

Very truly yours,

R. L. Shivers
Special Agent in Charge

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Letter to New 12-20-42 PVA.

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ON 8-2-86

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December 30, 1942

SAC, Honolulu

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUSHN was; et al;
ESPIONAGE - G and J

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated December 7, 1942, in which you were advised that the Bureau had just been informed by memorandum from the Department dated November 30, 1942, that the death sentence received by Kushn had been commuted to fifty years.

[REDACTED] the death sentence received by Kushn was commuted to confinement at hard labor for a period of fifty years.

It is requested that you immediately advise when this information was first received at your office and, if prior to the Bureau's letter of December 7, 1942, why the Bureau was not appropriately advised.

It is also requested that a report setting forth Kushn's conviction, sentence and commutation of sentence be promptly submitted.

Yours truly,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-2-86 BY SSA/CAL

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

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

JAN 4 1943

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

Honolulu, T. H.

FILE NO. 65-4

REPORT MADE AT Honolulu, T. H.	DATE WHEN MADE 12/15/42	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 11/19; 12/10/42	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED]
TITLE BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases: Otto K. Kuehn, Otto Kuhn, Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Koehn; FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with aliases: Mrs. Otto K. Kuehn, Mrs. Otto K. Kuhn, Mrs. Koehn; Mrs. J. CARSON MOORE, nee Ruth Kuehn; XXXXXXXXXXXX EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN		CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE -- G & J	
CONFIDENTIAL			
<p>Synopsis: Subject OTTO KUEHN tried before Military Commission, Honolulu, T. H., 2/19/42, on three counts for violation of Sections 31, 32, and 34 of Title 50, United States Code Annotated. Verdict of guilty returned on 2/21/42 by Military Commission on each count, and subject OTTO KUEHN sentenced to be shot. On 10/26/42 verdict of guilty confirmed and sentence commuted to fifty years' imprisonment by Military Governor. Subject transferred to Fort Leavenworth on 11/20/42.</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; transform: rotate(-45deg); position: absolute; left: -100px; top: 50px;">1 conviction 50 year sentence Espionage</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; transform: rotate(-45deg); position: absolute; left: -100px; top: 100px;"># 1574</p>			
- C -			
RECLASSIFIED BY <u>SR/CPK</u> ON <u>3-17-80</u>			
References: Report of [REDACTED] dated at Honolulu, T. H., 2/15/42; Bureau letter dated 12/7/42 (Bureau file #65-1574)			
Details: AT HONOLULU, T. H.			
Charges and specifications charging BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN with violation of Sections 31, 32, and 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated, were served upon subject on February 14, 1942, [REDACTED]			

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: [Signature] SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

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- 5 Bureau
- 1 Honolulu file 65-414
- 5 Honolulu

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[REDACTED] Office and trial were set before Military Commission for February 19, 1942.

On February 19, 1942, the trial of BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN was held in strict privacy, all outsiders being excluded, before a Military Commission at Honolulu, T. H., at which Major General WOODRUFF was president and presiding officer. The trial lasted for a period of three days, and on February 21, 1942, a verdict of guilty was rendered by the Military Commission on each of the three charges as set forth in the report of [REDACTED] dated January 31, 1942.

On February 21, 1942, subject was sentenced by the said Military Commission to be shot to death with musketry. On October 26, 1942, the sentence was duly approved by the Military Governor, Lieutenant General DELOS C. EMMONS, of the Territory of Hawaii, but was commuted to confinement at hard labor for a period of fifty years. On November 7, 1942, an order was issued by the Military Governor of the Territory of Hawaii, to the Provost Marshal, Hawaiian Department, Fort Shafter, T. H., and the Warden of the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, ordering the commitment of BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, a person convicted of violating Sections 31, as amended, 32, and 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated, in the Federal Penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. A copy of the order of commitment was obtained and is being set forth as follows:

1. Whereas, the above named BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, duly was convicted on February 21, 1942, by the Military Commission duly appointed for the Territory of Hawaii by the Military Governor of the Territory of Hawaii, of the following charges to wit:

CHARGE I: Violation of Section 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated; unlawfully conspiring to transmit information affecting national defense.

Specification: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, OTOJIRO OKUDA and NAGAO KITA, at Honolulu, Island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, during the period commencing on or about the 20th day of November, 1941, up to and including the date of the filing of this charge, did conspire, combine, confederate and agree together and with each other and with other persons whose names are unknown, to commit an offense against the United States of America, to wit, the offense of unlawfully and feloniously, with intent and reason to believe that it was to be used to the injury of the United States and to the advantage of a foreign nation, namely Japan, communicating, delivering and transmitting, and attempting to communicate, deliver and transmit, to a foreign government, to wit, the Imperial Japanese Government, documents, codes, sketches, plans, lists and writings relating to the national defense and the movements and positions of the several

units of the United States Fleet (Section 32, Title 50, U.S.C.), that is to say that during the period and at the place above set forth BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, OTOJIRO OKUDA and NAGAO KITA did conspire, combine, confederate and agree together and with each other and with other persons whose names are unknown, with the intent and reason to believe that the information to be transmitted relative to national defense was to be used to the injury of the United States and to the advantage of a foreign nation, namely Japan, to communicate, deliver and transmit to a foreign government, namely the Imperial Government of Japan, certain information relative to national defense and to the movements and positions of the several units of the United States Fleet by means of a plan and system of signals which was to be prepared by BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN and submitted to OTOJIRO OKUDA at the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu, Island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, which would give a concise method of transmitting to the Imperial Government of Japan and its naval and military representatives information relative to national defense and the movements and locations of the battle force, scouting fleet, aircraft carriers and other units of the United States Fleet at Pearl Harbor, Island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

That thereafter and during the existence of said conspiracy one or more of said conspirators hereinafter mentioned by name did the following overt acts in furtherance of and to effect the object of said conspiracy aforesaid:

OVERT ACTS

(1) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 28th day of November, 1941, BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN did make a trip to the Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii.

(2) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 29th day of November, 1941, BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN did prepare a plan for transmittal of information relative to the United States Fleet.

(3) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 30th day of November, 1941, BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN did deliver to OTOJIRO OKUDA at the Japanese Consulate, 1714 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, T. H., a plan for the transmittal of information relative to the movements and positions of the several units of the United States Fleet.

(4) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 30th day of November, 1941, OTOJIRO OKUDA advised BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN at the Japanese Consulate that his plan for transmittal of information relative to the United States Navy was too complicated, and instructed him to prepare a simpler plan.

(5) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 1st day of December, 1941, BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN did prepare a plan for the transmittal of information relative to the movements and positions of the several units of the United States Fleet.

(6) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 2nd day of December, 1941, BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN did deliver to OTOJIRO OKUDA at the Japanese Consulate, 1714 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, T. H., a plan for the transmittal of information relative to the United States Fleet units and their movements.

(7) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 2nd day of December, 1941, BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN did deliver to OTOJIRO OKUDA at the Japanese Consulate, 1714 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, T. H., a list showing the number and type of naval vessels in Pearl Harbor, T. H.

(8) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 3rd day of December, 1941, NAGAO KITA did transmit a plan and system of signals previously prepared by BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN to the Foreign Minister of the Imperial Japanese Government at Tokio, Japan (Section 34, Title 50, U.S.C.)

CHARGE II: Violation of Section 31, as amended, Title 50, United States Code Annotated; unlawfully obtaining information affecting national defense.

Specification: In that BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN did, at Pearl Harbor, Island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, on or about November 28, 1941, for the purpose of obtaining information respecting the national defense with intent and reason to believe that the information to be obtained was to be used to the injury of the United States and to the advantage of a foreign nation, namely, Japan, unlawfully and feloniously obtain information concerning vessels connected with the national defense, to wit, battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, submarines, owned and constructed by the United States and under the control of the United States and of its officers and agents, in violation of Section 31, as amended, Title 50, United States Code Annotated.

CHARGE III: Violation of Section 32, Title 50, United States Code Annotated; unlawfully disclosing information affecting national defense.

Specification: In that BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN did, at Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, on or about December 2, 1941, with intent and reason to believe that it was to be used to the injury of the United States and to the advantage of a foreign nation, namely, Japan, unlawfully and feloniously communicate, deliver, transmit, and attempt to communicate, deliver and transmit, to a foreign government, namely, The Imperial Government of Japan, and to the military and naval forces

within a foreign country, namely, Japan, and to representatives, officers, agents, employees, subjects and citizens thereof, information relating to the national defense of the United States, to wit, information relating to and concerning vessels, to wit, United States battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, and submarines connected with the national defense, at Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, their positions, locations, and movements, in violation of Section 32, Title 50, United States Code Annotated.

2. And, whereas, the said BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN duly was sentenced upon said conviction of said charges on said February 21, 1942, by said Military Commission, to be shot to death with musketry;

3. And, whereas, on October 26, 1942, the said sentence duly was approved by the undersigned Military Governor of the Territory of Hawaii but was commuted to confinement at hard labor for fifty (50) years; and whereas it appears necessary to the undersigned, as the said Military Governor of the Territory of Hawaii, that the said BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN be confined in The United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, to serve said sentence as commuted as aforesaid;

4. Now, therefore, you, the said Provost Marshal, Hawaiian Department, Fort Shafter, Territory of Hawaii, hereby are ordered to deliver, or cause to be delivered, the said BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN to the Warden, The United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, for the purpose of confining him, the said BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, in the said United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, to satisfy the said sentence of confinement at hard labor for fifty (50) years so imposed by the said Military Governor of the Territory of Hawaii. HEREOF FAIL NOT.

THE MILITARY GOVERNOR OF THE TERRITORY OF HAWAII;
TO: The Warden of The United States Penitentiary,
Leavenworth, Kansas.

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, duly having been convicted and sentenced in the manner and form aforesaid,

You hereby are ordered to receive the said BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN in The United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas from the said Provost Marshal, Hawaiian Department, Fort Shafter, Territory of Hawaii, and safely keep and confine him, the said BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, in the said United States Penitentiary and cause the said sentence of confinement at hard labor for fifty (50) years to be fully executed. HEREOF FAIL NOT.

/s/ DELOS C. EIMONS
Lieutenant General, United States Army,
Military Governor of the Territory of Hawaii. P/R

On November 19, 1942, it was ascertained that subject OTTO KUEHN was to be transported from the Territory of Hawaii to the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, on November 20, 1942. Arrangements were made with [redacted] Contact Office, Military Intelligence Division, Hawaiian Department, in order that subject might again be interviewed. Subject was reinterviewed over the entire matter by [redacted] and the writer on that date. Subject was very willing to discuss his associations with the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu. However, little additional information not previously reported was obtained.

KUEHN reiterated all information previously reported relative to his associations and dealings with the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu, T. H., and still insisted that he had made no additional contacts with them, nor had he at any time used any of the signals previously outlined to convey information relative to United States Fleet movements. He insisted that the money he had received, though possibly conveyed to him by members of the Japanese Consulate staff, had come [redacted]

[redacted] Tokyo, Japan, and was not in payment for any services rendered the Japanese, but was a final payment on property transferred [redacted] by his wife. KUEHN insisted that he did not know the money was delivered by a member of the Consulate staff, but stated it was still his belief that it had come to him from Japan on the "TATUTA MARU," and had been delivered by some member of the ship's crew.

KUEHN corrected his previous statement that the individual with whom he had been in a concentration camp in Germany was one OTTO STRASSER, and stated that GREGOR STRASSER was the correct name of the individual with whom he had been confined. He stated that there were two STRASSERS in Germany, and that he was acquainted with both. However, GREGOR STRASSER was the individual referred to on Page two of his statement, contained in the report of [redacted] dated January 5, 1942, entitled: "JAPANESE ACTIVITIES, HONOLULU, T. H.; ESPIONAGE; CONFIL-J."

When questioned concerning conversations between his wife, FRIEDEL, [redacted] two or three weeks prior to December 7, 1941, relative to building a bomb shelter, he stated that he recalled some such conversation but that he himself could not attach any significance to this. KUEHN stated that his wife, FRIEDEL, had from time to time during the past two years stated that the United States would eventually become involved in the world conflict which was then going on, and insisted that it would be possible to bomb the Territory of Hawaii. She always regarded Japan as the United States' greatest enemy, and from time to time in the past she has suggested the possibility of constructing a bomb shelter at their home in Kailua. KUEHN stated that during the summer of 1941 she had suggested to him on several occasions that he convert his small fish pond into a bomb shelter. KUEHN still insisted that he had no previous information relative to the attack on the Territory of Hawaii, December 7, 1941.

and stated that until it actually occurred, he had never been able to believe that the United States and Japan would ever become engaged in war.

No additional information not previously reported could be elicited. KUEHN expressed concern for his wife, FRIEDEL, and children, and appeared quite cheerful about receiving a commutation of his sentence to fifty years. He stated that he had a grandmother in Germany who had lived to the age of 94, and he believed he would live to serve his entire sentence and at least two years beyond.

On November 20, 1942, KUEHN was removed from detention quarters at the Immigration and Naturalization Station, Channel Street, Honolulu, T. H., by officers of the Provost Marshal's Office, for transportation to the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

Inasmuch as all logical investigative leads have been exhausted, and subject BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN has been duly tried before a Military Commission in Honolulu, T. H., found guilty, and sentenced to serve a period of fifty years in the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, and has been transferred from the Territory of Hawaii, this case is being closed.

- CLOSED -

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

December 23, 1942

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

Re: 

KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated December 17, 1942, from 

*P196 Handled
12-29 RAF*

Letter dated December 13, 1942, from 

*P197 Handled
12-29 RAF*

Letter dated December 16, 1942, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H.

*P198 Evidence return
12-31/42 REL*

Very truly yours


Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

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[Signature]

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EX Date: December 31, 1942

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

To: SAC, Honolulu

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

Subject: Otto Kuehn

(Received December 28, 1942)

Correspondence of above-named individual has been submitted to the Bureau from the Penal Institution of Incarceration. These specimens have been examined in the Technical Laboratory for anything of significance.

Specimens: Q198 [redacted] from Subject.

8-12-86
CLASSIFIED BY: SP5 CJC/ed
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
#268714

Findings: [redacted]

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

Enclosure: Photographic copy of Q198.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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JAN 27 1943
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Honolulu, T. H.
January 6, 1943

fm

[Redacted]

65-4

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Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
with aliases; et al;
ESPIONAGE - G & J

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated December 30,
1942, requesting that the Bureau be advised when information that
KUEHN's sentence was commuted to fifty years' imprisonment was
first received by this office.

Bureau letter dated December 7, 1942, advising that a
memorandum had been received from the Department stating that
KUEHN's sentence had been commuted to fifty years' imprisonment
was received by this office on December 9, 1942. On December 10,
1942, the following day [Redacted]

A report setting forth KUEHN's conviction, sentence and
commutation of sentence was submitted to the Bureau on December 15,
1942.

Yours truly,

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

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-28-80 BY SP-6/CS

COPIES DESTROYED
389 AUG 4 1970

COPY IN FILE
JAN 27 1943

RECORDED

65-1574-87

4 JAN 15 1943

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

December 10, 1942

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

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated December 5, 1942, [REDACTED]

Letter dated December 9, 1942, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated December 8, 1942, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H.

Very truly yours

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED

INDEXED

534

65-1574-88
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 11 1942

ak
INITIALS ON ORIGINAL - 12

#65-1574

95525
95526
95527

SECRET

65-4363

Date: January 13, 1943
To: SAC, Honolulu, Hawaii

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

65-1574-88

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
Subject: Otto Kuehn (65-2574)
Prisoners' Mail.

Correspondence of the above-named individual has been submitted to the Bureau from the Penal Institution of incarceration. These specimens have been examined in the Technical Laboratory for anything of significance.

Specimens:
65-4363 64864 and 64865. Envelope and letter of this subject to Mrs. Frieda Kuehn from Otto Kuehn.

Findings:

[REDACTED]

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

SECRET

55 FEB 6 1943

MAILED **CONFIDENTIAL**

CLASSIFIED BY: [illegible]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
8/13/80

#208714

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

65-1574

Date: January 23, 1943

To: SAC, Honolulu

SECRET

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

Subject: Otto Kuehn
Prisoners' Mail. Received 1/20/43

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Correspondence of the above-named individual has been submitted to the Bureau from the Penal Institution of incarceration. These specimens have been examined in the Technical Laboratory for anything of significance.

Specimens: Q512 letter from subject to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn.

CLASSIFIED BY: SP5/10/LS
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
8-12-80
#268714

Findings: [REDACTED]

The original evidence has been returned to Mr. Walter A. [REDACTED] Penitentiary, Lawrence, Kansas.

- Mr. Tolson Enclosure - Photostat of Q512.
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

[RECORDED]

65-1574-89

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JAN 27 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 15
★ JAN 26 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
SECRET

Handwritten initials and signatures: "dk", "galt", "cat", and other illegible marks.

CONFIDENTIAL

65-1574

Date: **January 29, 1943**

SECRET

To: **SAC, Honolulu**

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

Subject: **Otto Kuehn**
Prisoners' Mail. Received 1/26/43

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Correspondence of the above-named individual has been submitted to the Bureau from the Penal Institution of incarceration. These specimens have been examined in the Technical Laboratory for anything of significance.

Specimens: **Q613 one letter from subject to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn.**

CLASSIFIED BY SPED/DS
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
8-12-88
#268414

Findings:

[REDACTED]

The original evidence has been returned to Mr. Walter A. Hunter, Warden, United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

- Mr. Tolson Enclosure - Photostat of Q613.
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 6
JAN 30 1943 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED
65-1574-90
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 1 1943
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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1/31/43

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

January 22, 1943

SECRET

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

Re

[REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated January 21, 1943, from **[REDACTED]**

Letter dated January 20, 1943, from **[REDACTED]**

Letter dated January 17, 1943, from **[REDACTED]**

Letter dated January 21, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H.

Very truly yours

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-1574-91
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 4 1943
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
LAB.

54 FEB 9 1943

342

413

[Handwritten signature]

1606

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

January 2, 1943

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

Re:

KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L 65-1574

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

53 Letter dated January 1, 1943,

48 Letter dated December 29, 1942, from

121 Letter dated January 1, 1943, from Otto Kuehn,
No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Sand Island,
Honolulu, T. H.

Q329
Q330
Q331
P.M.D.
1-7-43

Very truly yours

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

Handled in Lab. - 1-7-43 P.M.D.

6 JAN 11 1943
F.B.I.

January 1943

J. Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Prisoners' Mail

Received 1/6/43

Correspondence of the above-named individual has been submitted to the Bureau from the Penal Institution of Incarceration. These specimens have been examined in the Technical Laboratory for anything of significance.

Specimens 0331 refer to subject Mrs. Friedel Kucha.

Findings:

Enclosure - Photograph of 0331.

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 1
 JAN 8 1943 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

CONFIDENTIAL

65-1574

Date: February 6, 1943

SECRET

To: SAC, Honolulu

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

Subject: ⁰ ~~Officer Kuehn~~ Mail.

Received 2/4/43

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

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

Specimens: Q733 letter from subject to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn.

Findings: [REDACTED]

8-12-80
#285114
CLASSIFIED BY: [REDACTED]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____ Enclosure - Photostat of Q733.
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____ COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
- Mr. Harbo _____ MAILED 5
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____ FEB 8 1943 P.M.
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____ FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____ U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

RECORDED

65-1574-93

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FEB 9 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten initials and signatures]

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

1 FEB 13 1943 106

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

February 12, 1943

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

SECRET

Re: [REDACTED]

o KUHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated Feb. 11, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated Feb. 10, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated Feb. 9, 1943, [REDACTED]

Letter dated Feb. 7, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated Jan. 12, 1943, from Mrs. Frieda P. [REDACTED],
Camp Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H., re Otto Kuhn,
No. 59603-L

Very truly yours

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED & INDEXED

NY 4

EX - 37

65-7571-94	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 20 1943	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
ENCLOSURE	FILE

279
FEB 26 1943

65-1574

Date: February 19, 1943

To: SAC, New York

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ SECRET

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

Subject: ^D Otto Kuehn
Prisoners' Mail.

Received 2/17/43

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

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

Specimens: Q856 [redacted] from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn.

CLASSIFIED BY: SP/ols
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
8-13-86
#268714

Findings: [redacted]

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
★ FEB 20 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
Q856. INDEXED
N173

65-1574-95
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FEB 23 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SECRET

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

17 FEB 26 1943 303

hat with [unclear]
m [unclear]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

January 13, 1943

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

Re:

KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated January 9, 1943,

53

Q509

Letter dated January 12, 1943, from

48

Q510

Letter in German dated September 27, 1942, with enclosure also a letter in German dated September 18, 1942,

10

Q511

Letter dated January 11, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H.

121

Q512

Very truly yours

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

65-1574-

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1-20-43

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Department of Justice

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

Leavenworth, Kansas

February 22, 1943

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

Re; [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated February 18, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated February 19, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H.

Very truly yours,

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

A

65-1574-97

FEBRUARY 23 1943

U. S. I.

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL - 3

[Handwritten signature]

65-1574-97

Date: February 26, 1943

To: SAC, Honolulu

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

RECORDED

25031

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

Subject: Otto Kuehn
Prisoners' Mail.

Received 2/24/43

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

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

Specimens: Q959 Letter from subject to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn.

Findings: [REDACTED]

CLASSIFIED BY: [REDACTED]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
8-13-84
#268714

- Mr. Tolson Enclosure - Photostat of Q959.
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
FEB 27 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

55 MAR 10 1943

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

Done [unclear]

[Handwritten initials]

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Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

February 26, 1943

gnd

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

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated February 25, 1942 (should be 1943), from

[REDACTED]

Letter dated February 25, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H.

Very truly yours

S/ W.A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED & INDEXED

D 141

65-1574-97X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 5
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FIVE

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

2 MAR 16 1943

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#5-1574

Date: March 3, 1943

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

To: SAC Honolulu

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

Subject: Otto Kuehn
Prisoners' Mail. 3/1/43

Correspondence of the above-named individual has been submitted to the Bureau from the Penal Institution of incarceration. These specimens have been examined in the Technical Laboratory for anything of significance and have been returned to

Mr. Walter A. Hunter, Warden, U. S. Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

Specimens: Q1029 Letter from Otto Kuehn to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn

Findings: [REDACTED] (S)
Enclosures: Photostatic copies of specimen Q1029.

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
★ MAR 4 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED

65-1574-95
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 5 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

CLASSIFIED BY: [handwritten]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

8.13.80
#2687114

MAR 10 1943

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

March 8, 1943

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

Re: OKUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

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

Very truly yours

Walter A. Hurter
Walter A. Hurter
Warden

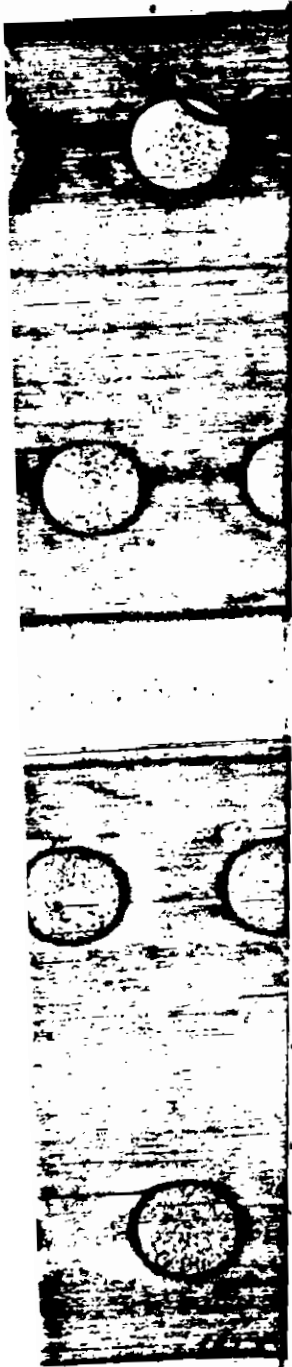
*Evidence Returned
3/15/43 12 7M*

FOR DEPOSIT
BUY
UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS
MAR 18 1943
357

ENCLOSURE
3/12/43
RECORDED
INDEXED
MAR 10 1943

65-1574-99
MAR 10 1943

*Examined & Forwarded
in file 3/16/43 7M*



Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

March 13, 1943

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

Re: [REDACTED]
OKUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution and the following listed letters:

Letter dated February 13, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Camp Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H., to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Letter dated March 12, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Very truly yours

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

*This Serial
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12-5-58
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to

*10-16-43
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3-16-43
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(94)
347*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

185

EX-212
607
[REDACTED]

65-1574-100
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 22 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

March 13, 1943

JK

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

8-14

Re: KUERN, Otto, No. 59603-L

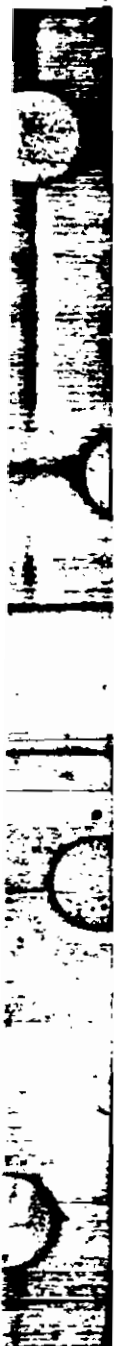
Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated February 23, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuern, Camp Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H., to the above-named inmate.

Very truly yours,

S/
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encl.



*Retained in Lab
3/16/43
JK*

RECORDED & INDEXED
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65-1574-10-L
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 22 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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MAR 31 1943

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Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

March 22, 1943

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

Re: KUEHN? Otto, 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated March 15, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, U. S. Immigration Camp, Sharp Park, San Francisco, California, to the above-named inmate.

Letter dated March 21, 1943, from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Sand Island, Honolulu, T. H.

Very truly yours

S/
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

Received July 14 1943

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
604

65-1574-102
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAR 29 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL FILE

53 APR 3 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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

Mr. E.A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Coffey	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Kramer	_____
Mr. McGuire	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Beahm	_____
Miss Gandy	_____



March 26, 1943

SECRET

~~65-1574~~

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. COFFEY
ROOM 7643

RE: Otto Kuehn
Prisoner's Mail

Reference is made to a letter dated March 15, 1943 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn to the above subject. This letter was forwarded to the Bureau by Mr. Walter A. Hunter, Warden, U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, under date of March 22, 1943.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CLASSIFIED BY: *SP-10/JS*
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

8-12-89
#268714

COPIES DESTROYED
339 AUG 4 1970



APR 6 1943

SECRET

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

Respectfully,

W. G. Blackburn
W. G. Blackburn

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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o
o man Department of Justice
p UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
y Leavenworth, Kansas

April 8, 1943

Technical Laboratory
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen;

Enclosed for your censorship and return to us are the following communications;

From To

[REDACTED]

59603-L Kuehn

Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Camp Seagoville,
Texas

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

S/
WALTER A. HUNTER
Warden

RECORDED
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INDEXED

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

D114

65-1574-104

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APR 16 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL FILE

EX-65

53 APR 21 1943
17

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Department of Justice

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

Leavenworth, Kansas

April 17, 1943

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

Re:

[REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated April 14, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated April 14, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated April 9th, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Detention Station, Seagoville, Texas, to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Very truly yours

S/

W. A. Hunter

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED

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65-1574-105

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 24 1943
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

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Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

March 24, 1943

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

Re:

[REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated March 23, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated March 20, 1943, from [REDACTED] b7c

Letter dated March 22, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated March 22, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated March 21, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated March 21, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Box P, Hays Park, San Mateo, California, to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Very truly yours

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-1574-104
Walter A. Hunter, Warden

APR 1 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Encls.

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Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

March 30, 1943

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

Re:

[REDACTED]
OKUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated March 27, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated March 25, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated March 24, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated March 29, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated March 28, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Frieder Kuehn, U. S. Immigration Camp, Sharp Park, San Francisco, California

Very truly yours

S/

Walter A. [REDACTED]
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED
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65-1574-70

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APR 5 1943

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Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

April 5, 1943

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

Re: [REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters; b6

Letter dated April 1, 1943 from [REDACTED] b7c

Letter dated March 30, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn,
Interment Federal Detention Station, Seagoville, Texas,
to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Very truly yours,

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

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65-1574-718
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APR 14 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas
April 13, 1943

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Technical Laboratory
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto #59603-L
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are the following listed letters:

Letter dated April 9, 1943, from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Letter dated April 12, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, #59603-L,
named above, to Mrs. Frieder Kuehn, Interment Federal Detention
Station, Seagraveville, Texas.

Seagraveville
Letter dated April 12, 1943, from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

S/
WALTER A. HUNTER
Warden

Encls.

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7-160

65-1574-109
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 21 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INITIALS OF ORIGINAL



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

January 22, 1943

- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NICHOLS

RE: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
with aliases, etal
ESPIONAGE - G and J

The report of [redacted] dated December 15, 1942, at Honolulu reports that subject was convicted of espionage before a Military Commission in Honolulu and his death sentence commuted to fifty years.

Although military authorities assisted in the prosecution of this case the subject was tried under the Federal Espionage Statutes and the prosecution was participated in by the United States Attorney.

ACTION TAKEN

This conviction and the accompanying sentence of 50 years has been recorded by the Statistical Section among the regular statistics (not as Military Court statistics).

Respectfully,

R. T. Harbo

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11-8-86 BY SP8/als
#268714

FOR DEFENSE



56 JUL 20 1943

RECORDED

65-1574-110
E B I
21 MAY 27 1943

1/26/43
[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials]

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287

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

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

January 26, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
 with aliases, et al;
 ESPIONAGE - G and J

Reference is made to the routing slip of Assistant Director L. B. Nichols attached to a memorandum dated January 22, 1943, regarding Kuehn, asking, "How about some publicity on this?"

As you may recall, the result of Kuehn's conviction, according to the Honolulu Field Division, is highly confidential and it was desired that no publicity be released regarding it. An Interesting Case write-up and a press release have been prepared on this matter since August 12, 1942, awaiting authorization for release.

ACTION

This matter will be personally discussed with SAC Shivers, who is presently attending In-Service Training School.

Respectfully,

[Redacted signature block]

RECORDED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 12-8-86 BY SP5/CLB
 #268714



Werner 1/27/43

65-1574-111
 24 MAY 27 1943

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Department of Justice
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Leavenworth, Kansas

April 20, 1943

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

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Bernard Julius Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated April 18, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated April 14, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated April 14, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Detention Station, Seagoville, Texas, to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Very truly yours

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-1574-112

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
APR 27 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

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Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

April 21, 1943

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

Re: [REDACTED]
O KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated April 20, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated April 17, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated April 20, 1943, from Otto Kuehn,
No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Interment
Federal Detention Station, Seagoville, Texas

Very truly yours

S/
W. A. Hunter

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

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RECEIVED
MAY 23 1943

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX-51

65-1574-112X1

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APR 29 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

DEP
MAY

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-12-80 BY SP-6/bm

Reference is made to [redacted] memorandum dated
January 27, 1943, in which it was recommended that clearance be secured
from the [redacted] in the [redacted] in the [redacted]
[redacted] was discussed with [redacted] on several
[redacted] and [redacted] [redacted] was able
to [redacted] the release of this [redacted] from the Bureau
of Public Relations of the War Department.

I have also discussed this matter with [redacted]
and he advised me today that the Secretary to the Governor of Hawaii is
in Washington and apparently has been approached by the Bureau of Public
Relations with reference to this question. [redacted] has been ad-
vised by the Bureau of Public Relations that the authorization cannot be
given here in Washington.

It is apparently the feeling of the Army representatives
in Hawaii and the Governor of Hawaii that since the Kuhn case was so
closely allied with the Pearl Harbor disaster they do not desire to make
the release at the present time for fear another hue and cry will be
raised over Pearl Harbor. For that reason [redacted] stated that
the only recourse he could see would be for the Bureau representative in
Hawaii to attempt to secure the necessary clearance from General Emmons,
the Commander of the Hawaiian Department.

Respectfully,

[redacted signature]

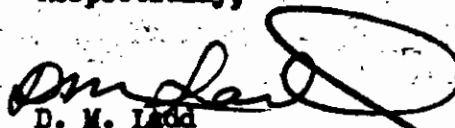
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24 MAY 1943

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In view thereof, I would like to suggest that the attached press release be cleared by Mr. Nichols with OWI and in the event they approve of this release that it then be cleared through Gilford of the Department. I believe that it would be particularly desirable for this release to be released at the present time in view of the known sentiment existing relative to the Japanese.

Respectfully,



D. M. Ladd

Attachment

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DATE April 24, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
with aliases, et al;
ESPIONAGE - G and J.

- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

You will recall that Kuehn was tried before a Military Commission at Honolulu, T. H., on February 19, 1942, for violation of the Espionage Statutes. He was found guilty and sentenced to death with musketry. On October 26, 1942, his sentence was commuted by the Military Commission at Hawaii to hard labor for a period of fifty years and Kuehn was ordered confined at the United States Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas.

As you know, the facts of this case, the conviction and the resulting sentence of the subject have never been given any publicity because of the fact that the Army authorities at Honolulu had requested that the matter be kept confidential. Although this case was tried before a Military Commission, the investigation was handled by the Honolulu Office of the Bureau in conjunction with G-2 authorities.

With a view towards releasing publicity on this matter, [redacted] contacted Special Agent in Charge Shivers on January 27, 1943, when he was attending an In-Service Training Course, for the purpose of ascertaining the present attitude of the Honolulu Army authorities regarding publicity and also to obtain his opinion as to whether publicity on this case could be released at that time. Mr. Shivers said that he could see no objection to releasing publicity but that before any release could be made by the Bureau it would, of course, be necessary to clear the matter through appropriate Army authorities. He further stated that the matter could be best handled by conferring with Army authorities in Washington rather than in Honolulu.

By memorandum of January 27, 1943, a summary of these facts was set forth with the recommendation that the matter be referred to the Liaison Section, which should contact the appropriate Army authorities and determine whether there was any objection to releasing publicity. This recommendation was approved and referred to the Liaison Section for action. The Liaison Section has presented this matter to the Army authorities on several occasions. The Army claims to still have this matter under consideration and has not rendered a decision to date.

53 JUL 27 1943

(INFORMATIVE MEMORANDUM - NOT TO BE SENT TO FILES SECTION)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED #268714
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DATE 8-12-86 BY SP5CJ/bs

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Department of Justice

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

Leavenworth, Kansas

April 29, 1943

jm

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

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated April 24, 1943, [REDACTED]

Letter dated April 27, 1943, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Federal Detention Station, Seagoville, Texas, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

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Very truly yours

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAY 8 1943 a.m.	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
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INITIALS OF ORIGINAL	

53 MAY 14 1943

Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

May 3, 1943

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

Re: [REDACTED]
① KUERN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated April 27, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated Easter Sunday from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Detention Station, Seagoville, Texas, to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Very truly yours,

Warden A. Hunter

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

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&
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INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

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65-1574-114
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 13 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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MAY 21 1943

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Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

Leavenworth, Kansas

May 6, 1943

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

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters;

Letter dated May 2, 1943, from American Red Cross,
Leavenworth, Kansas, [REDACTED]

Letter dated May 3, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn,
Detention Station, Seagoville, Texas, to Otto
Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Letter dated May 4, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L,
to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Federal Detention Station,
Seagoville, Texas

Very truly yours

S/

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

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ORIGINAL FILE IN 65-41343-2025

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65-1574-114X2
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 17 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

310

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M. E. GILFOND
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Department of Justice
Washington

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

CONFIDENTIAL

May 18, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LOUIS NICHOLS

Attached is a preliminary draft of the story by OWI on the Kuehn case. I re-drafted the first few paragraphs to give it a stronger lead and to tie in German and Japanese espionage. Otherwise, it is a simple straightforward story, which is probably the best way to present it since it is such a bang-up story anyway.

If you could expedite clearance on this, OWI would be very grateful since they are extremely enthusiastic about it and would like to go after Army clearance as soon as possible. For your information, they plan to have [redacted] personally put it to the Army big-wigs.

The story would be helped tremendously by some photographs. I wonder if you can supply pictures of any of the following: Kuehn, Mrs. Kuehn, their daughter, their house (and particularly the dormer window used for signaling), or the beauty parlor mentioned in the story. Any or all of these, or any additional photographs, would give the story a terrific boost.

Approved by Mr. Ladd
Approved
by Mr. Ladd
ms

Charles Malcomson
CHARLES MALCOMSON
Acting Director of Public Relations

Enclosure

Original
returned to
Malcomson

ENCLOSURE
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RECORDED
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INDEXED

65-1574-115
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52 JUL 19 1943

Return to Ladd to Kuehn

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[Handwritten signature]

German espionage agents collaborated with the Japanese in preparing the way for Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, the Office of War Information disclosed today.

In a report, based on information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, OWI revealed that ^{BERNARD} Berjard Julius Otto Kuhn, German agent and member of the Nazi party, conspired with Japanese spies to betray the United States Fleet in Pearl Harbor to the Imperial Japanese Government four days before the attack on December 7, 1941.

Kuhn, who went to Honolulu in 1935 for the ostensible purpose of studying the Japanese language, who banked more than \$70,000 his first three years in Hawaii, and whose daughter operated a beauty parlor for the families of our Navy men in the Islands, was tried before the Military Commission in Honolulu for violations of the United States Code Annotated; was found guilty on February 21, 1942, and was sentenced to be shot. On October 26, 1942, his sentence was commuted to fifty years at hard labor.

The story which is made public for the first time today, is a tale of treachery that is both devious and direct. It involves signals flashed by "a light in Lanikai beach house at night". It involves "a light in dormer window of Kalama house". It involves the destruction of American ships and the death of American men.

On the morning following the Japanese air attack on Pearl Harbor, ^{SPECIAL AGENTS} representatives of the FBI succeeded in obtaining from various commercial radio and cable companies in Honolulu copies of certain ^{messages} hitherto unavailable ^{to INTE} messages-
^{INTELLIGENCE AGENCIES} which had been exchanged between the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu and the Japanese Foreign Office in Tokyo.

65-1574-115

In translation, one of these messages revealed that on December 3, ~~Nagao~~ ~~Kita~~, the Japanese Consul-General in Honolulu, had furnished his Foreign Office with a complete system of signals to be used in the transmission of intelligence information regarding movements of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor. One such signal was a light in a dormer window of a house in Kalama.

Kalama is a comparatively small community located at Kailua, Oahu. Special Agents of the F.B.I. had no difficulty in locating the house with the dormer window. It was owned and occupied by a man who went by the name of Otto Kuehn, and his wife, Friedel.

The Kuehns were German nationals. They had previously been suspected of engaging in espionage activities in behalf of Germany and Japan and they had been under investigation by the Office of Naval Intelligence, and the Military Intelligence Service of the War Department, as well as by the F.B.I. These inquiries had brought out the fact that the Kuehns also had a beach house at Lanikai. And another of the signals mentioned in the message in possession of the F.B.I. was a light in a beach house at Lanikai.

F.B.I. Agents apprehended Kuehn and his wife December 8, 1941, on the authority of the Commanding General of the Hawaiian Department who, immediately following the declaration of war against the United States, had ordered all German and Italian aliens to be picked up for temporary detention.

When they were first picked ^{up} the Kuehns, according to F.B.I. reports, flatly denied that they had ever had any negotiations with the Japanese Government. But increasing evidence from the F.B.I. confused their stories and on December 30, 1941, Kuehn signed a

statement admitting that he had prepared a system of signals for the Japanese Consul-General which the latter had dispatched to Tokyo in his fateful message of December 8.

Kuehn's story, as detailed in the F.B.I. files, is as follows:

Sometime during the month of November, 1941, he went to ~~Otojiro~~ Okuda, Japanese Vice-Consul at Honolulu and offered to assist the Japanese in obtaining information about the national defense of the United States. He, Kuehn, declared that Okuda requested him first to get the information regarding the movement of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor, and second, to devise a system of signals by which this information could be imparted to the Japanese fleet.

Kuehn, according to the story he told the F.B.I. agents, went to Pearl Harbor (accompanied by his ten-year old son, Hans Joachim) and made his observations. A few days later he went to the Japanese Consulate and submitted a signal system which he had worked out, which could be used by the Consulate in furnishing information as to the number and types of American ships in Pearl Harbor, as well as data about the ships that had already left or were about to leave.

But the Japanese officials thought the system too complicated. Vice-Consul Okuda, according to the report, told him to come back with a simpler system. Kuehn came back, on December 2, with his revised and simplified system. He also handed over to Okuda a written tabulation of the number and types of American ships then in Hawaiian waters.

The F.B.I. reports that on or about October 25, 1941, \$14,000 in cash had been delivered to Kuehn, at his residence with the dormer window, by ~~Tadasu~~ Morimura, Fourth Secretary of the Japanese Consulate.

Kuehn went on trial February 19, 1942. The technical charges were violation of Sections 31, 32, and 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated. He was found guilty on each of the charges, was sentenced to be shot, ^{but} later ~~had~~ his sentence ^{was} commuted to fifty years at hard labor.

Kuehn, who is listed in the F.B.I. files under several aliases, was born Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, in Berlin, Germany, July 25, 1895. When he was 18 he enlisted in the German Navy. He was serving as a midshipman aboard a German cruiser in World War I, and when in January, 1915, his ship was sunk in a sea battle with an English war vessel, he was taken prisoner.

Following the Armistice he returned to Berlin and re-entered the Naval Service as an Ober-Lieutenant aboard the mother ship of a mine sweeper flotilla. After about 6 months of this he was released and placed in the Naval Reserve Corps. He studied medicine briefly at the Universities of Berlin and Munich, and engaged in various occupations in Germany.

In 1920, in Munchen, Germany, Kuehn married Friedel Birk who had two children by a previous marriage, Leopold and Ruth. Leopold, according to his mother's declaration, is now serving the Nazi Party as an assistant to Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels.

It is one of Kuehn's proud boasts, according to F.B.I. information, that he was so high in the Nazi Party that he was once considered for the position of Chief of the German Gestapo under Heinrich Himmler. His rival for the job, Reinhold Heydrich, double-crossed him, Kuehn told the F.B.I. and won the coveted post.

Kuehn was first admitted to the United States at Honolulu August 15, 1935. His alleged reason for coming was to study the Japanese language. He never went back to Germany. He made two trips to Japan.

Between May 14, 1936 and February 7, 1939, more than \$70,000 was deposited to the credit of Kuehn and his wife in a Honolulu bank by the Rotterdam Bank Association. It was supposed to have come from investments and business interests of his in Germany and Holland.

But about the end of 1939 Kuehn was reported to be in financial difficulties. He established a beauty parlor which his wife's daughter, Ruth, operated. Ruth's mother is reported to have said that the shop was really opened to obtain "Navy business."

Mrs. Kuehn went to Japan for a visit in 1940 and returned home with a series of articles on "American Polynesia" which contained descriptions of various British and American islands. She is also reported to have brought back some \$16,000 in cash.

It was in the early fall of 1940, too, that the now famous dormer window was constructed in the attic of the Kuehn's home on Kalama Road. In January of that same year Mrs. Kuehn purchased a pair of eighteen-power Bausch and Lomb binoculars. This was an unusual purchase for a woman to make, for these field glasses are considered too high-powered for ordinary purposes. Because of their

Although no previous criminal record has been connected with Kuehn in the F.B.I. files, both he and his wife were generally known in Honolulu as pro-Nazi and took part in the activities of various local German clubs.

Leopold ~~Kuehn~~, writing to his parents on March 27, 1939, expressed sorrow that his step-father, an old National Socialist who deserved a role in current events, was not a participant in the present war.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BERNARD KUEHN

PART 4 OF 7

FILE: 65-1574

SUBJECT

KUEHN

FILE NUMBER

65-1574 SECTION 4

U. S. Department of Justice

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

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

X DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

65
1574

SECTION 4
SERIALS 116-140

OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION

WASHINGTON

May 8, 1943

Sinton

TO: Mr. James Allen

FROM: George H. Lyon *gth*

I have been asked several questions about a prisoner reportedly now in Leavenworth, Kansas. His name is either Otto Kuehn or Otto Kuhne. My informants say that he is incarcerated in Leavenworth after having been implicated in a conspiracy leading up to the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

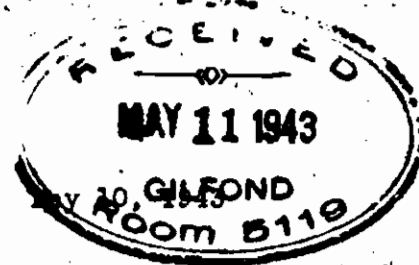
I also am informed that the Department of Justice has all the facts in this story. It would be very helpful to the News Bureau's program if we could obtain the facts from Justice and issue a release immediately. Do you want to see what you can do to get us the story?



65-1574-116

ENCLOSURE

OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION
WASHINGTON



Mr. M. E. Gilfond
Director of Information
U. S. Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Gil:

If the facts referred to in the attached memorandum are as interesting as I have been told they are, this story would be of extraordinary value to us.

I wonder if you would do everything possible to track it down and see if the facts cannot be made public.

Sincerely,

James Allen
James Allen
Assistant Director
Domestic Operations

Enclosure



62-1574-116

ENCLOSURE

Department of Justice
Washington

May 11, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LOUIS NICHOLS

The enclosed note from Jim Allen and memo from Lyon to Allen are self-explanatory. I, too, have heard some talk about this person.

Since Hawaii went under marshal law immediately after Pearl Harbor, I should imagine the Army had a good deal to do with the case. For that reason, I think we better caution the OWI that clearance will have to be gotten from the Army as well as from this Department. Our general agreement with OWI is that when any agency other than our own is involved, OWI does the releasing and not us. The reason for this is to check with the other agency or agencies involved both on accuracy and advisability of release. I think the first thing we should do is put the facts down on paper and send them to Jim Allen as a confidential memo. Once he has the facts, I am sure he will be in a much better position to determine whether the information should be made available to the public.

If you will submit to me, therefore, an official memo on this case, I will transmit it to Mr. Allen.

If for any reason the FBI thinks the information should not be made public, please so state and we will present those arguments to OWI.

M. E. GILFOND

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-116

F B I
26 MAY 24 1943

2-ENCL. 749

I see no reason why should not be made public but we Dept approval should be obtained because the results of the Bureau's investigation were disposed of by a military court.
Eor 5/11/43



Let
memo
Gilford
5-12-43

65-1574
tr 5-12-43

**RICHARD JULIUS OTTO HUBER, with aliases
Otto K. Huber, Otto Huber, Otto K. Huber,
Mr. Huber
ESPIONAGE**

On the morning following the perfidious Japanese air attack on Pearl Harbor, representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation succeeded in obtaining from various commercial radio and cable companies in Honolulu copies of certain messages exchanged between the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu, T. H., and the Japanese Foreign Office in Tokyo which theretofore had been unavailable. The translation of one of these messages revealed that on December 3, 1941, Hideo Hita, the Japanese Consul General in Honolulu, had furnished his Foreign Office with a complete system of signals to be used in the transmission of intelligence information regarding movements of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor. Among the signals agreed upon were "a light in Lanikai beach house at night - -" and "a light in corner window of Kalamo house - -"

Upon checking the houses in Kalamo, which is a comparatively small community located at Kailua, Oahu, T. H., Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation located a house with a corner window. It was determined that this residence was owned and occupied by an individual named Otto Huber and his wife, Friedel, German nationals, who had been suspected of engaging in espionage activities in behalf of Germany and Japan and concerning whom considerable investigation had been conducted by the Office of Naval Intelligence, the Military Intelligence Service of the War Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. During these inquiries, it was learned that the Hubers, in addition to their residence in Kalamo, also maintained a beach house at Lanikai.

Following the declaration of war against the United States by Germany on December 8, 1941, the Commanding General of the Hawaiian Department ordered all German and Italian aliens to be picked up for temporary custodial detention. Pursuant to this command, Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on the same date apprehended Huber and his wife.

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

RECORDED & INDEXED
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F B I
28 MAY 24 1943

end

At first the Kuehn steadfastly denied acting in behalf of the Japanese Government. However, when confronted with the evidence which had been developed through vigorous investigation, Kuehn on December 30, 1941, furnished a signed statement admitting that he had prepared the system of signals for the Japanese Consul General, which the latter dispatched to Tokyo in his message on December 3, 1941. Kuehn explained that sometime during November, 1941, he contacted Otojiro Okada, the Japanese Vice Consul at Honolulu, and offered to assist the Japanese in obtaining information of interest respecting the national defense of the United States. In accepting this proffered aid, Okada reportedly requested Kuehn to secure general data regarding the movement of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor and then devise a system of signals in order that this information might be imparted to the Japanese fleet. Pursuant to this request, Kuehn, accompanied by his ten-year-old son, Hans Jonothia, drove to the vicinity of Pearl Harbor for the purpose of observing the American vessels moored there at that time. Three or four days later Kuehn again called at the Japanese Consulate and conferred with Kita and Okada. During this visit, Kuehn submitted a system of signalling which could be used by the Consulate in order to furnish information relative to the types and number of American ships in Pearl Harbor, as well as those preparing to leave and those which had already departed. After considering the particular system, the Japanese were of the opinion that it was too complicated and requested that a simpler system be devised. In fact, a specific request of this nature was made to Kuehn by Vice Consul Okada.

On December 2, 1941, Kuehn again visited the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu, at which time he delivered to Vice Consul Okada a revised and simplified system of signalling. On this same occasion, Kuehn furnished written information concerning the number and various types of American ships then in Hawaiian waters.

On or about October 25, 1941, \$14,000 in cash was delivered to Kuehn at his residence in Kalaheo by Tadashi Morimura, Fourth Secretary of the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu.

Kuehn went on trial before the Military Commission in Honolulu on February 19, 1942, for violation of Sections 31, 32, and 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated. The charges against Kuehn specifically alleged that he conspired with the Japanese Vice Consul in Honolulu to transmit to Japan information pertaining to the national defense of the United States and to perform certain overt acts to affect such a conspiracy. Further, on or about December 2, 1941, Kuehn transmitted information relating to the United States Naval Fleet and the national defense of America

be an agent of the Imperial Japanese Government. Kuehn was also charged with unlawfully obtaining information regarding the number and types of United States Naval vessels based at Pearl Harbor with the intent and reason to believe that it was to be used for the injury of the United States and to the advantage of the Japanese Government.

A verdict of guilty on each of the preferred charges was returned by the Military Commission on February 21, 1942, and on the same date Kuehn was sentenced to be shot. On October 26, 1942, Kuehn's sentence was commuted to fifty years at hard labor.

Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn was born on July 25, 1895, in Berlin, Germany. In April, 1913, he enlisted in the German Navy and after a brief training period served as a midshipman aboard a German cruiser until January, 1915, when his ship was sunk in a sea battle with an English war vessel and Kuehn taken as a prisoner of war by the British. Following the Armistice, Kuehn returned to Berlin and re-entered the Naval service as an Ober-Lieutenant aboard the mother ship of a mine sweeper flotilla. After about six months of such service, Kuehn was released and placed in the Naval Reserve Corps. He studied medicine at the University of Berlin and the University of Munich for about a year and one-half and thereafter engaged in various occupations in Germany.

On May 10, 1920, Kuehn married Frieda Birk at Muenchen, Germany. At the time of this union, Mrs. Kuehn was the mother of two children named Leopold and Ruth. Two additional children, Martin Eberhard and Hans Joachim, resulted from the Kuehns' marriage. It is perhaps significant to observe that Leopold, according to the records, is presently serving the Nazi Party as an assistant to Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels. Ruth Kuehn came to the United States with her family and married an American citizen, with whom she resided in Honolulu until she was taken into custody as a German alien by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Kuehn admittedly became associated with the Nazi Party in 1930 as the result of his attending a meeting called by Hitler in Kiel, Germany. However, he contends that he did not become active until 1932. He frankly boasts that he was considered with Reinhold Heydrich for the position as Chief of the German Gestapo under Heinrich Himmler but, according to Kuehn's story, Heydrich double-crossed him by means of a ruse, which, coupled with Himmler's personal dislike for him, resulted in Heydrich's receiving the appointment, a position he, according to Nazi standard, filled so capably.

Kuehn was first admitted to the United States at Honolulu on August 15, 1935, for the ostensible purpose of studying the Japanese language.

[REDACTED]

Prior to his involvement in this difficulty, no previous criminal record has been located on Kuehn in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

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

770
[REDACTED]
(5/11/43)

65-1574-116

RECORDED

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. M. E. OILFORD
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Pursuant to the request contained in your memorandum of May 11, 1943, I am transmitting herewith a short summary of the case involving Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn.

It is assumed, of course, that the proper clearances will be secured by OWI prior to releasing this to the press.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure *m*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 1-13-80 BY SP8/BJD
#268714

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 5
★ MAY 15 1943 PM
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

169
55 JUN 4 1943

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U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

MAY 15 9 27 AM '43
RECEIVED READING ROOM
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

May 14, 1943

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

Re:

KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated March 14, 1943 (should have been May 14, 1943),

#26

Letter dated May 11, 1943

#93

Letter dated May 10, 1943.

#10

Letter dated May 13, 1943,

#10

Letter dated May 12, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Federal Detention Station, Seagoville, Texas

#121

Very truly yours

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

*Rec'd
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*RAP
4-22
Q2057
Q2058
Q2059
Q2060
Q2061
Handled
4-20-43
R.A.P.*

5-18-43 TAP

HAWAII TIMES
Thursday, April 15, 1943

- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Piper
- Mr. Starke
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

Axis Agent Here Gets 50 Years In Leavenworth

Convicted of espionage in Hawaii while acting as an agent for the Japanese government, Atto Kuehn, former Lanikai resident who once represented himself to be a metal furniture dealer in Honolulu, is serving a 50-year sentence in Leavenworth, it was revealed today.

Investigations made by the Honolulu FBI office resulted in Kuehn's prosecution and conviction in February, 1942.

His trial before a military commission in federal court here was the first espionage case in the United States after the outbreak of the war.

It is believed that the sentence of 50 years is the heaviest for espionage offenses by axis agents imposed since the war started.

Kuehn was removed to the mainland immediately after being sentenced. His wife and daughter were also taken into custody on December 8, 1941. Mrs. Kuehn was subsequently removed to the mainland after being interned here while his daughter, Mrs. Ruth Moore, remained in detention here.

Kuehn came to Hawaii about eight years ago, and represented himself as a retired German naval officer.

Mrs. Kuehn and her daughter, Ruth, operated a beauty shop at Kaneohe shortly before December 7, receiving patronage of wives of naval officers from the naval base in that vicinity, according to testimony heard in a recent divorce trial here.

J. Carson Moore, husband of Ruth Kuehn Moore, sued his wife for divorce on the ground of cruel treatment, alleging his wife failed to reveal that her father was an Axis agent. The divorce case was dismissed.

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#268714

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369 AUG 4 1970

65-1574-117

ENCLOSURE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

CC-287



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

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

LBN:RC

May 24, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

RE: OTTO KUEHN

For record purposes, there is attached hereto a news item appearing in the Hawaii Times on April 15, 1943, which obviously came from the Honolulu Office.

You will recall that on May 16th, SAC Thornton advised that the information pertaining to Kuehn's sentence was given to the press on the day he took over the Honolulu Office in connection with comment concerning the accomplishments of former SAC Shivers, as many requests were received from newspapers for information on the cases handled during Mr. Shivers' assignment.

Respectfully,

L. B. Nichols

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DATE 13-8-80 BY SP8/CLS

#26874

Attachment



55 JUN 18 1943

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-117		
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18	JUN 7	1943
FILED		



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

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

May 27, 1943

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN was; et al;
ESPIONAGE - G and J

65-1574

CLASSIFIED BY: [redacted]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

#268714

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-13-80 BY SP5 CJS

[redacted]

You will recall that this subject, immediately prior to December 7, 1941, furnished to Japanese consular officials at Honolulu a system of signalling, which was promptly communicated to Japan. This signalling system was designed as a means of transmitting to the Japanese detailed information regarding the location and number of American naval units at Pearl Harbor. Kuehn was charged with violation of the Espionage Statutes and was tried by a Military Commission at Honolulu, Hawaii, on February 19, 1942. On February 21, 1942, the Commission found him guilty and sentenced him to be shot.

Publicity on this case was not released by the Bureau after Kuehn was sentenced because Army officials at Honolulu, who had charge of the trial of Kuehn before the Military Commission, had requested that the facts of the case and the results of the conviction be kept confidential prior to the execution of sentence, since reprisals against American nationals in Japan and Germany might result.

The conviction and sentence of Kuehn was then, as is the general policy, referred to the Office of the Judge Advocate General in Washington for review, and the Judge Advocate General upheld the finding of the court. The matter was then referred to the State Department for review, and the State Department referred it to the Attorney General, requesting advice relative to the conviction of Kuehn.

In a memorandum dated November 30, 1942, Mr. Ugo Caruso, Executive Assistant to the Attorney General, advised the Bureau that Kuehn's sentence had been commuted to fifty years by the Military Governor at Honolulu and 1943 that Kuehn had been removed to the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, to serve this sentence. Thereafter, the Honolulu Office advised the Bureau that a certified copy of the order of the Military Governor of Hawaii had been obtained in a confidential manner, setting forth that Kuehn's sentence had been commuted to fifty years.

65-1574118

RECORDED

FOR DEFENSE



53 JUL 21 1943

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FILED
CRIME REC.

SECRET

Memo for the Director
Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
was; et al; ESPIONAGE - G & J

- 2 -

5/27/43

The possibility of releasing publicity on this case was discussed with Mr. Shivers, former Special Agent in Charge at Honolulu, at the time he was attending an In Service Training course in Washington in January of 1943. Mr. Shivers at that time advised he could see no objection to giving this case publicity, but before any release was made by the Bureau, it would of course be necessary to clear the matter through appropriate Army authorities, inasmuch as the subject was tried before a Military Commission and because Army authorities have requested that the facts of the case be kept confidential. Mr. Shivers was of the opinion that this matter should be taken up with Army authorities in Washington rather than at Honolulu.

Thereafter, the Bureau attempted to secure clearance, through the Liaison Section of the Bureau, from Army authorities to release publicity on this case. The Bureau was unable to secure a definite answer from the Military authorities in Washington until April 23, 1943, at which time Colonel Forney of MIS advised it was the feeling of Army representatives in Hawaii and the Governor of Hawaii that since the Kuehn case was so closely allied with the Pearl Harbor disaster, they did not desire that a release be made at the present time for fear of another hue and cry which might be raised over Pearl Harbor.

Since that time, however, efforts to release a story on this case through the cooperation of the Office of War Information have been made and information regarding the case has been furnished that agency. As yet, the case has not received publicity through this means.

On April 15, 1943, there appeared in the Hawaii Times, Honolulu, Hawaii, a short news story setting forth a brief resume of the facts in this case and the results of Kuehn's conviction. Mr. Thornton was requested to submit to the Bureau an explanation as to why this release had been made by him without prior Bureau authorization

[REDACTED]

Respectfully,

[Handwritten signature]
D. M. Ladd
[Handwritten initials]

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MAJ

Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENT
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

May 22, 1943.

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

Re:

[REDACTED]
OKUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated May 20, 1943, [REDACTED]

Letter dated May 20, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Federal Detention Station, Seagoville, Texas

Very truly yours

S/
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

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INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

65-1574-119X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
MAY 31 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

141
1 JUN 1943 81923

CHARLES MALCOLMSON



DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

Department of Justice
Washington

June 11, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LOUIS NICHOLS

Otto Bernhard Kuehn

You will be pleased to know, I am sure, that OWI has finally obtained clearance on the Kuehn article and that it will be released for morning papers of Monday, June 14. They had to make one or two minor concessions in order to obtain release from the Army and Navy. I have acceded to these changes on behalf of the Department rather than hold up the article any further or create any needless row, and I feel sure that you will take the same position.

The only changes in the entire manuscript are as follows:

The final paragraph on page 1 has been deleted. This was done on the insistence of Military Intelligence and ONI that there be no reference to the fact that the Americans cracked the Japanese code. On this they were adamant.

The first paragraph on page 2 has been changed to read as follows: "Special agents of the FBI, with material furnished by the Military Intelligence Division of the Army and the Office of Naval Intelligence, as well as their own material, learned that on December 3"

On page 3, line 3, the word "fateful" was deleted.

Otherwise, the story is exactly as approved by us.

If you have any objection to these changes and think they are important enough to go [^]bat on, please let me know at once this afternoon.

OWI is sending us several hundred copies, some of which I will forward to you.

Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn

*Approved by
Moses Jones
to be released
from OWI
for news
for Monday*

RECORDED

CHARLES MALCOLMSON
Director of Public Relations

65-1574-120

2 JUN 14 1943



50 JUN 22 1943

REC'D REG.

84-13

[Redacted]

June 15-1943 b6 b7c

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Washington, D.C. ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
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DATE 8-13-80 BY SP5C/klb

I not in the Topeka Daily Capital
of Topeka Kans., edition of June 15th,
photos of a Mr Joseph Leo Fegan, et al
his wife Lydia - whom he is charged
with slaying. This item from Kansas
city -

I also note a photo of. I am quite
sure the same people in the
Wichita Beacon, of Wichita Kans
Edition of June 14th (65-1574-120)
under name of
Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn & his wife
Friedel, an alleged German Spies
and as I understand the item was
imprisoned for 5 yrs at [redacted]

ack 7-2-43
ajc

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
D156

Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn

Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn
Friedel Kuhn

[Redacted]

The photos of the two couples
being so near identical - put
me to wondering if they could be
the same people. Or is it
simply a misprint of photos & items
with one of the two newspapers -

I feel it is worth bringing
to your attention as it could be
possible that this man has escaped
prison - & if so this might end
search for him.

I am writing the Topick Daily
capital about it. However I am
of the opinion that it is merely an
error on the part of one of the papers
as it seems to be the same photos.

Very Resp.

[Redacted signature]

RECORDED

65-1594-120X

July 2, 1943

[Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

I wish to express my thanks for your courtesy in furnishing this Bureau the information contained in your letter dated June 15, 1943.

You may be assured this matter will receive such attention as the facts warrant.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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DATE 8-13-86 BY SP5/CLS

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

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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
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★ JUL 3 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

JUL 6 1943
720

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

June 16 1943

Edgar J. Hoover.

Dear Sir. I am writing to you in regard to this item that was in our local paper and it just seem right a man like Bernard J. Kuehn should be left off at 50 years of hard labor. I feel he is deserving of a death sentence as I feel he is the same as a murderer, Or even worse being a spy. You see Mr. Hoover why I feel like a good many mothers feel we have our sons who are prisoners of the Japs somehow we feel this Kuehn is deserving of a death sentence when our dear ones went over and bombed Japan the excuted our fliers. I have one son a prisoner of the Japs in the Philippines another son in Africa the one son in the P.I. I haven't heard from in since Dec 8 1941. he has been over there 4 years and 8 month in the Army Air Corp that why I feel as I do. We mothers have a United Philippine War Veterans Auxiliary here and there are 15 mothers who feel as I do about this man Kuehn. Don't you think all spys caught in the United States get off to easy somehow I feel as tho if there were a little more pressure put on these spys we wouldn't have quite so much of it. One just need to pick up the peper and read it and see how our loved ones are being treated and then compare the hoodlums and see how they are treated by United States.

I believe as all our mothers here do all espionage agents should be shot as they do to our people. After all after they serve their term they are free to go again to do some more damage. Just to get out and enjoy life once more and I feel this is not right our loved ones gone before us I'm sure would feel the same. I believe in eye for an eye.

I know Mr. Hoover you are doing a wonderful job in our trying times and may God bless you and our best wishes go with you.

Very Truly

Mpls Minn.

True copy - vj

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369 AUG 4 1970

German Spy Gets 50 Years as Jap Pearl Harbor Aid

U. S. Reveals Nazi Helped to Prepare Attack; Family Is Interned

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The office of war information today reported German espionage agents helped the Japanese prepare their attack on Pearl Harbor and at least one of them was sentenced to death, but the sentence later was commuted.

The report said Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, a Nazi agent, was tried before a military commission in Honolulu on charges of betraying the United States fleet in Pearl Harbor to the Japanese five days before the Dec. 7, 1941, attack.

He was convicted Feb. 21, 1942, and sentenced to be shot.

On Oct. 26, 1942, the sentence was commuted to 50 years at hard labor. Basis for the commutation was not given.

Members of Kuehn's family have been interned for the duration, either in Hawaii or in this country. They include Mrs. Kuehn; her son, Eberhard Martin Kuehn, and a daughter by her previous marriage, Suse Kaete Ruth Kuehn.

The OWI report, based on information from the federal bureau of investigation, said Kuehn went to Honolulu in 1935 for the ostensible purpose of studying Japanese.

In three years he banked more than \$70,000.

Picked up on Dec. 8, 1941, Kuehn and his wife at first denied they ever had any negotiations with the Japanese government, OWI said, adding:

"But increasing evidence from the FBI contradicted their assertions and on Dec. 30, 1941, Kuehn signed a statement admitting he had prepared the system of signals for the Japanese consul-general which the latter had dispatched to Tokyo in his message of Dec. 3."

The signals, OWI explained, were for use in reporting movements of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor.

"One such signal was a light in a dormer window of a house in Kalama," the OWI report

★ ★ ★ ★



BERNARD J. KUEHN
Gets 50 years at hard labor



FRIEDEL KUEHN
Interned for duration

Placed in file in this manner 8/17/57 age

pected of engaging in espionage, behalf of Germany and Japan had been under investigation naval and military intelligence as well as the FBI."

Highlights of Kuehn's story reported by OWI:

Sometime during November, he went to Otojiro Okuda, Japanese vice consul at Honolulu, and offered to assist the Japanese in obtaining information about the national defense of the United States. Okuda requested, first, information regarding the movement of American fleet at Pearl Harbor, second, a system of signals which information could be conveyed to the Japanese fleet.

The Japanese vice consul thought the first system "complicated," and Kuehn submitted a simplified system I 2, together with a tabular of the number and types of American ships then in Hawaiian waters.

Mrs. Kuehn told FBI agent son by a former marriage is serving the Nazi party as an agent to Propaganda Minister.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-13-80 BY SP5/PLS

ENCLOSURE 65

Miriam's Memo
June 16 1943.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/3/86 BY SP6/ldg

Edgar J. Hoover.

Dear Sir. I am writing to you in regard to this item that was in our local paper and it just seems right a man like Bernard J. Kuehn should be left off at 50 years of hard labor. I feel he is deserving of a death sentence as I feel he is the same as a murderer. an even worse being a spy. you see Mr Hoover why I feel like a good many mothers feel we have our sons who are prisoners of the japs some how we feel this Kuehn is deserving of a death sentence when our dear ones went ahead boarded Japan the executed our flies. I have one son a prisoner of the japs in the Philippines another son in Africa the one son I saw in the P.I. I haven't heard from in since Dec 8 1941. he has been over there 4 years and 8 months in the Army. I have that why I feel as I do. in my book a United Philippine War Veterans Auxiliary and there are 15 mothers who feel as I do about this man Kuehn, don't you think

RECORDED & INDEXED

65-1574-10

JUN 17 1943

EX-36

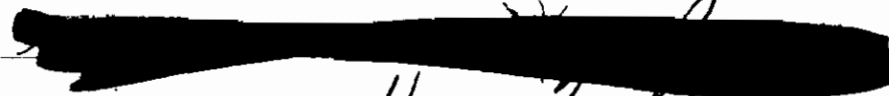
1 ENCL

all spys caught in the United States get off to easy some how I feel as tho if there were a little more pressure put on these spys we wouldnt have quite so much of it.

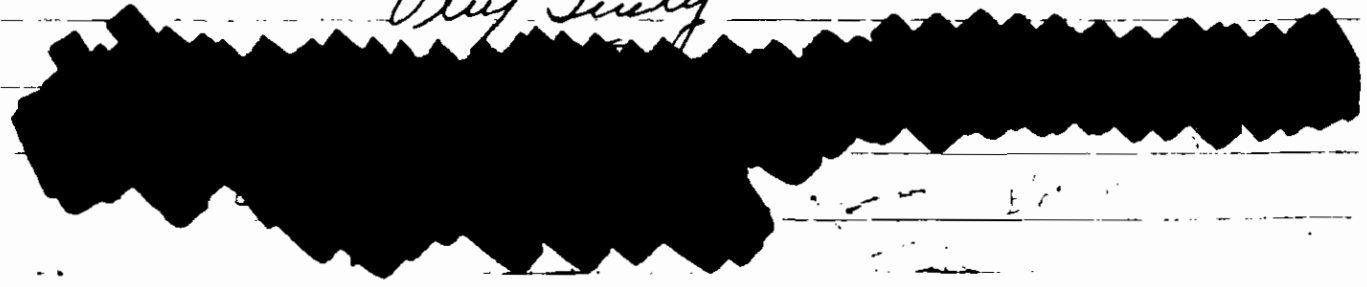
One just need to pick up the paper and read it and see how our loved ones are being treated and then compare the hoodlums and see how they are treated by United States.

I believe as all our mothers here do all espionage agents should be shot as they do to our people, after all after they serve their term they are free to go again to do some more damage. just to get out and enjoy life once more and I feel this is not right our loved ones gone before us but we would feel the same. I believe in eye for an eye.

I know Mr Hoover you are doing a wonderful job in our trying times and may God bless you and our best wishes go with you



Very Truly



July 1, 1943

[Redacted]
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Dear [Redacted]

I have for acknowledgment your letter of June 16, 1943, with enclosure.

You may be assured that the content of your communication and enclosure has been read with interest and care and I wish to thank you very much for volunteering your comments and observations in this regard. Inasmuch as the individual mentioned by you was tried before a military commission in Honolulu, as was also indicated by the news item forwarded by you, I am taking the liberty of referring copies of your letter to the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/3/80 BY SP-1/JS

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

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 9
 JUL 2 1943 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED READING ROOM
 JUL 1 6 00 PM '43
 U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

23
JUL 9 - 1943

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
~~BY SPECIAL MESSENGER~~

7-1-43
65-1574-121 ✓

RECORDED

Assistant Chief of Staff
G-2, War Department
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Colonel L. R. Forney

As of possible interest to you there are attached copies of a letter recently received at the Bureau from [redacted] Minneapolis, Minnesota. Accompanying [redacted] letter was a news item reflecting that Bernard J. Kuehn was tried before a military commission in Honolulu on charges of betraying the United States fleet in Pearl Harbor to the Japanese five days before the December 7, 1941 attack. This news item was captioned, "German Spy Gets 50 Years as Jap Pearl Harbor Aid".

[redacted] has been advised of this reference.

Enclosure

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

B

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 3
★ JUL 2 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

13 JUL 7 - 1943

JUL 1 5:00 PM '43
RECEIVED READING ROOM
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten signature]

DECLASSIFIED BY SP5/CLD/MS
ON 8-13-86

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-13-80 BY SP-1/CL/S

NOT USED

65-1574-122
CHANGED TO

100-214858-2

✓
/

400

11
52 JUL 28 1943 ²⁰

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR



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

June 24, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Attached is the first draft of the press release on Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, prepared by OWI, and it should be filed for record purposes.

Respectfully,

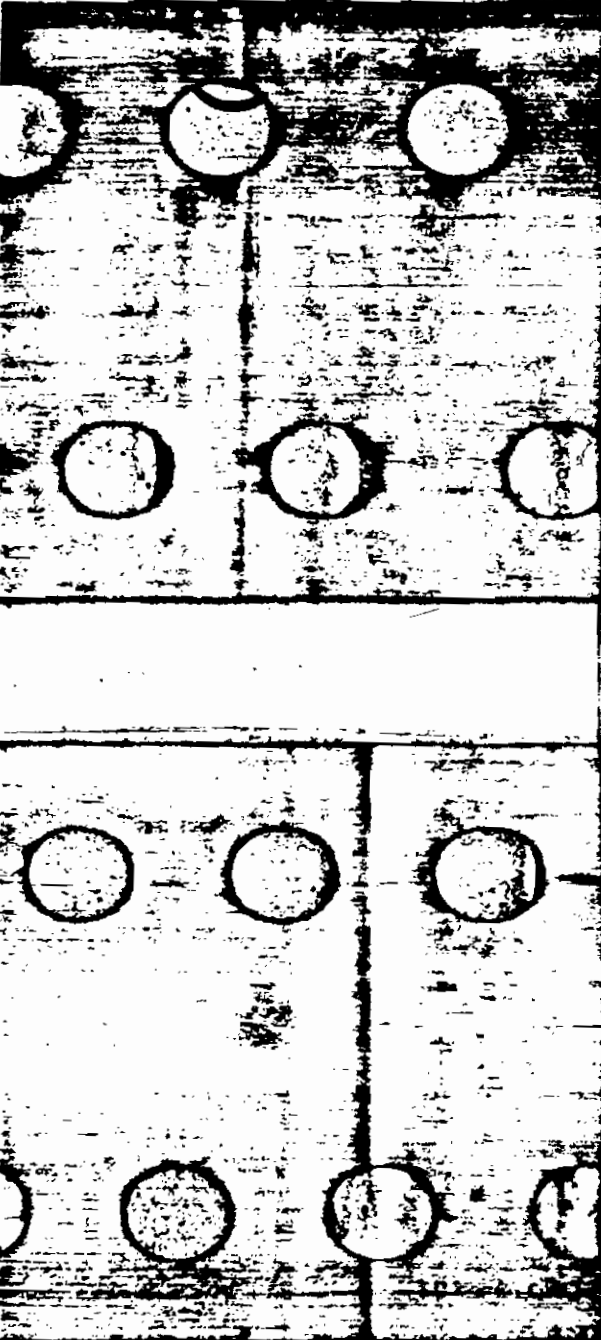
RECORDED

JUN 25 1943

29 JUL 1 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/13/80 BY SP8 J/DS

- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Handon
- Mr. Kramer
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy



German espionage agents collaborated with the Japanese in preparing the way for Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, Office of War Information disclosed today.

In a report, based on information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, ^{BERNARD} DWI revealed that Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, German agent and member of the Nazi party, conspired with Japanese spies to betray the United States fleet in Pearl Harbor to the Imperial Japanese Government four days before the attack on December 7, 1941.

Kuehn, who went to Honolulu in 1935 for the ostensible purpose of studying the Japanese language, who banked more than \$70,000 his first three years in Hawaii, and whose daughter operated a beauty parlor for the families of our Navy men in the Islands, was tried before the Military Commission in Honolulu for violations of the United States Code Annotated; was found guilty on February 21, 1942, and was sentenced to be shot. On October 26, 1942, his sentence was commuted to fifty years at hard labor.

The story which is made public for the first time today, is a tale of treachery that is both devious and direct. It involves signals flashed by "a light in Lanikai beach house at night". It involves "a light in dormer window of Kalama house". It involves the destruction of American ships and the death of American men.

On the morning following the Japanese air attack on Pearl Harbor, ^{Special Agents} representatives of the FBI succeeded in obtaining from various commercial radio and cable companies in Honolulu copies of certain hitherto unavailable ^{messages} ^{to INTELL} ~~messages~~ which had been exchanged between the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu and the Japanese Foreign Office in Tokyo.

In translation, one of these messages revealed that on December 3, Nagao Kita, the Japanese Consul-General in Honolulu, had furnished his Foreign Office with a complete system of signals to be used in the transmission of intelligence information regarding movements of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor. One such signal was a light in a dormer window of a house in Kalama.

Kalama is a comparatively small community located at Kailua, Oahu. Special Agents of the F.B.I. had no difficulty in locating the house with the dormer window. It was owned and occupied by a man who went by the name of Otto Kuehn, and his wife, Friedel.

The Kuehns were German nationals. They had previously been suspected of engaging in espionage activities in behalf of Germany and Japan and they had been under investigation by the Office of Naval Intelligence, and the Military Intelligence Service of the War Department, as well as by the F.B.I. These inquiries had brought out the fact that the Kuehns also had a beach house at Lanikai. And another of the signals mentioned in the message in possession of the F.B.I. was a light in a beach house at Lanikai.

F.B.I. Agents apprehended Kuehn and his wife December 8, 1941, on the authority of the Commanding General of the Hawaiian Department who, immediately following the declaration of war against the United States, had ordered all German and Italian aliens to be picked up for temporary detention.

When they were first picked up, the Kuehns, according to F.B.I. reports, flatly denied that they had ever had any negotiations with the Japanese Government. But increasing evidence from the F.B.I. confused their stories and on December 30, 1941, Kuehn signed a

statement admitting that he had prepared the system of signals for the Japanese Consul-General which the latter had dispatched to Tokyo in his fateful message of December 3.

Kuehn's story, as detailed in the F.B.I. files, is as follows:

Sometime during the month of November, 1941, he went to Otojiro Okuda, Japanese Vice-Consul at Honolulu and offered to assist the Japanese in obtaining information about the national defense of the United States. He, Kuehn, declared that Okuda requested him first to get the information regarding the movement of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor, and second, to devise a system of signals by which this information could be imparted to the Japanese fleet.

Kuehn, according to the story he told the F.B.I. agents, went to Pearl Harbor (accompanied by his ten-year old son, Hans Joachim) and made his observations. A few days later he went to the Japanese Consulate and submitted a signal system which he had worked out, which should be used by the Consulate in furnishing information as to the number and types of American ships in Pearl Harbor, as well as data about the ships that had already left or were about to leave.

But the Japanese officials thought the system too complicated. Vice-Consul Okuda, according to the report, told him to come back with a simpler system. Kuehn came back, on December 2, with his revised and simplified system. He also handed over to Okuda a written tabulation of the number and types of American ships then in Hawaiian waters.

The F.B.I. reports that on or about October 25, 1941, \$14,000 in cash had been delivered to Kuehn, at his residence with the dormer window, by Tadasi Morimura, Fourth Secretary of the Japanese Consulate.

Kuehn went on trial February 19, 1942. The technical charges were violation of Sections 31, 32, and 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated. He was found guilty on each of the charges, was but sentenced to be shot, /later, his sentence commuted to fifty years at hard labor.

Kuehn, who is listed in the F.B.I. files under several aliases, was born Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, in Berlin, Germany, July 25, 1895. When he was 18 he enlisted in the German Navy. He was serving as a midshipman aboard a German cruiser in World War I, and when in January, 1915, his ship was sunk in a sea battle with an English war vessel, he was taken prisoner.

Following the Armistice he returned to Berlin and re-entered the Naval Service as an Ober-Lieutenant aboard the mother ship of a mine sweeper flotilla. After about 6 months of this he was released and placed in the Naval Reserve Corps. He studied medicine briefly at the Universities of Berlin and Munich, and engaged in various occupations in Germany.

In 1920, in Munchen, Germany, Kuehn married Friedel Birk who had two children by a previous marriage, Leopold and Ruth. Leopold, according to his mother's declaration, is now serving the Nazi Party as an assistant to Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels.

It is one of Kuehn's proud boasts, according to F.B.I. information, that he was so high in the Nazi Party that he was once considered for the position of Chief of the German Gestapo under Heinrich Himmler. His rival for the job, Reinhold Heydrich, double-crossed him, Kuehn told the F.B.I. and won the coveted post.

Kuehn was first admitted to the United States at Honolulu August 15, 1935. His alleged reason for coming was to study the Japanese language. He never went back to Germany. He made two trips to Japan.

Between May 24, 1936 and February 7, 1939, more than \$70,000 was deposited to the credit of Kuehn and his wife in a Honolulu bank by the Rotterdam Bank Association. It was supposed to have come from investments and business interests of his in Germany and Holland.

But about the end of 1939 Kuehn was reported to be in financial difficulties. He established a beauty parlor which his wife's daughter, Ruth, operated. Ruth's mother is reported to have said that the shop was really opened to obtain "Navy business."

Mrs. Kuehn went to Japan for a visit in 1940 and returned home with a series of articles on "American Polynesia" which contained descriptions of various British and American islands. She is also reported to have brought back some \$16,000 in cash.

It was in the early fall of 1940, too, that the now famous dormer window was constructed in the attic of the Kuehn's home on Kalama Road. In January of that same year Mrs. Kuehn purchased a pair of eighteen-power Bausch and Lomb binoculars. This was an unusual purchase for a woman to make, for these field glasses are considered too high-powered for ordinary purposes. Because of their magnified vibrations, they cannot be used without a tripod or some other kind of rest.

Although no previous criminal record has been connected with Kuehn in the F.B.I. files, both he and his wife were generally known in Honolulu as pro-Nazi and took part in the activities of various local German clubs.

Leopold Kuehn, writing to his parents on March 27, 1939, expressed sorrow that his step-father, an old National Socialist who deserved a role in current events, was not a participant in the present war.

COPY
EG

Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 29, 1943

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

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Friedel, No. 59609-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated June 26, 1943 [REDACTED]

Letter dated June 26, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas

Letter dated June 24, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Very truly yours

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECEIVED
57

Ly
JUL 15 1943

RECORDED
INDEXED
1732

65-1574-123
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 8 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-13-80 BY SP-6/AL/MS

at Watertown, Watertown N.Y.
matter. Daily Times 6-14-43

NAZI SPY AIDED AT PEARL HARBOR

Played Major Role in Jap At- tack—Death Sentence Committed

ARRANGED FOR SIGNALS TO AID JAPS

Picked Up with His Wife
Day After Attack—He had
Banked \$10,000 in Three
Years in Hawaii.

Washington, June 14. (AP)—
The Office of War Information
(OWI) reported today that Ger-
man espionage agents helped the
Japanese prepare their attack on
Pearl Harbor, and at least one of
them was sentenced to death but
the sentence later was commuted.

Sentenced To Be Shot.

The report said Bernard Julius
Otto Kuehn, a Nazi agent, was
tried before a military commis-
sion in Honolulu on charges of
betraying the United States fleet
in Pearl Harbor to the Japanese
five days before the Dec. 7, 1941
attack. He was convicted on
Feb. 21, 1942, and sentenced to be
shot. On Oct. 26, 1942, the sen-
tence was commuted to 50 years
at hard labor. The basis for the
commutation was not given.

Members of Kuehn's family
have been interned for the dura-
tion, either in Hawaii or in this
country. They include Mrs. Kuehn,
her son, Eberhard Martin Kuehn,
and a daughter by her previous
marriage, Susie Kaete Ruth
Kuehn.

The OWI report, based on in-
formation from the Federal Bu-
reau of Investigation, said Kuehn
went to Honolulu in 1935 for the
ostensible purpose of studying
Japanese, and in three years
banked more than \$70,000.

Picked up on Dec. 8, 1941,
Kuehn and his wife at first denied
they ever had any negotiations
with the Japanese government,
OWI said, adding:

"But increasing evidence from
the FBI contradicted their asser-
tions and on Dec. 30, 1941, Kuehn
signed a statement admitting he
had prepared the system of sig-
nals for the Japanese consul-gen-
eral which the latter had dis-
patched to Tokyo in his message
of Dec. 3."

The signals, OWI explained,
were for use in reporting the
movements of the American fleet
at Pearl Harbor.

Highlights of Kuehn's story, as
reported by OWI:

Some time during November,
1941, he went to Otojiro Okuda,
Japanese vice consul at Honolulu
and offered to assist the Japanese
in obtaining information about
the national defense of the United
States. Okuda requested, first, in-
formation regarding the move-
ment of the American fleet at
Pearl Harbor; second, a system of
signals by which information could
be conveyed to the Japanese fleet.

The Japanese vice consul
thought the first system "too com-
plicated," and Kuehn submitted a
simplified system Dec. 2, together
with a tabulation of the number
and types of American ships then
in Hawaiian waters.

On Oct. 25, 1941, FBI reported,
Tadasu Norimura, fourth secretary
of the Japanese consulate, deliv-
ered \$14,000 in cash to Kuehn.
There was no explanation of this
payment in advance of the time
he purportedly offered his services
to the Japanese.

Mrs. Kuehn told FBI agents
that a son by a former marriage
is now serving the Nazi party as
an assistant to Propaganda Min-
ister Goebbels. He is known as
Leopold Kuehn, and once was
considered for chief of the Ger-
man Gestapo under Heinrich
Himmler, but Reinhold Heydrich
"double-crossed him" and won the
post. Czech patriots killed Hey-
drich.

Aided Japanese



Bernard J. O. Kuehn (top) and
Mrs. Kuehn

CLIPPING FROM WATERTOWN DAILY TIMES

WATERTOWN, N.Y.

6-14-43

FORWARDED BY ALBANY OFFICE

ENCLOSURE

65-1574-126

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XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b7c, b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-126

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X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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SECRET

May 27, 1943

*original
rel per. 118*

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

1/22/43 O.H.P. 46.75.

THE DIRECTOR

Re: **BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN** was; et al;
ESPIONAGE - C and J



ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

You will recall that this subject, immediately prior to December 7, 1941, furnished to Japanese consular officials at Honolulu a system of signalling, which was promptly communicated to Japan. This signalling system was designed as a means of transmitting to the Japanese detailed information regarding the location and number of American naval units at Pearl Harbor. Kuehn was charged with violation of the Espionage Statutes and was tried by a Military Commission at Honolulu, Hawaii, on February 19, 1942. On February 21, 1942, the Commission found him guilty and sentenced him to be shot.

Publicity on this case was not released by the Bureau after Kuehn was sentenced because Army officials at Honolulu, who had charge of the trial of Kuehn before the Military Commission, had requested that the facts of the case and the results of the conviction be kept confidential prior to the execution of sentence, since reprisals against American nationals in Japan and Germany might result.

*CLASSIFIED BY: [Signature]
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
#20841K*

RECORDED

65-1574-127

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

The conviction and sentence of Kuehn was then, as is the general policy, referred to the Office of the Judge Advocate General in Washington for review, and the Judge Advocate General upheld the finding of the court. The matter was then referred to the State Department for review, and the State Department referred it to the Attorney General, requesting advice relative to the conviction of Kuehn.

In a memorandum dated November 20, 1942, Mr. Ugo Carusi, Executive Assistant to the Attorney General, advised the Bureau that Kuehn's sentence had been commuted to fifty years by the Military Governor at Honolulu and that Kuehn had been removed to the Federal Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, to serve this sentence. Thereafter, the Honolulu Office advised the Bureau that a certified copy of the order of the Military Governor of Hawaii had been obtained in a confidential manner, setting forth that Kuehn's sentence had been commuted to fifty years.

173
JUL 28 1943

430

SECRET

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

SECRET

Memo for the Director
Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUBIK
was; et al; ESPIONAGE - G & J

- 2 -

SECRET

4/27/45

The possibility of releasing publicity on this case was discussed with Mr. Shivers, former Special Agent in Charge at Honolulu, at the time he was attending an In Service Training course in Washington in January of 1945. Mr. Shivers at that time advised he could see no objection to giving this case publicity, but before any release was made by the Bureau, it would of course be necessary to clear the matter through appropriate Army authorities, inasmuch as the subject was tried before a Military Commission and because Army authorities have requested that the facts of the case be kept confidential. Mr. Shivers was of the opinion that this matter should be taken up with Army authorities in Washington rather than at Honolulu.

Thereafter, the Bureau attempted to secure clearance, through the Liaison Section of the Bureau, from Army authorities to release publicity on this case. The Bureau was unable to secure a definite answer from the Military authorities in Washington until April 25, 1945, at which time ~~Mr. J. M. Verney~~ Verney of MIE advised it was the feeling of Army representatives in Hawaii and the Governor of Hawaii that since the Kubik case was so closely allied with the Pearl Harbor disaster, they did not desire that a release be made at the present time for fear of another hue and cry which might be raised over Pearl Harbor.

Since that time, however, efforts to release a story on this case through the cooperation of the Office of War Information have been made and information regarding the case has been furnished that agency. As yet, the case has not received publicity through this means.



Respectfully,
SECRET

SECRET

D. M. Ladd

COPY
MAJ
COT

Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

May 28, 1943

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

Re: [REDACTED]

OKUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated May 26, 1943, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Letter dated May 26, 1943, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Letter dated May 27, 1943, from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Letter dated May 18, 1943, from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Letter undated from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Very truly yours,

Reed S. Cosart
Acting Warden

h

Encls.

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RECORDED
INDEXED

1560

65-1574-127X
JUN 9 - 1943
INDEXED

65-1574-127X

COPY

Department of Justice
UNITED STATES PRISON
Leavenworth, Kansas
May 31, 1943

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

Re: [REDACTED] KUERN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:
Letter dated May 25, 1943 from [REDACTED]

Letter dated May 29, 1943, from Otto Kuern, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuern, Federal Detention Station, Seagoville, Texas

Very truly yours,
S/
Reed Cozart
Acting Warden

Encls.

RECORDED
INDEXED

1150

65-127
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 9
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

52 JUN 17 1943

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 2, 1943

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

Re: KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

53 Letter dated May 29, 1943,

53 Letter dated May 31, 1943

Letter dated May 28, 1943, from Mrs. Friedal
1218 Kuehn, Interment Camp, Crystal City, Texas,
re Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Very truly yours,

Fred Gosart
Acting Warden

Encls.

CO

H

~~RECEIVED~~ NG

92311

92312

92313

Handwritten notes on left margin:
Number of letters
6-1-43

Handwritten notes on right margin:
A
B
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UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 7, 1943

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

Re:

KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated June 5, 1943.

53

2378

Letter dated May 31, 1943, from

93

2379

Letter dated June 2, 1943, from

48

2380

Letter dated June 2, 1943, from

44

2381

Letter dated June 1, 1943, from

11

2382

Letter dated June 6, 1943, from Otto Kuehn,
No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City
Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas

121

2383

Very truly yours

W. A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

*Handled in file
6/10/43*

102 6/10/43

*121
121*

*A11
P6
b7c*

ADVANCE RELEASE

ADVANCE RELEASE: For Monday Afternoon Papers, June 14, 1943

OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION

OWI-2026

German espionage agents collaborated with the Japanese in preparing the way for Japan's sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, the Office of War Information disclosed today.

In a report, based on information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation OWI revealed that Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, German agent and member of the Nazi party, conspired with Japanese spies to betray the United States Fleet in Pearl Harbor to the Imperial Japanese Government four days before the attack on December 7, 1941.

Kuehn, who went to Honolulu in 1935 for the ostensible purpose of studying the Japanese language, who banked more than \$70,000 his first three years in Hawaii, and whose daughter operated a beauty parlor for the families of our Navy men in the Islands, was tried before the Military Commission in Honolulu for violations of the United States Code Annotated; was found guilty on February 21, 1942, and was sentenced to be shot. On October 26, 1942, his sentence was commuted to fifty years at hard labor.

The story is made public for the first time today.

Special Agents of the FBI aided by material furnished by the Military Intelligence Division of the Army and the Office of Naval Intelligence as well as their own material learned that on December 3, Nagao Kita, the Japanese Consul-General in Honolulu, had furnished his Foreign Office with a complete system of signals to be used in the transmission of intelligence information regarding movements of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor. One such signal was a light in a dormer window of a house in Kalama.

Kalama is a comparatively small community located at Kailua, Oahu. Special Agents of the FBI had no difficulty in locating the house with the dormer window. It was owned and occupied by Kuehn, and his wife, Friedel.

The Kuehns were German nationals. They had previously been suspected of engaging in espionage activities in behalf of Germany and Japan and had been under investigation by the Office of Naval Intelligence and the Military Intelligence Service of the War Department, as well as by the FBI. These inquiries had brought out the fact that the Kuehns also had a beach house at Lanikai. And another of the signals mentioned in the message in possession of the FBI was a light in a beach house at Lanikai.

COPIES DESTROYED

339 AUG 4 1970

149 ENCL
55 JUN 22 1943

65-1574
32-NOT RECORDED

K-16808

55 JUN 22 1943

F.B.I. Agents apprehended Kuehn and his wife December 1941, on the authority of the Commanding General of the Hawaiian Department who, immediately following the declaration of war against the United States, had ordered German and Italian aliens to be picked up for temporary detention.

1941, on the authority of the Commanding General of the Hawaiian Department who, immediately following the declaration of war against the United States, had ordered German and Italian aliens to be picked up for temporary detention.

When they were first picked up the Kuehns, according to F.B.I. reports, flatly denied that they had ever had any negotiations with the Japanese Government. But increasing evidence from the F. B. I. contradicted their assertions and on December 30, 1941, Kuehn signed a statement admitting that he had prepared the system of signals for the Japanese Consul-General which the latter had dispatched to Tokyo in his message of December 3.

Kuehn's story, as detailed in the F.B.I. files, follows:

Sometime during the month of November, 1941, he went to Otojiro Okuda, Japanese Vice-Consul at Honolulu and offered to assist the Japanese in obtaining information about the national defense of the United States. Kuehn declared Okuda requested him; first, to get the information regarding the movement of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor, and second, to devise a system of signals by which this information could be imparted to the Japanese fleet.

Kuehn went to Pearl Harbor (accompanied by his ten-year old son, Hans Joachim) and made his observations. A few days later he went to the Japanese Consulate and submitted a signal system which he had worked out, which could be used by the Consulate in furnishing information as to the number and types of American ships in Pearl Harbor, as well as data about the ships that had already left or were about to leave.

But the Japanese officials thought the system too complicated. Vice-Consul Okuda, according to the report, told him to come back with a simpler system. Kuehn came back, on December 2, with his revised and simplified system. He also handed over to Okuda a written tabulation of the number and types of American ships then in Hawaiian waters.

The F.B.I. reports that on or about October 25, 1941, \$14,000 in cash had been delivered to Kuehn, at his residence with the dormer window, by Tadasu Morimura, Fourth Secretary of the Japanese Consulate.

Kuehn went on trial February 19, 1942. The technical charges were violation of Sections 31, 32 and 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated. He was found guilty on each of the charges and was sentenced to be shot, but later his sentence was commuted to fifty years at hard labor.

Other members of the Kuehn family have been interned, either in Hawaii or in this country, for the duration of the war. They include, Mrs. Kuehn, her son, Eberhard Martin Kuehn, and a daughter by her previous marriage who now goes by the name of Suse Kaete Ruth Kuehn.

Kuehn, who is listed in the F.B.I. files under several aliases, was born Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, in Berlin, Germany, July 25, 1895. When he was 18 he enlisted in the German Navy. He was serving as a midshipman aboard a German cruiser in World War I, and when in January, 1915, his ship was sunk in a sea battle with an English war vessel, he was taken prisoner.

Handwritten: F. J. Kuehn - 1244
1244

Stamp: MAR 28 1942
MAR 28 1942

X-16808

Following Armistice he returned to Berlin and re-entered the Naval Service as an Ober-Lieutenant aboard the mother ship of the mine sweeper flotilla. After 6 months he was released and placed in the Naval Reserve Corps. He studied medicine briefly at the Universities of Berlin and Munich, and engaged in various occupations in Germany.

In 1920, in Munchen, Germany, Kuehn married Friedel Birk who had two children by a previous marriage, Leopold and Ruth. Leopold, according to his mother's declaration, is now serving the Nazi Party as an assistant to Propaganda Minister Joseph Goebbels.

It is one of Kuehn's proud boasts, according to F.B.I. information, that he was so high in the Nazi Party that he was once considered for the position of Chief of the German Gestapo under Heinrich Himmler. His rival for the job, Reinhold Heydrich, double-crossed him, Kuehn told the F.B.I., and won the coveted post.

Kuehn was first admitted to the United States at Honolulu, August 15, 1935. His alleged reason for coming was to study the Japanese language. He never went back to Germany. He made two trips to Japan.

Between May 14, 1936 and February 7, 1939, more than \$70,000 was deposited to the credit of Kuehn and his wife in a Honolulu bank by the Rotterdam Bank Association. It was supposed to have come from investments and business interests of his in Germany and Holland.

But about the end of 1939 Kuehn was reported to be in financial difficulties. He established a beauty parlor which his wife's daughter, Ruth, operated. Ruth's mother is reported to have said that the shop was really opened to obtain "Navy business."

Mrs. Kuehn went to Japan for a visit in 1940 and returned home with a series of articles on "American Polynesia" which contained descriptions of various British and American islands. She is also reported to have brought back some \$16,000 in cash.

It was in the early fall of 1940, too, that the now famous dormer window was constructed in the attic of the Kuehn's home on Kalama Road. In January of that same year Mrs. Kuehn purchased a pair of eighteen-power Bausch and Lomb binoculars. This was an unusual purchase for a woman to make, for these field glasses are considered too high-powered for ordinary purposes. Because of their magnified vibrations, they cannot be used without a tripod or some other kind of rest.

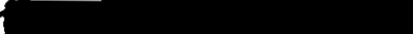
Although no previous criminal record has been connected with Kuehn in the F.B.I. files, both he and his wife were generally known in Honolulu as pro-Nazi and took part in the activities of various local German clubs.

Leopold Kuehn, writing to his parents on March 27, 1939, expressed sorrow that his step-father, an old National Socialist who deserved a role in current events, was not a participant in the present war.

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 15, 1943

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

Re: 
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

~~DEFERRED RECEIVING~~

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated June 12, 1943, 

#53

Q 2484

Letter dated June 13, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp Crystal City, Crystal City, Texas

#121

Q 2485

Letter dated June 9, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L

#121

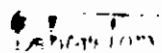
Q 2486

Very truly yours


Walter A. Hunter
Warden

No newspaper clipping in this envelope, which was mentioned in letter.

FOI/PA # 268714
APPEAL #
CIVIL ACT. #
E.O. 12350
DATE 6-14-80

Returned to 
6-18-43 EC

administrative markings (on back)

65-1574-127X4

JUN 21 1943

58 JUL 5 1943

42520-41
RETURNED TO SENDER BY MAIL IN 1.5

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 22, 1943

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

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

WLD
Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated June 19, 1943, [REDACTED]

Letter dated June 20, 1943, from Otto Kuehn,
No. 59603-L to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment
Camp, Crystal City, Texas

Letter dated June 16, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Very truly yours

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
DIA

100-1574-12725

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JUL 3 1943	
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
EX - 36	FILE

ORIGINAL COPY FILED IN 100-41134-59

1/28
[Signature]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1, b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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

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

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
 44-244-127

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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August 10, 1943

Honorable Francis Maloney
United States Senator

My dear Senator:

I am in receipt of your letter of August 7, 1943, in which you requested information concerning Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn and his wife, Friedel. For your information, Kuhn was arrested at Honolulu, Hawaii, December 8, 1941, and on February 21, 1942, was found guilty of engaging in espionage in behalf of the Japanese. He was tried before a military commission and although originally sentenced to be shot, this sentence was commuted on October 26, 1942, to fifty years imprisonment at hard labor.

According to the information which we presently have available, Kuhn's wife, Friedel, has now been interned for the duration of the war in pursuance to an order of the military commission at Honolulu, Hawaii.

With expressions of my highest esteem and best regards,

Sincerely yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/14/88 BY SP5/CJS

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Acers _____
- Mr. Carson _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 7
 AUG 10 1943 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

29 AUG 12 1943 23

RECEIVED - DIRECTOR
 AUG 10 2 41 PM '43
 RECEIVED - FBI
 U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED - READING ROOM
 FBI
 AUG 10 2 25 PM '43

[Handwritten initials]
[Handwritten signature]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

July 6, 1943

*J
02/210*

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: ^①KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated July 3, 1943, from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel ^RKuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Very truly yours

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encl.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
D163
EX-46

65-1574-129
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUL 19 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

55 JUL 26 1943 *324*

INITIALS

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

3 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
These pages were found to be duplicate pages of 65-9574-127X

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-130

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-131

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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Federal Bureau of Investigation
 United States Department of Justice
 Washington, D. C.
 June 2, 1943

- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

*File
 1/20*

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

Re: Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn

*mb
 18*

You will recall that some time ago OWI prepared a release on this case. I have been following it from day to day and have been advised that Elmer Davis took the matter up with the War Department and the War Department objected to the release of the information pertaining to Kuehn's conviction and the method of signaling on the ground that to release the story would mean that we would be telling the Japs that we had their diplomatic code.

For your information, SAC Shivers called the Chief of Police of Honolulu to guard the Japanese Consulate at Hawaii at the time of the bombing. When [redacted] arrived with a squad to guard the Consulate they found the Vice Consul, Atojiro Okuda, in the act of burning some of the Consulate papers. [redacted] ordered the burning of the papers ceased and among the papers being burned was the telegraph file, together with other documents including what appeared to be the Consulate code. This material was not inventoried but was delivered to ONI. Later, messages between the Consulate and the Jap foreign service were secured from the local communications companies. When these were secured it was possible to translate the coded message setting forth the signals devised by Kuehn.

of Kuehn, [redacted]

While the Jap Consuls, Kita and Okuda, know that we have the Consulate code, it would appear that this is the type of knowledge which no longer should be kept secret, however, it is suggested that we advise OWI that they might get around the objection of the Army by merely stating that a copy of the message was secured from the Jap Consulate prior to its being coded. This would, of course, put Kita in the middle with the foreign office and while it would not be correctly presenting the picture, nevertheless, from the propaganda value it is believed this would not be objectionable.

Respectfully,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 8-14-86 BY SP-1 [redacted]



#268414

RECORDED

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 32-16 943*

52 AUG 25 1943

COPY
LR

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

August 3, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: [REDACTED]
Kuehn, Otto, No. 59603-1
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated July 31, 1943, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Letter dated July 20, 1943, w/photos enclosed,
from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Incarcerment Camp,
Crystal City, Texas, to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-1

Birthday greeting card, envelope postmarked
July 31, 1943. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Letter dated July 30, 1943, w/enclosures and
photos, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Very truly yours

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

30 AUG 28 1943

65-1574-13
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 12 1943

COPY
LR

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVERTWORTH, KANSAS

July 13, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: [REDACTED]

© KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated July 10, 1943, [REDACTED]

Letter dated July 9, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated July 8, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

Letter dated July 11, 1943, from Otto Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Very truly yours,

Halter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

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65-1574-134
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

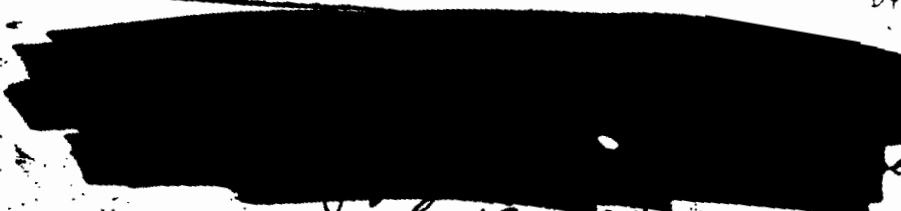
JUL 31 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED

EX - 5

Hand to FBI



July 19, 1943

Office of War Information
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs,

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED.
DATE 8-14-80 BY SP-11/3

Concerning an AP, June 14, 1943

newspaper item concerning the
conviction of a Julius Otto Kuehn,
Nazi Agent, for betraying the
U.S. Fleet to the Japanese
preparatory for the attack on
Pearl Harbor, I thought you
might like to know that
Mrs. Kuehn about 45 years
of age, sailed from Honolulu
on the S.S. Providence on
Monday, Feb. 19, 1940, and dis-
embarked at Yokohama, Japan
on Thur. Feb. 29, 1940.

Richard S. Kuehn
Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn
R S KUEHN
gnd

RECORDED

INDEXED

d 153

SE
65-1574-3
32 JUL 29 1943

Op. 7



b/c
b6

[REDACTED]

the States to the Philippines and
were invited to visit her on some
way back to the States. The address
she gave was 1476 Kailua Ave.,
Honolulu, ^{HA 01000} - Teleph. 6 white 929.

Address Thinking that this
information might prove
significant and helpful to
the OWI I remain,

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

RECORDED

August 14, 1943

Dear Mr. [redacted]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your communication, dated July 19, 1943, which was forwarded to this Bureau by the Office of War Information, Washington, D. C.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to the attention of the Government are indeed appreciated, and you may be assured your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-14-80 BY SP5C/PLS

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Acers _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Starke _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 2
★ AUG 16 1943 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED BEADING ROOM
AUG 14 5 55 PM '43

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM
AUG 18 4 43 PM '43

53 AUG 28 1943

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

July 26, 1943

65-10
T
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Otto, No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following-listed letters:

Letter dated July 19, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter dated July 23, 1943, from Otto Kuehn,
No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment
Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Letter dated July 16, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn,
Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Otto Kuehn,
No. 59603-L.

Very truly yours

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

RECORDED & INDEXED
D76

65-1574-13
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
AUG 4 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
INDEXED ORIGINAL

107
E 6 AUG 10 1943

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

3 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
25 157 36

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

September 1, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
No. 59603

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for transmittal and return to this institution is a letter dated August 31, 1943 from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encl.

RECORDED

65-1574-17

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 9 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

56 SEP 21 1943

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BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, *summary*
WITH ALIAS OTTO KUNN--ESPIONAGE

Although the American people have become more fully conscious of the danger the United States faces from the acts of an espionage agent, it is difficult for many to conceive the full scope and effect of the true danger. This is due to the fact that the American public cannot comprehend the translation of the spy's activities into death and destruction. The case which all too vividly effects this transformation is that of Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn.

Kuehn conspired with the spies of the Imperial Japanese Government to betray the United States Fleet at Pearl Harbor. Regardless of the fact that he was an oberleutenant of the German Navy, a fanatical member of the notorious Nazi Party of Germany and the head of a family, the four adult members of which had pledged their lives and fortunes to the Germany of Hitler, his acts will stand forever emblazoned with the word "traitor." Kuehn was an applicant for American citizenship to which he would have been admitted on the last Saturday of January, 1942.

Kuehn sold to the Imperial Japanese Government espionage information they desired in order to successfully

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- Tolson
- E. A. Tamm
- Clegg
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effect their attack on Pearl Harbor as of December 7, 1941. He conveyed to the Japanese the strength and number of warships assigned to Pearl Harbor. He also devised a set of signals which were to be used as a warning to the Japanese fleet in the event the American fleet learned of their intended attack and put scouting forces to sea between December 1 and 6, 1941.

Otto Kuehn was arrested by the Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation acting with the military authorities on December 8, 1941. Martial law had been placed into force in the Hawaiian Islands. Therefore, Kuehn was tried by a military commission and sentenced to face death by a firing squad. This sentence was later commuted to fifty years' imprisonment at hard labor in a Federal Penitentiary.

Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn was born of a middle-class German family on July 25, 1895, at Berlin, Germany. His father was a doctor of chemistry employed as a food inspector at Stettin, Germany.

Kuehn cast his fortune at an early age with the powerful naval faction of Germany when he enlisted as a cadet in the German Navy in April, 1913, at the age of seventeen. His primary training was received at Flensburg on board the training cruiser "Hertha." Shortly prior to the outbreak of the World War in August, 1914, Kuehn was promoted to a midshipman and transferred to the "SMS Blucher," a German battle cruiser.

The "Alucher" was sunk by the battle cruiser "SMS Lion" on January 24, 1915, when a patrol squadron under the English Vice-Admiral Featty intercepted a German squadron of three battle cruisers which was attempting to reach the British Coast.

Kuehn, an ensign by this time, survived the sinking and was taken as a prisoner of war to Edinburgh, Scotland, where he remained until January, 1918, when he was returned to Germany in an exchange of prisoners. The balance of Kuehn's World War service was spent in Holland.

Following the Armistice in November, 1918, he studied architecture for three months and then returned to the demilitarized German Navy as a lieutenant on board the "Wittelsbach," mother ship of a mine-sweeper flotilla. In August, 1919, Kuehn was released from active duty and placed into the German Naval Reserve.

In the fall of 1919 Kuehn returned to his studies and enrolled as a student in the University of Munich. Shortly before the completion of his first year's work he married Friedel Birt, a childhood acquaintance. Friedel was a war mother of two children--Leopold, who was born at Berlin, July 6, 1911, and Ruth, born in Berlin on March 1, 1915. The two children adopted the name of their foster father. Kuehn's father died and left him a small estate with a portion of which he purchased during the summer of 1920 the "Antares," a sail

freighter which he operated between Rotterdam, Holland, and Finland. Disaster soon overtook this venture for the "Antares" was wrecked and sold as salvage for the sum of \$2,000.

Kuehn returned to his studies, transferring to the University of Berlin in the fall of 1920. He completed one year's work and ceased his university training in the spring of 1921.

The next seven years were spent in Germany at various occupations. In June, 1921, Kuehn entered the employment of Siemens-Halske, Limited, a large electrical manufacturing concern in Berlin. This employment was followed until June, 1923, when he entered private business as a soda water manufacturer at Stettin, Germany. This business did not prove successful and in June, 1924, he secured a position with Pommerische-Melrein, a large dairy in Berlin, where he was employed as an inspector.

In 1928, Kuehn re-entered the German Navy and was assigned to active duty with the Defense Section of the High Command at Oestee, Germany. His first taste of undercover assignment was gained in this position for his duties entailed the investigation of subversive activity among Army and Navy officers. This employment continued under the Weimar Republic until 1930 when he was dismissed from the service.

The reason for this dismissal is not clear. Kuehn maintains that he was dismissed for financial irregularities

but it is known that in 1930 while attending a meeting which was addressed by Adolph Hitler at Kiel, Germany, he joined the Nazi Party which was then at odds with the Weimar Republic and also secured the enrollment of his son, Leopold, as a member.

Little is known concerning Kuehn's activities from 1930-32. He states that for a while he was engaged as a sales manager with one Overbeck in operating a chain of coffee stores in Berlin. Ruth was employed by the Nazi Party Youth Group in campaigning for Hitler. When Adolph Hitler came into power in 1932, Kuehn capitalized upon his party membership and traveled to Munich with Reinhold Heydrich to be interviewed by the then chief of police at Munich for the position that was later to earn Heydrich the sobriquet of "Fangman of the Reich." Heydrich was selected for the position of chief of the German Gestapo under Heinrich Himmler of the SS. Kuehn made the statement that if this position had been offered to him he would have readily accepted it. Later Kuehn was interviewed with Heydrich and the Chief of Police of Munich by Heinrich Himmler. This group discussed steps which should be taken to combat Communism in Germany.

Kuehn was now assigned with [REDACTED] to confidential work investigating the police department at Altona, Germany. Kuehn [REDACTED] were rivals for a high government position as Regierungsrat, a government advisor. Friction developed

between Kuehn [REDACTED] for this position with both individuals apparently attempting to discredit the other. A check appeared in the amount of 9,700 marks with Kuehn's signature on it. This check was fraudulent. A question therefore arose as to Kuehn's responsibility [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Kuehn claims that he made an investigation and discovered that this fraudulent check had been prepared by a [REDACTED] Kuehn wrote his suspicions into a letter and forwarded it to [REDACTED] "und alte Kampfe" or old party veteran, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] era of invasion into the Scandinavian countries. [REDACTED]

Upon this occasion Kuehn was placed in a serious position for he was guilty of hurling accusations at a man who now held an important party position. Kuehn was arrested and placed in prison. He was soon cleared of the charges which [REDACTED] had lodged against him and returned to his position as sales manager with the coffee firm. During the bloody days of June, 1934, which will be marked in history as the blood purge of the Nazi Party, Kuehn was again placed in prison at the Alexanderplatz Praesidium in Berlin. The reason for this arrest is not certain. Kuehn maintains that a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] in any rate
the charges were never proved against Kuehn and he was released.
Meanwhile Kuehn had been readmitted to his commission in the
German Navy and was given a rating of lieutenant, first class,
or oberleutenant.

On April 18, 1935, he left Germany on the "SS
Stuttgart" in company with his wife, Friedel, on an assignment
of the German Navy to study the Japanese language. Kuehn and
his wife arrived in transit to the Far East in New York City
on April 29, 1935. They spent ten days in New York City, and
left there for San Francisco, California, where the German

Consulate was contacted. From San Francisco they sailed to Honolulu, Hawaii, arriving there May 15, 1935. On May 27, 1935, Kuehn went to the German Consul at Honolulu and had his passport renewed for a period of five years.

After spending three weeks in Honolulu, the party sailed to Japan. They arrived at Yokohama, July 18, 1935, and proceeded to the Imperial Hotel at Tokyo. A contact was made in Japan with a [REDACTED] of the Imperial University. Kuehn discussed with [REDACTED] the proper steps for enrollment in Japanese studies.

The party remained in Tokyo for some time. On June 29, 1935, Kuehn wrote to his stepson, Leopold, from Tokyo urging him to come to the Far East for the purpose of studying Japanese so that he might return to Germany well qualified for higher service in the Nazi Government. Kuehn made the statement in his letter that he had received a good connection with the AA. This refers to the Auswartiges Amt. or the German Foreign Service.

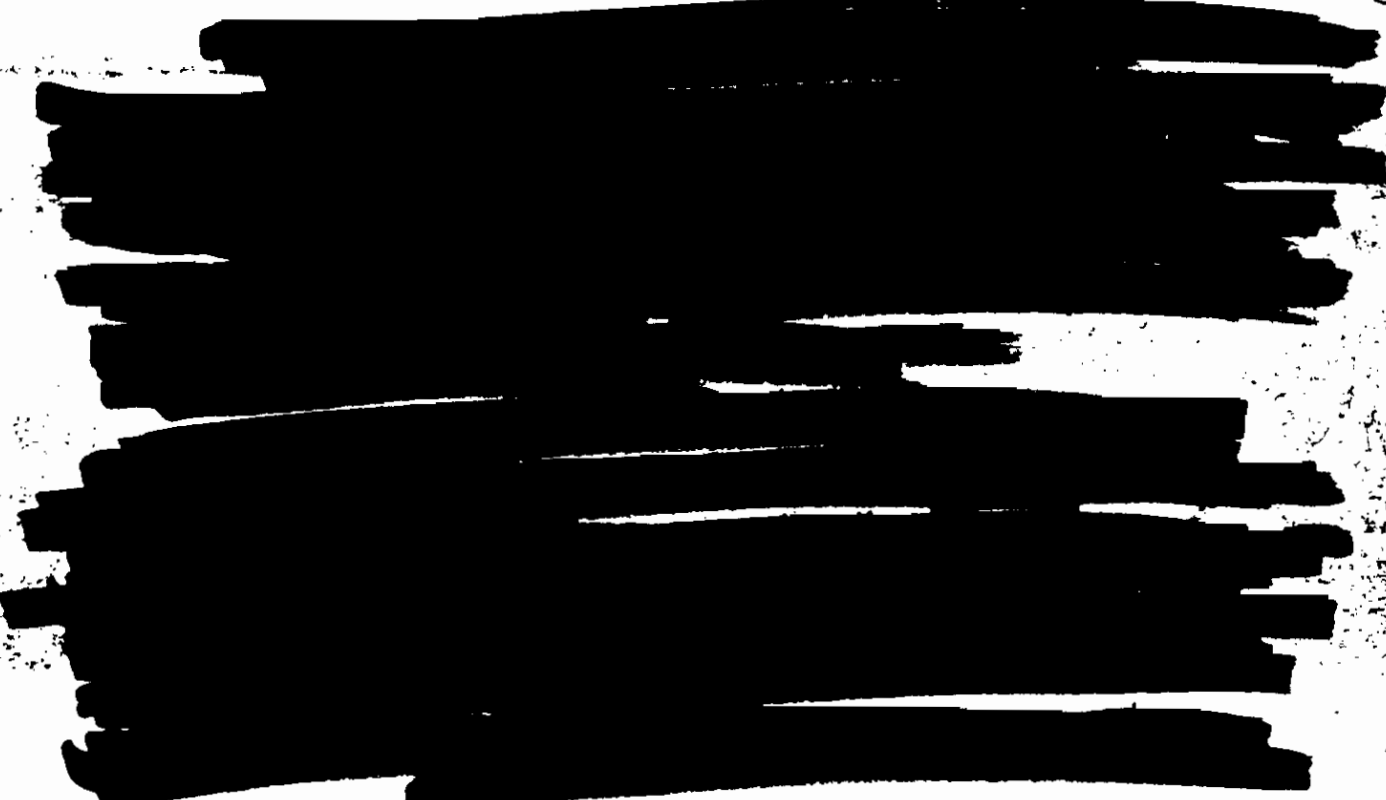
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From Japan, Kuehn and his wife proceeded to Shanghai, China. Kuehn had a letter addressed to a prominent official in Canton, China. This letter was signed by [REDACTED] Berlin, Germany. It is important for Kuehn was introduced as Lieutenant, First Class, of the German Navy. This person in

Canton was requested to aid Kuehn in his assignment to learn the Japanese language. This letter was dated at Berlin, Germany, April 14, 1935. Kuehn placed on deposit in the banks at Shanghai at this time or there was placed to his deposit at a later date the sum of \$20,000.

From Shanghai, China, Mrs. Kuehn continued on around the world to Germany. Otto Kuehn returned to Honolulu on board the Japanese steamer, the Chichibu Maru, arriving there on August 15, 1935. Kuehn was granted permission to enter the United States at Honolulu as a student for a period of twelve months to study the Japanese language at the University of Hawaii. Living quarters were obtained first at the Alexander Young Hotel and later at the Brookland Hotel in Honolulu.



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Kuch's first payments were received in Jan, 1936, from a bank account of the Rotterdam Cooperative Bank of Rotterdam, Holland. The same received from this source continued until February, 1939. Within the period of three years Kuch received over \$70,000. He attempted to explain the amount by claiming that an aunt in Sweden had deposited \$25,000 to his credit gratuitously. The balance was never explained. On May 14, 1936, the first payment was received through the Madison City Bank of New York City.

their correspondent bank in Honolulu to Kuehn's credit. Two days later he called for an additional \$500.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Later in the month eight acres of land were leased by Otto Kuehn from the Kanehoe Ranch Company; seven of these acres were leased to a Japanese farmer and only one acre was retained by Otto for gardening purposes. Kuehn raised chickens, fruits, and vegetables on this plot. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On March 4, 1938, Otto Kuehn, 45 years of age, Adel Kuehn, aged 46, and Ruth Kuehn, 23, applied for American citizenship in the United States Territorial Court at Honolulu. They were residing on Kaimala Avenue in Kailua on the island of Oahu.

[REDACTED]

The Kuehns had now been in Honolulu for two and one half years. They continued to maintain a very high standard of living with no apparent source of income. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Otto Kuehn did not remain in Japan [REDACTED]
but returned to Honolulu on September 22, 1938. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Otto evidently decided
that he should enter some business if he was to successfully
maintain his double existence. He, therefore, purchased 57 1/2
per cent in the Modern Steel Furniture Company of Honolulu
for the sum of \$3,000 and assumed all liabilities of the
business. This Company had maintained a \$5,000 to \$9,000
yearly business in contracts with the United States Navy.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Kuehn's business the Modern Steel Furniture Company lasted only nine months. On May 31, 1939, an assignment was made for the benefit of creditors. This by the man who claimed that his financial genius had amassed such a great fortune in Germany. Kuehn claimed great financial loss here but it is recalled that he only paid \$9,000 for the business. Although, he assumed the debts of the business his losses could not have been too severe.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Were they not applicants for United States citizenship and active in the social life of the island.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] for three

study of the island [REDACTED] with a private [REDACTED] for four and one half years, this [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

to justify his lengthy stay in the "Islands" under the pretext of studying the Japanese language. His teacher in Japanese reported that he could scarcely speak a complete sentence in Japanese and cared nothing of Japan's history and culture.

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

[REDACTED]

The rapid series of events occurring in June which culminated in the Fall of France on June 22, 1940, made the Iuehne more bold in the transmittal of their espionage information. They were seen to go to the Japanese consulate on several occasions during this month with material concerning

American naval operations in the Hawaiian Islands. They were dealing not with the Japanese Consulate directly, but with the Japanese Naval Intelligence [REDACTED]

The Japanese Consulate was to serve only as the depository for the material which was dispatched by courier to headquarters in Japan.

A code system was worked out at this time by the Kuchas to keep the information which they furnished confidential to all parties except the intended recipient. There was forwarded [REDACTED] a German dictionary; an identical copy of this dictionary was retained by Otto Kucha. This dictionary was sent to Japan [REDACTED] on a Japanese steamer. Coded messages were prepared in the following manner. Words were referred to in numbers; for example, 124-6 would mean the 124th page of the book, the sixth word from the top of the page. If the word, therefore, were "planes" this number would refer to the German word for planes in the dictionary.

Although the Kuchas had sufficient money concealed in their possession they still attempted to create an air of financial distress. [REDACTED]

The second espionage payment from the Japanese arrived when the Kenakura Mary docked in Honolulu on September

15, 1940. [REDACTED] Otto Kuehn the sum of \$10,000 in American currency. Although [REDACTED] previously called at the Kuehn home to make deliveries this meeting took place in front of the P.Y.I. steamship offices in Honolulu far removed from the Kuehn residence.

Meanwhile Kuehn decided to utilize his Kalaheo residence as a lookout point for the work going on at Kaneohe Naval Air Base for which millions had been appropriated. This was one of the airfields later bombed in the Japanese attack on December 7, 1941. Kuehn, therefore, built into the roof of his house a dormer window from which he could observe all activities. It is interesting to note that Kuehn was an excellent carpenter and all of the work was performed by him personally.

The Kuehns received firsthand information as to the celebration of the German victories on September 22, 1940,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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b7c

7

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

As a subterfuge Kuehn commenced work at the Honolulu Iron Works at a salary of \$25 per week. On June 3, 1942, he applied to the Fuller Brush Company as a salesman. Kuehn worked at the Honolulu Iron Works from May 20, 1941, to June 28, 1941. [REDACTED]

On June 16, 1941, the Japanese Consulate was requested to assume the duties of the German Consulate at Honolulu in view of the United States order closing the German Consulates throughout the United States. It will be recalled that the Japanese Government had allied herself into the Axis powers on September 27, 1940, the day following the embargo placed September 26, 1940, on the shipment of scrap iron to Japan from the United States. The position of German Consul at Honolulu was purely an honorary one that could not be trusted with the confidential material which Kuehn was transmitting through the official Japanese Consulate. Then, too, Kuehn thought that since the Japanese Consulate was now the official

consulate for the Germans no suspicion would attach itself to his visits there.

Kuehn filed an application on June 30, 1941, to become a citizen of the United States. If he had been successful American citizenship would have been granted to him on January 30, 1942.

Less than thirty days after this filing on July 16, 1941, Kuehn contacted the Japanese consulate at Honolulu and gave to the consul a message prepared in the prearranged number code for transmittal by courier to Japan. The new consul was informed by Kuehn at this time that he was acting as an espionage agent with authority higher than a mere consular official. This message was transmitted by one of the three official consular couriers working from Honolulu to Tokyo.

Money for the services performed by Kuehn soon arrived. In the afternoon of October 18, 1941, Otojiro Okuda, who was now vice consul to Kita, the consul, left the consulate at 1615 Nuuanu Avenue in company with Tadao Morimura, the espionage agent who had arrived in March. They drove to the vicinity of Kuulei and Kaleahoe Avenues at Kailua, on the island of Oahu, a few blocks from Kuehn's residence on Kailua Avenue.

In the event that he was questioned Okuda was dressed in golf slacks and was completely equipped with his golf clubs in order to make it appear that he was on his way to a pleasant game of golf.

Morimura was dressed in blue slacks and an open-front shirt. Okuda handed to Morimura a package with instructions that this was to be delivered to Otto Kuehn personally. Morimura left Okuda in the car and walked back toward the Kuehn residence.

The Kuehn residence was well concealed from inquisitive eyes in that it was surrounded by a ten-foot ironwood hedge. Morimura did not go to the front of the house but went to the rear where he came upon Eberhard Kuehn, one of the sons, working in the yard. Morimura called for the father, Otto Kuehn. Eberhard went into the house and returned with his father.

Morimura handed to Kuehn a money sack from which Kuehn removed a package of bills in American currency. This was later found to be the sum of \$14,000. With these bills was a typewritten message which requested Kuehn to make a short wave radio test a few nights later. Morimura then left. Kuehn carefully digested the message and carelessly threw it toward a trash fire and returned to the house. Morimura retraced his steps to the automobile whereupon the party drove back to the Consulate.

Kuehn contacted the Japanese Consulate on three occasions during the month of November. As an excuse in the event he was questioned he had the alibi that he merely wanted to send money to his son, Leopold, in Germany. He furnished

during the month of November the complete strength of the United States Naval vessels based on Hawaiian waters. The consul requested the location of the area where the fleet maneuvers were to be held but Kuehn was unable to furnish this data to him.

The Japanese High Command had previously laid the plans for the delivery of their crippling blow at the American fleet in Pearl Harbor. Nomura and Kurusu were in Washington apparently negotiating for a peaceful settlement. A reliable man who was a devout disciple to the Nazi cause was needed; better still a person thoroughly familiar with naval vessels and operations was absolutely necessary. Kuehn was an Oberleutnant in the German Navy; in addition he was a member of the Nazi Party of Germany and thoroughly dependable in view of the information which he had furnished in the past concerning Pearl Harbor and vicinity. They had furnished him with payments totaling over \$40,000 during the past year and a half. This man was needed not to furnish further technical data but to work out a set of signals which could be flashed to waiting two-man submarines in the event the American Navy patrols discovered the Japanese fleet in proximity to their shores. Otto Kuehn was that man.

On November 17, 1941, Kuehn took to the Japanese Consulate a set of seventeen signals which would show the

operations of the American fleet. The High Command in Tokyo considered this system too complicated. On December 3, 1941, Kuchan submitted the final plan which met with their approval.

This plan of signalling was to utilize lights, beacon fires and clothing displayed at prominent positions for the off-shore lookout in the two-man submarines. The signals were to be as follows:

1. Several aircraft carriers plan to put to sea.
2. All battle force has sailed December 1 to 3.
3. Several aircraft carriers have sailed between December 1 and 3.
4. All aircraft carriers have sailed December 1 to 3.
5. All battle force has sailed December 4 to 6.
6. Several aircraft carriers have sailed December 4-6.
7. All Aircraft carriers have sailed December 4 to 6.
8. All scouting force has sailed December 4 to 6.

These signals were to be given by the following

methods:

1. By means of lights from Kuchan's Lanikai Beach House at night.
 - A. One light from 8 P.M. to 9 P.M. indicates 1
Two lights from 8 P.M. to 9 P.M. indicates 2
 - B. One light from 9 P.M. to 10 P.M. indicates 3
Two lights from 9 P.M. to 10 P.M. indicates 4
 - C. One light from 10 P.M. to 11 P.M. indicates 5
Two lights from 10 P.M. to 11 P.M. indicates 6
 - D. One light from 11 P.M. to 12 P.M. indicates 7
Two lights from 11 P.M. to 12 P.M. indicates 8

These signals were to have been given by window lights or automobile headlights.

All of these signals could have been given at any hour during the night time by means of one full automobile

headlight and one half light which would indicate 1, 2, 3, and 4 while two headlights would indicate 5, 6, 7 and 8.

For signals during the daytime it was planned to use one or two sheets displayed on a clothesline which was erected on the beach side of the Lanikai Beach house. These signals were to commence at 9 A.M. in the morning.

The full set of signals could be sent during the daylight hours at any time by means of a star boat owned by Kucha and kept at the Lanikai Beach House. There were two sails for this boat. A sail with a large star displayed on the sail would indicate 1, 2, 3, or 4. If the sail was a star with the large numeral VII, 5, 6, 7, or 8 would be conveyed.

The Kalama house of the Kucha family was also to serve as a signal point. This house is quite prominent and can be observed several miles offshore. Lights were to be displayed from the corner window which Kucha had constructed in the summer of 1940. These signals were to commence at 7:00 P.M. and to continue hourly until 1:00 A.M.

The radio want ads program of a commercial station would be utilized also. A Chinese rug advertised for sale at 9:45 A.M. would indicate signals 3 or 6; a beauty parlor operator wanted would indicate 5 or 8 while a complete chicken farm advertised for sale would indicate 4 or 7. All answers to be made to Post Office Box 1476 in Honolulu, Kucha's mailing address. This radio station, of course, was unaware of the significance of these ads which appeared to be of a purely business nature.

These same signals could be given by means of a short wave radio transmitter or through a brush or trash fire at a certain location on the island of Maui.

Arrangements were made that in the event the Consulate desired to contact Kuehn further a postal card would be addressed to him at Post Office Box 1475 signed Jimmie. This card was not received and Kuehn did not contact the consular officials again. Otto Kuehn, Friedel Kuehn, Ruth and Eberhard Kuehn were arrested on December 8, 1941.

Mrs. Kuehn had secreted on her person the sum of \$5,000 in \$100 bills. Ruth Kuehn had placed into the lining of her window curtains \$2,000 in \$100 bills. There was found in the Kuehn residence the 18 power Bush and Lomb binoculars; a Leica camera with one F8 lens and a fine F1.35 lens; one Zeiss-Ikon-Tengor camera, Model D with a Goerz frontar lens. There were two movie cameras one Cine-Kodak, 16-millimeter with an F1.9 lens, and one Univer 8-millimeter with an F3.5 lens.

Of great interest was a scrapbook maintained by Kuehn. This scrapbook consisted entirely of newspaper clippings cut from the daily papers during the preceding two years. There were such interesting articles as "Six new United States subs leaving here soon to join Asiatic fleet," "Thirty warships here named Fleet's Hawaii Detachment," and "Army here will get 200 new fighting planes." There were other articles which named the vessels stationed at Pearl Harbor according to their classification.

The groundwork had been carefully laid by the Japanese. At 7:55 a.m. on the morning of December 7, 1941, the surprise attack occurred. The American fleet stationed at Hawaii suffered great damage. Hickam Field, Wheeler Field near Schofield Barracks and the new naval base at Kaneohe were strafed and bombed by the pursuit planes, fighters, horizontal and dive bombers and torpedo planes of the Japanese.

That day will live forever in the world's history as the most treacherous act of destruction ever practiced by a supposedly civilized nation upon a nation with which she was then at peace, but outstanding in it is the treachery of a man who betrayed a nation, Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn. Otto Kuehn was arrested on December 8, 1941, the day following the attack of the Japanese. Friedel, the wife, and Ruth, the daughter, together with Martin Eberhard, a son, were also taken into custody at this time. A military commission was set up to hear the charges against Otto Kuehn since military law was placed into effect immediately following the attack. These army officers heard the case of Otto Kuehn and rendered the verdict of death by a firing squad. Friedel, Ruth and Martin Eberhard were heard by a hearing board which ordered their internment for the duration of the war.

The death sentence of Otto Kuehn was commuted to fifty years' imprisonment at hard labor in a Federal Penitentiary following the decision of the Supreme Court on the case of the eight German saboteurs. Strange as it may seem, the espionage

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activities of Otto Kuehn took place when the United States was formally at peace. The statutes in effect at that time did not provide for the sentence of death in a case of espionage except during the time of formal war. His arrest of December 8, 1941, did not give Kuehn the opportunity to continue his acts after we were formally in the conflict.

The Japanese consular officials who had participated in the events leading up to Pearl Harbor were also safe from the penalty of death since they were returned safely to Japan in exchange for the American consular officials held by the Japanese. There was sufficient evidence in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to have convicted Hages Kita, the consul, Otojiro Okuda, the vice consul, and Tadasi Koriyama under our espionage laws for they violated every principle of international law and treaty concerning the rights and privileges of diplomats. However, an American life is worth many times that of a Japanese and our hostages were returned safely to the United States.

When Otojiro Okuda was being questioned by an Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning the full extent of his espionage work, he refused to answer and proved very stubborn. At last when the realization dawned upon him that all of his supposedly secret work was known to the FBI, he blarneyed forth with "The Japanese Government does not consider the transmission of military information an act of espionage."

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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August 19, 1943

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65-1574-138

Mr. J. E. Thornton
Federal Bureau of Investigation
U. S. Department of Justice
206 Dillingham Building
Honolulu 16, Hawaii

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-14-86 BY SP5/CL/CS

RE: Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn et al
Espionage C and J

Dear Mr. Thornton:

In order that the Bureau files may be complete on the above entitled case it is desired that your office obtain and forward the following information, some of which is presently in the exhibit section of your files.

1. All correspondence regardless of whether it was incorporated into the investigative reports should be sent. If this matter is voluminous it is requested that it be reduced to a 35 millimeter film and forwarded in that manner. Secure also photographs or photostats of all of Kuehn's correspondence in the possession of ONI.

2. The copy of Mrs. Kuehn's address book and the German dictionary which was used as a code book are to be forwarded with the correspondence.

3. The photographs of the Kuehns' two homes, the Japanese boat plate and the sail boat should be included.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm

4. The investigative reports which you have forwarded on Mr. Dwyer do not reflect a search of the safety deposit box at the Mr. Bishop National Bank which was rented by Otto Kuehn in the name of his Mr. wife and wife in April, 1940. If this has not been done a court order Mr. should be secured to open the box. It should also be ascertained whether Mr. anyone has entered this deposit box subsequent to December 7, 1941.

Mr. Tracy

5. The reports in the case reflect that Kuehn was an ex-Mr. carpenter that he constructed the dormer window in his Mr. Kalama residence. A careful search made through both the Lanikai and Kalama Mr. residences to see if a concealed transmitter was placed in either of Mr. them. It will be noted that Mr. Kyogoku or the consul, Mr. Ito,

Mr. Mumford

Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Miss Gandy
SEP 20 1943

RECEIVED
SEP 20 1943
57 PM

Handwritten signatures and initials: "G", "Bl", "Rite", and a large scribble.

Requested a short wave test when the \$14,000 was paid on October 28, 1941. In order to be certain that Kuehn did not have a transmitter it is requested that electricty bills be compared for 1940 - 1941 with those of 1939.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

AIR MAIL

b6
b7C
b7E

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Honolulu 16, T.H.
September 14, 1943

Handwritten initials

Director, FBI

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, was, et al
ESPIONAGE--J

Dear Sir:

[REDACTED]

110
65-15888

This appears significant in the light of the signal plan and method of reporting such information as described by OTTO KUEHN in his signed statement as set forth on pages 10-12 in the report of [REDACTED] dated January 5, 1942, at Honolulu. The two plans are remarkably alike, with only slight changes being effected in the latter plan, probably to meet the exigencies of a changing situation.

The notable aspect in the similarity of the two plans would appear to be the likelihood that this was a universal plan, adopted by the Japanese government for the reporting of this type of information by its agents abroad.

The above is being brought to the Bureau's attention only as a matter of information and interest in connection with the coverage of Japanese Espionage activities in this country.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Thornton
RECORDED
J. E. THORNTON
SAC
65-1574-139X
SEP 18 1943

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-14-80 BY SP8 CJC/af
#268714

COPIES DESTROYED
869 AUG 4 1970

[REDACTED]

VIA CLIPPER

54 SEP 27 1943

914

574

Handwritten signature

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

September 7, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUTSMAN, Bernard J. O.
No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters: letter dated September 4, 1943 from

Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Kuehn, Internment Camp Crystal City, Crystal City, Texas to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

Very truly yours,

W. C. [Signature]
Warden

[Handwritten signature]

Encs.

9-7-43 EJC

65-1574-139

4-53 -
9380 -
4121 -
93803



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BERNARD KUEHN

PART 5 OF 7

FILE NUMBER: 65-1574

SUBJECT

RUEHN

FILE NUMBER

65-1574 SECTION 5

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU
of
INVESTIGATION

**DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES**

See also Nos.

.....
.....
.....
.....
.....

Sub.

1-1-21

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
 UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
 LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

April 15, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
 Director
 Federal Bureau of Investigation
 Washington, D. C.

#121
 Re: [redacted], Newark, N. C.
 Det. No. 60603-1

#53

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for your review and return to this office are the following listed letters:

- #121 Letter dated April 7, 1944 from Mr. Eriehel [redacted] #27384
 to, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 400 West 4th Street, New York, N. Y., Re: [redacted] J. E. [redacted] No. 5 [redacted]-1.
- #53 Letter dated April 10, 1944 from [redacted] #27385

[Signature]
 J. Edgar Hoover
 Director

4-18-44
 ehl

FOOD DEFENSE



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

April 16, 1914

copy

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

OWEN, Bernard J. C.
Det. No. 59402-1

Dear Sir:

For ailed herewith for aason to and set on to this
institution are the following listed letters:

- #26 Letter dated April 5, 1914 from 97303
- #121 Letter dated March 31, 1914 from Mr. Bristol Mack, 97304
Chief of City Internment Dept, Central Prison, Kansas,
to Bernard J. C. Owen, No. 59402-1.
- #121 Letter dated April 2, 1914 from Bernard J. C. Owen, 97305
No. 59402-1, to Mr. Bristol Mack, Chief of City
Internment Dept, Kansas.
- #53 Letter dated April 5, 1914 from 97306
- #152 97307

4-14-14
89-



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b 1 b 7 c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

45-1574-303 & 204

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

April 7, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: MURKIN, Bernard J. C.
Reg. No. 59403-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#121	Letter dated March 24, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. C. Kuehn, No. 59403-L.	Q7155
#152	Letter dated April 2, 1944 from	Q7156
4 #153	Letter dated March 29, 1944 from	Q7157
#193	Letter dated	Q7158

SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.

4-6-44 chl

Enclosures

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

April 3, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121

Re: HUNTER, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59503-L

Q 7143

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated April 2, 1944 from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Huehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Very truly yours,


Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosure



REPLICENS RETAINED IN LAB.

4-6-44 all

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

March 24, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. C.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

- #53 Letter dated March 22, 1944 from Q 7009
- #53 Letter dated March 22, 1944 from Q 7010
- 4 #152 #152 Message dated August 25, 1943 from Q 7011
- #121 Letter dated March 17, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Q 7012
Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City,
Texas, to Bernard J. C. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

PECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.

3-28-44 *chl*

Very truly yours,

W. Hunter
alter *W. Hunter*

Enclosures



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65 1574-199

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65 1574-108

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

March 27, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121 Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O. Q 7016
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated March 26, 1944 from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Very truly yours,

WALTER A. HUNTER
WALTER A. HUNTER
WARDEN

Enclosure

SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.

3-29-44

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

1 ENCL 2

Q. 7



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California
April 3, 1944

Mr. Tolson	.....
Mr. E. A. Tamm	.....
Mr. Clegg	.....
Mr. Coffey	.....
Mr. Glavin	.....
Mr. Ladd	.....
Mr. Nichols	.....
Mr. Rosen	.....
Mr. Tracy	.....
Mr. Carson	.....
Mr. Egan	.....
Mr. Gurnea	.....
Mr. Hendon	.....
Mr. Pennington	.....
Mr. Quinn Tamm	.....
Mr. Nease	.....
Miss Gandy	.....

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY
PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI.

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
with aliases, et al;
ESPIONAGE - J

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of March 30, 1944 (65-1574) requesting the comments of Special Agent ROBERT L. SHIVERS concerning certain allegations made by [redacted] Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Hawaii.

1. Concerning specification No. 1, please be advised that as soon as the telegram which was sent by the Japanese Consul General in Hawaii to the foreign office in Tokyo, pertaining to the system of signals which had been prepared to keep the Japanese submarines off the Island of Oahu, advised concerning the movement of the American fleet, was decoded, I was satisfied this system of signals had been devised by OTTO KUEHN, who, with his wife FRIEDEL and daughter RUTH, had been interned on December 8 1941, having been picked up by Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. OTTO KUEHN, FRIEDEL KUEHN and RUTH KUEHN were placed in interment at the Immigration Station in Honolulu under the jurisdiction of the Provost Marshal for the Hawaiian Department of the Army. On or about December 15, 1941, they were brought to the Honolulu Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, where I talked to each of them separately. I did inform all three of them that the Bureau had evidence that OTTO and FRIEDEL KUEHN had been engaged in espionage for the Japanese government, but I did not intimate to any of them that OTTO KUEHN and his wife FRIEDEL KUEHN would be shot. I did point out to them the seriousness of the offense which they had committed. They both denied any implication in collecting military information for the Japanese government at that time. They were interviewed very briefly and were not brought back to the office for further interrogation until the latter part of December, 1941, or the first part of January, 1942.

DECLASSIFIED BY SP5/BJL/da



COPIES DESTROYED
889 AUG 4 1970

APR 27 1944

RECORDED

INDEXED

83

EX-9

65-1574-196

22 APR 6 1944

PERS. FILES

65-8-455

Director

- 2 -

April 3, 1944

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, was., et al
ESPIONAGE - J

7

2.

[REDACTED]

3.

[REDACTED]

All
b6
b7c

4.

It is a fact that OTTO KUEHN was taken to Schofield Barracks, where he was confined for one night and a part of two days.

[REDACTED]

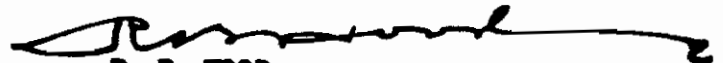
5.

[REDACTED]

The foregoing was submitted by Special Agent ROBERT L. SHIVERS.

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED] b6
b7c


E. B. HOOD
SAC

UNITED STATES PENITENT
LEAVENWORTH, KANS.

March 16, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#53 Re:

96874

#121

HUEHN, Bernard J. C.
Reg. No. 59603-L

96875

Dear Sir:

For ailed herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated March 14, 1944 from

Letter dated March 10, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel
Huehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City,
Texas, to Bernard J. C. Huehn, No. 59603-L.

me

Very truly yours,

[Handwritten Signature]
WALTER J. WOOD
WEDD

Enclosures

9-20-44
89c

FOR DEFENSE



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1 b6 b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-194

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

March 20, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121

Re: HUENI, Bernard J. C.
Reg. No. 59603-L

96910

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated March 19, 1944 from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Hushn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Very truly yours,

Walter L. Hunter
Walter L. Hunter
WARDEN

Enclosure

3-22-44 fj-

FOR DEFENSE



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c with no segregable material available for release to you. *Per Bureau of Prisons*
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_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

65-1574-193

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UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

March 14, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121 Re: ⁰HUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 52603-L 6845
#93

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated March 3, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Huehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. G. Huehn, No. 52603-1.

Letter dated March 13, 1944 from

[Handwritten Signature]
Very truly yours,

[Handwritten Signature]
Walter G. Hunter
Warden

Enclosures

3-16-44
270

FOR DEFENSE



Q



6910

Off. Auehn

Box No. PMB 59607
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

To Mrs. Friedell Auehn
Incarcerment Camp
Crystal City
Texas

Invoice of contents from
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Date: October 28, 1943

Case No. 100-10000

Received from: John R. ...
at: ...

Delivered to: ...

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 11/28/82 BY 1043 EBY

List of contents

165-10000-10000
NOT RECORDED
OCT 28 1943

10-28-43

1943 EBY

John R. ...
10-28-43
Rm

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-191

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

March 13, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: [redacted], [redacted] D. C.
[redacted] 100-3-1

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for your file are return to this institution are the following listed letters:

- #121 Letter dated March 13, 1944 from Bernard Q6830
J. C. Kuhn, No. 503-1, to Mrs. Eric J. Kuhn,
Interment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.
- #53 Letter dated March 1, 1944 by Q6831

Very truly yours,

W. A. Rorer
W. A. Rorer
Director

Mrs

COPIES RETAINED IN CAS.
3-15-44 *W*



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

March 6, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Ref. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#121 Letter dated March 5, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. Q6699

#121 Letter dated February 25, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate. Q6700

#53 Letter dated March 7, 1944 from [unclear] Q6701

#93 Letter dated March 5, 1944 from [unclear] Q6702

Very truly yours,

W. J. Hunter

W. J. Hunter
Walter J. Hunter

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

3-8-44
WJC

Enclosures

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-188

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

February 28, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: MUEHN, Bernard J. C.
Reg. No. 59803-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

- #121 Letter dated February 27, 1944 from *Q6617*
Bernard J. C. Muehn, No. 59803-L, to Mrs.
Friedel Muehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City,
Texas.
- #53 Letter dated February 23, 1944 from *Q6618*
- #53 Letter dated February 25, 1944 from *el*
Q6619

Very truly yours,

Walter
Walter
1944

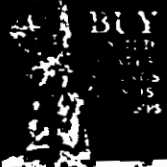
COPIES RETAINED IN LAB.

3-2-44 *el*

3

Enclosures

FOR DEFENSE



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
February 25, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

0
Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. C.
Reg. No. 5-603-L

Dear Sir:

#121 Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated February 17, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate. Q6567

Very truly yours,

W. A. W. W.
Walter A. W. W.
WARDEN

DEFERRED RECORDING

Enclosure

RECORDS RETAINED IN LAB.
2-27-44 abf

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
February 19, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121

Re: ⁰ HUNT, Bernard J. C. 96470
Reg. No. 59603-1

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated February 9, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate.

Very truly yours,

WALTER A. HUNTER
Warden

Enclosure

Business Retained in i.

9-23-44
OK

2

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

February 21, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: [unclear], [unclear], D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for your return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#121	Letter dated February 17, 1944 from Federal J. L. Smith, Wash. D. C. to Mr. Federal Smith, Independent Club, Bureau City, D. C.	Q6490
#53	Letter dated February 17, 1944 from	Q6491

Very truly yours,

W. A. Rorer

Enclosures

RECEIVED FEB 21 1944

2-24-44 [unclear]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: Information document re communication
 dated 10/94

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
 15-1574-183

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

February 14, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121

Re: HUNTER, Bernard J. C., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Q6391

Enclosed herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated February 13, 1944 from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Frieda Luckin, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

DEFERRED RECORDING

Walter A. Hunter
K

Enclosure

2-17-44 *cl*

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

February 7, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: Bernard J. C., No. 59603-1

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

- #53 Letter dated February 2, 1944 from 06249
- #121 Letter dated February 6, 1944 from Bernard J. C. Kuehn, No. 59603-1, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, ~~Edinburg~~ 06250
Texas.
- #93 Letter dated February 6, 1944 from J.C.
06251
- #10 Letter dated February 9, 1944 from 06252

SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.

2-9-44 M

4/ ENCL 2

Very truly yours,


W. J. Winter
Warden

Enclosures

Op. 1

RECORDED

LLL: EOD

65-1574-180
tr 2-11-44

Honorable Adolf A. Berle, Jr.
Assistant Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

My dear Mr. Berle:

As you may recall, Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn, a German resident of Hawaii, was tried before a Military Commission in Honolulu and on February 21, 1942, was found guilty of espionage activities on behalf of the Japanese Government. On the same day, Kuhn was sentenced to be shot, but on October 26, 1942, this sentence was commuted to fifty years at hard labor at the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, where he is presently confined.



This is the first intimation which this Bureau has had of an interest in the Kuhns on the part of the Germans through the Swiss Legation, and we would appreciate being advised whether any inquiries or overtures have been made to you about the Kuhns by the Swiss representatives.

Sincerely yours,

*DECLASSIFIED BY SP-10/JS
6-18-86*

RECORDED - B
MAR 1 1944

- Tolson
- A. Tamm
- Clegg
- Coffey
- Glavin
- Ladd
- Nichols
- Rosen
- Tracy
- Egan
- Gurnea
- Harbo
- Hendon
- Mumford
- Quinn Tamm
- Nease
- Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 10
★ FEB 15 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED - NY
FEB 12 1944
MAR 15 1944

Con

PH *JHM* *SSS* *ATC* *PG*

61 MAR 1 1944

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Acers _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Mumford _____
 Mr. Starke _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Beahm _____
 Miss Gandy _____

Federal Bureau of Investigation
 United States Department of Justice
 Washington, D. C.

February 12, 1944

SECRET
 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
 OTHERWISE

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 12-18-84 BY SP-8/BJP**

L.L.:BOD
65-1574

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. D. M. LADD

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, et al;
ESPIONAGE - J

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

INDEXED 165-1574-180

As you may recall, Friedel Kuehn is the wife of subject, ~~he~~ was convicted for espionage by a Military Commission in Hawaii on February 21, 1942, and sentenced to be shot to death. However, on October 26, 1942, this sentence was commuted to fifty years at hard labor, and Kuehn was confined in the U. S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. Kuehn is the man who had been very active in Honolulu in getting espionage information and furnished the Japanese Consul there with a system of signals to be used for communicating intelligence data to ships at sea. His system of signalling was the subject of a cable from the Japanese Consul in Honolulu to the Japanese Foreign Office in Tokyo on December 3, 1941. It is known that Kuehn was paid \$14,000 in cash by a representative of the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu during October, 1941. It is also known that he received over \$70,000 by transfers of funds through international banking channels, as well as \$10,000 cash, which was delivered to him by a purser aboard a Japanese vessel. He claimed that this money was his own and had been forwarded to him ~~by way of Japan.~~ ~~by way of Germany~~ supposedly was arranging for the transfer of Kuehn's money out of Germany by way of Japan.



SECRET

CLASSIFIED BY: ~~SECRET~~
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

#268714

8-18-80

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NEEDLES

~~SECRET~~

Memorandum for Mr. Ladd

This appears to be the first indication of any interest in the Kuehns by the Germans through the Swiss Legation which has come to the attention of the Bureau. [REDACTED]

61

ACTION:

Attached for your approval is a letter to the State Department asking whether any overtures or inquiries have been made about the Kuehns by the Swiss Legation.

Respectfully,

L. L. Laughlin
L. L. Laughlin

Attachments

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
February 3, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121 Re: HUEHN, Bernard J. O. No. 59603-L 9 6213
#53 9 6214

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to
this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated February 2, 1944 from

Letter dated January 29, 1944 from
Mr. Friedel Huehn, Internment Camp, Crystal
City, Texas, to Bernard J. C. Huehn, No.
59603-L.

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden *W*

Enclosures

2-5-44
- 5 -

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANS.

January 31, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: HUEHN, Bernard J. C., No. 59603-1

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#121

Letter dated January 30, 1944 from Bernard J. C. Huehn, No. 59603-1, to Mrs. Friedel Huehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Q6135

#53

Letter dated January 26, 1944 from

Q6136

Very truly yours,

Walter J. Miller
Walter J. Miller
Warden

Enclosures

COPIES RETAINED IN LAB

2-2-44 al

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

 1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
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 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

January 26, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121 Re: MURKIN, Bernard J. G., No. 59623-L 26104

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for consorship and return to this institution is a letter from the above-named inmate to Mr. Bernard Huehn, c/o Punahou School, Honolulu, Hawaii.

Very truly yours,

W. A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosure

1-31-44 ll

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

January 29, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

4121 Re: ⁰ WHEE, Bernard J. C., No. 59503-L 06125

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter from Mrs. Friedel Wuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas (dated January 28, 1944), to the above-named inmate.

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosure

RECORDING

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2-1-44 CR

CR 24

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

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For your information: _____

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

January 25, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: FUGEL, Bernard J. C., No. 59603-1

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

- #121 Letter dated January 23 from Bernard J. C. Fuehn, No. 59603-1, to Mrs. Friedel Fuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. 06050
- #53 Letter dated January 19 from [unclear] 26051

Very truly yours,

Washington
Director

me

1-28-44

ed

2-1-44

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

January 30, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

Moore, Bernard J. Co., No. 59403-I

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#43 letter dated January 18, 1944 from Q5954

#53 letter dated January 19, 1944 from Q5955

#121 letter dated January 15, 1944 from Q5956
Mrs. Friedel Wehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. Co. Wehn, No. 59403-I.

Very truly yours,

W. A. Rorer
W. A. Rorer
Warden

1-24-44 JHL

3 ENCL

Encs.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: Included document re an undated communication

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

January 17, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121 Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L-9589

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter, dated January 8, 1944, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

Letter, dated January 16, 1944, from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

DEFERRED RECORDING

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden *W.A.H.*

Encls.

2 - ENCL 5

Specimens Retained in Laboratory
1-19-44
etc

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

January 10, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121 Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O. 25781
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is the enclosed letter, dated January 9, 1944, from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Very truly yours,


Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encl.

DEFERRED RECORDING

Prisoners Released in 1944
1-12-44
ahl

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
January 3, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#121 Letter, dated December 30, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L. 95702

#121 Letter, dated January 2, 1944, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. 95703

#53 Letter, dated December 29, 1943, from 95704

Very truly yours,


Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

DEFERRED RECORDING

3- ENCL.

1-8-44
B.C.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-167 & 167A

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
December 27, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: ^{#121} KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

- #121 Letter, dated December 23, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L. Q5514
- #121 Letter, dated December 26, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. Q5515
- #53 Letter, dated December 22, 1943, from Q5516
- #32 Message from Q5517

DEFERRED RECORDING

Very truly yours,


Walter H. Punter
Warden

Encls.

7-11-43
Copies Received in 14-1-1
12-30-43
all

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

December 22, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. C., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

- #121 Card, dated December 12, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. C. Kuehn, No. 59603-L. Q5428
- #121 Letter, dated December 11, 1943, from Bernard J. C. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. Q5429
- #53 Letter, dated December 15, 1943, from Q5430

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

12-24-43
ehf

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
December 14, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover-
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#121 Letter, dated December 5, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L. Q535

#121 Letter, dated December 12, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. Q5356

#53 Letter, dated December 8, 1943, from Q5357

#93 Letter, dated December 13, 1943, from Q5358

DEFERRED RECORDING

#93 Letter, dated December 13, 1943, from Q5359

Very truly yours,


Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

12-18-43
24

51

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

December 7, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

(#121)
Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#121 Letter, dated November 26, 1943, from *Q5203*
Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal
City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

#93 Letter, dated December 6, 1943, from *Q5204*

Very truly yours,


Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

DEFERRED RECORDING
gmc

12-11-43 *BAR*

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
December 6, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#152 Re:

#121

KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L 9514

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter, dated December 3, 1943. from

Letter, dated December 5, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Very truly yours,

W. A. Hunter

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

2
12-9-43 fgc

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

November 29, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: ⁰KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#12 Letter, dated November 28, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. Q5065-

#53 Letter, dated November 24, 1943, from Q5066

Very truly yours

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

12-2-43
Jew

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

November 23, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: (KUEHN, Bernard J. O., 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#152 Letter, dated November 21, 1943, from Q4971

#121 Letter, dated November 14, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City, Texas. Q4972

#53 Letter, dated November 17, 1943, from Q4973

#53 Letter, dated November 10, 1943, from the Q4974

#93 Letter, dated November 21, 1943, from Q4975

#93 Letter, dated November 19, 1943, from Q4976

ENCLOSURE

11-26-43 EBL

Very truly yours,

Walter J. Hunter
Walter J. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

Op 8

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

November 24, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121 Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L Q4998

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is the enclosed letter, dated Nov. 18, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate.

Very truly yours,


Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encl.

11-27-43

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
November 19, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters;

- #53 Letter, dated November 17, 1943, from Q4956
- #121 Letter, dated November 13, 1943, from Mrs. Q4957
Friedel Kuehn, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.
- #53 Letter, dated November 15, 1943, from Q4908
L.

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

11-22-43 CBK

5-100

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
November 8, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#10	Letter, dated Nov. 8, 1943, from	Q4719
#121	Letter, dated Nov. 7, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.	Q4720
#93	Letter, dated Nov. 5, 1943, from	Q4721
#93	Letter, dated Nov. 7, 1943, from	Q4722

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

EXHIBITS RECEIVED IN LAB.

11-10-43 102

4

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENT
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

November 15, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter, dated November 14, 1943, from Q 4819

#121 Letter, dated November 7, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn. Q4920

Very truly yours,



Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

FRIEDEL
me

2 ENCL

COPIES RETAINED IN LAB.
11-18-43
Jcw

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al

Department of Justice

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
Leavenworth, Kansas

October 25, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re; ^Q Kuehn, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-1
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters;

Letter, dated October 23, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City Texas.

Letter, dated October 22, 1943, from the Legation of Switzerland, Washington, D. C., to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

Letter, dated October 20, 1943, from
[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

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&
INDEXED

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65-1574-155

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 2 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
INITIALS OF ORIGINAL

55 NOV 26 1943 ⁹⁴

ORIGINAL FILED 65-1574-155

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
November 13, 1943

Mr. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#12/ Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. C., No. 59603-L

Q4800

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is the enclosed letter, dated November 4, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate.

Very truly yours,

DEFERRED RECORDING

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encl.

RECEIVED
11-15-43 EBR

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

November 1, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUTZEL, Bernard J. C., No. 59603-1

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter, dated October 31, 1943, from the above-named inmate, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. Q 4595
121

Letter, dated October 20, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate. Q 4596
#-121

Very truly yours,


Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

2

11-3-43

[Handwritten initials]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENT
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

November 5, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121 Re: ⁰KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L 94710

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter, dated October 27, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate.

Very truly yours,



Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encl.

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

50-1887



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.
May 14, 1943

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Piper _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. NICHOLS *from*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-18-86 BY SP5/1015

Attached is an interesting case write up entitled:

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases
Otto K. Kuehn, Otto Kuhn, Otto K. Kuhn,
ESPIONAGE

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
D. M. Ladd

Attachment

[Signature]
ENCL. 2

[Handwritten notes]
recovered
6/1

INDEXED

165-1574-151
NOT RECORDED
16 OCT 25 1943



7 NOV 9 - 1943

OCT 28 1943



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

LLL:EOD

I.C. 65-1574

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases
Otto K. Kuehn, ~~Otto Kuhn~~, Otto K. Kuhn,
Mr. Koehn
ESPIONAGE

On the morning following the perfidious Japanese air attack on Pearl Harbor, representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation *learned* succeeded in obtaining from various commercial radio and cable companies in Honolulu copies of certain messages exchanged between the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu, T. H. and the Japanese Foreign Office in Tokyo which theretofore had been unavailable. The translation of one of these messages revealed that, on December 3, 1941, *Wagao Kita*, the Japanese Consul General in Honolulu, had furnished his Foreign Office with a complete system of signals to be used in the transmission of intelligence information regarding movements of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor. Among the signals agreed upon were "a light in Lanikai beach house at night - -" and "a light in dormer window of Kalama house - -".

Upon checking the houses in Kalama, which is a comparatively small community located at Kailua, Oahu, T. H., Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation located a home with a dormer window. It was determined that this residence was owned and occupied by an individual named Otto Kuehn and his wife, Friedel, German nationals, who had been suspected of engaging in espionage activities in behalf of Germany and Japan and concerning whom considerable investigation had been conducted by the Office of Naval Intelligence, the Military Intelligence Service of the War Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. During these inquiries, it was learned that the Kuehns, in addition to their residence in Kalama, also maintained a beach house at Lanikai.

Following the declaration of war against the United States by Germany on December 8, 1941, the Commanding General of the Hawaiian Department ordered all German and Italian aliens to be picked up for temporary custodial detention. Pursuant to this command, Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on the same date apprehended Kuehn and his wife.

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DATE 7/8/80 BY SP8/BJL

FOR DEFENSE



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ENCLOSURE

65-1574-151

At first the Kuehns steadfastly denied acting in behalf of the Japanese Government. However, when confronted with the evidence which had been developed through vigorous investigation, Kuehn on December 30, 1941, furnished a signed statement admitting that he had prepared the system of signals for the Japanese Consul General, which the latter dispatched to Tokyo in his message on December 3, 1941. Kuehn explained that sometime during November, 1941, he contacted Otojiro Okuda, the Japanese Vice Consul at Honolulu, and offered to assist the Japanese in obtaining information of interest respecting the national defense of the United States. In accepting this proffered aid, Okuda reportedly requested Kuehn to secure general data regarding the movement of the American fleet at Pearl Harbor and then devise a system of signals in order that this information might be imparted to the Japanese fleet. Pursuant to this request, Kuehn, accompanied by his ten-year-old son, Hans Joachim, drove to the vicinity of Pearl Harbor for the purpose of observing the American vessels moored there at that time. Three or four days later Kuehn again called at the Japanese Consulate and conferred with Kita and Okuda. During this visit, Kuehn submitted a system of signalling which could be used by the Consulate in order to furnish information relative to the types and number of American ships in Pearl Harbor, as well as those preparing to leave and those which had already departed. After considering the particular system, the Japanese were of the opinion that it was too complicated and requested that a simpler system be devised. In fact, a specific request of this nature was made to Kuehn by Vice Consul Okuda.

On December 2, 1941, Kuehn again visited the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu, at which time he delivered to Vice Consul Okuda a revised and simplified system of signalling. On this same occasion, Kuehn furnished written information concerning the number and various types of American ships then in Hawaiian waters.

On or about October 25, 1941, \$14,000 in cash was delivered to Kuehn at his residence in Kalamia by Tadasu Morimura, Fourth Secretary of the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu.

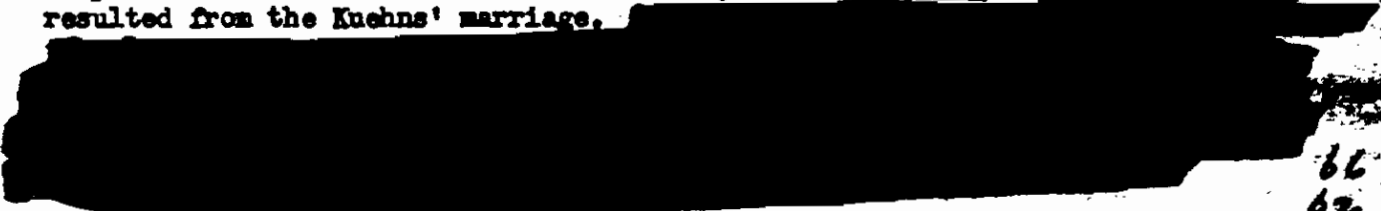
Kuehn went on trial before the Military Commission in Honolulu on February 19, 1942, for violation of Sections 31, 32, and 34, Title 50, United States Code Annotated. The charges against Kuehn specifically alleged that he conspired with the Japanese Vice Consul in Honolulu to transmit to Japan information pertaining to the national defense of the United States and to perform certain overt acts to effect such a conspiracy. Further, on or about December 2, 1941, Kuehn transmitted information relating to the United States Naval fleet and the national defense of America

to an agent of the Imperial Japanese Government. Kuehn was also charged with unlawfully obtaining information regarding the number and types of United States Naval vessels based at Pearl Harbor with the intent and reason to believe that it was to be used for the injury of the United States and to the advantage of the Japanese Government.

A verdict of guilty on each of the preferred charges was returned by the Military Commission on February 21, 1942, and on the same date Kuehn was sentenced to be shot. On October 26, 1942, Kuehn's sentence was commuted to fifty years at hard labor.

Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn was born on July 25, 1895, in Berlin, Germany. In April, 1913, he enlisted in the German Navy and after a brief training period served as a midshipman aboard a German cruiser until January, 1915, when his ship was sunk in a sea battle with an English war vessel and Kuehn taken as a prisoner of war by the British. Following the Armistice, Kuehn returned to Berlin and re-entered the Naval service as an Ober-Lieutenant aboard the mother ship of a mine sweeper flotilla. After about six months of such service, Kuehn was released and placed in the Naval Reserve Corps. He studied medicine at the University of Berlin and the University of Munich for about a year and one-half and thereafter engaged in various occupations in Germany.

On May 10, 1920, Kuehn married Frieda Birk at Munchen, Germany. *by a previous marriage*
At the time of this union, Mrs. Kuehn was the mother of two children (named Leopold and Ruth. Two additional children, Martin Eberhard and Hans Joachim, resulted from the Kuehns' marriage.



Kuehn admittedly became associated with the Nazi Party in 1930 as the result of his attending a meeting called by Hitler in Kiel, Germany. However, he contends that he did not become active until 1932. He frankly boasts that he was considered with Reinhold Heydrich for the position as Chief of the German Gestapo under Heinrich Himmler but, according to Kuehn's story, Heydrich double-crossed him by means of a ruse, which, coupled with Himmler's personal dislike for him, resulted in Heydrich's receiving the appointment, a position he, according to Nazi standard, filled so capably.

Kuehn was first admitted to the United States at Honolulu on August 15, 1935, for the ostensible purpose of studying the Japanese language.

Except for two short visits to Japan, one in 1936 and the other in 1938, Kuehn has resided in Honolulu continuously. Between May 14, 1936, and February 7, 1939, over \$70,000 was deposited to the credit of this individual and his wife in a bank in Honolulu by the Rotterdam Bank Association in Amsterdam. This income supposedly accrued from investments and business interests owned by Kuehn in Germany and Holland. He explained the receipt of the money as the result of an agreement entered into with

[REDACTED]

bb
b7c

Around the end of 1939, Kuehn was reported as being in dire financial straits, at which time he established a beauty parlor, to be operated by his daughter, Ruth. Anent this enterprise, Mrs. Kuehn has been known to remark that the beauty shop was opened primarily to obtain Navy business.

At the time of Mrs. Kuehn's departure from Japan on February 19, 1940, she brought with her a series of newspaper articles on "American Polynesia" which had appeared in the Honolulu "Advertiser" and contained descriptions of various British and American islands.

Upon her return to Honolulu on April 20, 1940, Mrs. Kuehn reportedly brought with her approximately \$16,000 in cash in large denominations.

During the extensive investigation conducted by the various intelligence agencies, it was learned that a dormer window was constructed in the attic of the Kuehns' residence on Kalama Road during the early fall of 1940. In January of the same year, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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b7c

During their stay in Honolulu, the Kuehns did considerable entertaining and seemed to exhibit a particular interest in Army and Navy officers. ~~It is known, for example, that an enlisted sailor in a uniform driving a car with Pearl Harbor tags and also a certain individual in an automobile bearing identification plates of Schofield Barracks had visited the Kuehns.~~

The Kuehns were rather generally known in Honolulu as possessing pro-Nazi sympathies and being interested in the activities of various German clubs in that area. Mrs. Kuehn is credited with the statement that

she assisted the youth movement in Germany when Hitler was coming into power, and it is further known that Leopold Kuehn in a letter written to his parents on March 27, 1939, expressed sorrow that his father was not a participant in the present war because, as an old National Socialist, he deserved a role in current events.

Prior to his involvement in this difficulty, no previous criminal record has been located on Kuehn in the files of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Mrs. Kuehn, a son, Eberhard Martin Kuehn, as well as the daughter Ruth, have been interned for the duration of the war.

LLL: EOD
65-1574
tr 12-29-43

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUHN, with aliases
Otto K. Kuehn, Otto K. Kuhn, Mr. Kuehn;
ESPIONAGE - J

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-18-80 BY SP-1/05

SYNOPSIS

On the morning following the Japanese air attack on the Island of Oahu, the Globe Wireless and Mackay Radio and Telegraph Companies, at the request of a Bureau representative, furnished copies of all messages which had been sent and received by the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu, T. H.

A translation of one of the messages dispatched on December 3, 1941, by Hideo Kita, the Japanese Consul General in Honolulu, to the Foreign Minister at Tokyo, set forth a complete system of signals to be used in communicating intelligence information to the enemy. One of the signals to be thus employed was "a light in dormer window of Kalama house from 7:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. every hour," indicating the sailings of aircraft carriers and battle forces on certain days.

Immediately upon decoding and translating this message, intensive investigation was conducted for the purpose of locating and identifying the Japanese agents who had been responsible for the use of this signal. This investigation disclosed that the "Kalama house with the dormer window" undoubtedly was owned by Otto Kuehn and his wife, Friedel, who had been the subjects of considerable investigation by the Bureau, ONI, and G-2. These persons, with their daughter, Ruth Carson Moore, were interned at Honolulu on December 8, 1941.

Upon interrogation, Kuehn admitted furnishing the Japanese Consul General and Vice Consul at Honolulu with an elaborate signalling system to be used in transmitting information of an intelligence character to representatives of the Japanese Government.

Kuehn explained that he contacted Otojiro Okada, the Japanese Vice Consul in Honolulu, during November, 1941, and offered to assist in obtaining information of interest. Okada asked Kuehn for data regarding the number of ships in Hawaiian waters, and Kuehn promised he would endeavor to find out. Okada also asked Kuehn about maneuvers of the United States fleet in the Pacific, but Kuehn contended that he could not develop information of this nature. Thereupon Okada requested him to work out a set of signals whereby the Japanese fleet would be advised as to the number of American ships in Pearl Harbor, how many were preparing to leave, and how many had already departed. Following this meeting with Okada, Kuehn, with his son, Hans Joachim, age ten, made a

- Tolson _____
- E. A. Tamm _____
- Clegg _____
- Coffey _____
- Glavin _____
- Ladd _____
- Nichols _____
- Rosen _____
- Tracy _____
- Acers _____
- Carson _____
- Harbo _____
- Hendon _____
- Hanford _____
- Starks _____
- Quinn Tamm _____
- Nease _____
- Gandy _____

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trip in his automobile to the vicinity of Pearl Harbor and observed the ships there at that time. Three or four days later, subject again contacted Okada, at which time he also conferred with the Japanese Consul General, Nagao Kita. It was on this visit that Kuehn submitted his signalling system. However, following a consultation between Kita and Okada, the latter told Kuehn the system was too complicated and requested him to prepare a simpler method. Kuehn did this and delivered the revised system to the Japanese Vice Consul on December 2, 1941. On the same date, he furnished written information concerning the number and various types of ships in Hawaiian waters, which data subsequently were determined to be substantially correct.

last info
On or about October 25, 1941, \$14,000 in cash was delivered to Kuehn at his residence in Kalaheo, Kailua, Oahu, T. H. by Fudasi Morimura, Fourth Secretary of the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu. In addition, Kuehn and his wife had over \$70,000 deposited to their credit at the Bishop National Bank, Honolulu, by the Rotterdam Bank Association, Amsterdam, through the National City Bank of New York, between May 14, 1936, and February 7, 1939.

[Handwritten scribble]
On February 19, 1942, Kuehn was tried before a Military Commission in Honolulu on three counts for violation of Sections 31, 32, and 34, Title 50, USCA. On February 21, 1942, the Military Commission returned a verdict of guilty on each count, and Kuehn was sentenced to be shot. This verdict of guilty was confirmed on October 26, 1942, but his sentence was commuted to fifty years imprisonment by the Military Governor.


ORIGIN

Kuhn first came to the Bureau's attention in February, 1939, when a personal acquaintance of the Assistant to the Director, Mr. E. A. Tamm, [REDACTED] b7c

reported information which was furnished to him by [REDACTED] in the Hawaiian Islands, who desired to remain anonymous, indicating that subject and his wife were believed to be espionage agents. This report pointed out that, although Kuhn and his wife had no apparent source of income, they owned two homes at Kailua, Oahu, one of which was very large, and further, they allegedly entertained lavishly, particularly Army officers. This information was immediately made available to CBI and G-2 and the San Francisco Field Division of the Bureau, inasmuch as the Honolulu Field Office was not then opened, and instructions were issued that inquiry regarding these persons be conducted when an Agent was next in the Territory of Hawaii. b

RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

The exact details regarding the recruitment of Kachin never were fully developed, although he did admit that during July of 1936, while en route to Japan on a Japanese boat,



Subject arrived in New York City on April 29, 1935, in transit to Japan via Honolulu, for the alleged purpose of studying the Japanese language in order that he might return to his native country and secure a position in the mercantile field. After reaching Japan, he decided he could make better progress in his language study at the University of Hawaii and accordingly returned to Honolulu on August 13, 1935, being admitted for a twelve-month period as a non-immigrant. In December, 1935, Becker's daughter, Ruth, and son, Martin Eberhard, joined him. His wife, Friedal, entered the United States as a non-immigrant for a six-month period on March 17, 1936, and arrived in Honolulu in the following month, accompanied by her son, Hans. Subsequently, Mrs. Kachin requested and was granted an extension of her stay and she was admitted for permanent residence at New York City as a quota immigrant on September 23, 1937.

Kachin's original entry permit was extended to August 14, 1937, to enable him to continue his Japanese studies. Thereafter, he again visited Japan and was admitted to the United States as a quota immigrant on October 29, 1936.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

 1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

 Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

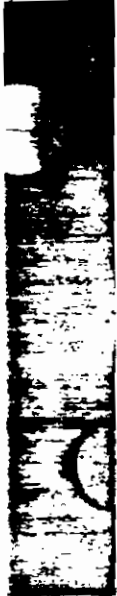
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 45-1590-51 pg 5

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[REDACTED]

Kasha underestimated the amount he received by transfers through the Bishop National Bank at Honolulu, asserting that in all approximately \$30,000 was deposited to his credit.

Kasha stated that he was unable to get any additional funds from abroad from the end of 1938 until the spring of 1940, at which time his wife proceeded to Japan to Japan this matter

[REDACTED]

Approximately five months later, around September, 1940, \$10,000 in American money was delivered to Kuehn.

At the time he handed over this money to

1940
Kuehn. With this letter, Kuehn sent a Duden (German) Grammar Dictionary, similar to a Webster Dictionary, retaining a copy for his own use, and explained that in future communications, he would use a number code which would indicate the page and the word from the top of the page denoting the word intended -- such as, if the word "money" appeared on page 210 of the dictionary and was the sixth word down from the top, to indicate the word "money", Kuehn would use the number "210 - 6."

1941
According to Kuehn, in October, 1941, following the arrival of the Tatata Maru in Honolulu from Japan, a Japanese employee of that vessel called in person at subject's Kalamo residence and delivered to him a letter and a package containing \$14,000 in \$100 and \$20 bills.

Upon opening the letter, Kuehn found a sheet of paper containing a typewritten message in English, asking if he had a short-wave transmitter and whether he would be willing to make a test on a certain wave length at a stated time on an evening in the immediate future. Kuehn claims that the unknown Japanese gave him a sheet of paper and an envelope for the purpose of replying, and he asserts that he wrote he was unable to make such a test.

Kuehn later identified picture of 1st Sgt
About this payment, investigation revealed that on or about October 23, 1941, \$14,000 in cash was delivered by Tadasi Morimura, Fourth Secretary of the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu, to Kuehn at his residence at Kalamo.

Kuehn explained that these various sums of money which he received from Japan were turned over to his wife, and at no time were these amounts ever deposited in the banks in Honolulu except for the purpose of carrying a small account.

It is interesting to observe that Kuhn insisted that some of the money which was transferred to his account at the Bishop National Bank in Honolulu from Holland resulted from investments and business interests in Germany and Holland, although the extent of such interests never has been fully developed.

MEANS OF COMMUNICATION

During the first part of November, 1941, Kasha visited the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu for the ostensible purpose of inquiring whether he could send money to his son, Leopold, in Germany through the Yokohama Specie Bank. He talked with Otsjire Okada, the Japanese Vice Consul, who told him to return in two or three days for a definite answer. Upon returning, Kasha was told that the Consulate could do nothing to grant his request. Kasha then offered to assist Okada and the Consulate in obtaining information in which they might have an interest. Okada asked Kasha if he knew how many ships were in Hawaiian waters, and subject told him he would endeavor to find out. Two or three days later he returned to the Consulate and again spoke with Okada, who introduced him to Nagao Kita, the Japanese Consul General. At that time, Kasha told Kita and Okada that he had a short-wave transmitter and could send messages for them if they so desired. He also outlined a system of signalling which could be used to furnish information relative to the types of ships in Pearl Harbor, as well as those which had departed. The system proposed by Kasha contained the following fifteen sets of signals which would be given by a light in his home at Lanikai or Kalama in a manner that they would be visible at sea by a submarine:

1. One light between 6:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. meant battle fleet in harbor.
2. One light between 7:00 and 8:00 P.M. meant scouting force in harbor.
3. One light between 8:00 and 9:00 P.M. meant aircraft carriers in harbor.
4. One light between 9:00 and 10:00 P.M. meant battle fleet prepared to leave.
5. One light between 10:00 and 11:00 P.M. meant scouting force prepared to leave.
6. One light between 11:00 and 12:00 Midnight meant aircraft carriers prepared to leave.
7. One light between 12:00 and 1:00 A.M. meant battle fleet left one to two days ago.
8. One light between 1:00 and 2:00 A.M. meant scouting force left one to two days ago.
9. Two lights between 6:00 and 7:00 P.M. meant aircraft carriers left one to two days ago.

10. Two lights between 7:00 and 8:00 P.M. meant battle fleet left three to four days ago.
11. Two lights between 8:00 and 9:00 P.M. meant scouting force left three to four days ago.
12. Two lights between 9:00 and 10:00 P.M. meant aircraft carriers left three to four days ago.
13. Two lights between 10:00 and 11:00 P.M. meant battle fleet left five to six days ago.
14. Two lights between 11:00 and 12:00 Midnight meant scouting force left five to six days ago.
15. Two lights between 12:00 and 1:00 A.M. meant aircraft carriers left five to six days ago.

The above signals could also be sent by means of linen on a clothes line at Kuchin's Lanakai home in the following manner:

1. One sheet between 6:00 and 7:00 A.M. meant battle fleet in harbor.
2. One sheet between 7:00 and 8:00 A.M. meant scouting force in harbor.
3. One sheet between 8:00 and 9:00 A.M. meant aircraft carriers in harbor.
4. One sheet between 9:00 and 10:00 A.M. meant battle fleet prepared to leave.
5. One sheet between 10:00 and 11:00 A.M. meant scouting force prepared to leave.
6. One sheet between 11:00 and 12:00 Noon meant aircraft carriers prepared to leave.
7. One sheet between 12:00 and 1:00 A.M. meant battle fleet left one to two days ago.
8. One sheet between 1:00 and 2:00 P.M. meant scouting force left one to two days ago.
9. Two sheets between 3:00 and 4:00 P.M. meant aircraft carriers left one to two days ago.

10. Two sheets between 7:00 and 8:00 AM meant battle fleet left three to four days ago.
11. Two sheets between 8:00 and 9:00 AM meant scouting force left three to four days ago.
12. Two sheets between 9:00 and 10:00 AM meant aircraft carriers left three to four days ago.
13. Two sheets between 10:00 and 11:00 AM meant battle fleet left five to six days ago.
14. Two sheets between 11:00 and 12:00 Noon meant scouting force left five to six days ago.
15. Two sheets between 12:00 and 1:00 PM meant aircraft carriers left five to six days ago.

Wita and Okuda, after examining Kuchin's system of communication, told him it was too complicated and asked him to prepare a simpler method. Three days later, on December 2, 1941, Kuchin returned to the Consulate and delivered his revised system to Okuda. This set of signals consisted of the following eight combinations:

- #1, battle fleet prepared to leave.
- #2, scouting force prepared to leave.
- #3, battle fleet left one to three days ago.
- #4, scouting force left one to three days ago.
- #5, aircraft carriers left one to three days ago.
- #6, battle fleet left four to six days ago.
- #7, scouting force left four to six days ago.
- #8, aircraft carriers left four to six days ago.

The foregoing information was to be given by means of lights from the window of Kuchin's residence or with his automobile in the following manner:

1. One light between 7:00 and 8:00 PM meant #1.

2. One light between 8:00 and 9:00 PM meant #2.
3. One light between 9:00 and 10:00 PM meant #3.
4. One light between 10:00 and 11:00 PM meant #4.
5. Two lights between 7:00 and 8:00 PM meant #5.
6. Two lights between 8:00 and 9:00 PM meant #6.
7. Two lights between 9:00 and 10:00 PM meant #7.
8. Two lights between 10:00 and 11:00 PM meant #8.

The same system could be used by hanging linen on the line at Kuehn's residence at Lanakai, one piece between 8:00 and 9:00 AM meaning #1, one piece between 9:00 and 10:00 AM meaning #2, one between 10:00 and 11:00 AM meaning #3, one between 11:00 AM and 12:00 Noon meaning #4, and two pieces between 8:00 and 9:00 AM meaning #5, two pieces between 9:00 and 10:00 AM meaning #6, et cetera.

It was also arranged that a light in the skylight of subject's Kalama home between 7:00 and 8:00 PM would mean #1, one between 8:00 and 9:00 PM would mean #2, one between 9:00 and 10:00 PM would mean #3 and #6, one between 10:00 and 11:00 PM would mean #4 and #7, and one between 11:00 and 12:00 Midnight would mean #5 and #8.

This same system of signalling could have been used with a star boat just off the mouth of Lanakai Beach between certain hours, a star on the sail or a star and a number on the sail meaning corresponding signals as those given above, according to the time the boat was in that position. The exact combinations to be used with this means of signalling could not be recalled by Kuehn.

The possibility of utilizing the West Ad broadcast by Radio Station KUMB in the mornings also was considered — a Chinese rag being advertised for sale to indicate #3 and #6, the services of a beauty operator sought to mean #4 and #7, and a third type of advertisement, which Kuehn was unable to recall, to indicate #5 and #8.

If it were impossible to use any of the foregoing systems of signals, a garbage fire on Maui in a certain locality between certain hours, such as between 9:00 and 10:00 PM, would mean #3 and #6, et cetera. In connection with this plan, Kuehn had in mind a locality previously described to him by a friend, where a number of vacant lots were located. He determined the exact locality of this area by reference to a map of Maui showing the names of two roads bordering that area, the names of which were mentioned in his recommended plan as enclosing the area wherein the fire signals were to be affected.

This same set of signals could be given by means of short-wave radio, and arrangements were made that if the Consulate desired to contact Kuhn, it could do so by sending him a postcard signed "Jimmy" to his box, No. 1476, at Honolulu.

On interrogating Kuhn, he maintained he had never been to the Island of Nihoa, in fact, had he ever seen it. He also claimed that he never had a short-wave transmitter and that his Lanikai Beach house, at the time the various systems of signals mentioned above were prepared, was rented to Army people. Further, he averred that following his submission of his system of signalling to the Japanese Consulate, he had no further contact with any of the representatives of that office. However, it must be remembered that Kuhn's system was transmitted by Hago Kita, the Japanese Consul General in Honolulu, to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo on December 3, 1941.

It is known that Kuhn, in the fall of 1940, after [redacted] advised him it was difficult to get money out of Japan and hence suggested that subject make other arrangements. [redacted]

With this letter, Kuhn sent a Duden (German) Grammar Dictionary, similar to a Webster Dictionary, retaining a copy for his own use, and explained that in future communications, he would use a number code which would indicate the page and the word from the top of the page denoting the word intended -- such as, if the word "money" appeared on page 210 of the dictionary and was the sixth word down from the top, to indicate the word "money", Kuhn would use the number "210 - 6."

b6
b7c

MODUS OPERANDI

Kasim arrived in Honolulu on August 15, 1935, for the avowed purpose of studying the Japanese language. Subsequently his original entry permit was extended to continue his Japanese studies and he then departed from the country and was admitted to the United States as a quota immigrant on October 29, 1936. Thus, for a time under the guise of a language student and later merely as a resident, subject was free to gather extensive information of a national defense character, and particularly data pertaining to this country's harbor installations and manuevers of the United States Fleet in the vicinity of Pearl Harbor. It is known that after Kasim's first conference with Otojuro Okada, the Japanese Vice Consul in Honolulu, in November, 1941, he, accompanied by his son Hans Joachim, then ten years of age, made a trip in subject's automobile to the vicinity of Pearl Harbor for the purpose of observing the ships in the harbor at that time. It is significant that the figures submitted by Kasim to the Consulate on December 2, 1941, regarding the number of battleships, cruisers, aircraft carriers, and destroyers in Pearl Harbor as of November 28, 1941, were remarkably accurate, although the number of submarines he reported was inaccurate.

In addition to the visual observations which Kasim was in a position to make, it is also known that he avidly collected newspaper clippings pertaining to the United States Fleet movements and operations in the Hawaiian waters, as well as any articles having to do with the number of Army and Navy personnel in Hawaii and the construction and fortification of Pearl Harbor as a Naval base. When Mrs. Kasim left Honolulu for Japan on February 19, 1940, there was found among her effects a series of articles on "American Polynesia," which had appeared in the "Honolulu Advertiser" and contained descriptions of various American and British islands.

The Kasims also did considerable entertaining, exhibiting a particular interest in having Army and Navy officers among their guests. The friends and associates of the Kasims included several officers in the United States Navy. It is further observed that when the Kasims established a beauty parlor in Honolulu, which was ostensibly operated by their daughter Ruth, Mrs. Kasim remarked that this shop was opened to obtain Navy business.

Further, it is not known whether the system of signalling prepared by subject for the Japanese actually ever was utilized, although the system was transmitted by the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu to its Foreign Office in Tokyo on December 3, 1941.

Exactly how much information was garnered by Kasim through his espionage activities is not known, although it can readily be seen that his opportunities, both as to sources and means of communicating it to his principals abroad, were practically limitless.

INTERESTING INVESTIGATIVE FEATURES OF CASE

At about noon on December 7, 1941, following the Japanese air raid on the Island of Oahu, which occurred at 7:55 that morning, arrangements were made by the Honolulu Field Division with the Chief of the Honolulu Police Department to place a guard around the Japanese Consulate. When the police arrived at the Consulate, Nagao Kita, the Japanese Consul General, and his assistant, Otajiro Onda, were burning some of the Consulate's papers. They were ordered to cease and the papers were confiscated. Upon examination, it was found that, among other articles, these papers included the telex file of the Consulate. This file was turned over by the FBI to [REDACTED] of the Fourteenth Naval District, who in turn transmitted it to the Cryptographic Section of the Navy at Pearl Harbor. b1
b7c

On the morning of December 8, 1941, the Globe Wireless and Mackay Radio and Telegraph Companies, at the request of Special Agents of the Honolulu Field Division, furnished copies of all messages which had been sent and received by the Japanese Consulate in that city. A translation of one of these messages, dispatched on December 3, 1941, by Kita to the Foreign Minister in Tokyo, set forth a complete system of signals to be used in communicating intelligence information to the enemy. One of the signals to be used was a "light in dormer window of Kalama house from 7:00 P.M. to 1:00 A.M. every hour," indicating the sailings of aircraft carriers and battle forces on certain days.

As soon as a translation of the above message was received, the Honolulu Field Office, with OMI and S-2, instituted an immediate investigation for the purpose of identifying and locating the persons responsible for this signalling system. Inquiry disclosed that the Kalama house with the "dormer window" mentioned in the signal was owned by Kasha, who heretofore had been the subject of an extensive investigation on the part of OMI, S-2, and the Bureau.

PERSONAL HISTORY

Otto Kachn was born in Berlin, Germany, on July 25, 1895. In April, 1913, he enlisted in the German Navy as a Cadet on the training cruiser Martha in Flensburg, Germany. After serving his training period, Kachn became a midshipman on the German cruiser Blucher, on which he served during World War I until January 24, 1915, when he was captured by the British following a Naval engagement in which the Blucher was sunk. He remained in a British camp as a prisoner of war until January, 1918, when, during an exchange of prisoners, he was sent to Holland, remaining there for the duration of the war.

After the Armistice, Kachn returned to Berlin and studied Architecture for three months. He then re-entered the Naval service as a Lieutenant aboard the Wittelsbach, the mother ship of a mine sweeper flotilla. He remained in active service for six months, when he was cashiered out of the Navy on account of financial difficulties. For the next year and one-half Kachn studied medicine at the Universities of Berlin and Munich, and on May 10, 1920, while a medical student, he married Friedel Birk, the unmarried mother of two children, Leopold and Ruth. Two sons, Martin Eberhard and Hans Joachim, were born to the Kachns.

3

Shortly before their marriage, Kachn purchased a 500-ton sailing freighter, known as the Artares, out of an inheritance for about \$50,000 cash and some houses and government bonds left to him by his father. He operated this boat between Finland and Rotterdam, but after a short while it ran on a reef and subject sold the boat for about \$2,000.

In 1921, Kachn took a job as plant protection man for Siemens in Berlin, a machinery concern engaged in the manufacture of heavy motors, et cetera, and, after about one year, he transferred to another branch of the company for the purpose of learning the business, remaining in this capacity until 1923. At that time, subject operated a manufacturing and distributing business of sparkling water and lemonade in Stettin, Germany, but this lasted less than a year. Thereafter, he returned to Berlin and was employed as an inspector with "Pommersche Milcheria," a dairy products concern. He stayed at this work until 1928, but before discontinuing this employment, sometime during 1927, he entered into the coffee importing business in Berlin in partnership with one Overback. Kachn acted as sales manager in this venture and continued his association with this business until he left Germany in 1935.

Kachn first became associated with the Nazi Party in 1930 following his attendance at a meeting called by Hitler in Kiel, Germany, at which the latter spoke. Immediately after the meeting, Kachn enlisted as a member of the Nazi Party and also influenced his son, Leopold, to join. However, he did not become active in the Party until 1932, when Herr Sunkel, the Party district leader at Kiel, suggested that Kachn go with Reinhold Heydrich to Munich to see a person,

name unrecalled, who later became Chief of Police at Munich, about securing a job with the Party. Sunkal brought Heydrich to Kuehn's home and, after subject advanced Heydrich a loan of about 100 marks, he and Heydrich entrained for Munich. Upon reaching that city, they went to the City Hall Restaurant for refreshments. Heydrich excused himself, explaining he was going to see the person to whom Sunkal had referred Kuehn and him. As it developed later, Heydrich was given a position by the unknown person which eventually turned out to be the Chief of the German Gestapo System under Heinrich Himmler. When Sunkal sent Kuehn and Heydrich to Munich, he mentioned that one or more positions were open, and it is quite possible that the job given to Heydrich was the one for which subject was being considered. Kuehn has stated that if the assignment were offered to him, he unhesitatingly would have accepted.

After an absence of about four hours, Heydrich returned to the City Hall Restaurant, and he, with Kuehn and the unknown individual who later became Chief of Police in Munich, went to Himmler's home where a discussion was had regarding Communism and the means to be adopted to eradicate it from Germany. After this, Heydrich told Kuehn that Himmler did not like him and suggested it would be best for Kuehn to return to Berlin. Shortly thereafter, Kuehn received word from Herr Sunkal that he was to work in Altona, Germany, as an investigator for the Party to determine the identities of those individuals who were Communistic and those who were pro-Nazi, particularly in the Police Department. Kuehn worked on this assignment for about six months, at which time he made a report on the Chief of Police in Altona, who was a Party member, to the effect that he was immoral in his private life, and shortly thereafter, following some minor troubles, subject was told that his services were no longer required. He then returned to Berlin and his coffee business.

While in Berlin, [redacted] of Kuehn [redacted] came to his home, and this incident was reported to the Party officials, following which subject was dismissed from the Party and was later arrested, when he went to the office of a Nazi Party official for a hearing. He was held by the police for two weeks and then placed in a concentration camp for four weeks but was not questioned at any time during this period. While interned, Kuehn's wife, Friedel, and son, Leopold, [redacted] worked on his behalf among members of the Party, and [redacted] was released. [redacted]

About three months later, Kuehn was again arrested by the police and charged with having attended, taken pictures of, and making a report about a meeting between Hitler and Van Papen at Goeln. He was taken to the German courts and succeeded in proving and establishing an alibi that he had never been in Goeln and hence was released.

Subject turned his attention to his coffee business, but because he was no longer a member of the Nazi Party, it was impossible for him to obtain

orders. During the year 1934, Kuehn wrote several articles on the Far East, its culture and politics, for German newspapers and magazines, and in April, 1935, he decided to go to the Orient to study the Japanese language. He sailed from Bremen, Germany, on the SS Stuttgart and arrived in New York City on April 29, 1935. He remained in New York for six days and then proceeded to San Francisco, where he visited the German Consulate and requested the names of the Germans in Honolulu whom he could contact. He sailed from San Francisco on the SS Tsuruta Maru with his wife, the rest of his family remaining in Germany, and after staying in Honolulu at the Brookland Hotel for three weeks, he and his wife sailed for Japan on the Asama Maru. In Tokyo, Kuehn stayed at the Imperial Hotel and he contacted [redacted] the Imperial University regarding his studying the Japanese language. It was decided that he could make better progress at the University of Hawaii. Accordingly Kuehn and his wife traveled to Shanghai, from where Mrs. Kuehn proceeded to Germany and Otto returned to Honolulu on August 15, 1935, staying at the Brookland Hotel until March, 1936. In December of 1935, subject's daughter, Ruth, and his son, Martin Eberhard, joined him in Honolulu, and in April of the following year, Mrs. Kuehn and Hans arrived in Hawaii. b7c

Kuehn made a trip to Tokyo, Japan, in June, 1936, supposedly to continue his Japanese language studies, returning to Honolulu in September of the same year.

Subject purchased the Modern Steel Furniture Company sometime during 1936, which he operated unsuccessfully for eight or nine months, when it was turned over to a trustee after losing approximately \$15,000. The only other employment he had in Honolulu was a job as a freight checker with the Honolulu Iron Works, which he secured about June, 1941, and quit after six weeks as the work was too difficult.

Kuehn admitted that the only income his family derived locally was that resulting from the operation of the Kailua Beauty Shop, opened in June, 1941 by Mrs. Kuehn, from which she received an average income of approximately \$80 a month. Aside from this, subject in 1937 leased eight acres of land from the Kaneohe Ranch Company, seven acres of which he later subleased to a Japanese gardener, retaining one for his own use to raise fruits and vegetables. In addition, Kuehn also raised chickens, having about 200 at the time of his arrest. None of these operations, however, was income-producing.

Kuehn filed a declaration of intention for United States citizenship, number 4511, in Honolulu on March 3, 1936. He filed a petition for citizenship on June 30, 1941, and his hearing was scheduled for December, 1941. It was anticipated that he would have been admitted to citizenship on the last Saturday in January, 1942, in the event the results of this hearing had been satisfactory. However, the declaration of war between the United States and Japan, as well as the detection of subject's espionage activities, prevented his becoming a citizen.

At the time of his arrest, Kuehn was residing in Kailua, Oahu, T. H. with his wife, Friedel, and his two sons, Martin Eberhard, age 15, and Hans E

age 10. His married daughter, Ruth, Mrs. J. Carson Moore, lived with her husband in Kallus. Kuhn's father, now deceased, formerly was a Doctor of Chemistry in Stettin, Germany, where he acted as a food inspector. Subject's brother, name unknown, is a doctor presently engaged in private practice in Berlin. Kuhn's stepson, Leopold, age about 32 at the time of his father's arrest, occupies a responsible position in Josef Goebbels' Propaganda Division of the Nazi Government in Berlin.

Kuhn is described as follows:

Age - 48 (born 7-25-95, Berlin, Germany)
Height - 5' 6"
Weight - 145 pounds
Complexion - medium
Eyes - gray-blue
Hair - brown, short, parted in center
Nose - snub
Nationality - German (speaks with German accent)
Characteristics - upper lip protrudes slightly,
chin slightly pointed
forehead wrinkled

Occupation - merchant
Marital status - married
Wife's name - Friedel Birk, age 51
Children - Leopold, age 34
Martin Eberhard, age 17
Ruth (Mrs. J. Carson Moore), age 28
Hans Joachim, age 12
Criminal record - none prior to instant offense

PROSECUTION

The following charges and specifications were served upon Kuchn on February 14, 1942, by the Assistant Provost Marshal for the Territory of Hawaii, and office and trial of subject were set before the Military Commission for February 19, 1942:

Charge I: Violation of Section 24, Title 50, United States Code Annotated; unlawfully conspiring to transmit information affecting national defense.

Specification: Bernard Julius Otto Kuchn, Otsjiro Okada and Nagao Kita, at Honolulu, Island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, during the period commencing on or about the 20th day of November, 1941, up to and including the date of the filing of this charge, did conspire, combine, confederate and agree together and with each other and with other persons whose names are unknown, to commit an offense against the United States of America, to wit, the offense of unlawfully and feloniously, with intent and reason to believe that it was to be used to the injury of the United States and to the advantage of a foreign nation, namely Japan, communicating, delivering and transmitting, and attempting to communicate, deliver and transmit, to a foreign government, to wit, the Imperial Japanese Government, documents, codes, sketches, plans, lists and writings relating to the national defense and the movements and positions of the several units of the United States Fleet (Section 32, Title 50, USC), that is to say, that during the period and at the place above set forth, Bernard Julius Otto Kuchn, Otsjiro Okada and Nagao Kita did conspire, combine, confederate and agree together and with each other and with other persons whose names are unknown, with the intent and reason to believe that the information to be transmitted relative to national defense was to be used to the injury of the United States and to the advantage of a foreign nation, namely Japan, to communicate, deliver and transmit to a foreign government, namely the Imperial Government of Japan, certain information relative to national defense and to the movements and positions of the several units of the United States Fleet by means of a plan and system of signals which was to be prepared by Bernard Julius Otto Kuchn and submitted to Otsjiro Okada at the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu, Island of Oahu, Territory of

Hawaii, which would give a concise method of transmitting to the Imperial Government of Japan and its naval and military representatives information relative to national defense and the movements and locations of the battle force, scouting fleet, aircraft carriers and other units of the United States Fleet at Pearl Harbor, Island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii.

That thereafter and during the existence of said conspiracy one or more of said conspirators hereinafter mentioned by name did the following overt acts in furtherance of and to effect the object of said conspiracy aforesaid:

OVERT ACTS

(1) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 28th day of November, 1941, Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn did make a trip to the Navy Yard, Pearl Harbor, Territory of Hawaii.

(2) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 29th day of November, 1941, Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn did prepare a plan for transmittal of information relative to the United States Fleet.

(3) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 30th day of November, 1941, Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn did deliver to Otojire Okada at the Japanese Consulate, 1714 Kamehameha Avenue, Honolulu, T. H., a plan for the transmittal of information relative to the movements and positions of the several units of the United States Fleet.

(4) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 30th day of November, 1941, Otojire Okada advised Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn at the Japanese Consulate that his plan for transmittal of information relative to the United States Navy was too complicated, and instructed him to prepare a simpler plan.

(5) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 1st day of December, 1941, Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn did prepare a plan for the transmittal of information relative to the movements and positions of the several units of the United States Fleet.

(6) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 2nd day of December, 1941, Bernard Julius Otto Kuhn did deliver to Otojire Okada at the Japanese Consulate, 1714 Kamehameha Avenue, Honolulu, T. H., a plan for the transmittal of information relative to the United States Fleet units and their movements.

(7) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 2nd day of December, 1941, Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn did deliver to Otojiro Okada at the Japanese Consulate, 1714 Nuuanu Avenue, Honolulu, T. H., a list showing the number and type of naval vessels in Pearl Harbor, T. H.

(8) At Honolulu, T. H., on or about the 3rd day of December, 1941, Nagao Kita did transmit a plan and system of signals previously prepared by Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn to the Foreign Minister of the Imperial Japanese Government at Tokyo, Japan (Section 34, Title 50, U.S.C.).

Charge II: Violation of Section 31, as amended, Title 50, United States Code Annotated; unlawfully obtaining information affecting national defense.

Specification: In that Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn did, at Pearl Harbor, Island of Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, on or about November 26, 1941, for the purpose of obtaining information respecting the national defense with intent and reason to believe that the information to be obtained was to be used to the injury of the United States and to the advantage of a foreign nation, namely, Japan, unlawfully and feloniously obtain information concerning vessels connected with the national defense, to wit, battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, submarines, owned and constructed by the United States and under the control of the United States and of its officers and agents, in violation of Section 31, as amended, Title 50, United States Code Annotated.

Charge III: Violation of Section 32, Title 50, United States Code Annotated; unlawfully disclosing information affecting national defense.

Specification: In that Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn did, at Honolulu, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, on or about December 2, 1941, with intent and reason to believe that it was to be used to the injury of the United States and to the advantage of a foreign nation, namely, Japan, unlawfully and feloniously communicate, deliver, transmit, and attempt to communicate, deliver and transmit, to a foreign government, namely, the Imperial Government of Japan, and to the military and naval forces within a foreign country, namely, Japan, and to representatives, officers, agents, employees, subjects and citizens thereof, information relating to the national defense of the United States, to wit, information relating to and concerning vessels, to wit, United States battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, and submarines connected with the national defense, at Pearl Harbor, Oahu, Territory of Hawaii, their positions, locations, and movements, in violation of Section 32, Title 50, United States Code Annotated.

On February 19, 1942, Kuehn was tried in strict privacy before a Military Commission at Honolulu, T. H. On February 21, 1942, he was found guilty on each of the three charges and was sentenced by the Military Commission to be shot to death with musketry.

The Military Governor, Lieutenant General Nelson G. Bunker Hunt, of the Territory of Hawaii, on October 26, 1942, approved the sentence imposed upon subject by the Military Commission, but on the same day General Hunt commuted Kashi's sentence to confinement at hard labor for fifty years, and ordered him to be confined in the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

October 20, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

#152 Letter dated October 17, 1943, from 9 4453

#152 Letter, dated October 11, 1943, from 3 4454

#121 Letter, dated October 11, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L. 9 4455

#121 Letter, dated October 17, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. 9 4456

#53 Letter, dated October 13, 1943, from 9 4457

Very truly yours,


Walter A. Hunter
Warden


Encls.

copy md

Department of Justice
United States Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

October 13, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O. No. 59603-L


Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter, dated October 4, 1943, from Mrs Friedel Kuehn Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn No. 59603-L. One photograph enclosed.

ALL 66
67c

Letter, dated October 6, 1943, from 


Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

RECORDED

152

65-1574-149

INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

531
30 OCT 29 1943

EX-1

copy mu

Department of Justice
United States Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

October 11, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C.

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter, dated Oct., from [REDACTED]

Letter dated October 6, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn No. 59603-L, to the Legation of Switzerland, The Chief of the Division of German Interest, Washington, D.C.

Letter dated October 7, 1943 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn No. 59603-L to Mrs Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas

Letter dated October 7, 1943 from [REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

la

65-1574-148

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
OCT 22 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDS & INDEX

Original filed in 65-1574-345-3

55 OCT 20 1943

[Redacted]

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65-1574

Date: October 26, 1943

To: SAC Honolulu

From: J. Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: ^D Bernard Julius Otto Kasha,
with aliases; et al;
Espionage - J

Reference is made to Laboratory Report #D6879 dated October 4, 1943 in which it was stated that copies of the material taken from the files of the Office of Naval Intelligence, Honolulu in connection with this case would be transmitted to your office within the next several days.

There are being transmitted to your office under separate cover by registered mail copies of this material, which make up a part of specimen Q2.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-14-86 BY SP5/CLS

#268714

OCT 30

RECEIVED - MAIL

RECORDED

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Kramer _____
- Mr. McGuire _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED 2
 ★ OCT 28 1943 P.M.
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

65-1574-147
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
 OCT 29 1943
 U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DPY: [REDACTED]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

Leavenworth, Kansas
October 1, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

- Transmitted herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters.

Letter, dated September 26, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L. (3 photographs enclosed in letter)

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Letter, dated September 30, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Letter, dated September 30, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter, dated September 28, 1943, [REDACTED]

Letter, dated September 30, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

65-1574-146

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
Wards
OCT 12 1943

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

INITIALS

RECORDED
&
INDEXED
106
EX-8

Encls.

527
OCT 19 1943

COPY

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

Leavenworth, Kansas
September 27, 1943

ml

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: ⁰ KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 5960

19

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters.

Letter, dated September 22, 1943, from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Letter, dated September 19, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate.

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

original filed in 5-41342

RECORDED

65-1574-145X

INDEXED

OCT 6 1943

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INITIALS OF SPECIAL AGENT

52 NOV 4 1943 ⁴³ 256

~~SECRET~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

October 4, 1943

Laboratory Report **RECORDED**

65-1574-145

**Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn,
Re with aliases; et al;
Espionage - J**

File #
Lab. #

D-6572

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Examination requested by: **Honolulu (65-4)**

Reference **Letter - 9-15-43**

Examination requested: **Document**

Specimens: ; **Holland**

Q2 Three hundred and sixty eight photographs of material consisting of original correspondence, translations of the original correspondence, and other miscellaneous papers found in the possession of Kuehn; also, photographs of correspondence taken from the files of the Office of Naval Intelligence, Honolulu.

Note: This material was sent in the form of two 25 foot rolls of Minipan 35 mm. film and one film pack.

Result of examination:

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. McGuire
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Piper
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy



61

In accordance with your request, copies of the material taken from the files of the Office of Naval Intelligence, Honolulu will be transmitted to your office within the next several days. Copies of the specimens are being retained in the Bureau files and the Laboratory files.

15 1943 P.M.

Honolulu
Laboratory
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OCT 14 1943 527

~~SECRET~~

8-14-84
CLASSIFIED BY: SP5/DJS
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
#268114

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Honolulu, T. H.
September 15, 1943

65-4

b6
b7c

D 6879

Director, FBI
Attention Technical Laboratory

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
with aliases; et al;
ESPIONAGE - J

Dear Sir:

There are transmitted under separate cover two (2) 25 foot rolls of Minipan 35 mm. film and one film pack, both containing exposed film.

In accordance with instructions contained in Bureau letter dated August 19, 1943, Bureau file #65-1574, it is requested that one print be prepared of each negative for inclusion in the Bureau file in this case. It is further requested that one print be forwarded the Honolulu Office only of those negatives relating to exhibits photographed from the files of the Office of Naval Intelligence, Honolulu. The developed film is to be retained in the Bureau file.

All material relating to the KUEHN case is appropriately identified in the photographs except for the sailboat "sails" which will be found in the film pack. Any other photographs appearing on the Minipan 35 mm. film are of no value and may be discarded at the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Thornton

J. E. Thornton
Special Agent in Charge

#268414
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-14-86 BY SP5/CLS

RECORDED

65-1574-1745

cc Package

COPY AND SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.

10/2/43 Q2 FLN

4 OCT 7 1943

65-1574-

COPIES DESTROYED
389 AUG 4 1970

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[Redacted]

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St. [unclear]

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

September 20, 1943

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, U. S.

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters.

Letter from [REDACTED]

Letter, dated September 12, 1943, from [REDACTED]

Letter, dated September 11, 1943, from Mrs. Friedel —
Kuehn, Internment Camp Crystal City, Crystal City,
Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

b6
b7c

9

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

65-1574-144
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 25 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
INITIALS ON ORIGINAL

53 OCT 4 1943

EX-81

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
September 16, 1943

*W
fast*

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: [REDACTED]
KUEHN, Bernard J. O., No. 59603-L
[REDACTED]

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters.

Letter, dated May 8, 1943, from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Letter, Dated September 15, 1943, from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

*b6
b7c*

Letter, dated September 15, 1943, from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Encls.

715

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

1120

125-1574-14
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SEP 24 1943
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

580 17

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Honolulu, T. H.
September 15, 1945

VIA CLIPPER

Director, FBI

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
with aliases; et al;
ESPIONAGE - J

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated August 19, 1945, in the captioned case, Bureau file 65-1574.

In accordance with Bureau instructions, all correspondence available in this case has been photographed on 35 mm. film, including also that correspondence contained in the files of O.N.I., Honolulu. Close-up photographs were also obtained of the sails used on KUEHN's sail boat. All of the exposed film was transmitted, by cover letter of this same date, for the attention of the Technical Laboratory, with the request that one print of each negative be prepared for the Bureau file in this case.



The German dictionary, "Der Grosse Duden," which was admittedly used by KUEHN as a code book in sending messages to [redacted] was turned over to the Military Commission, as documentary evidence, during the trial of this case. At the present time, all documentary evidence, introduced in this case, with the exception of the German dictionary, is in the possession of the Office of the Military Governor, Honolulu. However, recent efforts by that office to locate the dictionary have been unavailing.

There are transmitted herewith photographic negatives and prints which were discovered in KUEHN's Kalaena residence. These depict [redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-17-80 BY SP-6/CLS

207095

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b6
b7c

b6
b7c

ENC 133
38
12/2
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53 OCT 4 1945

COPIES DESTROYED RECORDED & INDEXED
5 AUG 19 1970

SEP 20 1945
BY 13
1-3

Director
Hon 65-4

September 15, 1943

in the vicinity of KUEHN's Lanikai Beach and Kalama residences, as well as photographs of the houses. OTTO KUEHN's sail boat is also pictured in several prints, and one negative shows him at work on the sail boat in a close-up shot. Numerous other miscellaneous photographs are enclosed, some of which were taken in Germany. All are appropriately identified. Photographs of the Japanese Consulate and adjoining buildings in Honolulu, which were recently obtained, are also enclosed.

There are transmitted herewith one copy each of memoranda contained in the files of O.N.I., Honolulu, which were not included among the items photographed. Those memoranda, bearing the initials [REDACTED] 7

[REDACTED]

Safety Deposit Box #744 at the Bishop National Bank, Honolulu, was first rented to OTTO KUEHN and his wife May 18, 1937. The box was never entered by anyone subsequent to that date until January 27, 1943, when it was drilled open under orders of the local office of the Foreign Funds Control Bureau. [REDACTED]

It is noted that a careful and meticulous search was made throughout the KUEHN residences [REDACTED]

Particular attention was given to possible places of concealment of transmitting devices and an examination was made of KUEHN's short wave radio receiver to determine whether any effort had been made to convert it into a transmitter. However, these searches proved negative. all

An examination of electricity bills rendered OTTO KUEHN by the Hawaiian Electric Company, covering his Kalama and Lanikai residences, failed to reveal any unusual differences in charges assessed during 1939, 1940, and 1941. b6 b7c

[REDACTED]

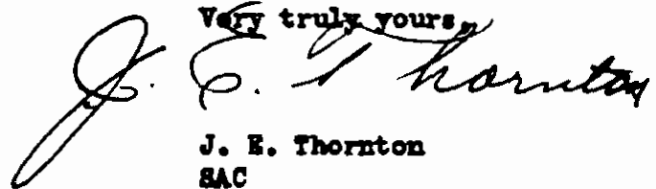
During the search of KUEHN's residences, a careful examination was made of all correspondence and papers of all kinds. However, the Christmas card, mentioned by KUEHN as having been received from [REDACTED] in December, 1936, was not among those articles found.]

Director
Hon 65-4

September 15, 1943

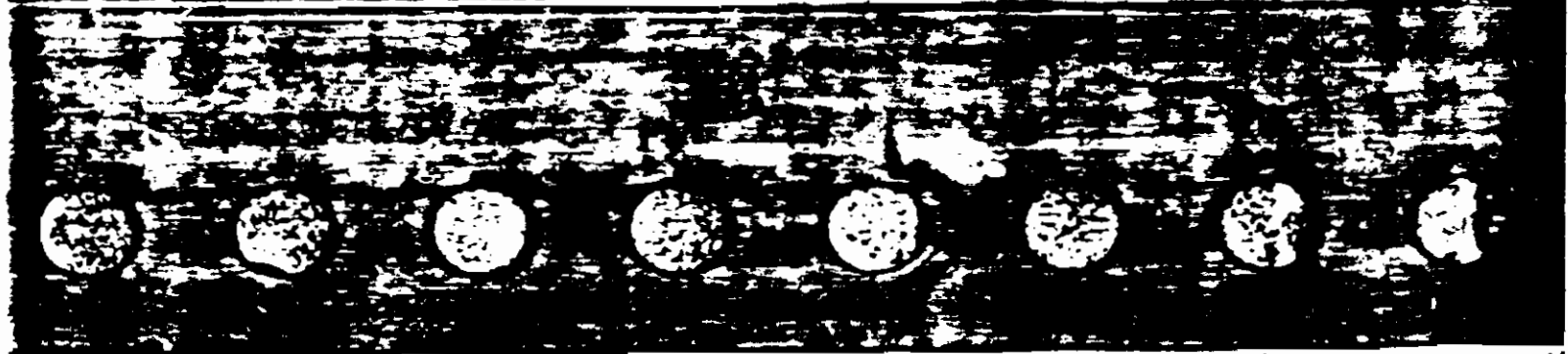
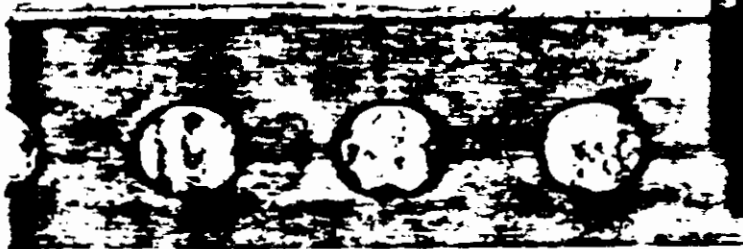
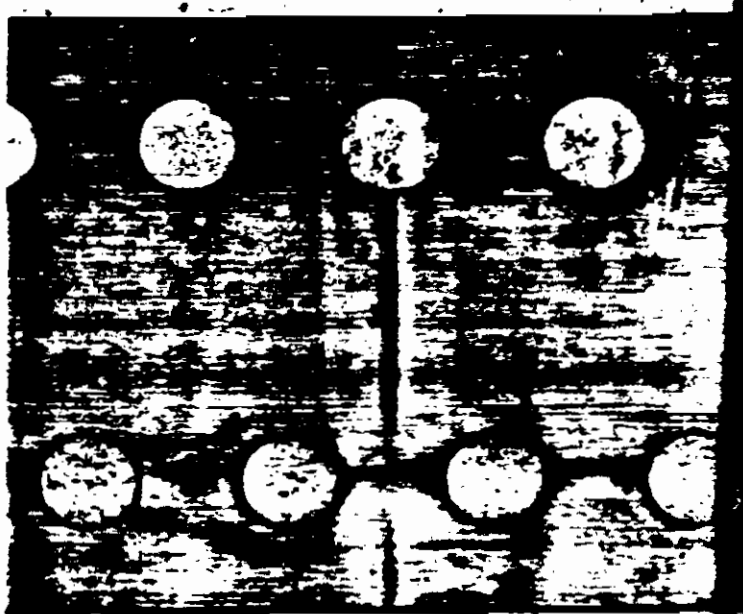
In the absence of further Bureau instructions, this case will continue to be carried in a closed status.

Very truly yours,



J. E. Thornton
SAC

Enclosures



65-1574-142 EBF

65-1574-142

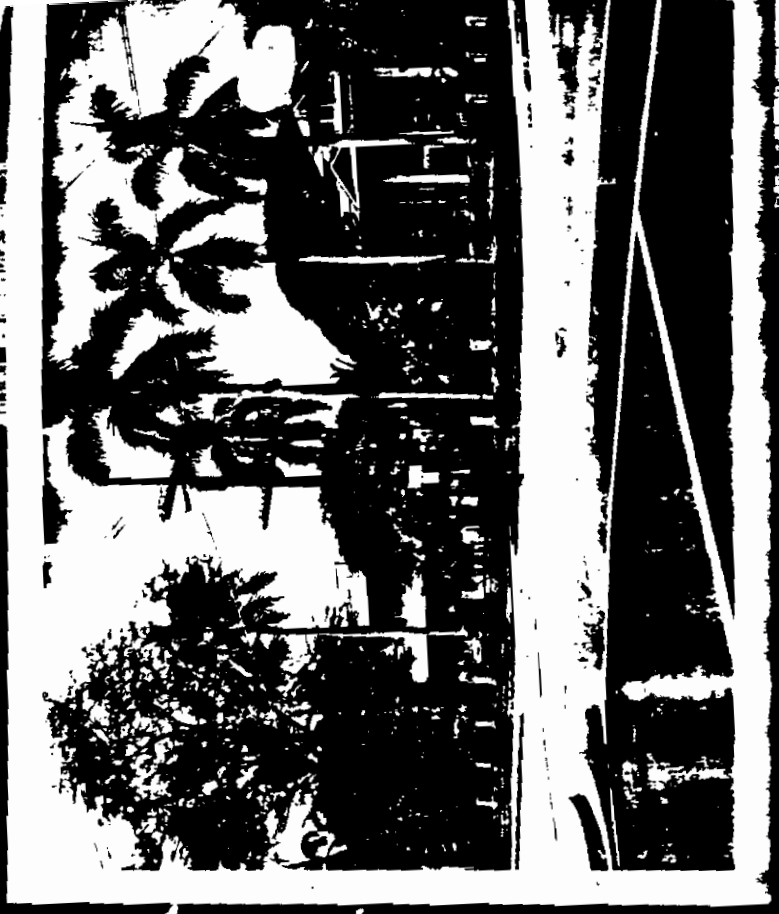
911

Japanese Consulate office Bldg.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8.14.86 BY SP5/CS
268714

65-1574-142

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-1-82 BY SP4 BLS



65-1574-142

Residence of Japanese Consul -
On Consulate grounds, Honolulu

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/11/80 BY SP5/UB

#268714

116

65-1574-142

Einige der in Frage kommenden
Kontaktpersonen
des Konsulats sind im Gespräch
mit den Behörden.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/11/80 BY SP5/UB

65-1574-142

Memorandum d. 8/3 1956

Ed. Kahan, Berlin, 2/19/56 1480
Tudentstr. 2/0

RUTH WILHELM
Leichtkuno

Handwritten signature/initials

Leopold and Ruth Kuhn
Hannover d. 1/13-8

65-1574-142

First view of Japanese Consulate
grounds, Honolulu.

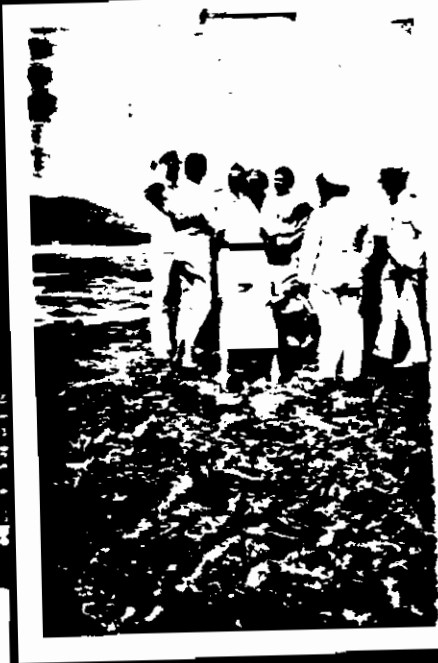
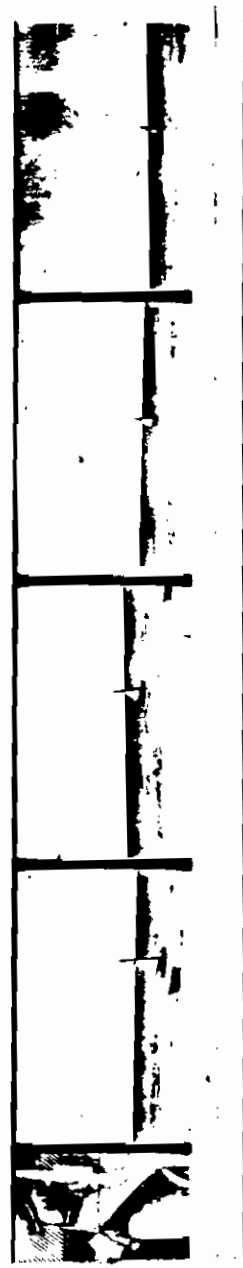
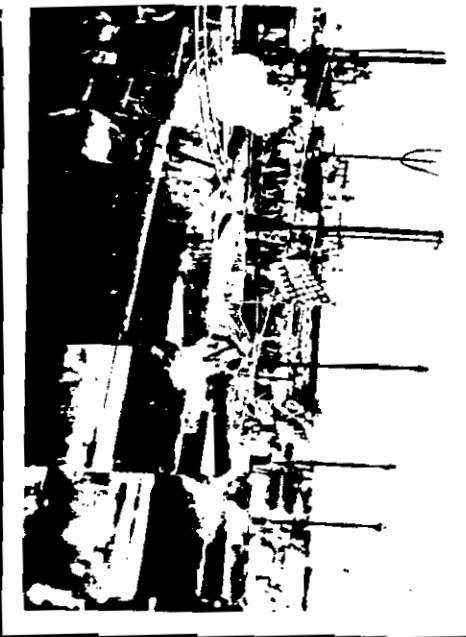
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/11/80 BY SP5/UB

116

65-1574-142

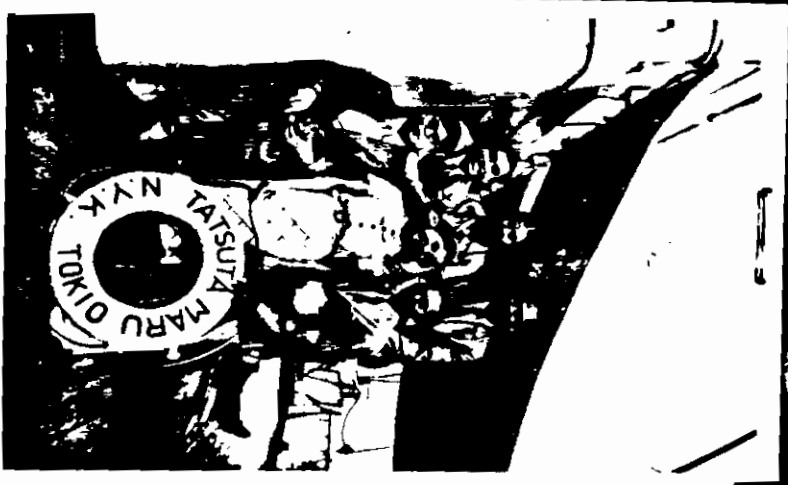




Photographs of Kuehn's
Saliboat and Lemakal
Beach Residence

45-1574-142

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED.
DATE 8-14-86 BY *SPC/OK*



Photographs taken at Kuehn's
Kalamia Residence.
65-1574-142







65-1574-142

Found in Kuba's residence
apparently taken on Oahu
about 1938.

gla

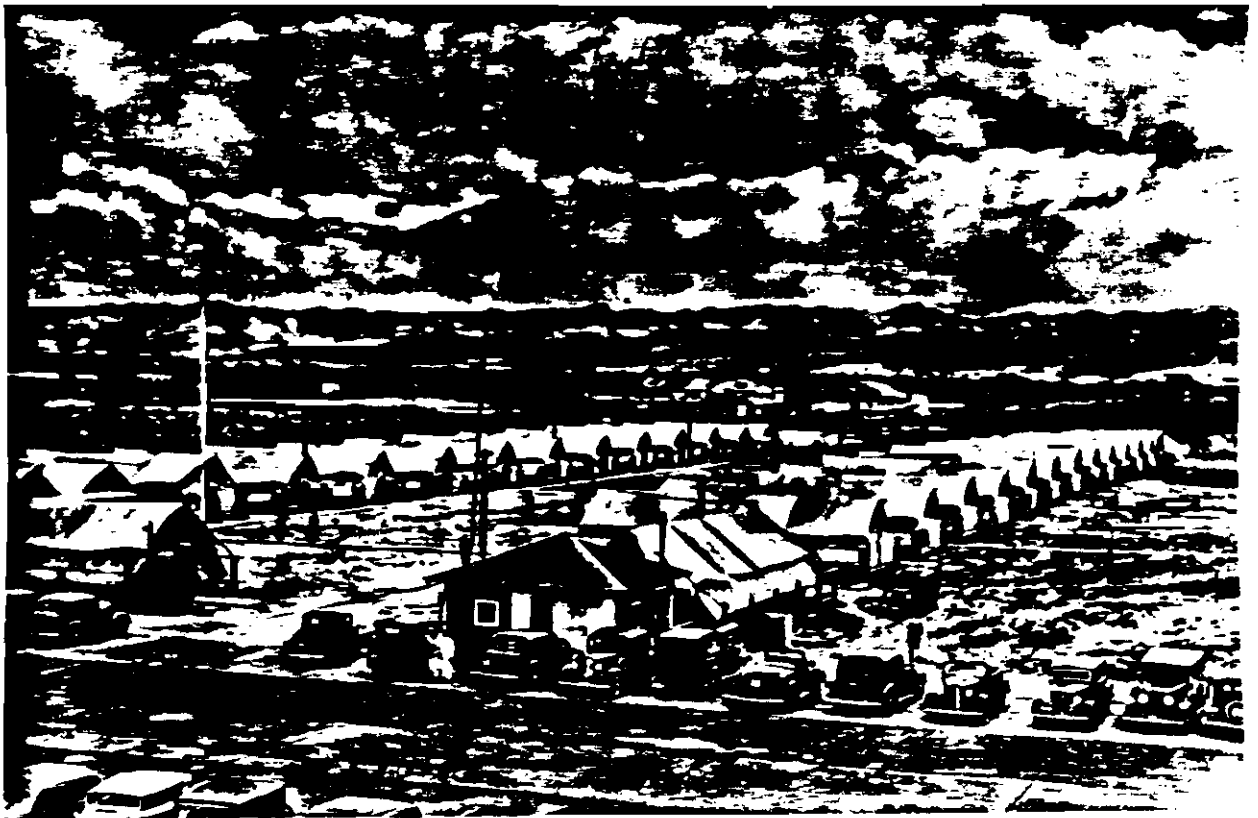
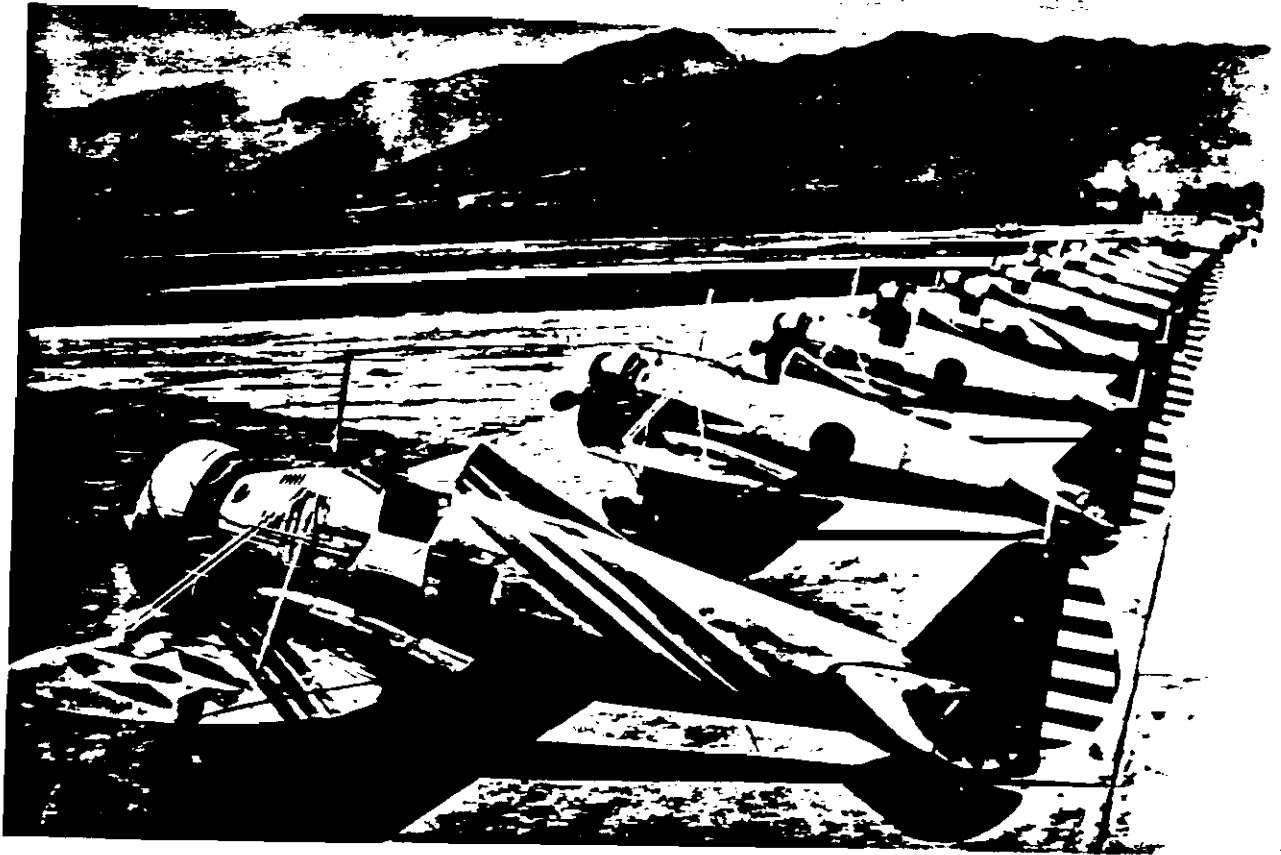
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED.
DATE 8-14-86 BY SP5/CL

65-1574-142 65-1574-142

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED.
DATE 8-14-86 BY SP5/CL

Residence on Japanese Enclaves
grounds formerly occupied by several
members of General Staff.

65-1574-142



8881

Found in Kuehn's residence -
apparently taken on Oahu about 1938.

JL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-14-80 BY SP5/PLS
#268714

65-1574-142

8881

Found in Kuehn's residence -
apparently taken on Oahu about 1938.

JL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-14-80 BY SP5/PLS
#268714

65-1574-142

284

Found in Kuehn's residence -
apparently taken on Oahu about 1938.

Ja

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-14-86 BY SP5/CLS

65-1574-112



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

24 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b7c • b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- For your information: Mr Smith, per our telephone conversations, these pages contain no valuable information in connection with your research on Mr Kuehn
- The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-212 Pg 2 and EBF

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

14

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1 b6 b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-507-209

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JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

March 30, 1944

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Goshen _____
- Miss Gandy _____



b6 b7c
#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-16-86 BY SP-1/BJ

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, was, et al;
ESPIONAGE - J.

[REDACTED]

CHARGE I

*b6
b7c*

[REDACTED]

CHARGE II

[REDACTED]

CHARGE III

[REDACTED]

COPIES DESTROYED
869

DE-INT
DATE: 4-20-82

*6 years past
4/8/84
[Signature]*

RECORDED

INDEXED

111

165-2574210

27 APR 28

[Handwritten initials]

CHARGE IV

7

[REDACTED]

CHARGE V

by
b7c

[REDACTED]

CHARGE VI

[REDACTED]

Respectfully,

[REDACTED]

cc: Honolulu (by letter)

DEPARTMENT OF
STATE PENITENTIARY

Handwritten signature

Handwritten signature

17 October 1939

MEMORANDUM

Subject: Otto KUEHN

1. Letter dated 16 October 1939 from [redacted] of New England Mutual Life Insurance Company (Honolulu Agent; Home Insurance Co.) and addressed to "Mr. and Mrs. Otto Kuhn, Box 1476, Honolulu, Hawaii".

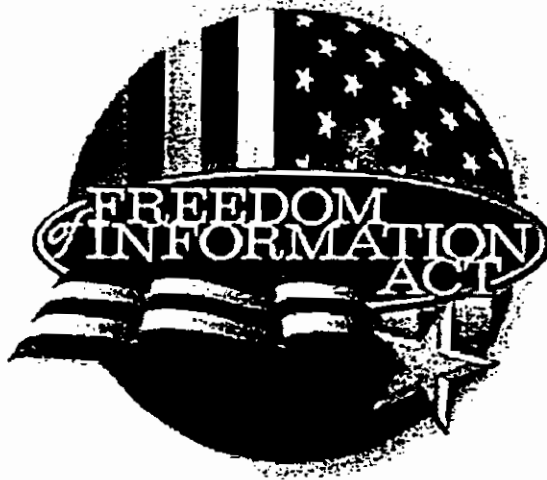
2. [redacted] calls the Kuehns attention to a balance of \$31.25 due on his Buick policy of 28 February 1939. Quoting letter:

"In June I made an agreement with Mr. Kuhn that I would assume responsibility for this half of the premium so that the policy would remain in force. The agreement was that Mr. Kuhn would pay the balance in three or four weeks. Later it was agreed that upon completion of the deal on the house he would pay. As yet your check has not been received."

3. [redacted] states that this amount of \$31.25 will be deducted from his own check unless paid by Kuehn by 21 October.

*all
b7c*

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-14-86 BY [signature]



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BERNARD KUEHN

PART 6 OF 7

FILE NUMBER: 65-1574

SUBJECT KUEHN

FILE NUMBER 65-1574 SECTION 6

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

X DO NOT DESTROY
HISTORICAL VALUE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES

USE CARE IN HANDLING THIS FILE

Transfer-Call 421

65
1574

SECTION 6
SERIALS 211-280

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- Deleted under exemption(s) b1 b6 b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65 1574-211

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

LL:KOD
65-1574

ROUTINE

APRIL 6, 1944

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

SAC,
LOS ANGELES

*none in
in 782
stay*

md

Transmit the following message to:

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, WAS, ET AL; ESPIONAGE S. INSTRUCT SA R. L. SHIVERS
TO SUBMIT IMMEDIATELY MEMORANDUM REQUESTED BUREAU LETTER MARCH THIRTY, NINETEEN
FORTYFOUR.

ROOVEL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-19-86 BY SP6/CLS

RECORDED

165-1574-211X
FBI
38 APR 7 1944

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Acers _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Starke _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COPIES DESTROYED
369 AUG 5 1970

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

APR 6 1944

TELETYPE

2 APR 10 1944

4-3 R

Per

Handwritten signatures and initials

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c with no segregable material available for release to you. Per Bureau of Prisons
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-312 Enclosure Behind File

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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- Deleted under exemption(s) b7c & b7d with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

- For your information: Mr Smith, per our telephone conversations, these pages contain no valuable information in connection with your research on Mr Kuehn
- The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-212 Pg 2 and EBF

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X FOR THIS PAGE X
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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

April 20, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121

Re: HUEHN, Bernard J. C.
Reg. No. 59603-L

97465

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated April 20, 1944 from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Huehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

DEFERRED ~~RECORDED~~

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosure

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

4-22-44
[Signature]

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

April 24, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: WHEE, Bernard J. C.
Pen. No. 50483-1

Dear Sir:

For ailed herewith for censorship and return to
this institution are the following list of letters:

- RECORDED
- Letter dated April 23, 1944 from
Bernard J. C. Whee, No. 50483-1, to Mr. Wheeler # 7547
Whee, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.
- # 121
- Letter dated April 14, 1944 from Mrs.
Erioid Whee, Crystal City Internment Camp,
Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. C. Whee,
No. 50483-1. # 7548
- # 121
- Letter dated April 19, 1944 from
53 # 7549

Specimens R-4-21-46

4-21-46

27

All b6b

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

May 2, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121

Re: ⁰ HUNT, Bernard J. C. Q 7678
Pop. No. 50403-L

#53

Q 7679

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to
this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated April 30, 1944 from
Mrs. Frieda Huehn, Crystal City Internment
Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. C.
Huehn, No. 50403-L.

Letter dated May 2, 1944 from

Very truly yours,

W. Hunter

2 ENCL 1

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

5-5-44
LJC

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

May 8, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following:

- #121 Letter dated May 1, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L. *Q7725*
- #121 Letter dated May 7, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. *DEFERRED RECORD Q7726*
- #93 Letter dated May 3, 1944 from *Q7727*
- #32 Original message and paraphrase of message dated May 7, 1944 from *Q7728*

Very truly yours,

Walter Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

5 ENCL 1
SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.

5-10-44 *dl*

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

May 15, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following:

Letter dated May 10, 1944 from

Q7851

#53

Letter dated May 14, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

#121

Q7852

Original message and paraphrase of message dated May 14, 1944 from

1852

#93

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

3 ENCL S

See Serial 5
5-17-44

Enclosures

20

all 66 67

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

May 23, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

^U
KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated May 21, 1944 from

#43

Q 1964

Letter dated May 21, 1944 from

#53

Q 1965

Letter dated May 21, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

#121

Q 1966

Letter dated May 9, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

#121

Q 1967

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosures

all
bx
bb

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

May 29, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

- #53 Letter dated May 21, 1944 from Q 8017
- #121 Letter dated May 17, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Q 8018
Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.
- #121 Letter dated May 28, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Q 8019
Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.

5-31-44 *ML*

3 *ENC 8*

Enclosures

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 3, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

Letter dated May 31, 1944 from

#53

78120

Letter dated May 24, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

#121

78121

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosures

Business Retained

6-6-44

EJC

7 ENCL 5

all b6 b7c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 5, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

121

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

98126

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated June 4, 1944 from the above-named inmate to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
WARDEN

Enclosure

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

6-8-44

WAC

12500

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 15, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

^{7/21}
Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to
this institution are the following listed letters:

#121	Letter dated May 29, 1944 with enclosure from Kalama Community Trust, Honolulu, Hawaii, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.	Q8307
#53	Letter dated June 12, 1944 from	Q8308

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.
6-17-44 *ah*

Enclosures

FOR DEFENSE



all b6 b7c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 10, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

YUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-1

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following:

Message dated December 6, 1943 (in German) from

#10

O 8220

#32

Letter dated June 9, 1944 with enclosure from the Legation of Switzerland, Washington, D. C., to

#121

Letter dated June 1, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Yuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Yuehn, No. 59603-1.

#121

Letter dated June 11, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Yuehn, No. 59603-1, to Mrs. Friedel Yuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

#53

Letter dated June 11, 1944 from

#53

Letter dated June 7, 1944 from

#53

Letter dated June 6, 1944 with enclosure from Immigration and Naturalization Service, Kansas City, Missouri, to

ENCL 2

Very truly yours,

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

6-14-44

EJC

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosures (2)

all b6
b7c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 17, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#10
Re KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L Q8322

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated June 8, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate.

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosure

me

COPIES RETAINED IN LAB.

6-20-44 *ah*

FOR DEFENSE



XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

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- The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
66-1274-226

*EBF
Army
Referral sent
to Army on
1/5/88 for
a direct
response
Requester advised*

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 19, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121
Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

#53

#93

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

#121 Letter dated June 18, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. Q8347

#53 Letter dated June 18, 1944 from Q8348

#93 Letter dated June 18, 1944 from Q8349

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.
6-23-44 lbf

FORNITENSE



3
Enclosures

all b6 b7c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
July 4, 1944

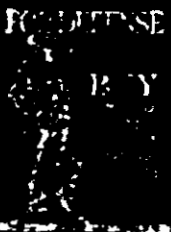
Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:
#93
#121
MUEHN, Bernard J. C.
Reg. No. 5-583-1

Dear Sir:

For aforesaid herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

- #93 Letter dated June 30, 1944 from Q8523
- #121 Letter dated June 18, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Muehn, Q8524
Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. C. Muehn, Reg. No. 5-583-1.
- #121 Letter dated July 2, 1944 from Bernard J. C. Muehn, Q8525
Reg. No. 5-583-1, to Mrs. Friedel Muehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.
- #53 Letter dated June 18, 1944 from Q8526
- #53 Letter dated July 2, 1944 from Q8527



7-6-44

all b4 b7c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

June 27, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#121
Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L
#53

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

#121 Letter dated June 15, 1944 from Mrs. Q8463
Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp,
Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn,
No. 59603-L.

#121 Letter dated June 25, 1944 from Q8464
Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs.
Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal
City, Texas.

#53 Letter dated June 25, 1944 from RECORDED
97
Q8465

SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.

6-30-44 llf

Very truly yours,

HANDLED BY
STOP DESK

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED STATES
SAVINGS BONDS
AND STAMPS

3 ENCL Q

Enclosures

J. H.

ALL 6667c

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For your information: _____

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62-1074-230

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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

July 10, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: ^{#121} KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following:

- #121 Letter dated July 8, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, *Q 8630*
No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp,
Crystal City, Texas.
- #53 Letter dated July 8, 1944 from *Q 8631*
- #43 Letter dated July 10, 1944 from *Q 8632*
- #32 Letter dated July 7, 1944 from the Legation of *Q 8633*
Switzerland, Washington, D. C., to

ENC. RETAINED IN LAB.

7-13-44 *ll*

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosures

all 6662c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

July 15, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

DEFERRED *[Handwritten signature]*

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to
this institution are the following letters:

Letter dated July 5, 1944 from Mrs.
Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp,
Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn,
No. 59603-L.

98711

#121

Letter dated July 10, 1944 from

112

#5

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden *RL*

Specimens Retained in Laboratory
7-18-44 89c

Enclosures

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

721

*all 66
67c*

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

July 17, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

STIGLER, Franz J.
Reg. No. 59010-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

#121 Letter dated July 15, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. 55716

#121 Letter dated July 8, 1944, with enclosures, from Property Comptroller, Office of the Military Governor, Immigration Station, Honolulu, T. H., to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L. 98717

#53 Letter dated July 16, 1944 from 28718

#93 Letter dated July 16, 1944 from 3719

FOR DETENSE



Enclosures (4)

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

RL

7-19-44

663

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

July 24, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

^{#121}
KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to
this institution are the following letters:

3 39

#53 Letter dated July 23, 1944 from

[Handwritten signature]
Q 8844

#93 Letter dated July 23, 1944 from

8845

#121 Letter dated July 22, 1944 from Bernard
J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn,
Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Q 8846

Very truly yours,

[Handwritten signature]
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

RECORDS RETAINED IN LAB.
7-27-44 *[initials]*

FORBID TO
BUY



Enclosures

all b6 b7c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
July 26, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated July 14, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel #121
Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, Q888U
to the above-named inmate.

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter *RE*
Warden

me

Enclosure

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

7-29-44 *EJC*

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH KANSAS

July 31, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

Letter dated July 30, 1944 from

#5 -

Letter dated July 30, 1944 from

#93

Letter dated July 29, 1944 from Bernard
J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn,
Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

#121

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Specimens Retained in Laboratory
8-2-44 EJC

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS

Enclosures

All b6 b7

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

August 4, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

#121 Letter dated August 2, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Military Governor of Hawaii, Honolulu, T. H. (Five enclosures.) 98975

#92 Letter dated August 1, 1944 from 78976

DEFERRED RECORDING

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosures

Specimens Retained in Laboratory
8-9-44 - 502



All
b/c
b/c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
August 2, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: ¹² KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated July 23, 1944, with four enclosures, from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate.

#121

Q 8777

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosure

me

1 ¹⁰ ¹¹ ¹²
(27)

Specimens Retained in Laboratory
8-7-44 *69c*



Att 36 b7c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
August 7, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#26
Re:

#5

#93

#121 KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59503-L

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

#26	Letter dated August 4, 1944 from	29015
#53	Letter dated July 31, 1944 from	29016
#53	Letter dated August 6, 1944 from	29017
#93	Letter dated July (August) 6, 1944 from	29018
#121	Letter dated August 6, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59503-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.	29019

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

8-10-44
FORFEITURE



Enclosures

All
56
b7c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

August 11, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: ⁰KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

#121
Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated August 1, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L. *99043*

Very truly yours, *me*

W. A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosure

Specimens Retained in Laboratory
8-15-44 FIC

FOR THE



BUY
UNITED STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

August 15, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto for censorship and return to this institution are the following:

Letter dated August 13, 1944 from

#53

Letter dated August 13, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, Reg. No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

#121

Original message dated August 12, 1944 and paraphrase of message from

#93

Specimens Retained in Lab

8-17-44

350

872

07-19-44

44120

7121

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosures

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

ALL
b6
b7c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

August 22, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following listed letters:

	Letter dated August 20, 1944 from	
#53		
	Letter dated August 20, 1944 from	99205
#93		
	Letter dated August 20, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.	99206
#121		
	Letter dated August 10, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.	99207
#121		
	Letter dated August 20, 1944 from	9208
#152		
	Letter dated August 20, 1944 from	9209
#152		

FOR DEFENSE



REPLY
SPECIMENS RETURNED IN LABORATORY
8-20-44
EJC

Enclosures

Very truly yours,

W. L. ...
Acting Warden

ALL
86
87c

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

August 9, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to
this institution are the following:

Original message dated August 6, 1944
and paraphrase of message from *me* 99051

#32

Original message dated August 9, 1944
and paraphrase of message from *me* 99052

#10

Letter dated June 30, 1944 from Eberhard
Kuehn, Honolulu, T. H., addressed to his sister,
Ruth, which has been sent by Mrs. Friedel Kuehn,
Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard
J. O. Kuehn, Reg. No. 59603-L, for his perusal. 99053

#121

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

8-11-44 *872*
3 *(27)*
Enclosures

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

August 28, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

EWANS, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

- # 53 Letter dated August 27, 1944 from , 330
- # 93 Letter dated August 27, 1944 from RELEASED RECORDS
WML
9331
- # 121 Letter dated August 27, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Euhn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Frieda Euhn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. 09332
- # 152 Letter dated August 28, 1944 from 333

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Specimens Retained in Laboratory
8-31-44 EJC



Enclosures (4)
ENCLOSURE

11/26/44

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

September 1, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

(#121)
Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

#121
#32

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following:

#121 Letter dated August 16, 1944 from Alien Property Custodian, Honolulu, T. H., together with enclosure, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

Q 9385

#53 Letter dated August 28, 1944 from

me
Q 9386

#32 Message dated May 10, 1944, received through the International Red Cross. from

Q 9387

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

9-5-44 llh

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

FOR DEFENSE



3-2-5

Enclosures (3)

*all
by
1*

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

August 30, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#93
Re:
#121 KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following:

#93 Post Card dated August 12, 1944 ----- 64370
German, from

#121 Letter dated August 20, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel 64371
Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to
Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

Very truly yours, *me*

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

9-2-44 *ah*

Enclosures (2)

FOR DITENSE



ah 64 62c



Federal Bureau of Investigation
 United States Department of Justice
 HONOLULU, T. H.

September 4, 1944.

65-4

Director, FBI.

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN,
 with aliases, ET AL.
 Espionage - J.

FOI/PA #	
APPEAL #	
CIVIL ACT. #	
E.O. #	
DATE	INITIALS

Dear Sir:

As a matter of interest to the Bureau in the above-captioned case, information has recently been received from the Alien Property Custodian in Honolulu that certain properties belonging to OTTO KUEHN have been taken over and title vested in the United States Government. This was accomplished under Vesting Order No. 3645, a certified copy of which was served on OTTO KUEHN by mail on August 16, 1944.

Included in the Vesting Order was real property situated in Kailua, District of Koolaupoko, Oahu, T. H., consisting of approximately 74,581 square feet; all right, title and interest of OTTO KUEHN in and to insurance policy in the amount of \$14,000.00 issued by the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company of San Francisco, Calif.; and a bank account of \$6,163.68 on deposit with the Bishop Trust Company, Honolulu, held for OTTO KUEHN and in the name of Mrs. FRIEDEM KUEHN.

The above described property is to be held, used, administered, liquidated, sold or otherwise dealt with in the interest and for the benefit of the United States, according to a statement by the Alien Property Custodian, Honolulu, T. H.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Thornton
 J. E. THORNTON,
 SAC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 8-19-86 BY SP-5 JLB

RECORDED
 &
 INDEXED

165-1574-247
 F B I
 32 SEP 8 1944

EX - 23



51 SEP 16 1944

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
September 4, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

#92
Re:

#121 KUEHN, Bernard J. v.
Rec. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following:

#92 Letter dated September 4, 1944 from 29400

#152 Letter dated September 3, 1944 from

#121 Letter dated September 3, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. 29402

#53 Letter dated September 3, 1944 from 1403

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

9-6-44 *abl*

Enclosures (4)

FOR DEFENSE



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
September 13, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated September 2, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to the above-named inmate.

#121

99530

~~DEFERRED RECORDING~~
Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosure

(27)

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

FOR DEFENSE



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH KANSAS

September 11, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

- #121 Letter dated September 10, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. *DEFERRED MAILING Q 9513*
- #53 Letter dated September 10, 1944 from *Q 9514*
- #93 Letter dated September 10, 1944 from *Q 9515*

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

9-15-44

332

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosures (3)

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED STATES
SAVINGS BONDS
AND STAMPS

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
September 18, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

Letter dated September 17, 1944 from

#53

Shipping
583

Letter dated September 17, 1944 from

#93

54

Letter dated September 17, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

4/21/44
32 #121

99585

Letter dated September 11, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

#121

99586

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

9-30-44
EJC

Very truly yours,

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Enclosures (4)

all

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS
September 25, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

- #53 Letter dated September 19, 1944 from 656
7
CORRIDING
- #53 Letter dated September 24, 1944 from 9657
- #93 Letter dated September 23, 1944 from 99658
- #121 Letter dated September 24, 1944 from 99659
Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Freidel
Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

9-27-44 EJC

X32

Enclosures (4)

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

October 3, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re: ^{#53}

^{#43}

^{#121}
KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

#53 Letter dated October 1, 1944 from 272

#53 Letter dated September 28, 1944 from 273

#93 Letter dated October 1, 1944 from 274

#121 Letter dated October 1, 1944 from Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas. 275

#121 Letter dated September 28, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

10/6/44

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Walter A. Hunter
Warden re

FOR DEFENSE



5
Enclosures (5)



Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-25-86 BY SP2/pts
#268714

65-1574-254

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

4-40
5 b1

Laboratory Work Sheet

~~SECRET~~

R00
3/30/16

EXPEDITE

Re: Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn

File # 65-1574

Lab # 023646

Examination requested by: Mr. Walter A. Hunter, Warden,
U. S. Penitentiary
Leavenworth, Kansas

Date of reference communication: let 9-30-44 - - Date received: 10-3-44
obl

Examination requested: Doc

Result of Examination:

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

Examination by:

Mitigation on review side

CLASSIFIED BY: SP5/CP
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

Specimens submitted for examination

Q9728 Env adr "Mr. Bernard, Julius, Otto Kuehn, P.M.B. 59603, Leavenworth,
Kansas", ret adr, "Friedel Kuehn, Crystal Internment Camp, Crystal City,
Texas", pm "Crystal City, Texas, Sep 26, 1944, 11:30 AM" and aop in
2-page let bag,

(NOTE: [redacted])

[Large redacted block]

ENCLOSURE

~~SECRET~~

65-1574-255

10/27/44
2/2/45

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET**

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-255 p 2

XXXXXX
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XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
Director

CG-287

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Acers _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Harbo _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Mumford _____
 Mr. Starke _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Beahan _____
 Miss Gandy _____

**Federal Bureau of Investigation
 United States Department of Justice
 Washington, D. C.**

October 12, 1944

65-1574

8-19-86

CLASSIFIED BY: *SPD/CPS*
 DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

MEMORANDUM FOR [REDACTED]

Recd 11/13

ATTENTION: [REDACTED]

RE: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
 PRISONERS' MAIL

Reference is made to the letter from the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas dated September 30, 1944, transmitting for Laboratory examination a prison mail letter from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn to the prisoner Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn dated September 20, 1944, beginning as follows:

[REDACTED]

The letter has been designated in the Laboratory as Q9728.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

ENCLOSURE
 SNIF 25480
 369 8-20-70

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
 OTHERWISE

[REDACTED]

FOR DEFENSE



The original evidence was returned to United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas on October 9, 1944 after clearance by the Security Division.

Respectfully,

74 JAN 25 1945

EX-22

INDEXED

F B I

30 OCT 14 1944

all
b1
b6
b7c

(S)

(S)

(S)

as

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

October 9, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

J 53
Re:

#
#121
KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L
#152

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

#53 Letter dated October 8, 1944 from *R 9851*

#73 Letter dated October 8, 1944 from *m* *Q 9852*

#121 Letter dated October 8, 1944 from Bernard J. O. *Q 9853*
Kuehn, No. 59603-L, to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Internment Camp,
Crystal City, Texas.

152 Letter dated October 8, 1944 from

SPECIMENS RETAINED IN LAB.

10-13-44
FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

Enclosures (4)

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Huiter
Walter A. Huiter
Warden

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY

LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

September 30, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Re:

#121
KUEHN, Bernard J. O.
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution are the following letters:

#53 Letter dated September 25, 1944 from

G 9727

4-39

#121 Letter dated September 20, 1944 from Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas, to Bernard J. O. Kuehn, No. 59603-L.

G 9728

Very truly yours,

Walter A. Hunter
Warden

Specimens Retained in Laboratory

10-3-44 chh

Enclosures (2)

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

111

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
UNITED STATES PENITENTIARY
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

October 17, 1944

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

RE: KUEHN, Bernard Julius
Reg. No. 59603-L

Dear Sir:

Forwarded herewith for censorship and return to this institution is a letter dated October 7, 1944, to the above-named inmate, from Friedel Aehn, Crystal City Internment Camp, Crystal City, Texas.

#121

99925

Very truly yours,

Reed Cozart
Reed Cozart
Acting Warden

Enclosure

ENCLOSURE

DEFERRED MAIL

Specimens Retained in Laboratory
10-19-44 EJC

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

LBN:HBM

65-1574-259

+

RECORDED SAC, New York

October 14, 1944

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

go
TX

It is desired that in the future Identification Orders issued by the New York Office be sent to

[Redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-19-86 BY SP6/MLC

Ack. [Signature]
NOV 21 1944

RECEIVED
F B I
DEPT OF JUSTICE
OCT 15 10 19 AM '44

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

RECEIVED-MAIL ROOM
OCT 18 15 23 '44

MAILED 8
★ OCT 16 1944 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

NOV 22 1944 3 11 PM '44

OCT 15 11 29 PM '44



91,,

October 5, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-19-80 BY [signature]

Mr. L. B. Nichols
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Lou:

A few days ago I wrote asking if you could send us photos of the Kuehn trio, Pearl Harbor spies.

Path
The idea occurs to us that we might reasonably expect to be placed on the list to receive the usual FBI photos of various criminals, spies and what not. We assume that you issue photos from your various branch offices and naturally wonder if we couldn't get many of these from your Washington headquarters on a routine basis so that we could build up our own files. We mean to do a great deal more with photos than we have ever done before and can assure you that it will be worthwhile from the standpoint of the FBI.

all
b6
b7

Meanwhile, best regards.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

L



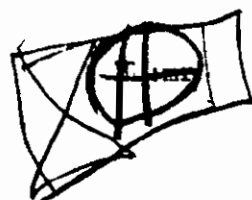
RECORDED
&
INDEXED 26 OCT 1944

138

[Handwritten signature]

copy 20

ack 10-17-44
L. B. Nichols



EX-28

[REDACTED]

October 3, 1944

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/9/86 BY SP5C/CL

Mr. L. B. Nichols
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Lou:

I would appreciate it very much if you could inquire from our Photo Department as to whether or not they have photographs of the following:

Ruth Kuehn
Dr. Julius Otto Kuehn ✓
Mrs. Friedel Kuehn ✓

all
b6
b7c

[REDACTED]

I would appreciate a word from you at your early convenience as to whether or not these can be furnished to us.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

RECORDED 65-1574-260
INDEXED OCT 24 1944

no action
per [unclear]

Received S.M.M.
4:20 PM. 11/9/44.

306

Off. Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

65-1574

TO : D. M. LADD *b6 b7c*

DATE: November 30, 1944

FROM :

SUBJECT: **BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN**
with aliases, et al
ESPIONAGE - J

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-19-80 BY SP6/CLB

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Jones _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

J
9TH

Recently the Bureau was furnished with a letter from Friedel Kuehn, wife of subject who is interned at Crystal City, Texas, to subject Kuehn, dated November 8, 1944. The major portion of this letter deals with family matters and happenings at the interment camp. However, the following statement was made which is of interest:

"... The other entertainment came Sunday-night, when we were listening to Mr. Hoover, from the FBI, who gave an interview of a reporter. During this interview he mentioned also your name again and your daughter. It is going around the way they want it, and now you are the owner of the Beauty-shop. -This is fine to know, now Ruth is able to claim accordingly to the Vesting-Order her salary from you. Otherwise the story went on, as we read it in the newspaper so many times, maybe one day, you will be exchanged on a diplomat-boat /our opinion/, since Mr. Hoover mentioned, that you are a very high official in the German Government.- But I hope to be able, to give Mr. Hoover one day the real facts he ought to know about our case. Ruth said, maybe you will be exchanged with Rudolf Hess for the King of Belgium. But don't leave us behind, please...."

The above comments are being made a matter of record in the case file on Kuehn.

RECORDED
INDEXED

65-1574-261
DEC 4 1944

EX-4

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten initials]

78 DEC 12 1944 *305*

[Handwritten initials]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c with no segregable material available for release to you. *Per Bureau of Prisons*
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
62 147-1003

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

_____ Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

_____ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

 1 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):
 This document was found to be a duplicate of 65-1574-266 thru, not processed for release

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
 65 1574-264

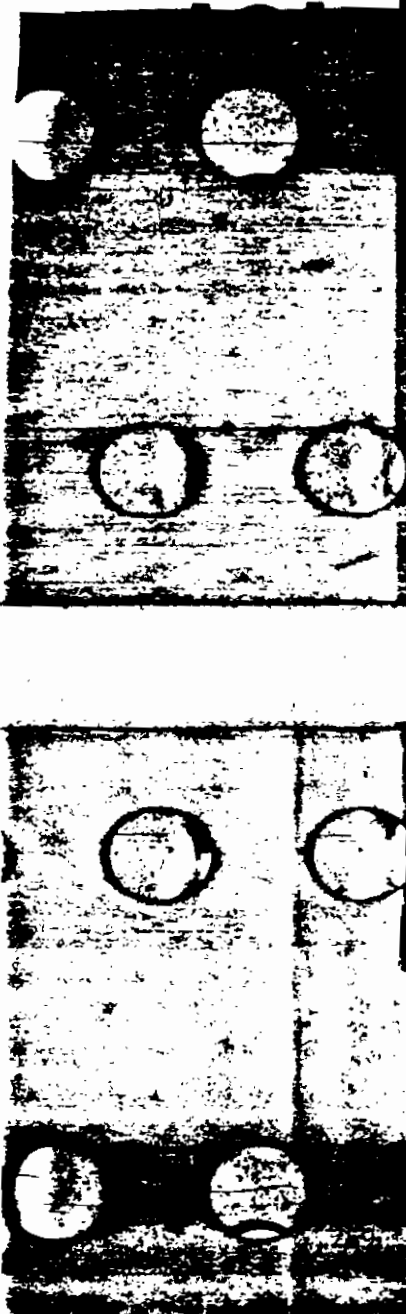
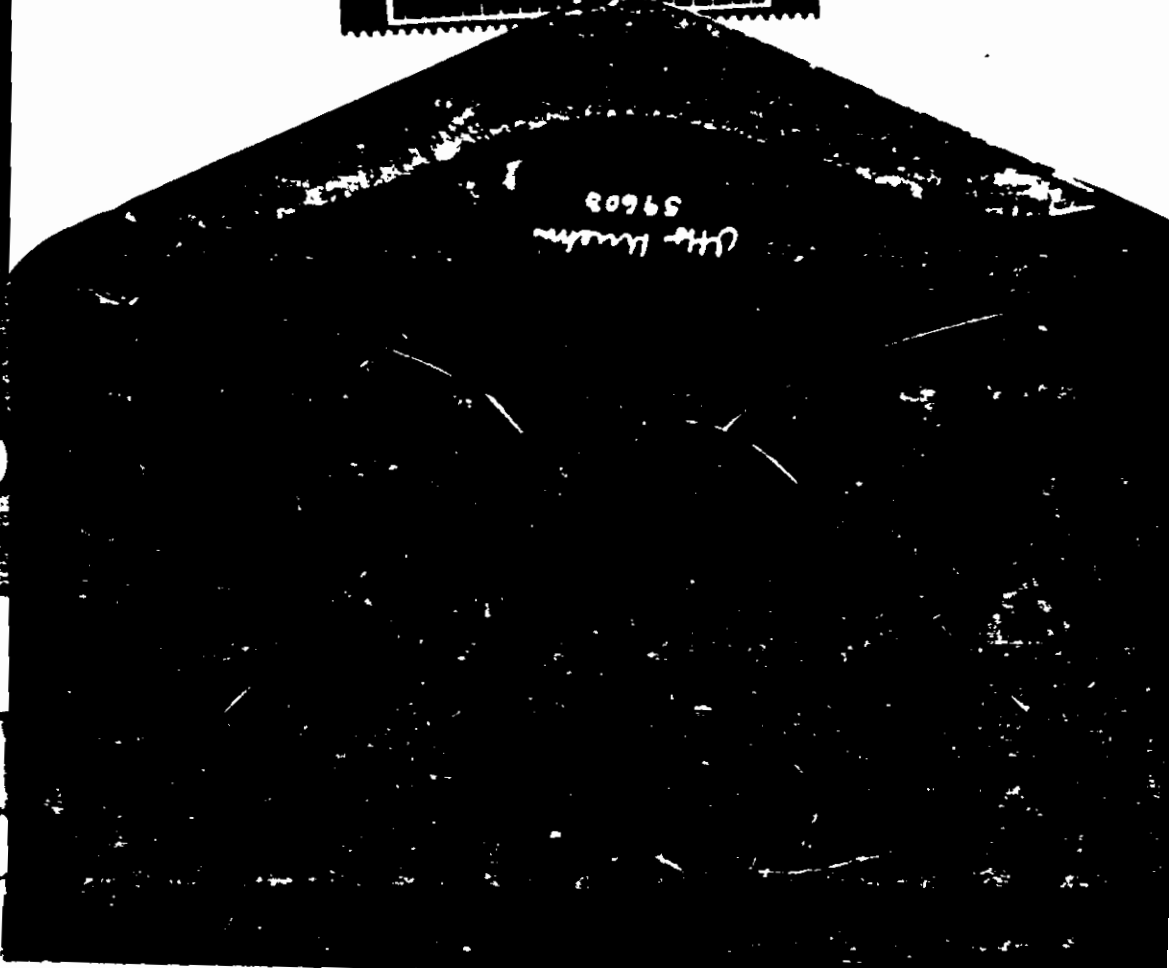
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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



P. O. Box 1200
LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS

To Mrs. Friedel Hueston
Internment Camp
Crystal City,
Texas



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI.
FROM : SAC, Honolulu.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10-19-86 BY SP-5 BJS

DATE: January 27, 1945.

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases, et al.
Espionage - R

11787

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated January 17, 1945, in the captioned matter, Bureau file No. 65-1574.

With respect to OTTO KUEHN'S reference in the letter to his wife to "FBI Agent J. C. Moore," it is apparent from information available in the files of the Honolulu Office that KUEHN has in mind J. CARSON MOORE, husband of RUTH, his daughter. It is noted that J. CARSON MOORE first met the KUEHN family in October, 1940, and subsequently married RUTH in April, 1941. From past conversations with RUTH, it is apparent that she knew little of MOORE'S background and origin other than from his own statements. Thus, following the internment of the KUEHN family and early action by MOORE toward securing a divorce from RUTH, both OTTO KUEHN and his wife concluded that MOORE was an agent of the FBI.

In conversations with both Mr. and Mrs. KUEHN, they referred to the FBI agent who had married their daughter and, in spite of assurances to the contrary by interrogating agents, Mr. and Mrs. KUEHN apparently persisted in this opinion. This was also reflected in a letter written by Mrs. KUEHN on February 1, 1944, to the office of the Provost Marshal General in Washington, D. C., in which she stated in part: "I think there are enough evidences, to state, that not only my husband is the victim of the FBI, but that also my daughter was married to an FBI agent, or at least MOORE has worked for them." A copy of this letter is contained in the investigation report prepared by the Inspector General's Office in Hawaii, Exhibit A-6, which was submitted to the Bureau by letter of June 9, 1944.

Undoubtedly, it was J. CARSON MOORE, husband of RUTH, who made the offer to buy Mrs. KUEHN'S house.

A copy of this letter is being furnished the Birmingham Field Division for information. [redacted] referred to in the Bureau communication, has no further information to add to that set forth above. It is noted that [redacted] is still assigned to the Honolulu Field Division, the agent assigned to the Birmingham Office apparently being a person of the same name.

cc: Birmingham

VIA CLIPPER

65 FEB 13 1945

RECORDED
INDEXED
65-1574-267
JAN 31 1945
HONOLULU

116

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: 12, 1945

11798

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO, with aliases, et al
ESPIONAGE - J

Recently the Bureau was furnished with a photostatic copy of a letter from Otto Kuehn to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, Otto's wife, dated December 31, 1944. This letter, in general, was one which discussed general matters, however, it did contain a reference to a matter which is of particular interest to the Bureau:

" I hope you have mailed in the meantime the claim-papers to the Real Property Custodian; no matter if you have confidence to anybody or not; neither have I. But remember when they arrested us two years ago. They did not lock your house, they even did not put up a sign 'closed by government order' etc. so that thieves could do what they wanted and in my belief they did. These F.B.I.-agents in Honolulu will never have the decency to stand for their mistakes after the fashion of many men; instead they will hide under cover of Vesting-Orders etc. - Do you remember the day when the freezing-order was announced and the F.B.I.-agent J. C. (or G.) Moore made you the offer to buy your house - under the pretence of friendship - for a little amount, and to antedate the deal in order to protect your property? You refused strictly and now he will probably take his revenge. I hope that you have followed my advice to take a lawyer in Honolulu - I have mentioned some names in my previous letter - to make at least a complete inventory which would at least inform you, what the Government holds now in their hands and what is gone. Besides by filing a claim you emphasize your protest towards the wrong statements in the Vesting-Order.

As you know, the Bureau has been furnished with other correspondence written between subjects Otto and Friedel Kuehn which have contained statements relative to their arrest and detention. In each case it has been shown that the allegations of misconduct on the part of the Special Agents were unfounded. It is possible that Otto Kuehn is merely making allegations in these communications as he is aware that the correspondence is censored and thereby stirring up trouble by mentioning such incidents as the one referred to in this communication.

The Bureau files on this case do not reflect any information concerning the allegation as to the attempt to purchase Friedel Kuehn's house by J. C. Moore. There is no Special Agent J. C. (or G.) Moore who was stationed at Honolulu at the time of these persons' arrest. It is interesting to note that Ruth Kuehn, daughter of the subjects, did marry J. Carson Moore, a retired stockbroker and former resident of New York City, on April 19, 1941.

ACTION: Although it is appreciated that this may be an attempt on the part of Kuehn to embarrass the Bureau, it is believed that the Honolulu Office should be requested to furnish any data which would assist in clarifying the matter. Attached is a letter for your approval addressed to the Honolulu Field Office.

Attachment to submit any information re this incident.

53 FEB 1 1946

Vertical handwritten notes on the left margin, including "UNCLASSIFIED" and "11/14/45".

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

6-2574-265

SAC, Des Moines

March 5, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

WILLIAM JULIUS BRUCE KEENE, W.A., ET AL. 14783
ESPIONAGE - R

Reference is made to your letter dated February 9, 1945, in the above captioned case.

Please be advised that Friedal Keene, age 52, from Crystal City, Texas, departed aboard the SS OKECHOCUM on January 7, 1945, to be repatriated to Germany. The passenger list also reflects that her son, Hans Keene, age 21 and her daughter, Ruth Keene, age 25, sailed on the SS OKECHOCUM on the same date.

For your further information, there are attached copies of a letter written by Friedal Keene to her husband at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, dated January 2, 1944, which letter was made available by the Bureau of Prisons.

Enclosure

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
MAR - 3 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-19-80 BY [signature]

[Handwritten signature]

ENCLOSURE

MAR 9 1945

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: Director, FBI
FROM: SAC, [illegible]
SUBJECT:

DATE: February 9, 1945

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUHN, with aliases; ET AL
ESPIONAGE (S)

Ward

Information has reached this office to the effect that the local office of the Alien Property Custodian has, during the past week, been advised in a cable communication from its Washington headquarters that MRS. FRIEDER KUEHN was repatriated to Germany on January 7, 1945.

It is requested that the Bureau advise whether this information is accurate and also whether other members of her family, particularly HANS JOACHIM and RUTH, were repatriated at the same time.

Kuehn Kuehn

11786

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-19-80 BY 8801/cls

65-4

Handwritten notes and signatures

RECEIVED
FEB 12 3 50 PM '45
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65-1574-26
FEB 13 1945

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Memorandum UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation
SUBJECT: **BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUBIE, aka aliases; R.A. 1178**
ESPIONAGE - R

I am returning two copies of an air mail, special delivery letter directed by the Bureau to the Honolulu office on January 17, 1945, in view of the fact that [redacted] mentioned in the last paragraph thereof, has not been assigned to this office for a good many years. It is possible that he has been confused with [redacted] who is presently assigned here, it being noted that this office is not aware of the present office of assignment of [redacted]

*called (1)
Huron
now in S. I. S. file
school
M.C. Murray
78 C. Murray
RECORDED
FEB 27 1945*

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12-18-80 BY SP10/5**

**RECORDED
INDEXED**

**165-1574-226
F B I
27 FEB 10 1945**

W.C.

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- The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: 65-1574 Mr. D. M. Ladd

DATE: February 9, 1945

FROM: [Redacted]

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS KUEHN, with aliases, et al.
ESPIONAGE - J

11780

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

memo
 11
 See index
 Kuehn, Bernard Julius Otto

Reference is made to my memorandum dated January 12, 1945, in the above captioned case in which I called to your attention a letter addressed to Mrs. Friedel Kuehn by Otto Kuehn dated December 31, 1944. This particular letter referred to FBI Agents in Honolulu and to the fact that FBI Agent J. C. Moore made an offer to buy Mrs. Kuehn's house under the pretence of friendship for a little amount of money and indicated he would antedate the deal in order to protect her property. In view of this communication, a letter was directed to the Honolulu Field Office requesting information they may be able to offer which would explain Kuehn's allegation.

By letter dated January 27, 1945, the Honolulu Office advised that Kuehn had in mind J. Carson Moore, husband of Ruth Kuehn, his daughter. J. Carson Moore first met the Kuehn family in October, 1940, and married Ruth in April, 1941. It was stated that from past conversations with Ruth, it was apparent she knew little of Moore's background and origin other than from his own statements. Thus following the internment of the Kuehn family and the early action by Moore toward securing a divorce from Ruth, both Otto and his wife concluded that Moore was an Agent of the FBI. In conversations, they referred to the FBI Agent who had married their daughter and in spite of assurances to the contrary by interrogating Agents, the Kuehns apparently persisted in their opinion that Moore was an Agent. This belief was also reflected in a letter written by Mrs. Kuehn on February 1, 1944, to the Office of Provost Marshal General in Washington, D. C., in which she stated, in part, "I think there are enough evidences, to state, that not only my husband is the victim of the FBI, but that also my daughter was married to an FBI agent, or at least Moore has worked for them." The Honolulu Field Office suggested that it was undoubtedly J. Carson Moore, husband of Ruth, who made the offer to buy Mrs. Kuehn's house.

Further, in accordance with Mr. Tamm's instructions to interview [Redacted]

[Redacted] that being when they were brought to the Honolulu Field Office shortly after December 7, 1941, for questioning. [Redacted] suggested that Kuehn was endeavoring to remind his wife of the particular incident which may have occurred involving J. Carson Moore, his son-in-law, and at the same time endeavored to embarrass the Bureau by identifying Moore as an FBI Agent.

ACTION

In view of the explanations received from the Honolulu Field Office and from [Redacted] and as it appears that this is an attempt on the part of the Kuehns to embarrass the Bureau, it is not believed that any further action need be taken at this time.

RECORDED 65-1574-2

79 FEB 20 1945

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DATE 19 86 BY 3550/US

ATC [Signature]

Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE: January 21, 1945

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUSHN, with aliases, et al.
Espionage - R

117-8

Reference is made to Bureau letter of January 17, 1945 to the Honolulu Field Division in the above-captioned case, setting forth excerpts from a letter from subject Otto Kushn to his wife dated December 11, 1944. In his letter Kushn makes reference to an incident of an FBI Agent - J. C. Moore - offering to buy Mrs. Kushn's house.

In accordance with the request that the writer submit any information he may recall with regard to this particular incident, please be advised that the writer has never had any contact with Mr. and Mrs. Kushn and saw them only on one occasion when they were brought to the Honolulu Field Division shortly after December 7, 1941, for questioning.

It seems that Subject Kushn has endeavored to remind his wife of the particular incident which may have occurred involving J. Carson Moore, his son-in-law, and at the same time has endeavored to embarrass the Bureau by identifying Moore as an FBI Agent. It is believed that the Bureau files in this case will disclose that J. Carson Moore, shortly after the trial of Otto Kushn, filed suit for divorce against Ruth Kushn, daughter of the subject.

A copy of the above reference letter which was loaned the writer is attached hereto.

65-1574-268

Attachment

RECORDED & INDEXED

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52 MAR 2 1945

1945

EX-10

136

all
b6
b7c

62-1574

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-19-86 BY SP5CJ/CS

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

January 17, 1946

S.S. Honolulu

John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

RICHARD JULIUS OWEN KUSHK, with aliases, et al.
ESPIONAGE - R

For your information, the Bureau was recently furnished a photostatic copy of a communication from subject Otto Kuchka to his wife, Mrs. Friedel Kuchka, dated December 21, 1944. In general, this letter was merely a personal letter; however, it did contain information of particular interest to the Bureau which is set forth here:

"I hope you have mailed in the meantime the claim-papers to the Alien Property Custodian; no matter if you have confidence in anybody or not; neither have I. But remember when they arrested us two years ago. They did not lock your house, they even did not put up a sign 'closed by government order' etc. so that thieves could do what they wanted and in my belief they did. These F.B.I.-agents in Honolulu will never have the decency to stand for their mistakes after the fashion of manly men; instead they will hide under cover of Vesting-Orders etc. - Do you remember the day when the freezing-order was announced and the F.B.I.-agent J. G. (or G.) Moore made you the offer to buy your house - under the pretence of friendship for a little amount, and to antedate the deal in order to protect your property? You refused strictly and now he will probably take his revenge. I hope that you have followed my advice to take a lawyer in Honolulu - I have mentioned some names in my previous letters - to make at least a complete inventory which would at least inform you, what the Government holds now in their hands and what is gone. Besides by filing a claim you emphasize your protest towards the wrong statements in the Vesting-Order."

The Bureau files fail to reflect any data relative to the allegation that J. G. (or G.) Moore, an Agent of the FBI, made an offer to buy Mrs. Kuchka's house. In fact, there is no record of a Special Agent J. G. (or G.) Moore ever having been stationed at Honolulu. It is interesting to note in the case file that J. Garson Moore married Ruth Kuchka, daughter of the subjects, on April 18, 1941.

It is appreciated that the subjects have in the past made many allegations with reference to the conduct of Special Agents and other persons in whose custody they have been. However, it has been shown that the allegations relative to such conduct on the part of the Special Agents have been without fact. It would appear that the subject is endeavoring to embarrass the Bureau by making such allegations in that he is aware that his mail is censored and the allegations would be brought to the attention of Government authorities.

It is desired that you review your file and discuss this matter with Special Agents having personal knowledge of the instant case to determine whether you may have any information relative to the allegation concerning the proposed offer to buy Mrs. Kuchka's residence.

Copies of this letter are being furnished to the Birmingham Field Office so that [redacted] who was formerly assigned to the Honolulu Field Office, may submit any information he may recall with regard to this particular matter.

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65-1574

SAC, Honolulu

May 30, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

BERNHARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, WAS., ET AL.
ESPIONAGE - J

For your information, there is attached a copy of a letter written by Subject Kuehn on May 9, 1945, at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, to "Major J. A. Ulio, Adjutant General, War Department, Washington, D. C." in which he inquires as to the possibility of reopening his case as he feels he is "guiltless".

Enclosure

cc - Kansas City (with enclosure)

Mr. Tolson _____
 Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
 Mr. Clegg _____
 Mr. Glavin _____
 Mr. Ladd _____
 Mr. Nichols _____
 Mr. Rosen _____
 Mr. Tracy _____
 Mr. Carson _____
 Mr. Coffey _____
 Mr. Hendon _____
 Mr. Pennington _____
 Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
 Mr. Nease _____
 Miss Gandy _____

INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

60 JUN 7 1945

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DATE 8-19-80 BY SP5/CLS

65-1574-273

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EX-8

RECEIVED
GENERAL READING ROOM
F. B. I.
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
MAY 12 16 PM '45

JUN 2 1945
RAN

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cc - Kuehn

b6
b7c

TT

C O P Y

From Otto Kuehn

May 9th, 1945

(Date)

U.S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Ka.

To Major J. A. Ulio, Adjutant General
(Name)

War Department, Washington, D.C.
(Address)

Dear Sir:

Regarding the possibility to reopen my case I find myself, since I'm not familiar with the law of the U.S. Government, in a rather helpless situation.

I was recently informed here that you are the competent authority for my problem, which I like to describe shortly in the following lines.

One day after the attack on Pearl Harbor I was arrested in Honolulu, T.H., accused of conspiracy with the Japanese Government, and on February 21st 1942, sentenced by a military court to death; a sentence which was later commuted to 50 years' confinement in a Federal Penitentiary. At that time martial law had been proclaimed in the Hawaiian Islands.

I am guiltless and assure you that I was in no way connected with the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Among others I account the following facts for my conviction:

A certain enragement on the islands after the attack and the looking around for a scapegoat to cover up the Hawaiian affair.

The F.B.I. agents did everything to prosecute me and went too far in their efforts, but did nothing to investigate my case justly.

Most of the witnesses I had asked for were either refused or did not appear at court.

I had no professional lawyer or legal adviser, except a defense-counselor, Major Cappin, who was not familiar with lawsuits and could not help me.

A document which would have given clear evidence that I had no connection with the attack and that I never had any intention for a conspiracy was hold back by the prosecutor and not read by the military court. It was a conversation which I had with my wife at night, a few weeks before my trial. This conversation was picked up by the F.B.I. with a dictaphone, as I was told later.

COPIES DESTROYED
839 AUG 5 1970

65-1574-213

Since the martial law in Hawaii is suspended and the war with Germany has ended, I see now my chance to assert my rights.

Please let me know which steps I have to enter in this matter; I would appreciate your legal advice. Be assured that I am decent enough not to have made this request, if I would feel guilty.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Otto Kuehn

66
67
Mr. Tom C. Clark
Assistant Attorney General

May 30, 1945

John Edgar Hoover, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

BERNHARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, WAS., ET AL
ESPIONAGE - J
Bureau File 65-1574

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-19-80 BY SP5CUB/B

You will recall that Bernhard Julius Otto Kuehn was interned on December 8, 1941, and on February 19, 1942, he was tried by a military commission at Honolulu, Hawaii, for violations of the Espionage Statutes. Kuehn was found guilty on February 21, 1942, by the commission and was sentenced to be shot. However, on October 26, 1942, his sentence was confirmed but was commuted to 50 years imprisonment by the Military Governor. The Criminal Division has been furnished all pertinent information in the Kuehn Case.

For your information and the completion of your file on Kuehn, there is attached a copy of a letter written by Kuehn on May 9, 1945, at the U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, to "Major J. A. Ulio, Adjutant General, War Department, Washington, D. C.", in which he inquires regarding the possibility of reopening his case inasmuch as he, Kuehn, feels that he is "guiltless".

Enclosure

MAILED 9
MAY 31 1945 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

58 JUN 15 1945

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EX-72
65-1574-274
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
JUN 7 1945
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
KORAN
MAY 31 7 16 PM '45

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : [REDACTED] Room 7643

DATE: September 5, 1945

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Transfer of Prisoners' Mail File #65-41343

As the Prisoners' Mail Watch List has been discontinued, the photostatic copies of mail of the individuals listed below are being transferred from the Laboratory's Prisoners' Mail file to the Investigative Files.

In the event that further submissions of Prisoners' Mail are received in the Laboratory, photostatic copies of such evidence will henceforth be routed to the Investigative Files for filing.

[REDACTED]

Kuehn, Bernard Otto

65-1576

[REDACTED]

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b7c*

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/19/88 BY SP5/BJL

RETAIN PER FORM 4-34 DATED 7/17/67
ENC. *incl. filed on bulky ramp.*

65-1574-275
35 SEP 20 1945

52³⁹ SEP 20 1945

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*James
9/12/45*

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
with aliases, et al
ESPIONAGE - J

DATE: 11/16/45

65-1574

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-19-86 BY spaci/ds

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Coffey	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Tele. Room	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Beahm	
Miss Gandy	

[redacted] of the Department advised that the Army is considering the release of the transcript of the testimony in the Kuehn Case to the newspapers. On November 14, 1945, [redacted] accompanied by Colonel Slattery, trial Judge Advocate in the Kuehn Case, and [redacted] had called at [redacted] office and informed him that a reporter in Washington who represents Hawaiian newspapers is attempting to get a release of the above mentioned transcript. [redacted] informed [redacted] a release of this transcript might be embarrassing to the Bureau since "Mr. Shivers made a release at the time showing the Bureau was instrumental in making the case and that Shivers in particular was responsible for success, and a release of the transcript would show that the case was made by the military". [redacted] further added that they were not releasing transcripts of all military trials in Hawaii. [redacted] informed [redacted] that he would advise him later, and informed [redacted] that he would send a memorandum to the Attorney General and forward us a copy.

The Bureau has never received a copy of this transcript and, therefore, cannot judge as to [redacted] statement that it would show that the "case was made by the military". You will recall that this case originated at the Bureau in February, 1939, upon receipt of a complaint from a personal acquaintance of Mr. E. A. Tamm. This case was investigated by the San Francisco Office and later by the office in Honolulu, and resulted in the gathering of evidence concerning financial transactions and other activities on the part of Kuehn indicating that he may be engaged in subversive activity. The Honolulu Office shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor obtained radio messages from McKay radio indicating that the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu had an agent or agents who were to send messages to sea by means of lights from a dormer window relative to the number of ships leaving and entering the Harbor. Kuehn was thoroughly interviewed by two agents of the Honolulu Office on December 31, 1941, and admitted that he had contacted the Japanese Consulate and made arrangements with them for the signaling of information, confirming the belief that he was the subject of the Japanese messages referred to above. These Japanese messages were obtained by Bureau agents and turned over to the Navy for decoding.

Kuehn was interned by the Army shortly after Pearl Harbor and as a result of the investigation by the Bureau he was brought to trial before a military commission due to the fact that Hawaii was under military law, and a verdict of guilty was returned on February 21, 1942, at which time he was sentenced to be shot. This sentence was later commuted to fifty years' imprisonment. Immediately following the trial [redacted] was confidentially informed of the conviction by Colonel Thomas Greene, Executive Military Governor, at which time Colonel Greene

RECORDED

165-1574-277
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EX - 5

32 NOV 26 1945

58 DEC 13 1945

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Memorandum for The Director

stated that he had wired the War Department and suggested that the information concerning the verdict be transmitted to the Department of Justice at Washington, D. C., "since the FBI had been instrumental in the investigation and success of the case".

You will also recall that the Army refused release in this case based on the grounds that it would disclose their ability to decode Japanese code. [REDACTED] was also in error in stating that a release was made by SAC Shivers, and the only release made on this matter was made by SAC [REDACTED] at the time of Shivers' resignation at which time he made only a few comments concerning this case in connection with Shivers' departure from the Honolulu Office. A release on this case was made by OWI on June 14, 1943, which was approved by the Bureau. b6
b7c

No action will be taken in this matter until receipt of [REDACTED] memorandum, at which time I think we should request a copy of the transcript before any release is made by the Army in view of [REDACTED] comment that such release would show that this case was made by the military.

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN;
ESPIONAGE - J

DATE: November 14, 1945

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Egan
Miss Gandy

[REDACTED] of the Department called and stated [REDACTED] (phonetic) had come to his office today with Colonel Slattery, trial Judge Advocate in the captioned case, and [REDACTED] former Agent and now a Colonel, and told [REDACTED] that a reporter in Washington who represents the Hawaiian newspapers, is attempting to get a release of the transcript of the testimony in the Kuehn case. [REDACTED] stated this might be embarrassing to the Bureau since Mr. Shivers put out a release at the time showing the Bureau had made the case and that Shivers in particular had been instrumental in making the case and this transcript would show the case was made by the military. [REDACTED] asked [REDACTED] if they were releasing transcripts of those military trials in Hawaii generally and he said no. Before suggesting to [REDACTED] that this matter be taken up with the Bureau directly, [REDACTED] said he wanted to talk with someone in the Bureau. He told [REDACTED] he would let him know.

I told [REDACTED] this matter would eventually be referred to the Attorney General for a decision. [REDACTED] stated he would send the Attorney General a memorandum and send us a copy.

Facts are being checked.

*All
bb
b7c*

11-15-45 Addendum:

A review of the facts in this case is being made for the purpose of determining the truth or falsity of the Army's purported "making" of this case.

E.A.T.

2
if was our case. I thought
is fully advised. [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/19/80 BY [REDACTED]

*11/14/45
memo [REDACTED]*

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165-1574-278
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- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

INMENS

TOLSON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE: November 19

1982

BY SP-10

117y3

#268714

today regarding the Otto Kuehn case. I gave him the complete background, told him that we began the investigation a long period before Pearl Harbor, that we were very suspicious of Kuehn, that he was a sleeper agent, that you could not convict him in peacetime on suspicion, that legal evidence was non-existent to prove his espionage activities although we suspected him of espionage activities. I told [redacted] about the background of the OWI report and gave him a copy of it. I further told him that the War Department was contemplating making a release of the testimony and suggested he insist that the release be submitted to the Department; that instead of briefing the testimony as they did in the saboteur case it would be much better to prepare a complete narrative; that once this is something in which both the Department and the Bureau should participate. He agreed with this thoroughly.

He wanted to know who in the Department was handling the matter. I told him [redacted]. He stated he would see [redacted] immediately and would see to it that the Bureau was protected, that he could assure the Director the idea of the narrative was the only sensible way in which to handle this.

cc - Mr. E. A. Tamm

DE-INDEXED

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DATE: 4-20-63

65-15743-280

22

58 DEC 7 1945

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67c



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

BERNARD KUEHN

PART 7 OF 7

FILE NUMBER: 65-1574

SUBJECT

KUEHN

FILE NUMBER

65-1574 SECTION 7

65-1574
100-97-1

PEARL HARBOR INQUIRY

Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn

An article appeared in the "Washington Times Herald" under date of November 16, 1945, captioned "U. S. Party in Translating Detailed Jap Spy Message". According to the "Times Herald", a message was introduced before the special investigating committee November 15, 1945, which was reportedly sent by Jap agents in Hawaii to Tokyo, giving detailed arrangements for transmitting information relative to the number of American warships by means of light signals flashed to enemy observers off Oahu Island.

The signals described in the article are those which were prepared by Otto Kuehn, subject of a Bureau espionage case, who was convicted by a military commission, Honolulu, on February 21, 1942, and sentenced to 50 years at Fort Leavenworth.

The "Times Herald" states that the message was sent on December 3 but not translated until December 11th. You will recall that the communication companies at Honolulu had refused cooperation with the SAC in turning messages sent by the Japanese Consulate over to him. It was not until December 8, 1941, that SAC Shivers obtained these messages and delivered them to ONI for decoding. Neither the Bureau's file nor the Honolulu files reflect when the decoded messages were returned. However, in a report of SAC Shivers captioned "Japanese Activities, Honolulu, T. H." dated December 26, 1941, he states "as soon as a translation of the above messages was received" he, with [redacted] ONI, and [redacted]

G-2, took immediate steps to institute an investigation for the purpose of locating the Japanese agents who had been assigned to the task of giving these signals out. The Honolulu Field Office files reflect that this investigation was instituted on December 11, 1941. It is, therefore, evident that this message was decoded three days after it was picked up by SAC Shivers.

You will further recall that Otto Kuehn admitted preparing this signal system but stated that it was never used. An investigation by ONI and the Honolulu Field Office further reflected that no signals were made from the locations identified in the message. An investigation by the Honolulu Field Office also reflected that no advertisements were made during the pertinent period over radio station KOMB or in the newspapers. Persons answering the want ad were to write the Post Office Box 1476, which was ascertained to be that owned by Otto Kuehn.

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RECORDED
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-4-86 BY SP-1/CLS
50 DEC 17 1945 #268714

65-1574-281
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
NOV 30 1945
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ORIGINAL

71711

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: 11/20/45

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases
FRIEDEL BARTHA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with aliases
MRS. J. CARSON MOORE, nee Ruth Kuehn
EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN
ESPIONAGE - J

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Beahm
- Miss Gandy

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-27-86 BY SP-1/S

Attached for your information is a copy of a memorandum from Mr. Caudle to Mr. McGranery dated November 15, 1945, covering the interview between [redacted] of the War Department and [redacted] of the Criminal Division of the Department relative to the release of the minutes of the trial of Otto Kuehn before the military commission. It has been noted that [redacted] explained that such a release "might prove embarrassing to the FBI". He explained that "the transcript disclosed that the case was made by the military authorities, whereas Mr. Shivers, the former Special Agent in Charge at Honolulu, had issued a press release shortly before his resignation extolling the Bureau's participation in this case and, in particular, his own achievements in connection therewith."

Also attached is a complete summary of the Kuehn Case, which reflects that the Bureau conducted most of the investigation which resulted in Kuehn's conviction. You will recall that we were unable to develop an espionage case against Kuehn until the Honolulu Office obtained the copies of the coded messages which were sent by the Japanese Consulate to the Foreign Office. One of these messages revealed that on December 3, 1941, the Consulate transmitted a message relative to signaling, which later Kuehn admitted that he had prepared.

Under the heading "Prosecutive Action" you will also note that FBI agents testified in this trial and produced the bulk of the testimony and witnesses to convict Kuehn. The information concerning the witnesses was obtained by the Honolulu Office from the transcript of the testimony, and it is, therefore, difficult to understand [redacted] statement that a release of this transcript would show that this was a military case other than it was tried before a military commission, which, of course, was necessary due to the fact that criminal courts were closed and Hawaii was under martial law at the time of Kuehn's trial.

Attachments

RECORDED & INDEXED
65-1574-282
F B I
29 DEC 7 1945

news Director

11/26

Nichols should set [redacted] straight & Ladd should straighten out Caudle. Someone ought to tell [redacted] off. This is either a congenital habit or a mirror.

on Mr. Ryan

Release by [redacted] 59 DEC 3 6 1945

Mr. James McGranery, The Assistant to the
Attorney General
Theron L. Caudle, Assistant Attorney General

November 15, 1945
TLC:JMH:rh
148-7-1582

Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn - Espionage - J

On the afternoon of November 15, 1945, [redacted] Military Justice Division, War Department, telephonically advised [redacted] of this Division that he desired to confer with him concerning a matter which was then up for consideration in his office. [redacted] explained that the matter in question could be handled in one of two ways, and that if it were handled in a certain way, it might be embarrassing to some extent to the FBI, whereas if it were handled in another way, this would not occur. [redacted] seemed reluctant to identify the matter on the telephone but admitted that the Department probably had no previous file on it.

At 10:30 a.m. the following morning [redacted], accompanied by [redacted], a former FBI Agent and more recently Acting United States Attorney in Hawaii, conferred with [redacted] identified the case as that involving Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn and his wife. Kuehn was tried by the Military Authorities in Hawaii in 1942. [redacted] explained that [redacted] a local reporter for the Hawaiian newspapers, was pressing the War Department to release the testimony taken at the trial of Kuehn and the view was expressed that if this were done it might prove embarrassing to the FBI. [redacted] explained that the transcript would disclose that the case was made by the Military Authorities, whereas Mr. Shivers, a former Special Agent in Charge at Honolulu, had issued a press release shortly before his resignation extolling the Bureau's participation in this case and, in particular, his own achievements in connection therewith. According to [redacted] this situation would not arise unless someone made a studied comparison between the contents of the transcript and the Bureau release.

[redacted] inquired whether the War Department was releasing all the transcripts of trials had by the Military Authorities in Hawaii and [redacted] said this was not being generally done but that [redacted] had indicated an interest in this particular case. Prior to consulting the FBI, [redacted] did not suggest that [redacted] discuss the matter directly with the Bureau.

The above information was informally furnished to the Bureau. If it is agreeable with you, it is suggested that we request [redacted] to take this matter up with the FBI.

CS: FBI ✓
Chron.
Records

65-1574-282
ENCLOSURE

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: December 4, 1945
DML:lem

FROM :

[Redacted] *W*

SUBJECT:

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases
FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, with aliases
MRS. J. CARSON MOORE, nee Ruth Kuehn
EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN
ESPIONAGE - J

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Miss Gandy

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-27-86 BY SP5C/DJS

On December 4, 1945, while talking to Lamar Caudle and [Redacted] in the Criminal Division on other matters, I called their attention to the above entitled case and particularly to the conference which they had had with [Redacted] of the War Department wherein [Redacted] had informed them that the release of the minutes of the trial of Otto Kuehn might prove embarrassing to the FBI.

I informed these two gentlemen that the release of such minutes would not in any way prove embarrassing to the Bureau, particularly in view of the fact that the investigation leading up to the arrest of the Kuehns had been conducted by the FBI and the major portion of the testimony introduced before the Military Commission was introduced by Special Agents of the Bureau who testified personally on the results of their investigation.

[Redacted]

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RECORDED & INDEXED

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EX-202
Pennington

all b6/b7c

November 20, 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-27-86 BY SP5/BJK
#268714

MEMORANDUM

Re: **BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUCHA**, with aliases
FRIEDEL BERTA AUGUSTE KUCHA, with aliases
MRS. J. GARSON MOORE, nee Ruth Kucha
BERNHARD MARTIN KUCHA
ESPIONAGE - R

As a result of an investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Bernard Julius Otto Kucha, a German national residing on the Island of Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands, was convicted by a military commission sitting in Honolulu and found guilty on February 21, 1942, of unlawfully obtaining information affecting the national defense and disclosing such information to the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu. He was sentenced by the military commission to be shot to death with musketry. However, on October 26, 1942, the Military Governor, Lieutenant General Delos C. Emmons, of the Territory of Hawaii, although approving the sentence imposed by the military commission, commuted Kucha's sentence to confinement at hard labor for 50 years and ordered him to be confined in the United States Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas, where he is located at the present time.

As a result of this investigation, reports of which were furnished to Army and Navy Intelligence at Honolulu and the Seat of Government, Kucha's wife, Friedel Berta Auguste Kucha, his daughter, Mrs. J. Garson Moore, and his son, Bernhard Martin Kucha, along with Kucha were apprehended by the military authorities, who had jurisdiction over apprehensions and internments in the Hawaiian Islands at that time, on December 8, 1941, and interned as dangerous alien enemies. Mrs. Kucha and her daughter Ruth were transferred to an internment camp at Crystal City, Texas, where they remained until January 7, 1945, at which time they were repatriated to Germany aboard the MS Gripsholm, together with Mrs. Kucha's youngest son, Hans Kucha, age 21.

Origin of Case

ENCLOSURE

Otto Kucha first came to the attention of the Bureau in February, 1939, when a civilian reported information indicating that Kucha and his wife were believed to be engaged in espionage activity. This report pointed out that although Kucha and his wife had no apparent source of income they owned two homes at Kailua, Oahu, one of which was very large, and further they allegedly entertained lavishly, particularly Army officers.

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Activities of Kucha

This information was immediately made available to OPI and O-2, and the San Francisco Field Division of the Bureau, inasmuch as there was no office in Honolulu at that time, was requested to conduct an appropriate investigation.

RAN:MJH

59 DEC 25 1945

165-1574-283

Subsequent to this original information the Federal Bureau of Investigation continued to receive many complaints from residents of Honolulu. All of these allegations were non-specific and based entirely upon suspicion. The subsequent investigation conducted by the San Francisco Office and by the Honolulu Office, which was opened in August, 1939,

[REDACTED]

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Kuehn, who was interviewed shortly after his arrest on December 8, 1941, informed Bureau Agents who questioned him concerning this money that he had received in all approximately \$30,000.00, underestimating the total amount by some \$40,000.00. Kuehn maintained that the money transferred to him through international banking channels actually resulted from funds which he had on deposit in Rotterdam. He claimed that he opened a small account with a bank in Rotterdam in April, 1918, during the first world war and that later, while operating the freighter Antares, he deposited money received therefrom in this account. He further added that his father had left him about \$50,000.00 in cash in 1920, as well as a number of houses and government bonds. However, he stated that with this money he purchased the Antares, which shortly thereafter ran on a reef and was sold for \$2,000.00. Kuehn claimed that another source of his income was an aunt, Else Svendsen, a resident of Sweden, who in 1934 transferred about \$35,000.00 to him, which constituted his share of an inheritance he was to receive later. This sum he claims to have deposited in a bank in Amsterdam. Kuehn further claimed that he was unable to get any additional funds from abroad after 1938 until the spring of 1940.

[REDACTED]

According to information received from ONI in the early fall of 1940, the Kuehns had a dormer window constructed in the attic of their residence which overlooked Kaneche Air Station. ONI advised that they had made numerous observations of the Kuehn house but had not uncovered any suspicious activities.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

On July 20, 1940, information was received from G-2 to the effect that a couple identified as Mr. and Mrs. Friedell, apparently Germans, have frequently secretly approached the Japanese Consulate General in Honolulu requesting him to transmit information to the Japanese Navy. On July 10, 1940, the Japanese Consulate General requested the Tokyo Foreign Office to report on the reliability of the Friedells. On July 12, 1940, according to G-2, the Foreign Office replied stating in effect that the Japanese Navy could not place the Friedells very well, but would like to receive their information by wire with an indication that it emanated from the Friedells.

[REDACTED]

Kuehn further admitted to Bureau agents who had questioned him subsequent to December 8, 1941, that approximately four weeks after Mrs. Kuehn returned from Japan to Honolulu, which was on April 20, 1940, he received a letter from [REDACTED] stating it would be necessary for Kuehn to make other arrangements to get additional funds out of Japan as it was becoming too difficult and dangerous to continue his efforts along these lines. Kuehn replied [REDACTED] and suggested that he contact [REDACTED] who would assist in forwarding money from Japan to Honolulu. With this letter Kuehn sent a Duden (German) Grammar Dictionary similar to a Webster Dictionary, retaining a duplicate copy for his own use, and explained that in future communications he would use a number code which would indicate the page and the word from the top of the page denoting the word intended, such as, if the word "money" appeared on page 210 of the dictionary and was the sixth word down from the top, to indicate the word "money", Kuehn would use the number "210-6".

According to Kuehn, he met [REDACTED] during July of 1936 while en route to Japan on a Japanese boat. [REDACTED] introduced himself to Kuehn as being from an old Japanese family of nobility and associated in some manner with the Mitsui clan in Japan. He was returning from England at the time and stated that he had also visited Germany. He spoke English and German fluently. Upon arrival in Yokohama, [REDACTED] asked Kuehn where he intended to stay and arranged to see him at a later date. Within a few days Kuehn was visited by [REDACTED] at the Imperial Hotel, and [REDACTED] took Kuehn on a sight-seeing tour around Tokyo. At dinner that evening [REDACTED] very tactfully referred to Kuehn's service in the German Navy as an officer during World War I and inquired whether Kuehn would from time to time furnish [REDACTED] with information about Honolulu, which was to be for the benefit of the Japanese Government. Kuehn insists he refused to have anything to do with such an idea and [REDACTED] never mentioned the proposition again.

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However, [redacted] did continue to visit Kuchn at the Imperial Hotel and frequently entertained him by taking him to the theater, dinners, his [redacted] and occasional fishing. [redacted] was most cordial to Kuchn on all of these occasions and frequently extended an offer to be of assistance to him.

According to Kuchn, he never saw [redacted] subsequent to October, 1936, when he sailed from Japan, and, except for a Christmas card which he received from [redacted] in 1936, Kuchn claims he did not correspond or communicate with this individual in any manner until the spring of 1940, when Kuchn wrote [redacted]

Otto Kuchn further admitted that around September, 1940, \$10,000 in American money was delivered to Kuchn [redacted] explained to Kuchn that this money [redacted], and at the time he handed the money over to Kuchn he also gave him a clip of paper which instructed him not to write [redacted] but in the future to address his letters to [redacted] at a certain post office box in Tokyo. It was known that Mrs. Kuchn was acquainted with most of the stewards and purser aboard Japanese ships and that she had several of them at her home when they were in Honolulu. She had made the acquaintance [redacted] on board the Hakusa Maru on a trip from Shanghai to Germany in 1936.

Kuchn further admitted to Bureau agents at the time of his interview that on Saturday, October 18 or 25, 1941, at about 4:00 p.m. following the arrival of the Tatuta Maru in Honolulu from Japan, a Japanese employee of that vessel called in person at Kuchn's Kalama residence and delivered a letter and a package to him, the letter containing \$14,000 in \$100 and \$20 bills, commenting that they were [redacted] in Japan. Upon opening the letter Kuchn found a sheet of paper containing a typewritten message in English, asking if he had a short wave transmitter and whether he would be willing to make a test on a certain wave length at a stated time on an evening in the immediate future. Kuchn claims that the unknown Japanese gave him a sheet of paper and an envelope for the purpose of replying and he asserts that he wrote a note on this paper that he was unable to make such a test and handed the same to this unknown Japanese.

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An investigation conducted by the Honolulu Office for the purpose of verifying or disproving Kuchn's story revealed that Kuchn's son, Eberhard, was in the yard at the time this Japanese called on his father and verified the time as being on October 18 or 25, 1941, at about 4:00 p.m., and gave a description to the agents of this individual. It was also ascertained from records of the Customs Inspector that the Tatuta Maru arrived in Honolulu on Thursday, October 23, 1941, and departed at 12:25 p.m. on October 24, 1941. It was further definitely established that there was no Japanese vessel in the Port of Honolulu on any Saturday during October of 1941, which definitely indicated that the courier of the \$14,000 was not from a Japanese boat as alleged by Kuchn.

It was ascertained from [redacted] in Honolulu, that during October of 1941, [redacted]

[REDACTED] b6
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The description of [REDACTED] was practically identical with that of the description of the unknown Japanese courier described by Otto's son, Eberhard. A picture of [REDACTED] was then displayed to Eberhard, who stated that the picture was very similar to that of the Japanese courier who visited his father. Otto Kuehn was also shown the picture and advised that he had seen this individual before but could not place him. He also admitted that he could possibly have been the Japanese courier who visited him and paid him the \$14,000.

Kuehn Identified as Originator of Signal System

On the morning of December 7, 1941, at the request of the Special Agent in Charge of the Honolulu Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation [REDACTED] of the Honolulu Police Department, established a guard at the Japanese Consulate. Upon arrival at the Consulate [REDACTED] observed that Otojiro Okuda, the Vice Consul, and another member of the Consulate were burning certain papers. [REDACTED] took charge of the unburned material and turned it over to the Special Agent in Charge of the Honolulu Office at about 7:00 p.m. on December 7, 1941.

An examination of this material disclosed the telegram file of the Consulate reflected the messages which the Consulate General had sent to and received from the Foreign Office in Tokyo, and a code book which appeared to be the Consulate code. All of this material was immediately turned over to [REDACTED] who turned it over to the Cryptographic Section of the Navy at Pearl Harbor for decoding and translation.

On the morning of December 8, 1941, the Special Agent in Charge of the Honolulu Office contacted officials of the Globe Wireless and Mackay Radio and Telegraph companies, requesting copies of all messages which had been sent and received by the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu from December 1, 1941, to and including December 7, 1941. Although previous requests made of these communication

companies in the past had been refused, at this time the request was complied with. The messages received from the Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company were in code and Japanese text. They were also turned over to [redacted] b6 b7c, who delivered them to the Cryptographic Section of the Navy at Pearl Harbor. The messages obtained from Globe Wireless were in plain text and were of no value from an espionage point of view.

Among the coded messages obtained from Mackay Radio Company and submitted to the Navy for decoding was the following, which set forth a system of signaling to Japanese ships at sea for the purpose of disclosing the number of units of the United States Fleet:

"0245 (1) 'PA'

3 December, 1941

From: KITA

To: FOREIGN MINISTER, TOKYO

(Secret Military message No.) (By Chief of Consulate's Code).

To: Chief of Third Section, Naval General Staff

From: FUJII

No signals I wish to simplify communications as follows:

1. Code (following 3 section 8 line table)

Battle force, including scouting force, are about to put to sea - -

1. Several aircraft carriers plan to put to sea.
2. All Battle force has sailed 1st - 3rd dates inc.
3. Several aircraft carriers have sailed (1st to 3rd).
4. All aircraft carriers have sailed (1st to 3rd).
5. All battle force have sailed, 4th - 6th dates inc.
6. Several aircraft carriers have sailed. (4th to 6th).
7. All aircraft carriers have sailed. (4th to 6th).

2. Signs

Light in Lanikai beach house at night - - - -

One light from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. indicates '1'. From 9 p.m. to 10 p.m. indicates '2'. The below signals until midnight, in order indicate 3 and 4. Two lights, according to the time, indicate 5, 6, 7, 8. When not in accordance with (lights) above 1 full automobile headlight and one half light indicate 1, 2, 3, 4. Two full lights indicate 5, 6, 7, 8.

2. On the Lanikai coast during daytime from 8 a.m. until noon every hour 1 piece linen cloth (sheet) indicates 1, 2, 3, 4. Two pieces linen cloth indicate 5, 6, 7, 8.

3. In Lanikai bay during daytime in front of harbor (Offing) a star boat with one star on sail indicates 1, 2, 3, 4; a star and 'III' indicates 5, 6, 7, 8.

4. Light in corner window of Kalama house from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. every hour indicates 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

5. 'KMS Want Ads' advertisements 9:45 a.m.

(a) A Chinese rug etc., for sale - apply P. B. Box 1476 indicates 3 or 6.

(b) A complete chicken farm etc., apply as above indicates 4 or 7.

(c) Beauty operator wanted - same - indicates 5 or 8.

In the event that in accordance with one of 3 items written above from Oahu a signal or radio message is impossible or Maui Island at a point located between the lower road six miles north of Kala Seratorium and Haleakala road which can be watch from the sea to the south west and south east of Maui, until the receipt of the signal 'XXX' this (the following) will be repeated for several days: A small fire on the high peak.

7 p.m. - 8 p.m. indicates 3 or 6; 8 p.m. - 9 p.m. indicates 4 or 7

9 p.m. - 10 p.m. indicates 5 or 8."

Immediately upon receipt of the above translated message, Special Agent in Charge E. J. DIVERS, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 0-2, took immediate steps to institute an investigation for the purpose of locating the Japanese agents who had been assigned to the task of using these signals, presumably to furnish information to the enemy submarines off the shores of the Island of Oahu. The Office of Naval Intelligence covered the station at Lanikai and also the Island of Maui in an effort to locate and identify the persons who would send signals from those two places. The FBI conducted an investigation at Kalama and also made inquiries concerning any advertisements over radio station KMS "Want Ads" advertisements and also in the local newspapers for the purpose of determining the identity of the individual or individuals who would send signals from Kalama, and whether any advertisements appeared relative to Item 5, (a), (b) and (c), as set forth in the above message. Investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation revealed that no want ads were published during the pertinent period containing any of the signals mentioned in the above Japanese message. Investigation in the vicinity of Lanikai and Kalama also failed to disclose that any system of signaling was

used in those vicinities. A thorough search of Kuehn's houses was made by the Bureau and the only pertinent information found was a collection of newspaper articles concerning information on ships at Pearl Harbor. It was also ascertained that Kuehn had a short-wave receiving set which could be converted into a short-wave transmitter to cover a range of approximately 75 miles; however, no indication was evidenced that any attempt had been made to convert this receiver into a transmitter. It appeared that the "former window" of the Kalama house and the signals at Lanikai may have referred to the residence of Otto Kuehn, who was then under investigation.

Kuehn was interviewed from time to time by Bureau agents after his apprehension on December 8, 1941, and on January 1, 1942, he furnished a signed statement admitting that he had prepared the system of signaling as set forth in the Japanese message, but claimed that it was never used. Kuehn said that he first contacted the Japanese Consulate during the first part of November, 1941, for the alleged purpose of seeking their assistance in sending money to his son, Leopold, who was in Germany. Kuehn discussed his problem with Chuda, the Vice Consul, and also with Kito, the Consulate General, and he was advised that they could not assist him.

Kuehn then promised to furnish them information, at which time Chuda asked him if he could obtain information on United States ships which were in the Hawaiian waters. Kuehn told him that he could, and he also advised the Japanese that he had a short-wave transmitter and could send messages for them if they so desired. At this time he also offered them a system of signaling by lights, or ceters, that could be used in order to furnish information relative to the type of ships at Pearl Harbor and those that had left. Kuehn described to Bureau agents this system of signaling as similar to that which appeared in the above message. However, the Japanese informed him that this system of communication was too complicated and it would be necessary for him to simplify it. He returned to the Consulate about December 2, 1941, with a simplified set of signals which he described as practically identical with the message sent by the Japanese to their Foreign Office on December 3, 1941.

Kuehn informed the Japanese that these signals could be given from his Lanikai home and also from his Kalama home. He said the same system of signals could be used with a "star boat" which was off the north of Lanikai Beach between certain hours. He also informed the Japanese that it could be arranged to insert want ads in the KONA "Want Ads" program. He further informed the Japanese that if it were impossible to give this system of signals, a garbage fire on Maui in a certain locality would indicate the same information. He made arrangements with Chuda that in the event he desired to contact him later he could do so by sending him a postcard signed "Jimmy" to his post office box, 1476, at Honolulu.

Kuehn claimed that after submitting these plans to Chuda he had no further contact with any representatives of the Consulate nor did he receive

any correspondence or telephone messages from such representatives. Kuchn claimed that to his knowledge no effort was made by the Consulate to put any of the proposed plans into effect.

At the same time that Kuchn delivered this plan he also delivered a list showing the number and type of naval vessels in Pearl Harbor, which were as follows:

7 Battleships
6 Cruisers
2 Aircraft Carriers
40 Destroyers
27 Submarines

[REDACTED] Naval Intelligence, Honolulu, verified these figures as being substantially correct as of November 27, 1941. b6
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Preventive Action

As a result of the investigation conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation concerning Otto Kuchn and his family, Otto Kuchn, his wife, Friedel Kuchn, his daughter, Ruth Kuchn Moore, and his son, Eberhard Martin Kuchn, were all arrested and interned upon orders of the military authorities on December 8, 1941. The Internes Hearing Board recommended that all subjects be interned for the duration of the war.

As a result of obtaining the messages sent by the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu to Tokyo, Japan, on December 8, 1941, which were not available prior to that time, the Federal Bureau of Investigation was able to obtain sufficient evidence to bring charges of espionage against Otto Kuchn. Inasmuch as Hawaii was then under martial law, these charges were brought by the military commission then sitting in Honolulu, and on February 19, 1942, he was tried on three counts for violation of the Espionage Statutes of Sections 21, 22 and 24, Title 50, United States Code Annotated. b6
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Special Agents of the Honolulu Office, [REDACTED] and former SAC Shivers all testified before the military trial which was closed to all observers. In addition to testimony of Bureau agents concerning all of Kuchn's admissions, his signed statements, and the results of our investigation, Miss Linnie June, receptionist at the Japanese Consulate, testified that she had seen Kuchn enter the Consulate on numerous occasions. Katsukichi Muracka testified that he had seen Otto Kuchn enter the Japanese Consulate. Hans Joachim Kuchn, age 10 and son of Otto Kuchn, testified that he accompanied his father on a drive to Pearl Harbor. Eberhard Martin Kuchn testified concerning the Japanese courier who called on his father and delivered money amounting to \$14,000. Richard Masayuki Kotoshirodo testified concerning driving Otajiro Okuda and Tadasi Horimura in the neighborhood of Kuchn's house at about the time Kuchn received the \$14,000 from a Japanese.

Other witnesses who testified were Donald Stone Carrothers, Chief of Bureau of Taxation Map Bureau, who introduced original tax map showing residences owned by Kachn at Kalam and Lemikal. Alexander P. Long, Assistant Postmaster, Honolulu, testified that Post Office Box 1476 was registered under the name of Kachn. Commander Harry Rutherford Rags, United States Navy, Assistant Captain of Navy Yard, introduced a summary of ship movements in Pearl Harbor between November 22 and December 6, 1941, inclusive. Lieutenant Commander Cecil Charles Coggins, United States Navy Medical Corps, testified that attacking plans and personnel on December 7, 1941, were Japanese.

On February 21, 1942, a verdict of guilty was returned by the military commission on each of three counts, and Otto Kachn was sentenced to be shot by military. On October 26, 1942, the verdict of guilty was confirmed but his sentence was commuted to 50 years' imprisonment at hard labor by the Military Governor. Kachn was transferred to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on November 20, 1942. Mrs. Kachn and her daughter both were transferred to an internment camp at Crystal City, Texas, where they remained until January 7, 1943, at which time they were repatriated to Germany aboard the MS Gripsholm, together with Mrs. Kachn's youngest son, Hans Kachn.

Interview of Consular Officials

Between the period of April 17 and April 21, 1942, a Bureau agent interviewed the Consular officials formerly stationed at the Japanese Consulate at Honolulu, who were interned at the Triangle T Dude Ranch, Dragon, Arizona.



b6
b7c
b7d

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c
b7d

Personal History

Otto Kucha was born in Berlin, Germany, on July 25, 1895. In April, 1913, he enlisted in the German Navy as a Cadet on the training cruiser *Mertha* in Flensburg, Germany. After serving his training period, Kucha became a midshipman on the German cruiser *Blucher*, on which he served during World War I until January 24, 1918, when he was captured by the British following a Naval engagement in which the *Blucher* was sunk. He remained in a British camp as a prisoner of war until January, 1918, when, during an exchange of prisoners, he was sent to Holland, remaining there for the duration of the war.

After the Armistice, Kucha returned to Berlin and studied architecture for three months. He then re-entered the Naval service as a lieutenant aboard the *Wittelsbach*, the mother ship of a mine sweeper flotilla. He remained in active service for six months, when he was cashiered out of the Navy on account of financial difficulties. For the next year and one-half Kucha studied medicine at the Universities of Berlin and Munich, and on May 10, 1920, while a medical student, he married Friedel Birk, the unmarried mother of two children, Leopold and Ruth. Two sons, Martin Eberhard and Hans Joachim, were born to the Kuchas.

Shortly before their marriage, Kucha purchased a 500-ton sailing freighter, known as the *Antares*, out of an inheritance of about \$50,000 cash and some houses and government bonds left to him by his father. He operated this boat between Finland and Rotterdam, but after a short while it ran on a reef and subject sold the boat for about \$2,000.

In 1921, Kucha took a job as Plant Protection man for Siemens in Berlin, a machinery concern engaged in the manufacture of heavy motors, et cetera, and, after about one year, he transferred to another branch of the company for the purpose of learning the business, remaining in this capacity until 1923. At that time, subject operated a manufacturing and distributing business of sparkling water and lemonade in Stettin, Germany, but this lasted less than a year. Thereafter, he returned to Berlin and was employed as an inspector with "Femstrecke Meierain", a dairy products concern. He stayed at this work until 1926, but before discontinuing this employment, sometime during 1927, he entered into the coffee importing business in Berlin in partnership with one Overbeck. Kucha acted as sales manager in this venture and continued his association with this business until he left Germany in 1935.

Kuchn first became associated with the Nazi Party in 1930 following his attendance at a meeting called by Hitler in Kiel, Germany, at which the latter spoke. Immediately after the meeting, Kuchn enlisted as a member of the Nazi Party and also influenced his son, Leopold, to join. However, he did not become active in the Party until 1932, when Herr Sunkel, the Party district leader at Kiel, suggested that Kuchn go with Reinhold Heydrich to Munich to see a person, name unrecalled, who later became Chief of Police at Munich, about securing a job with the Party. Sunkel brought Heydrich to Kuchn's home and, after subject advanced Heydrich a loan of about 100 marks, he and Heydrich en-
trained for Munich. Upon reaching that city, they went to the City Hall Restaurant for refreshments. Heydrich excused himself, explaining he was going to see the person to whom Sunkel had referred Kuchn and him. As it developed later, Heydrich was given a position by the unknown person which eventually turned out to be the Chief of the German Gestapo System under Heinrich Himmler. When Sunkel sent Kuchn and Heydrich to Munich, he mentioned that one or more positions were open, and it is quite possible that the job given to Heydrich was the one for which subject was being considered. Kuchn has stated that if the assignment were offered to him, he unhesitatingly would have accepted.

After an absence of about four hours, Heydrich returned to the City Hall Restaurant and he, with Kuchn and the unknown individual who later became Chief of Police at Munich, went to Himmler's home where a discussion was had regarding Communism and the means to be adopted to eradicate it from Germany. After this, Heydrich told Kuchn that Himmler did not like him and suggested it would be best for Kuchn to return to Berlin. Shortly thereafter, Kuchn received word from Herr Sunkel that he was to work in Altona, Germany, as an investigator for the Party to determine the identities of those individuals who were Communist and those who were pre-Nazi, particularly in the Police Department. Kuchn worked on this assignment for about six months, at which time he made a report on the Chief of Police at Altona, who was a Party member, to the effect that he was immoral in his private life, and shortly thereafter, following some minor troubles, subject was told that his services were no longer required. He then returned to Berlin and his coffee business.

While in Berlin, [redacted] Kuchn [redacted] came to his home, and this incident was reported to the Party officials, following which subject was dismissed from the Party and was later arrested, when he went to the office of the Nazi Party official for a hearing. He was then held by the police for two weeks, and then placed in a concentration camp for four weeks, but was not questioned at any time during this period. While interned, Kuchn's wife, Friedel, and his son, Leopold, and a friend named [redacted] worked on his behalf among members of the Party, and as a result he was released. At that time Leopold was a Stormtrooper and Mrs. Kuchn was working for the Nazi Welfare Department.

About three months later, Kuchn was again arrested by the police and charged with having attended, taken pictures of, and making a report about a

meeting between Hitler and Von Papen at Coeln. He was taken to the German courts and succeeded in proving and establishing an alibi that he had never been in Coeln and hence was released.

Subject turned his attention to his coffee business, but because he was no longer a member of the Nazi Party it was impossible for him to obtain orders. During the year 1934, Kuchn wrote several articles on the Far East, its culture and politics, for German newspapers and magazines, and in April, 1935, he decided to go to the Orient to study the Japanese language. He sailed from Bremen, Germany, on the SS Stuttgart and arrived in New York City on April 29, 1935. He remained in New York for six days and then proceeded to San Francisco, where he visited the German Consulate and requested the names of the Germans in Honolulu whom he could contact. He sailed from San Francisco on the SS Tsubata Maru with his wife, the rest of his family remaining in Germany, and after staying in Honolulu at the Brockland Hotel for three weeks, he and his wife sailed for Japan on the Asama Maru. In Tokyo, Kuchn stayed at the Imperial Hotel and he contacted [redacted] of the Imperial University regarding his studying the Japanese language. Accordingly, Kuchn and his wife traveled to Shanghai, from where Mrs. Kuchn proceeded to Germany and Otto returned to Honolulu on August 15, 1935, staying at the Brockland Hotel until March, 1936. In December of 1935, subject's daughter, Ruth, and his son, Eberhard Martin, joined him in Honolulu, and in April of the following year Mrs. Kuchn and Hans arrived in Hawaii. b6 b7c

Kuchn made a trip to Tokyo, Japan, in June, 1936, averredly to continue his Japanese language studies, returning to Honolulu in September of the same year.

Subject purchased the Modern Steel Furniture Company sometime during 1934, which he operated unsuccessfully for eight or nine months, when it was turned over to a trustee after losing approximately \$15,000. The only other employment he had in Honolulu was a job as a freight checker with the Honolulu Iron Works, which he secured about June, 1941, and quit after six weeks as the work was too difficult.

Kuchn admitted that the only income his family derived locally was that resulting from the operation of the Kailua Beauty Shop, opened in June, 1940, by Mrs. Kuchn, from which she received an average income of approximately \$80 a month. Aside from this, subject in 1937 leased eight acres of land from the Kaneohe Ranch Company, seven acres of which he later subleased to a Japanese gardener, retaining one for his own use to raise fruits and vegetables. In addition, Kuchn also raised chickens, having about 200 at the time of his arrest. None of these operations, however, was income-producing.

Kuchn filed a declaration of intention for United States citizenship, number 4511, in Honolulu on March 3, 1934. He filed a petition for citizenship

on June 30, 1941, and his hearing was scheduled for December, 1941. It was anticipated that he would have been admitted to citizenship on the last Saturday in January, 1942, in the event the results of this hearing had been satisfactory. However, the declaration of war between the United States and Japan, as well as the detection of subject's espionage activities, prevented his becoming a citizen.

At the time of his arrest, Kuhn was residing in Kailua, Oahu, T. H., with his wife, Friedel, and his two sons, Eberhard Martin, age 15, and Hans Joachim, age 10. His married daughter, Ruth, Mrs. J. Carson Moore, lived with her husband in Kailua. Kuhn's father, now deceased, formerly was a Doctor of Chemistry in Stettin, Germany, where he acted as a food inspector. Subject's brother, name unknown, is a doctor presently engaged in private practice in Berlin. Kuhn's stepson, Leopold, age about 32 at the time of his father's arrest, occupies a responsible position in Josef Goebbels' Propaganda Division of the Nazi Government in Berlin.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Office Memorandum

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DATE 11/21/45

TO: [Redacted]
FROM: Nichols
SUBJECT: [Redacted]

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-27-86 BY [Redacted]

I took up yesterday with [Redacted] the matter of releasing the transcript in the [Redacted] case and briefed him fully on the developments of the case, and the like. He agreed that if any release was made, it should be made in narrative.

He informed me that he had checked into the matter and the War Department had decided that they would make no release on the case. I had previously furnished [Redacted] with a copy of the OWI release which had been approved by the Army, the Navy and the FBI.

50 DEC 19 1945

105-1344
F B I
32 DEC 7 1945

This Case Originated at Tokyo, Japan

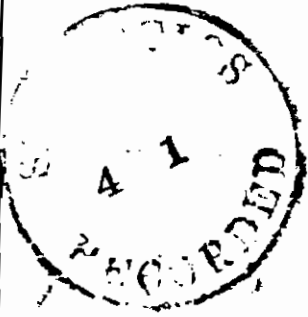
File No. 65-26

Report Made at Tokyo, Japan	Date when Made 4/25/46	Period for which Made 4/2, 9, 10, 15/46	Report Made by [REDACTED]
Title BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, was.; FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, was; MRS. J. CARSON MOORE nee Ruth Kuehn; EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN			Character of Case ESPIONAGE - J

Synopsis of Facts:

[REDACTED]

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DATE 8-21-86 BY SP5/AS

Reference: Bureau file 65-1574.

RECORDED

EX-12

Approved and Forwarded <i>William H. ...</i>	Legal Attache	Do Not Write in These	
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NONE	6 - Bureau	FBI	46
Embassy	2 - Tokyo	COPIES DESTROYED 29 MAY 8 1968	EX-12
M. A.	333 AUG 5 1970		
N. A.			
Others			

58 MAY 17 1946

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65-1574-286 Adm. Details - Pgs 1-5

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ed
to

In the Matter of
BERNHARD JULIUS OTTO KUKHA
Alien Enemy

146-13-2-21-230

WHEREAS

WHEREAS, Bernhard Julius Otto Kukha, of Leavenworth, Kansas, a citizen of Germany, over the age of fourteen years, is within the United States and not a naturalized citizen thereof and has heretofore been apprehended as being potentially dangerous to the public peace and safety of the United States, and

WHEREAS, upon consideration of the evidence before me, I deem the said alien enemy potentially dangerous to the peace and security of the United States, NOW THEREFORE

IT IS ORDERED that said alien enemy be interned.

Tom C. Clegg

ATTORNEY GENERAL

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
FBI
RECORDED
INDEXED
MAY 17 1946

Dated, Washington, D. C.
May 17, 1946

65-1574-28

mt
100
100

[Handwritten signatures and marks]

In the Matter of
BERNHARD JULIUS OTTO KESSEN

D. J. File No.
146-13-2-21-30

Alien Enemy

ME

Non

ORDER

WHEREAS, **Bernhard Julius Otto Kessen** is a German alien enemy over the age of fourteen years who has heretofore been interned by order of the Attorney General dated **May 17, 1946** ; and,

WHEREAS, the said alien enemy was, at his request, accorded a full hearing before a Repatriation Hearing Board on the issue of his removal from the United States; and,

WHEREAS, upon consideration of the evidence presented ~~before the Alien Enemy Hearing Board on~~ and before the Repatriation Hearing Board on **June 11, 1946** , I deem said alien enemy to be dangerous to the public peace and safety of the United States because he has adhered to a government with which the United States is at war or to the principles thereof; NOW, THEREFORE,

IT IS ORDERED that the said alien enemy depart from the United States within thirty days after notification of this order; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, in the event the said alien enemy fails or neglects to depart from the United States within the said thirty days, the Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization is directed to provide for the alien's removal to Germany.

RECORDED

Tom O'Connell

65-1574-28

JUL 12 1946

DEPT. ATTORNEY GENERAL

FBI

50 JUL 23 1946 357

Dated, Washington, D. C.,

JUN 27 1946

65-1574



b6
b7c

This Case Originated at Tokyo, Japan

File No. 65-26

Report Made at Tokyo, Japan	Date when Made 7/31/46	Period for which Made 7/29/46	Report Made by b6 b7c [REDACTED]
Title BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, was.; FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, was.; MRS. J. CARSON MOORE nee Ruth Kuehn; KBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN			Character of Case ESPIONAGE - J

Administrative Details:

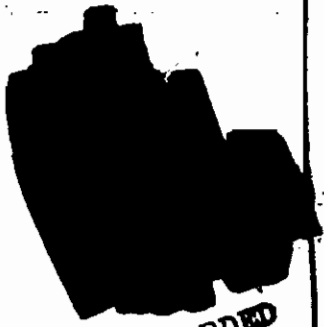
None



Identification of Sources:

None

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DATE 8-28-86 BY SP5/CJS



Reference: Report of [REDACTED] Tokyo, Japan, dated 4/25/46.

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Approved and Forwarded <i>[Signature]</i>	Legal <i>[Signature]</i>	Do Not Write in These Spaces		
Made Available to	Copies of This Report	65	1574 + 289	RECORDED
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE <input type="checkbox"/> Embassy <input type="checkbox"/> M. A. <input type="checkbox"/> N. A. <input type="checkbox"/> Others	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bureau (Encl.) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tokyo <i>[Handwritten notes]</i>			INDEXED 151

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63 AUG 29 1946

RECEIVED

(Form 9)

MEMO TO THE HQ
8-16-46
PDM:DJ

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65-1574-289 pgs 1-5

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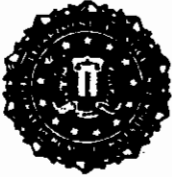
ENCLOSURES

To the Bureau:

- (1) Der Grose Duden, a German dictionary obtained from [REDACTED] residence.

b6

b7c



[SECRET]
State Department of
Federal Bureau of Investigation



Tokyo, Japan
July 31, 1946

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO
FILE NO. _____

Handwritten:
Tillman
M14

Director, FBI

ATTENTION: EUROPEAN AND ASIATIC DESK

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, was.;
FRIEDEL BARTA AUGUSTE KUEHN, was.;
MRS. J. CARSON MOORE nee Ruth Kuehn;
EBERHARD MARTIN KUEHN;
JAPAN Espionage - J

CLASSIFIED BY: *SPS/CL/S*
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR
#268714

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent
F. G. Tillman dated July 31, 1946, in the above captioned
matter, transmitting a copy of the German dictionary "Der
Grosse Duden" obtained from the residence of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] on July 29, 1946.

[REDACTED]

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

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EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERWISE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED -
DATE 8-26-84 BY *SPS/CL/S*

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

EX 2655

165-1574-290
29 AUG 20 1946

RECORDED

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b7d

b6
b7c

Handwritten:
memo to
6-16-46
PDM:JMS

59 AUG 29 1946
FBI - JAR

[SECRET]

Office Memorandum UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

SECRET

TO : [REDACTED]
FROM : [REDACTED]
SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, with aliases;
Espionage - J.

DATE: August 16, 1946

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

Am

Reference is made to an investigative report and a letter from Tokyo both dated July 31, 1946, in connection with this case.

[REDACTED] It was obtained from the residence of [REDACTED] on July 29, 1946.

As a matter of record, it is noted that a Duden dictionary was furnished in 1940 by Kuehn, according to Kuehn's admission, for use as a code book between them. The method of use was to be by page and line numbers, whereby the word "money" (geld), for instance, might be sent as 185-57, for page 185 and the 57th word on the page. No other details of the proposed code are known.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

8-28-80

CLASSIFIED BY: SP5C/1/13
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

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[REDACTED] 65-1574
[REDACTED] b6 b7c

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EX - 29

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX - 29

65-1574-291

AW

50 AUG 29 1946

SECRET

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. Tolson ✓
 Mr. E. A. Tamm ✓
 Mr. Clegg ✓
 Mr. Glavin ✓
 Mr. Ladd ✓
 Mr. Nichols ✓
 Mr. Rosen ✓
 Mr. Tracy ✓
 Mr. Carson ✓
 Mr. Gurnea ✓
 Mr. Harbo ✓
 Mr. Hendon ✓
 Mr. Pennington ✓
 Mr. Quinn Tamm ✓
 Mr. Nease ✓

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: September 20, 1946

FROM : SAC, Honolulu

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, ET AL
 ESPIONAGE G and J
 Bureau File 65-1574

It will be recalled the above individual has been confined to Leavenworth Penitentiary under a fifty-year sentence imposed by a military commission in Honolulu as result of espionage activities engaged in by him just prior to the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

Information has now been received, concerning which the Bureau is perhaps not informed, that KUEHN has recently been released from the Leavenworth Penitentiary and is presently being held at the Immigration Station, Ellis Island, New York, awaiting transportation to Germany. This information was obtained by ASAC J. STERLING ADAMS who was exhibited a communication recently received by [redacted], from KUEHN in which KUEHN requested [redacted] recommendations respecting his good character prior to the war. In that communication, KUEHN indicated he had been presented with a document upon his release to the effect his sentence was served, which left the implication that perhaps KUEHN has been released under some form of agreement to voluntarily return to Germany and never attempt to reenter the United States.

65-4

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b7c

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RECORDED

EX-71

165-1574-292

37 SEP 30 1946

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53 OCT 30 1946

[Handwritten signature]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

ce

TO : [REDACTED]

DATE: October 18, 1946

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, et al
ESPIONAGE & and J

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Beahm _____
- Miss Gandy _____

You will note from the attached letter that Kuehn, whose death sentence for espionage at Pearl Harbor was commuted to a 50-year sentence, is reportedly being held at Ellis Island waiting deportation to Germany.

[REDACTED]

Even though it would seem to be none of the Bureau's business whether the Department makes a man serve out his sentence or deport him, we should know the situation for our records so that we might answer any queries in this type of case. It is probable that we will have to answer some correspondence in this regard in these cases, either from the public or other intelligence agencies.

all
b6
b7c

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Bureau of Prisons and/or the Immigration Service be conferred with to determine their policy in this type of case without indicating that the Bureau has any interest in the correctness of the policy.

Attachment

[REDACTED] *Handled separately*

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DATE 8-28-86 BY SP-6 JLS

EX-48 RECORDED & INDEXED

177 65-15714-29

[REDACTED]

57 NOV 27 1946

SAC, New York
65-1574-294
Director, FBI

October 22, 1946

RECORDED
-13

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUSHN, ET AL
ESPIONAGE - G, J

The Bureau is in receipt of information from the Honolulu Office that the above individual is presently stationed at Ellis Island, New York, awaiting deportation to Germany. Bernard Kushn has been confined at the Leavenworth Penitentiary under a fifty-year-sentence imposed by a Military Commission in Honolulu as a result of espionage activities engaged in by him prior to the Japanese attack at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941.

The Bureau desires that through your contacts at Ellis Island you determine whether Bernard Kushn is definitely located at Ellis Island and is being considered for deportation and, if possible, the expected date of his deportation.

CC - Honolulu

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-86 BY SP5/BJ

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE
MAILED
OCT 23 1946
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signature]

OCT 23 3 30 PM '46
OCT 30 1946

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

57 NOV 27 1946

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : [REDACTED] *MS*

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN; et al;
ESPIONAGE - G, J

DATE: 10/22/46

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. E. A. Tamm	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Carson	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn Tamm	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Reference is made to the memorandum of [REDACTED] to you of October 18, 1946, in which he recommends that the Bureau of Prisons or the Immigration Service be contacted to determine the policy in deporting individuals who are presently confined in penitentiaries.

You will recall that Bernard Kuehn received a fifty-year-sentence for espionage and is now reported by the Honolulu Office to be at Ellis Island, New York, awaiting deportation to Germany. The writer contacted [REDACTED] of the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Washington, D. C., and he advised that there has been no change in Immigration's policy in connection with the deportation of individuals. He said for a number of years it has been the custom and practice of the Immigration Service to deport all undesirable aliens and that in a number of instances the individuals included in this category are those presently confined in Federal prisons, serving sentences for violation of the laws of the United States. [REDACTED] of course, is not acquainted with the case of Bernhard Kuehn but did stress the fact that the deportation of individuals who are serving sentences has been in effect for a number of years.

[REDACTED] also advised that in returning individuals to Germany, the Immigration Service obtains clearance from the War Department to the effect that there is no objection in returning these individuals to Germany which, of course, is now a military zone. Therefore, the military authorities are fully aware of the return to Germany of undesirable aliens which, of course, includes alien enemies.

If you agree, there is attached hereto a letter to the New York Office advising them of the probable deportation of Kuehn and instructing them to make a discreet inquiry with the Immigration and Naturalization Service at Ellis Island to definitely determine if Bernhard Kuehn is presently stationed at Ellis Island and is actually going to be deported.

Attachment

[REDACTED]

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-86 BY [REDACTED]

RECORDED
67-121

65-1574-297
[Handwritten signature]

*all b6
b7c*

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: November 8, 1946

FROM : SAC, New York

HB

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, et al;
ESPIONAGE - G, J

Reference is made to your letter dated October 22, 1946.

Please be advised that [redacted] at Ellis Island advises that subject is presently located at Ellis Island awaiting deportation. He is unable to give an expected date of deportation.

Unless advised to the contrary, no request will be made of the authorities at Ellis Island to advise this office when deportation is effected.

cc - Honolulu

RECORDED

165-157

EX-2

19 NOV 12 1946

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-88 BY SP-10/SL

65-12380V 19 1946

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b6, b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: 3rd party info.

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-296

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XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Classified
1/22/48

SAC, NEW YORK

December 23, 1947

DIRECTOR, FBI

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUSH
ESPIONAGE - C, S
RESEARCH

Bureau File 62-1574

Your memo dated November 8, 1947,
advised that Kusch was then located at Ellis
Island awaiting deportation. It is desired that
you ascertain the date deportation was effected
and advise the Bureau promptly by letter.

bb
b7c
[Redacted]

#7268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-80 BY *SP5/df*

MVB

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 2
★ DEC 23 1947 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECORDED
45-7574-297
F B I
56 DEC 29 1947

EX-101

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED

60 JAN 6 - 1948 29

John

✓

6

lines

el

RECORDED

65-1574-298

SAC, New York

March 2, 1948

Director, FBI

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KERN
ESPIONAGE - G, J.
New York file 65-14652
Bureau file 65-1574

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-86 BY SP5/BJD

Reurlet dated 2-10-48.

The Bureau desires that you maintain contact with the Immigration and Naturalization Service in order to be advised of when the deportation order outstanding against the subject is carried into effect. When this information is received, you are requested to advise the Bureau.

bl
b7c

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 11
★ MAR 2 1948 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

51 MAR 6 1948

Review by 7/9/48
Edson
cf
St
Jem

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: February 10, 1948

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN;
ESPIONAGE - G, J;
RESEARCH

REBulet, 12/23/47. *b6 b7c*

[Redacted] Immigration and Naturalization Service, Ellis Island, New York, stated that the subject is presently located at Ellis Island awaiting deportation. He stated that a removal order was issued by the Attorney General against KUEHN as an Alien Enemy and that the warrant of deportation cannot be effected until the removal order issued by the Attorney General is dismissed.

b6 b7c
[Redacted] advised that he was unable to estimate the length of time it would take to effect the deportation order.

Unless advised to the contrary, no request will be made of the authorities at Ellis Island to advise this office when deportation is effected.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-86 BY *[Signature]*

RECORDED

65-1574-278

FEB 15 1948

EX-100

*let - NY
from 3/2/48*

b6 b7c
[Redacted]
65-14652

*(4)
copy detached
since records
7/6/48 NY*

*Cond
[Signature]*

G.I.R. 4

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : [Redacted]
FROM : [Redacted]
SUBJECT:

DATE: 7-15-48

Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, with aliases;
Espionage -J

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-86 BY SP5/CLJ

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

There is attached the file which has been maintained in the Laboratory in connection with the above captioned matter. It is desired that this file be maintained as an enclosure behind the main file in the Records Section.

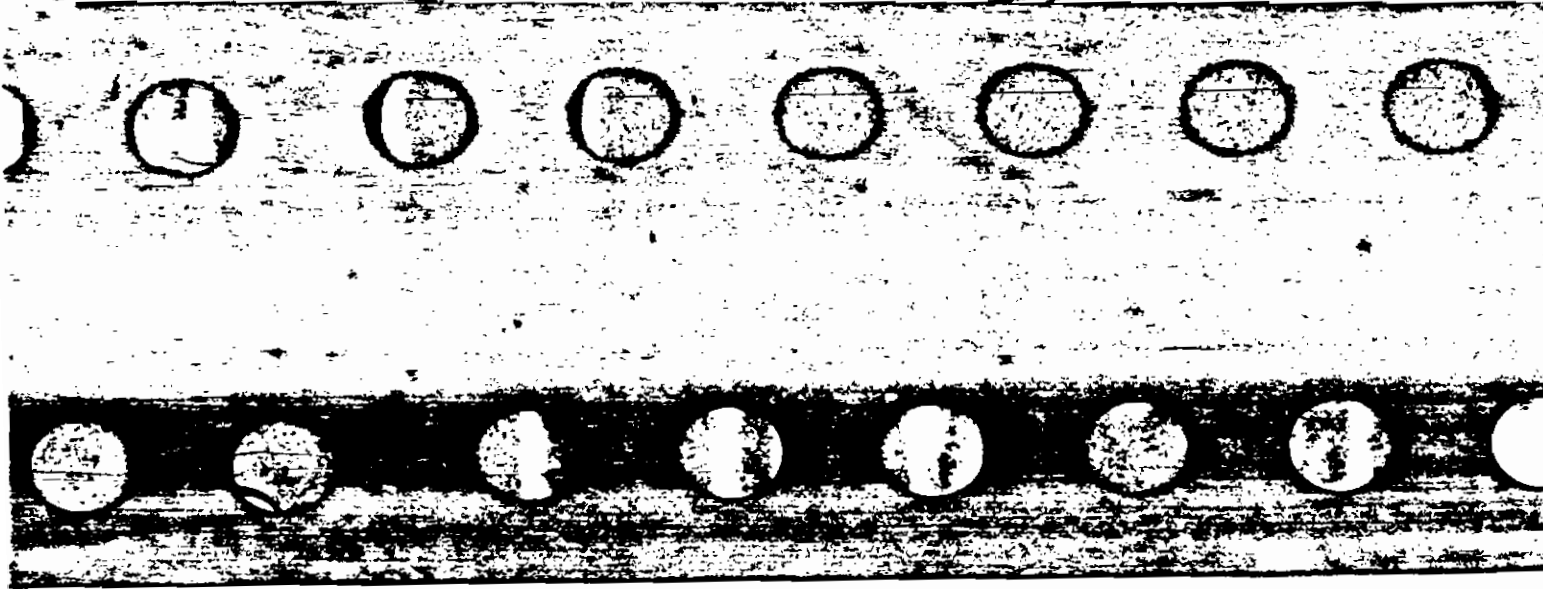
Attachment

*Destroyed per form 4-341
dated 3/4/68*

ENC 1
ENC - BULKY
3 JUL 23 1948

destroyed 3/14/68

165-1574-299
NOT RECORDED
8 JUL 19 1948
7 RTR



Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 28, 1948

FROM : SAC, New York

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
ESPIONAGE - G and J
(Bufile 65-1574)

Rebulet July 9, 1948.

On March 24, 1948, a letter was directed to the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Ellis Island, New York, requesting that this office be advised as soon as the subject has been deported. Since that time contacts have been maintained with [redacted] Immigration and Naturalization Service, and on July 19, 1948, he stated that the subject is still being held at Ellis Island and that he did not know when the date of deportation would take effect.

As requested in the Bureau letter dated March 3, 1948, contacts will be maintained with Immigration and Naturalization Service and as soon as the deportation order outstanding against the subject is carried into effect the Bureau will be immediately advised.

[redacted] b6 b7c
65-14652

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-80 BY [signature]

RECORDED 100

EX-14

165-1574-300
F B I
3 JUL 29 1948

[redacted] b6 b7c

7

53 AUG 9 1948



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

JUL 29 1948

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-86 BY SP-6/BJP

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Harbo	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Pennington	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	



WASH FROM NEW YORK 17 29 6-25 P

DIRECTOR URGENT

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUHN, ESPIONAGE C AND J. BUFILE SIXTY FIVE DASH
ONE FIVE SEVEN FOUR REBULET JULY NINTH, FORTY EIGHT, INS, ELLIS

INS ADVISED LATE TODAY THAT THEY HAD RECEIVED ORDERS FROM THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL TO PAROLE SUBJECT. INS INDICATED THAT HE WOULD
BE PAROLLED SOME TIME TODAY AND THIS OFFICE WOULD BE ADVISED OF
HIS ADDRESS, WHICH HE HAS TO FURNISH PERIODICALLY TO INS. BUREAU
REQUESTED TO ADVISE WHAT FURTHER ACTION IS DESIRED IN THIS MATTER.

COPIES DESTROYED
349 AUG 5 1971

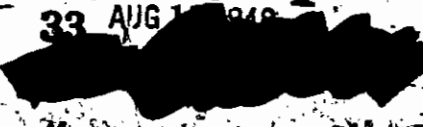
60 AUG 24 1948

HOLD

*Letter to
NY 8/13/48
GAM*

RECORDED
[Signature]

165-1574-34
FBI
33 AUG 1 1948



SAC, New York

August 13, 1948

Director, FBI

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO HUNN
ESPIONAGE - C and J
Bureau File 65-1574

Reurtel dated July 29, 1948.

No further action need be taken by you.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-86 BY SP5C/DJS

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED 9

☆ AUG 13 1948 P.M.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

1400
A. Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Mohr
Winterrowd
Tele. Room
Holloman
Nease
Gandy

764
AUG 26 1948

RECORDED - 123

45-1574-302
F B I
45 AUG 19 1948

H B
7348
Rm

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

 1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b1 with no segregable material available for release to you.
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 Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
 65-1574-303

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
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Alien Enemy Control Unit

March 14, 1949

Director, FBI

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUSHN
Your file # 144-15-2-21-330

65-1574-304

RECORDED - 108

EX-39

Reference is made to your memorandum of February 11, 1949 wherein you enclosed a copy of a letter from [redacted] inquiring concerning the above captioned individual.

In [redacted] letter he indicated that Kushn had requested him to obtain his, Kushn's, marriage and birth certificates.

all b6 b7c

Information has been received from the Honolulu Office of this Bureau that the requested documents were in the custody of the Office of Alien Property, Honolulu. These documents were transmitted by the Office of Alien Property to the [redacted] OAP, Washington, D. C. to be released to [redacted] at his discretion. The papers consist of German passports issued to Mr. and Mrs. Kushn in 1940, a marriage certificate, birth certificates of Mr. and Mrs. Kushn and son Hans, and an affidavit of the birth of their daughter Ruth.

#208714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-80 BY SP5/BJK

G.I.R.-7

RECEIVED MAR 16 6 24 AM '49
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE
RECEIVED MAR 14 5 06 PM '49
RECEIVED MAR 10 1949
F. B. I.
RECEIVED MAR 14 5 38 PM '49

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED 17 12
★ MAR 16 1949 P.M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

52 APR 1 1949

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: [REDACTED] - Internal Security DATE: February 11, 1949
 FROM: [REDACTED] Section, Federal Bureau of Investigation
 [REDACTED] - Alien Enemy Control Unit
 SUBJECT: Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn: 146-13-2-21-230

*ALL b6 b7c
 5-1
 Finkel
 ab*

With reference to our telephone conversation, I annex a copy of a self-explanatory letter from [REDACTED] concerning the above individual, who departed from the United States pursuant to an order of removal issued under authority of the Alien Enemy Act of 1798.

Will you kindly advise me whether the documents requested by Kuehn are available, and if so, what steps [REDACTED] should take to secure their return.

*105
 EX-39*

*del Amululu
 3-1-49
 RECORDED - 105
 free
 EX-39*

RECORDED BY
 65157-304
 FBI
 23 MAR 4 1949
 21

MORAN

SECRET

Attorney and Counselor

C
O
P
Y

Detroit 26, Michigan

February 8, 1949

*all
b6
b7c*

Re: Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn
146-13-2-21-230

Dear [redacted]

Mr. Otto Kuehn who, as you know, went to Buenos Aires, wrote to me the other day requesting my assistance in securing for him his marriage certificate and birth certificate. Also the birth certificates of his wife and his son Hans. These papers were taken by the F. B. I. at Honolulu at the time of Mr. Kuehn's original arrest and were never returned.

I will appreciate your advising me whether you can secure the return of these documents for me, or notifying me whom I must contact for the same.

I am anxious to secure these documents for Mr. Kuehn at the earliest possible ~~moment~~ ^{URGENT} and will appreciate your assistance.

Thanking you for past courtesies, I am,

Very truly yours,
[redacted signature]

Air mail

65-1574-304
ENCLOSURE

URGENT

MARCH 1, 1949

SAC, HONOLULU

BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUERN, WAS., ET AL, ESPIONAGE - J. SUBJECT, WHO IS NOW IN BUENOS AIRES, HAS MADE A REQUEST TO [REDACTED] TO SECURE KUERN'S MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE AND BIRTH CERTIFICATE AND ALSO THE BIRTH CERTIFICATES OF HIS WIFE AND SON, HANS. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] LETTER THESE PAPERS WERE TAKEN BY THE FBI AT HONOLULU AT THE TIME OF KUERN'S ORIGINAL ARREST AND WERE NEVER RETURNED. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO DETERMINE IF THE DOCUMENTS WERE TAKEN FROM KUERN AND IF SO THE STEPS NECESSARY TO SECURE THEIR RETURN TO KUERN. SUTEL BY MARCH EIGHT, NINETEEN FORTYNINE.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-86 BY SP5/PLS

HOOVER

A review of the Bureau files does not reveal the presence of the requested documents.

65-1574

012224
memo, Alvin Karpis, et al
3/11/49
EAK

2225-0005
etc

RECORDED - 105

65-1574-305

F B I
61 MAR 18 1949

VIDEO COMMUNICATIONS
EXHIBIT ROOM
MAR 1 4 46 PM '49

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

56 APR 4 1949

sent Via Bureau Radio 3/1/49 7:12 P.M. Per [Signature]

65-1874

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL
BY SPECIAL MESSENGER

Date: April 14, 1949

To:

[Redacted]

DECLASSIFIED BY SP5CJ/cls
ON 8-28-80

RECORDED - 57

Office of Alien Property
65-1574-306

Attention:

[Redacted]

EX-100

Office of Alien Property

From: John Edgar Hoover - Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN

all
b6
b7c

Reference is made to your memorandum dated March 24, 1949, concerning the property of the above captioned individual.

For your information this Bureau's inquiry in Honolulu concerning the documents belonging to Otto Kuehn was made at the instance of [Redacted] of the Alien Enemy Control Unit, who had received a [Redacted] [Redacted] had written to [Redacted] in behalf of Kuehn to determine how Kuehn could recover his documents. A reply from this Bureau was made on March 16, 1949, to [Redacted] informing him that the documents were in the possession of [Redacted], Office of Alien Property, Washington, D. C. The inquiry in Honolulu concerning Kuehn's papers was merely in compliance with [Redacted] request.

cc

[Redacted]

Alien Enemy Control Unit

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
BY
SPECIAL MESSENGER
★ APR 15 1949 ★
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

62 MAY 4 1949

Handwritten signatures and initials

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Pennington
- Mr. Quinn Tamm

TO : J. Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: March 24, 1949

FROM : [Redacted] Office of Alien Property

Attn: [Redacted]

SUBJECT: Personal Property of Otto Kuehn

We have received a letter from our Honolulu Office stating that the Honolulu Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation had received a radiogram from your Washington Office stating that a Washington attorney had applied to you concerning passports and other papers of Otto Kuehn, a German national, which papers have been vested by this Office.

The manager of our Honolulu Office informed your Honolulu Office that he would forward the requested papers to us. These papers have now been received in Washington.

We shall be glad to discuss this matter with you or, if you prefer, to have you refer the Washington attorney in question to us. This case is being handled by [Redacted], H.O.L.C. Bldg., Extension 874. Please make your reply PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL to the attention of [Redacted]

*all
b6
b7c*

65-1574

[Large diagonal redaction]

RECORDED - 57

65-1574-306
F B I

APR 20 1949

EX-100

*Mr. Tolson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Tracy*

RECEIVED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-86 BY [redacted]

- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Date: August 11, 1948

MEMORANDUM FOR Mr. D. M. Ladd

From: [redacted]

Re: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, was
ESPIONAGE - G and J [redacted]

As a result of an investigation conducted by the Bureau, the subject, a German national residing on the island of Oahu in the Hawaiian Islands, was convicted by the Military Commission sitting in Honolulu and found guilty on February 21, 1942, of unlawfully obtaining information affecting the national defense and disclosing such information to the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu. He was sentenced by the Military Commission to be shot to death. However, on October 26, 1942, the Military Governor of the Territory of Hawaii, although approving the sentence imposed by the Commission, commuted Kuehn's sentence to confinement at hard labor for fifty years and ordered him to be confined at the U. S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. (Serial 283)

After the subject had been confined at Leavenworth, Kansas, for a considerable period of time, he was released from that institution and in September of 1946 was transported to the Immigration Station, Ellis Island, New York City, where he awaited transportation to Germany.

By copy of an order dated July 23, 1946, signed by the Attorney General it was learned that the subject was ordered deported from this country. I thought you would be interested in knowing that the New York Office has now advised the Bureau that the officials in Ellis Island, New York City, informed the New York Office on July 29, 1948, that they had received orders from the Attorney General to parole the subject. The Immigration officials indicated that Kuehn would be paroled some time that day. However, the address to which he was going was not known at that time.

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 4-20-55
22

This is astounding.

65-1574
(Other sources - 288 and 292)

65-1574-3077
JUL 5 1950
37
Pen

JUL 10 1950

RECORDED - 73

THIS MEMORANDUM IS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PURPOSES
TO BE DESTROYED AFTER ACTION IS TAKEN AND NOT SENT TO FILES

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : [Redacted]

DATE: 3/18/54

FROM : MR. NICHOLS ZB Me

SUBJECT: TRANSFER OF PRISONER'S MAIL

Bernard Kuehn

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 65-1574-275

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Miss Holmes _____
- Miss Gandy _____

We are presently in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits presently on hand, in order that we may weed out those which will serve no useful purpose by being retained. Inasmuch as a great many of these bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that you have the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to the retention or disposition of the material contained therein. A notation as to the decision rendered should be placed on this memorandum, and it should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Section, room 1113, Identification Building. This memorandum will be filed in the case file.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above-listed bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material contained therein.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-28-80 BY SP5/JS

[Redacted]

b6
b7c

*Retain bulky
4/30/54
noted
4/6/54
gmm*

[Redacted]

b6
b7c

RECORDED - 43

EX - 107

65-1574-308

[Redacted]

58 APR 7 1954

XXXXXX
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-307

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : 

DATE: 7/1/54

FROM : L. B. NICHOLS *YMN*

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO BUEHN
ESPIONAGE *K*

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Belmont _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Harbo _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Mohr _____
- Mr. Trotter _____
- Mr. Winterrowd _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Mr. Holloman _____
- Miss Malone _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 65-1574-299

We are presently in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits presently on hand, in order that we may weed out those which will serve no useful purpose by being retained. Inasmuch as a great many of these bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that you have the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to the retention or disposition of the material contained therein. A notation as to the decision rendered should be placed on this memorandum, and it should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Section, room 1113, Identification Building. This memorandum will be filed in the case file.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the above-listed bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material contained therein.

 *b6 b7c*
Retain Bulky
7/14/54
RSB

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
 DATE 8-28-86 BY *SP-8/CLS*

RECORDED-95

65-1574-309
 JUL 16 1954

EX-1

1324

Sept 6

RECEIVED - L. B. NICHOLS
JUL 21 1954

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: November 28, 1956

FROM :

[Redacted] - b6
b7c

SUBJECT: Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn

There are attached excerpts concerning the above-captioned case taken from "The FBI Story, A Report to the People," by Don Whitehead published by Random House, 1956. These excerpts are from page(s) 190, 193, 344 of the book.

The full text of the book may be found in the FBI Library.

Enclosure

/ ENCLOSURE

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-80 BY [Signature]

65-1574 - ✓
NOT RECORDED
MAR 11 1957

66 MAR 12 1957
f354

65-1574

CRIME RECS
[Signature]

EVEN as the oily black clouds of destruction mushroomed above the shattered fleet at Pearl Harbor, a thin spire of gray smoke was rising from the yard of the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu. This smoke came from a small fire tended by Consul General Nagao Kita and his Vice Consul, Atojiro Okuda. They were burning the Consulate's secret code books and the messages which had passed between Kita and Foreign Minister Togo in those last days before treachery reached its flaming climax.

Nagao Kita. It's a name to remember in the espionage of World War II. If any man can be named as the most effective enemy agent in the Pearl Harbor attack, it was Kita. Behind the curtain of diplomatic immunity he supplied Tokyo with a running account of last-minute ship movements in and out of Pearl Harbor. And now that the blow was struck, he was trying to destroy the evidence.

But paper in bulk burns slowly. While the flames at the Consulate were being fed by Kita and Okuda, Special Agent in Charge Shivers asked the Honolulu Police Department to place a guard at the Consulate. The guard saw the papers being burned. He rushed in and grabbed a code book and a bundle of messages from the protesting Japanese. The papers were turned over to Shivers, who gave them to the Navy to decode, along with Consulate messages obtained from the commercial communications companies—messages which had been denied to the FBI until the Japanese struck.¹

When Shivers saw the uncoded messages, he exclaimed to another agent, "My God, if we'd had these earlier! Look at this!" And he handed the messages to the agent:

*0245 (1) "PA" 3 December, 1941
FROM: KITA
TO: FOREIGN MINISTER, TOKYO
(Secret Military message No.) (By Chief of Consulate's Code).
To: Chief of Third Section, Naval General Staff
From: FUJII

Re signals I wish to simplify communications as follows:

1. Code (following 3 section 8 line table)

1. Battle force, including scouting force, are about to put to sea—
2. Several aircraft carriers plan to put to sea.
3. All battle force has sailed 1st-3rd dates inc.
4. Several aircraft carriers have sailed (1st to 3rd)
5. All aircraft carriers have sailed (1st to 3rd)
6. All battle force have sailed, 4th-6th dates inc.

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 8-28-86 BY SP8CJ/cks

Page 190 of "The FBI Story,
A Report to the People" by
Don Whitehead

65-1574 - ✓
ENCLOSURE

- 7. Several aircraft carriers have sailed (4th to 6th)
- 8. All aircraft carriers have sailed (4th to 6th)

2. Signal

Light in Lanikai beach house at night—
 One light from 8 P.M. to 9 P.M. indicates "1". From 9 P.M. to 10 P.M. indicates "2". The below signals until midnight, in order to indicate 3 and 4. Two lights, according to the time, indicates 5, 6, 7, 8. When not in accordance with (lights) above 1 full automobile headlight and one half light indicates 1, 2, 3, 4. Two full lights indicate 5, 6, 7, 8.

2. On the Lanikai coast during daytime from 8 A.M. until noon every hour 1 piece linen cloth (sheet) indicates 1, 2, 3, 4. Two pieces linen cloth indicate 5, 6, 7, 8.

3. In Lanikai bay during daytime in front of harbor (offing) a star boat with one star on sail indicates 1, 2, 3, 4; a star and "III" indicates 5, 6, 7, 8.

4. Light in dormer window of Kalama house from 7 P.M. to 1 A.M. every hour indicates 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8. . . .

December 3, 1941

FROM: FOREIGN MINISTER
 TO: KITA, CONSUL, HONOLULU

STRICTLY SECRET
 WOULD LIKE YOU TO HOLD ON YOUR LIST OF CODE WORDS (ALSO THOSE USED IN CONNECTION WITH RADIO BROADCAST) RIGHT UP UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE. WHEN THE BREAK COMES BURN IMMEDIATELY AND WIRE US TO THAT EFFECT.

TOGO
 December 5, 1941

FROM: KITA
 FOREIGN MINISTER, TOKYO

- 1. The three battleships mentioned in your X239 of Friday morning, the 5th entered port. They expect to depart port on the 8th.
- 2. On the same day the LEXINGTON and 5 heavy cruisers departed.
- 3. The following warships were anchored on the afternoon of the 5th:
 - 8 Battleships
 - 3 Light cruisers
 - 16 Destroyers

Coming in were 4 cruisers of the Honolulu type and 2 destroyers.

KITA
 December 6, 1941

FROM: TOGO, FOREIGN MINISTER
 TO: CONSUL, HONOLULU
 PLEASE INFORM US IMMEDIATELY OF ANY RUMORS OF THE MOVEMENTS OF WARSHIPS AFTER THE 4TH.

TOGO

Page 191 of "The FBI Story,
 A Report to the People" by
 Don Whitehead

Here was evidence of espionage. The message sent by Kita to Tokyo on December 3 proved that Kita had arranged for someone to signal Japanese submarines and give them information on the American fleet. And the finger of suspicion pointed to Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn as Kita's confederate because Kuehn had a house at Lanikai, a house at Kalama with a dormer window and a boat with a star on the sail.

Otto Kuehn, a German national, had first come to the FBI's attention in 1939 because of persistent rumors that he had an abnormally large income for a man with no profession or known business connection. Such talk gets around in a community the size of Honolulu. And it was no secret to the FBI that Kuehn had deposited more than \$70,000 in a Honolulu bank from 1936 to 1939. He had once been a member of the Nazi Party.

Kuehn explained to friends that his income came from family inheritances, but in tracing the money the FBI began to suspect it had come to Kuehn from Japanese sources in Berlin. These suspicions increased when the Army advised the FBI that the Japanese Consul General was known to have asked his Foreign Office for an opinion on the reliability of a couple in Hawaii named "Friedell."

The FBI could find no one named "Friedell." But agents noted that Mrs. Kuehn's first name was Friedel, spelled with one "l." This similarity in names seemed more than coincidence in view of the fact that the Army's tip came a short time after Mrs. Kuehn's return from a trip to Tokyo.

Still, there was no tangible evidence of espionage by Kuehn until the Consulate messages had been translated. Then Kuehn confessed. He admitted he was the source of the code for signaling to the submarines, but he claimed it was never used so far as he knew.

Kuehn told agents:

. . . It was also arranged [with Kita] that this same set of signals could be given by short wave radio and arrangements were made that if the Consulate desired to contact me they could do so by sending me a post-card signed "Jimmie," to my Box No. 1476 at Honolulu . . . On the same occasion that I transmitted this simplified system of signalling I had also advised the Consulate that there were seven battleships, six cruisers, two aircraft carriers, forty destroyers, and twenty-seven submarines, or some similar figure, in Hawaiian waters . . .

Kuehn also told of receiving some \$30,000 in 1940-1941 from sources in Tokyo, money which he claimed represented transfers from property income in Germany. He said the last \$14,000 payment was handed to him by a strange Japanese, and that his wife hid all the money.

"I don't know where she has it hidden," Kuehn said. But there was

testimony indicating that the stranger who gave Kuehn the \$14,000 was Vice Consul Okuda's associate, Consulate Secretary Tadasi Morimura.

A military commission operating under martial law listened to Kuehn's story and then sentenced him to be shot to death "by musketry." However, the sentence was later commuted by the military governor to fifty years at hard labor.²

Kuehn was one of ninety-one persons convicted of spying against the United States from 1938 to 1945. And the shame of it was that sixty-four of them were American citizens betraying their own country. The greater number worked for the Hitler government because of loyalty to Germany. A few others were mere adventurers. A few were recruited by threats of death or injury to loved ones held by the Nazis. A few became enemy agents because they saw a way to make easy money.

*Excerpt from page 193 of
"The FBI Story, A Report
to the People" by Don Whitehead*

² Kuehn served at Leavenworth Penitentiary from December 1, 1942, until June 6, 1946, when his sentence was commuted in order to deport him to Germany. He was confined at Ellis Island, New York, until his parole was ordered on July 29, 1948. He voluntarily departed from the United States to Buenos Aires, Argentina, on December 3, 1948.

Excerpt from page 344

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE: October 24, 1958

FROM :

[Redacted]

DATE 8-28-86 BY SP5/CL

SUBJECT:

Friedel Kuehn; Ruth Kuehn

- Tolson _____
- Belmont _____
- Mohr _____
- Nease _____
- Parsons _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holloman _____
- Gandy _____

For record purposes, [Redacted] of the "Indianapolis Star,"^{DC} Washington office, advised that one of the editors of his paper in Indianapolis had come across Bernard Julius Kuehn in Indianapolis and had checked into Kuehn's background and wanted to do a little rehash of this old case.

The Kuehn case was an espionage case in Honolulu involving a former German naval lieutenant, Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn, 39 years old, his wife, Friedel, and daughter, Ruth, who, while living in Honolulu, were in contact with the Japanese and who received payments of money from the Japanese for arranging various signals which consisted of utilizing lights, beacon fires, and clothing displayed at prominent positions which could be observed by the Japanese two-man submarines, which signals would indicate the strength of the United States fleet at Pearl Harbor. It is recalled that on November 17, 1941, Kuehn took to the Japanese Consulate a set of 17 signals which would show the operations of the American fleet. The high command in Tokyo considered the system too complicated so on December 3, 1941, Kuehn submitted a new signal plan which met with Japanese approval. The Kuehns were arrested on December 8, 1941, and at the time of apprehension Mrs. Kuehn had secreted on her person \$5,000 in \$100 bills. She had also placed in the lining of her window curtains an additional \$2,000 in \$100 bills. The Japanese had made payments of more than \$40,000 to the Kuehns in a period of a year and a half. The Kuehns were tried before a military commission in Honolulu charged with espionage in February, 1942, and Kuehn was sentenced to be executed by a firing squad but the sentence was later commuted to confinement at hard labor and Kuehn was thereafter incarcerated in the U.S. Penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. Kuehn's wife and daughter were ordered interned in the United States for the duration of the war and were repatriated to Germany in 1945.

[Redacted] has been furnished background material on this case, which was popularly known during the early days of the war as "The Case of the Lights in the Dormer Window."

1-Mr. Belmont

[Redacted] 1958

EX-135

REC-9

65-1574-311

OCT 27 1958

CRIME REC

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) b6 b7c with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Document(s) originating with the following government agency(ies) _____, was/were forwarded to them for direct response to you.

_____ Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); _____ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

_____ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: 3rd party information

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
65-1574-312

XXXXXX
XXXXXX
XXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX
X DELETED PAGE(S) X
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Tolson _____
- Mohr _____
- Parsons _____
- Belmont _____
- Callahan _____
- DeLoach _____
- Malone _____
- McGuire _____
- Rosen _____
- Tamm _____
- Trotter _____
- W.C. Sullivan _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Ingram _____
- Gandy _____

pink

TO : [REDACTED]

DATE: 6-14-60

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

INFORMATION CONCERNING BUFILE 65-1574

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 8-28-86 BY SP5/CL/CS

=268424

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

*all
b6
b7c*

[REDACTED]

ACTION: The above information is being directed to the attention of the Nationalities Intelligence Section.

1 - [REDACTED]
1 - [REDACTED]
1 - Liaison
1 - [REDACTED]
JUL 12 1960

REC-90

65-1574-313

JUL 7 1960

[REDACTED]

EX-108

[REDACTED]

Memorandum

TO : MR. TROTTER *b.l.j.*

DATE: 8-3-60

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: OTTO KUEHN
ESPIONAGE - J.

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8-28-86 BY SP5/CL/S

Tab

Parsons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Belmont	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Callahan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DeLoach	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Malone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
McGuire	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Rosen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tamm	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trotter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
W.C. Sullivan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tele. Room	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ingram	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

[REDACTED] assigned to Fort Holabird, Maryland, came to Identification Division today. He said he is writing the history of the Otto Kuehn espionage case for Army training purposes. He said he was looking for the original transcript of Kuehn's court trial. He was unable to locate it at the U. S. District Court, Honolulu, Hawaii. He wondered whether the arrest record of Kuehn would show what court he was tried in.

Kuehn's identification record, FBI #3 143 763, shows he was received at U. S. Penitentiary, Leavenworth, Kansas, December 1, 1942, from "Military Commission, Honolulu, Hawaii." I checked Bureau file on Kuehn and found he was tried before a military tribunal in Hawaii in 1942.

*all
b6
b7c*

[REDACTED] was grateful for the information and said he would check Army records to try to find the court transcript. I reminded him Don Whitehead's book, "The FBI Story," related some of the details of the Kuehn case. He said he had a copy of the book at home.

[REDACTED]

ACTION:

For record.

Bu file 65-1574.

[REDACTED]

1 - Mr. Belmont

REC-78
8/4
EX-112

65-1574-314

12 AUG 12 1960

NAT. INT. SEC.

57 AUG 16 1960

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Director, FBI (65-1574)

DATE: 7/25/62

FROM : SAC, Honolulu (65-4)

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN, aka
ESPIONAGE - J

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Belmont
- Mr. Mohr
- Mr. Callahan
- Mr. Conrad
- Mr. DeLoach
- Mr. Evans
- Mr. Malone
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Sullivan
- Mr. Tavel
- Mr. Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Miss Holmes
- Miss Gandy

Enclosed is news item which appeared in the 7/24/62 edition of the "Honolulu Star-Bulletin" and which reports subject's wife, Mrs. FRIEDEL KUEHN, now residing in Germany, is instituting a suit against the United States Government in amount of \$27,000 as "compensation for seizure and auctioning of their Hawaii property in 1945." It was noted she has engaged a Washington, D. C., attorney.

In 1944 the Office of Inspector General, U. S. Army, conducted detailed investigation on basis of allegations made by Mrs. KUEHN, then a repatriate to Germany, to the Legation of Switzerland and transmitted to the U. S. Department of State.

The disposition of the KUEHN real property in Hawaii was handled by the Alien Property Custodian.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-3-80 BY SP5/BJB

- 2 - Bureau (Enc)
- 1 - Honolulu

ENCLOSURE

FBI - POLICE
REC'D

FBI - POLICE
REC'D

8/8/62

REC'D

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

memo 8-2-62

38522

15/4 - 3/5
ESP

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Widow of Man Convicted as P.H. Spy Sues U.S.



Mrs. Friedel Kuehn

Otto Kuehn

By JOHN FIEHN

TIRSCHENREUTH, Germany, July 24 (AP) — Mrs. Friedel Kuehn, widow of Nazi spy Otto Kuehn, convicted by the U.S. for collaborating with the Japanese in laying plans for the sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, is seeking her husband's vindication.

In 1942 a military court at Honolulu sentenced Kuehn to death but the sentence was commuted to 50 years in prison. He was sent to Ellis Island for deportation in 1947, chose to go to Argentina from where he returned to Germany in 1955.

Bernhard Julius Otto Kuehn died in 1956 of cancer in a German hospital. He was 61.

Mrs. Kuehn, a broken woman of 70 living on a \$30 a month German old-age pension, also wants to receive

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

HONOLULU STAR-
BULLETIN

Honolulu, Hawaii

Date: 7/24/62
Edition: 4-star
Author: John Fiehn
Editor: William Ewing
Title: BERNARD JULIUS
OTTO KUEHN

Character: ESPIONAGE - J
or
Classification:
Submitting Office: HONOLULU

#268714
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-16-86 BY SP-6/...

65-15714

ENCLOSURE

\$27,000 from the U.S. government. She says, this is the money the U.S. Government got from auctioning Kuehn's property in 1945.

"My husband was a spy that never was," she said in an interview in this small country town barely five miles from West Germany's border with Communist Czechoslovakia.

She charged that high officers of the U.S. Navy at Hawaii used Kuehn as a scapegoat to cover up for what she called "extreme laxity in preparing against the Japanese sneak attack."

Mrs. Kuehn, tall, sinewy and chain smoking, said her family broke up as a result of persecution by the F.B.I., which handled the Kuehn case.

Her daughter Ruth and son Eberhard live in the United States. Ruth Kuehn's marriage with J. Carson Moore broke up. She married again. Son Eberhard's marriage also went on the rocks, she said.

'FALSELY ACCUSED'

"This is all because my husband was falsely accused and convicted," she said.

Mrs. Kuehn said another son, Hans Joachim, age 30, tried to commit suicide twice in May this year and was subsequently put in an asylum. She is attempting to secure his release.

"For 10 months after our arrest by the F.B.I., Hans Joachim was put in the care of an evil man who taught him nasty things. He never recovered from the harm done him then," Mrs. Kuehn charged.

"I demand compensation from the U.S. Government for all that has happened to us," she said, adding that a Washington lawyer is handling her case. She would not disclose his name.

Kuehn was convicted on charges of having co-operated with Japanese consular officials at Honolulu in spying out the position of the U.S. fleet in Pearl Harbor. He was also alleged to have arranged a special signal system from the window of houses at Kalama and Lanikai, apparently to direct Japanese enemy dive bombers.

'ALL ROT'

He was reported to have received at least \$14,000 from the Japanese.

"All rot," Mrs. Friedel Kuehn said 21 years afterwards.

"First of all, we weren't Nazis. We left Germany because we hated the Hitler dictatorship. That's why we went to Hawaii."

"My husband resigned his naval commission under the Nazis. He was an intelligence officer while in the navy but that was all over once he had quit the service," she said.

She said her husband's family had been wealthy. Kuehn's father was a professor of chemistry at Stettin. Otto Kuehn tried his hand in free-lance journalism after leaving the German Navy.

"But we had too much money, Otto really didn't have to work," Mrs. Kuehn said.

The entire Kuehn family was taken by surprise when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941, she said.

"I was standing before the mirror in our dressing room combing my hair when the attack came," she said.

"In the mirror, opposite the open window, I saw the planes dive and come up again. They looked like hornets buzzing all over the sky.

"My table radio was going full blast. Suddenly the jazz music program was interrupted. They are attacking—they are attacking," the announcer cried. The jazz music was continued."

She said she thought the Navy was carrying out a mock attack exercise.

"I couldn't believe anyone would play jazz while the fleet was ripped to pieces, while thousands died."

RUSHES HOME

Her husband rushed home, scared, she said, by the detonations. He had taken their youngest boy to Sunday school.

Later that day, the Kuehns joined in administering help at a Red Cross station. She said she gave shelter to 12 persons made homeless by the attack.

SHIPPED TO MAINLAND

The next day, the entire Kuehn clan was taken into custody.

"From that day until 1955, I did not see my husband again," she claimed. She and her husband were submitted to "third degree" interrogations by F.B.I. agents, she said.

"I will never forget it. One day, the prison guards arranged a special meal for me and my husband. We both were in solitary confinement in a Honolulu jail. They told us this was our last meal and we might as well enjoy it because we were to be executed the next morning."

After her husband's secret trial, she was shipped to the U.S. Mainland and kept in internment. In 1944 she was repatriated to Germany with her son Hans Joachim, aboard the Swedish liner Gripsholm, she said.

She charged that her elder son, Eberhard, was forcibly kept in the United States although, under the articles of the Geneva Convention, a minor should not be separated from his mother.

"They even pressed him into the Army and made him fight in Korea. I haven't seen my son since those days in Hawaii," she said.

"If my husband was guilty, why wasn't he executed?"

she asked. "Why was he released after serving only five of the 50 years to which he was sentenced?"

"While Otto was on Ellis Island awaiting deportation, he tried to stay in the United States. He failed. I advised him to go to Argentina rather than return to Germany because there are too many Americans around here and they would never have stopped bothering him. They didn't want him to tell the true story," Mrs. Kuehn said.

CRIES FREQUENTLY

She frequently cried while recounting her version of the Kuehn family's fate. Within two hours, she paced through a pack of cigarettes while chain-smoking and coughing.

Pictures of herself and her husband, a young handsome officer in the imperial German Navy, decorated the walls of her small, two-room apartment in a lower middle class tenement. Paint was flaking off the walls.

Tenderly she stroked two thick folders containing clippings and hand-written notes by her husband.

"He compiled that material on his case while in Argentina. He wanted to write a book. He was too sick to get down to doing it, though."

Fading photos of her children were on a desk in the sparsely-furnished apartment. A stale kitchen smell mixed with cigarette smoke.

"A lot of nonsense has been written about us Kuehns, don't believe it," she said.

She said all she wants now is to have the Kuehn family name cleared of the "false charges" brought against her husband.

"I don't want the money," she said. "All I intend to do is to recover the money for my children."

She refused to disclose the American addresses of her children because "they've suffered enough from bad publicity," she said. "Leave them in peace."



This is the building where the widow of Otto Kuehn lives in Tirschenreuth, Germany, near the Czechoslovak border.

Kuehn Flashed Position of U.S. Fleet to Japan

Otto Kuehn not only supplied Japan with information about the fleet at Pearl Harbor three days before the December 7, 1941, attack, but he confessed to the F.B.I. that he did so, according to

Office of War Information disclosures made in 1943.

A light in a dormer window reportedly transmitted the vital signals.

Kuehn, a German, is also reported to have boasted to

F.B.I. agents that he was so high in the Nazi Party that he was once considered for the position of chief of the German Gestapo under Heinrich Himmler.

Today Kuehn's widow

denies her husband was ever a spy, as she seeks \$27,000 compensation for a seizure and auctioning of their Hawaii property in 1945. Star-Bulletin files of the war

years tell a different story.

Kuehn and his wife were apprehended on December 8, 1941, and he was sentenced to be shot February 21, 1942, by a military commission in Honolulu.

Later the sentence was commuted to 50 years at hard labor.

It was not until June of 1943 that details of the secret trial were revealed.

According to a United Press report from Washington at that time, Kuehn confessed to the F.B.I. that he approached Japanese Vice Consul Otojiro Okuda sometime in November, 1941, and offered to assist the Japanese in obtaining information regarding United States defenses.

Okuda reportedly accepted and Kuehn, accompanied by his 10-year-old son, Hans Joachim, went to Pearl Harbor and made observations.

SIGNAL SYSTEM

"A few days later, he went to the Japanese consulate and submitted a signal system which he had worked out which could be used by the consulate in furnishing information regarding number and types of American ships in Pearl Harbor, as well as data about ships that had already left or were about to leave," the Office of War Information report said.

The signals included a display of light in the windows of houses owned by Kuehn and his wife at Kalama and Lanikai. The house at Kalama had a dormer window in the attic built specifically for signaling purposes. (Exact details on who received the signals were not revealed.)

The O.W.I. said Japanese officials thought Kuehn's original system of signals too complicated and Okuda, according to the F.B.I. report, told him to come back with a simpler system.

NUMBER OF SHIPS

"He (Kuehn) also handed to Okuda a written tabulation of the number and types of American ships then in Hawaiian waters," the O.W.I. said.

"The F.B.I. reports that on or about October 25, 1941, \$14,000 in cash had been delivered to Kuehn at his residence with the dormer window by Tasaï Morimura, fourth secretary of the Japanese consulate, the O.W.I. also said.

Kuehn, who served in the German Navy during World War I, had come to Honolulu in 1935, allegedly to study the Japanese language. He never went back to Germany, but made two trips to Japan during the next four years.

And during his first three years here, more than \$70,000 was deposited to his credit in a Honolulu bank by a Rotterdam bank association.

OPENS BEAUTY SHOP

Despite these deposits, Kuehn is reported to have been in financial difficulties in 1939 and his wife's daughter opened a beauty shop. This was later said to have been opened mainly to obtain Navy business.

Mrs. Kuehn went to Japan in 1940 and reportedly brought back \$16,000 in cash.

Kuehn was purportedly in the metal furniture business here, and the Kuehns entertained frequently and had a reputation for hospitality. He was also reportedly a nightly frequenter of downtown bars, where he spent money lavishly.

He frequently wrote letters to Honolulu editors in which he defended the pro-Nazi

French government of Pierre Laval.

Kuehn's trial was secret, and first public accusations linking him with spy activities were made in a divorce action filed by the husband of Mrs. Kuehn's daughter, early in 1943.

Among belongings of the Kuehns which were auctioned off for \$14,746 were such items as antique Chinese screens and vases, fine silverware, diamonds, pearls, Persian and Chinese rugs, ermine scarves, teakwood furniture of every description, Leica and Zeiss cameras, motion picture cameras, daggers, swords and hunting knives.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
Memorandum

- Tolson
- Belmont
- Mohr
- Callahan
- Conrad
- DeLoach
- Evans
- Malone
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

TO : **Mr. DeLoach**

DATE: **8-2-62**

FROM :

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-3-88 BY SP5/PLS

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: **MRS. FRIEDEL KUEHN, aka.**
MRS. BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN

BACKGROUND:

The Honolulu Office, by letter of 7-25-62, has forwarded a newspaper clipping from the Honolulu "Star-Bulletin" of 7-24-62, which reveals that Mrs. Kuehn the widow of Nazi spy Otto Kuehn, is suing the United States Government for \$27,000 as "compensation for seizure and auctioning of their Hawaii property in 1945." It was indicated that she had engaged a Washington, D. C., attorney. The newspaper story about Mrs. Kuehn, who is now residing in Germany, characterizes her as a "broken woman of 70 living on a \$30 a month German old age pension." She claims she was persecuted by the FBI and her husband was convicted of a crime he never committed. She made other false accusations about the FBI with respect to the manner in which her family and her were treated after their arrest subsequent to the bombing of Pearl Harbor on 12-7-41. After setting forth Mrs. Kuehn's remarks, the Honolulu "Star-Bulletin" newspaper then set forth the more accurate account of the story of Otto Kuehn and his family based upon its newspaper files. It described Otto Kuehn's espionage activities prior to the bombing of Pearl Harbor and the fact that he had confessed to the FBI some of his relationships with Japanese Government officials.

INFORMATION IN BUFILES:

[Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn and his wife Friedel were apprehended by military authorities in Honolulu on 12-8-41 at which time they were interned as dangerous enemy aliens.] The Bureau developed evidence of a sufficient nature to bring charges of espionage against Otto Kuehn. Inasmuch as Hawaii was under martial law at that time, Kuehn was tried by military commission. [He was found guilty and was sentenced to be executed; however, the sentence was subsequently commuted to 50 years imprisonment at hard labor.] Kuehn was transferred to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on 11-20-42.

[REDACTED]

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Sullivan

[Handwritten initials]
 (5)
 3 AUG 13 1962

[Handwritten signature]
 EX 116

MCT-13 65-1574-312

15 AUG 8 1962

b6
b7c

Memo

RE: MRS. FRIEDEL KUEHN

The allegations contained in Mrs. Kuehn's recent statement about the Bureau were the subject of an investigation by the Office of Inspector General, United States Army, in 1944. This investigation contained no derogatory information about the conduct of FBI investigations and interviews with Otto Kuehn and his wife.

[REDACTED]

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

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b7c

AM
A 4/1

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson	_____
DeLoach	_____
Mohr	_____
Wick	_____
Cooper	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
Felt	_____
Gale	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

TO : Mr. Tavel *Th*

DATE: JUL 17 1967

FROM : [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
(TRANSFER OF PRISONER'S MAIL)
ESPIONAGE

[REDACTED]

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 65-1574-275

We are in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits in order that we may dispose of those which serve no further purpose. Inasmuch as many of the bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to its retention or disposition. A notation as to the decision reached may be placed on this memorandum. The memorandum should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Branch, Room 1116, Identification Building, for filing in the case file.

*ALL
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b7c*

RECOMMENDATION:

That captioned bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material.

LWB:bjg

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-88 BY SP5/BJG

#268114

*Above indicated
bulky exhibit
has destroyed at
plus filing
7/18/67*

B

4-23

78 JUL 26 1967

5
65-1574-
NOT RECORDED
186 JUL 26 1967

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

TO :

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

DATE:

MAR 4 1968

FROM :

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT:

**BERNARD JULIUS OTTO KUEHN
ESPIONAGE**

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

Bulky Exhibit File Number: 65-1574-299

We are in the process of reviewing all bulky exhibits in order that we may dispose of those which serve no further purpose. Inasmuch as many of the bulky exhibits pertain to inactive cases and are occupying badly needed space, it is requested that the appropriate substantive supervisor review the above-listed bulky exhibit and render a decision as to its retention or disposition. A notation as to the decision reached may be placed on this memorandum. The memorandum should be returned to the Filing Unit of the Records Branch, Room 1116, Identification Building, for filing in the case file.

RECOMMENDATION:

That captioned bulky exhibit be reviewed and a decision rendered as to the retention or disposition of the material.

[REDACTED] b6
b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 3-30 BY [signature]

*Lab has
no objection
to destruction
3/5/68*

*Destroyed 3/11/68
[signature]*

65-1574
NOT RECORDED
MAR 14 1968

[signature]
7-3
5- [signature]

8 MAR 14 1968

4-43

August 18, 1971

REC- 32 65-1574-317

EX-100

[REDACTED]

b6
b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

In reply to your letter of August 14th, Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn was deported to Germany in 1948. He died in Germany in 1956. His wife and daughter were repatriated to Germany on January 1, 1945.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

MAILED 21
AUG 18 1971
FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-3-80 BY SP5/BJB
#268714

NOTE: [REDACTED] Bernard Julius Otto Kuehn and his wife were apprehended by military authorities in Honolulu on 12-8-41 at which time they were interned as dangerous enemy aliens. The Bureau developed evidence of a sufficient nature to bring charges of espionage against Otto Kuehn and he was tried by military commission in Hawaii. He was found guilty and was sentenced to be executed; however, the sentence was subsequently commuted to 50 years imprisonment at hard labor. He was transferred to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, on 11-20-42. (65-1574-316)

rdn
b6
b7c

- Tolson _____
- Felt _____
- Sullivan _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Brennan, C.D. _____
- Callahan _____
- Cooper _____
- Conrad _____
- Dalbey _____
- Gale _____
- Ponder _____
- Rosen _____
- Tavel _____
- Walters _____
- Soyars _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

[REDACTED] (3)

ENC 11 2 3 4 1211

dig
NAUG 30 1971
[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

[REDACTED]

Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

August 14, 1971

Dear Sir:

I am about to write for an American magazine an article on Bernard J. O'Kuehn, who spied for the Japanese at Pearl Harbor, was caught on Pearl Harbor Day, and sentenced to 50 years at hard labor (see release of Office of War Information, New York Times, June 15, 1943).

me
Could you, please, tell/what became of him and his family?

Very sincerely yours,
[REDACTED]

P.S. Until August 31, 1971, mail reaches me at
[REDACTED]

REC-32

65-1520-317

ack/nml
8-18-71
LEE: dij
nm/

EX-100

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-3-80 BY [signature]

AUG 1 1971

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b7c

g



College of Arts and Sciences
Department of History

September 3, 1974

[Redacted]
United States Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Room 4706
10th and Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20535

RECEIVED JULIUS OTTO KUEHN

First thank you for your time last Thursday morning.

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In the rush of things to leave D.C. on time, the reminder to telephone you slipped by. Kindly accept my apology.

Via return mail, would you kindly advise the cost of the summaries of investigations of [Redacted] and Otto Kuehn. Also, their relationship to the Kennedy Bill row in Senate - House Conference.

Again, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
[Redacted]

65-1574-318

NOT RECORDED
26 SEP 26 1974

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-4-86 BY SP5C/PLS
#268714

~~62-911~~

SEP 13 1974

ack by let
9-11-74
receivms

11-LEGAL COUNSEL

8057 ARLINGTON EXPRESSWAY
POST OFFICE BOX 17074
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32216
TELEPHONE 904-725-7730

ORIGINAL FILED IN 65-911-223

September 12, 1974

Law

65-9112

REC-48

65-1574-318

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

This is to acknowledge your letter of September 3rd to [REDACTED], of our Freedom of Information Act Unit.

We have determined that the cost of making the summaries, consisting of a total of 41 pages, on [REDACTED] and Otto Kuehn available to you would be \$30. This includes stipulated fees for searching, processing, and duplication. As you are aware, a 25 percent deposit of \$7.50, payable by check or money order to the Treasurer of the United States, is required to begin processing.

Concerning your inquiry regarding the Kennedy bill now in conference, the language of exemption (b)(7) of Title 5, United States Code, Section 552, has not been agreed upon by the Congress. Under the current law, the deletions in the summaries will be minimal; therefore, we are not in a position to comment whether or not it would be to your advantage to wait for final Congressional action on the bill.

If you wish to have us process the summaries, please indicate in writing your willingness to pay the fee and enclose the required deposit.

Sincerely yours,

C. M. Kelley

Clarence M. Kelley
Director

ALL
b6
b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 9-4-80 BY SP5CJ/Ob
#268712

MAILED 6
SEP 12 1974
FBI

- Assec. Dir. _____
- Dep. AD Adm. _____
- Dep. AD Inv. _____
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. _____
- Comp. Syst. _____
- Ext. Affairs _____
- Files & Com. _____
- Gen. Inv. _____
- Ident. _____
- Inspection _____
- Intell. _____
- Laboratory _____
- Plan. & Insp. _____
- Spec. Inv. _____
- Training _____
- Legal Coun. _____
- Telephone Rm. _____

- 1 - The Deputy Attorney General - Enclosure
- 1 - Bufile 62-115530 (FOI-REPLIES)

[REDACTED] (7)

SEE NOTE PAGE TWO

65-9112-223
ORIGINAL IN FILE

Section 7

b6
b7c

He had also requested information on Otto Kueln, on whom no record was located. During a visit to the FOIA Unit on 8-29-74, he advised the correct spelling was Kuehn. Otto Kuehn, German national residing in Hawaii, was charged and convicted for espionage activities in behalf of the Japanese Government prior to the bombing of Pearl Harbor (65-1574).