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SPY RING WORKING AGAINST U. S. IS BARED BY LEADER

Young American Held in Paris Admits Complicity in Plot; France and Great Britain Also Targets.

WIFE, VASSAR GIRL, ALSO IS HELD Espionage Agents Operated in Behalf of Germany and Russia, According to Confession of Switz.

BY RALPH HEINZEN
United Press Staff Correspondent
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PARIS, March 20.—Robert G. Switz, young New Yorker, was revealed by his own confession today as the Paris chief of an international spy gang which they operated on behalf of Soviet Russia and Germany to learn the military secrets of France, Great Britain and the United States.

With Switz is held his wife, the former Marjorie Tilley, Vassar girl. After a merciless cross-examination lasting far into the night, Switz broke down and made admissions which led to five more arrests, in addition to some twenty already made.

American and British secret agents were said to have co-operated in uncovering the ring.

The youthful Switz succeeded to leadership of the conspiracy a year ago, police said, after the original chiefs had been nearly trapped and driven from France.

His confession disclosed that he met agents of the international spy syndicate in the United States, where he and his wife were hired for the comparatively minor fee of \$200 a month and were sent to France.

There, Switz directed activities, received documents and paid agents furnished by the paymaster of the organization, Benjamin Bercovits, a Russian.

Police still sought the secret model of an automatic rifle stolen last year from Chateaurault, which Ingrid Bostrom, arrested with a Finnish spy group, insisted she saw at the home of Lydia Stahl, arrested last December with the Switzes. She is a Russian who has been in the United States.

DIG UP OLD LAW

Lawyers for the Switzes dug up an old law today and may ask immunity for them under a provision granting freedom in exchange for the voluntary denunciation of persons guilty of espionage against the United States.

Switz, an aviator, and his wife, a Vassar graduate, held in separate prisons for three months, were taken last night before Magistrate Ernest Benon, who is in charge of the espionage investigation.

They were questioned for nine hours, without food. Police said they involved themselves in contradiction after contradiction.

As a result, armed with names of persons never before suspected in the long inquiry Surete Generale agents raced through Paris in the early hours of today and gathered in five new persons to add to a score already under arrest or suspected.

FIVE UNDER ARREST

Those arrested today were: Colonel Du Moulin, also called Charras, a grand officer of the Legion of Honor by virtue of a distinguished army career and connected with the important military revenue "Armee et Democratie."

Vatrosas Reich, a native Russian naturalized as a Frenchman in order to obtain a position as assistant at the Biological Institute, where he knew the most intimate secrets concerning poison gases being tested for army use.

Aubry, an engineer attached to the army powder service. Mrs. Aubry.

Mrs. Davidovici, a Russian dentist, charged with centralizing the gang's mail service.

DOCUMENTS ARE SEIZED

Raids were conducted at homes of the five persons arrested. The secret service disclosed that members of the espionage ring gathered secret documents and photographs at the homes of Mrs. Davidovici. The documents, it was said, were taken to Switzerland, duplicated and sent on to Moscow and Berlin.

Books seized, it was asserted, purported to disclose that Colonel Du Moulin received 5,000 francs (\$330) a month from a foreign power in exchange for secret documents from the war college.

Aubry, they said, received a like amount for documents passing through his hands as an expert at national powder plants.

Reich, they charged, received 3,000 francs (\$200) a month for providing documents relating to gas production and research regarding gas masks and other anti-gas material.

BESSARABIAN WOMAN Sought

It was announced that acting on information obtained from Mrs. Switz, the secret service sought a Mrs. Anglard, a native of Bessarabia who apparently escaped from France when eighteen persons charged with membership in the gang were arrested Dec. 21.

Information obtained from the young couple led police to announce that the espionage gang with great thoroughness concentrated on secret military information touching navies, airplanes, poison gas, artillery, powders and automatic weapons.

Violence Flares in City Truck War; Driver, Victim of Mistaken Identity, May Lose Eye; Labor Board in Action

URGES LENIENCY



AVIATRIX URGES 'SIMPLE' RULES

Amelia Earhart Appeals to Senate Not to Draft 'Drastic' Bill.

By United Press

WASHINGTON, March 20.—Amelia Earhart Putnam, first woman to fly the Atlantic alone, appealed to a Senate committee today not to "kill aviation with strict regulations before it has a chance to grow."

One man may lose an eye because of the guerrilla warfare. Several men were beaten. Police were kept on the run throughout the early morning hours as calls of "fight" came into police headquarters as the delivery trucks attempted to stock city groceries.

Mistaken identity may cost Murle Weaver, 23, of 2303 Locust street, Terre Haute, his right eye. Early this morning Weaver and Chester McIndoo of Terre Haute were en route to Terre Haute when a carload of men attempted to stop them at State road 40 and Lynhurst drive.

"They wanted us to show our bills of lading," Weaver and McIndoo told police.

Struck by Flying Glass

Weaver pointed to a light in a filling station and told the men he was going to stop. He says some one in the car threw a brick breaking the glass of the truck. The flying glass cut Weaver's eye.

Weaver was treated at city hospital, where physicians say he may lose sight of the eye.

Police believe that Weaver's truck was mistaken for a Kibler machine. It was loaded with tomato juice and is owned by Leo Baldwin, 328 North Twenty-first street, Terre Haute.

Roy Lintsie, 1338 Hiatt street, Kibler company driver, was beaten by four men who drove up to his truck as it was delivering groceries. They pulled Lintsie from the truck and administered the whipping. Lintsie told police that he recognized the men as former employees of the Kibler company.

MARTIN INSULL MUST FACE U. S. CHARGES

Chicago Utility Magnate to Be Turned Over by Canada.

By United Press

TORONTO, Ontario, March 20.—The warrant of commitment and extradition order which will send Martin J. Insull, former Chicago utility magnate, back to the United States for trial, today needed only the formal signature of Sir William Mulock, chief justice of Ontario.

The scaffold was swung from the top of the hall above the Delaware street sidewalk. Both men were painting at the time of the accident.

SHOOTS WIFE, CHILD, ENDS HIS OWN LIFE

New Jersey Man, 26, Kills Mate, 17, and Girl, 3.

By United Press

SALEM, N. J., March 20.—George Beaston, 26, killed his wife, Mabel, and his daughter, Ellen, 3, today and then committed suicide.

They were taken to the United States Veterans hospital on Cold Spring roads.

Several passersby on North Delaware street narrowly escaped serious injury as the guard rail of the scaffold broke and the two men were hurled to the sidewalk below.

The scaffold was swung from the top of the hall above the Delaware street sidewalk. Both men were painting at the time of the accident.

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