

December 20th 1917.

Mr. H.G.Clabaugh,
Special Agt. Chicago, Ill and
Mr. Wm. M. Offley,
Special Agt. New York, N.Y.

One of the most important defendants in the Hindu case, now under trial here, is Tarak Nath Das, a naturalized American citizen. After working for some time with the German Government in Berlin and elsewhere on the continent of Europe in 1914 and 1915, he was sent, in 1916, as a German agent to work in the Orient.

Tarak Nath Das left San Francisco by SS. Tenyo Maru, August 26th 1916, and on board the ship became a close acquaintance of two ladies, Miss La Motte and Mrs. Chadbourne. This friendship continued during the greater part of Das' stay in the Orient and all three constantly met in China. Miss La Motte and Mrs. Chadbourne returned to the U.S.A. shortly before Das, and it is clear that he still regards these ladies as his staunch supporters for we hear that he applied to them to raise bail on his arrest at San Francisco.

Das, while in the Orient, engaged in Pro-German and Pan-Asiatic propaganda work and published some extremely offensive publications in which the attitude of this country in connection with politics in the Orient was criticised in words which are far from unprejudiced and closely border on treason towards this

country. Certain portions of two letters written by Das to these two ladies have come into my possession. I quote here two extracts from these letters:

- (1) "Please give the MSS to Miss La Motte so that she would be ***** it with other MSS."
- (2) "The book by the Asiatic statesman printed in Japanese which was out on the 11th of this month has also been prohibited so you can easily think of the importance of the book and I hope that the English edition would be out soon. I hope the translation of the Appendix would reach you soon. Please do not take it lightly when I say that publication of the book would mean a nation wide sensation because of certain revelations which are not fantastic but based upon very cold-blooded facts."

These extracts refer to a book entitled "The Isolation of Japan in world politics", quite the worst of the publications to which I have referred above, and which is an important exhibit in the Hindu case here. "The Asiatic Statesman" is Tarak Nath Das himself. It seems quite clear that copies of this book and correspondence relating to it will be found in the possession of these two ladies.

These two ladies are constant companions and are in the habit of traveling about together, so I am accordingly addressing both New York and Chicago in this matter. Our information is that Mrs. Chadbourne's permanent address is "1550 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, Ill." the residence of R. T. Crane Jr., who is Mrs. Chadbourne's brother. Miss Ellen N. La Motte was last heard of as staying at the Buckingham Hotel, New York, on Nov. 21, 1917. Her permanent address is "1603 Mount Salem Lane, Wilmington, Del."

I should be very grateful if you would have these two ladies interviewed in connection with their dealings with T. N.

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Das and a subpoena issued, should you think necessary, on them to produce all letters and manuscripts of T. H. Das which may be in their possession.

Kindly let me know as soon as possible the result of your inquiries and forward to me any papers which the ladies may produce so that I may determine if it should be necessary to subpoena these ladies to appear at San Francisco.

Respectfully,

United States Attorney.

JWP-HF

October 8th 1917.

Capt. Robert L. Russell, U.S.N.

Commandant Twelfth Naval District,

San Francisco.

My Dear Sir:

At the request of Captain Winram, I am jotting down a few points that come to my mind in regard to the evidence we possess against J. C. Hizar who is under indictment in connection with the so-called Hindu Military Enterprise conspiracy. I feel that in view of the fact that it is not considered proper for the Government to disclose its evidence prior to trial, that the Navy Department should be content with the following statement:

Hizar is a lawyer at San Diego. Hans Tauscher, with German funds, in the month of January 1915, purchased eleven carloads of guns and ammunition to be shipped to the revolutionaries in India. These arms and ammunition were first taken by the Santa Fe Railroad and delivered in San Diego to the order of one Walter C. Hughes. A man giving the fictitious name of J. B. Bowen conducted a correspondence with J. C. Hizar and engaged him to attend to the shipping of these arms and ammunition. The man Bowen is a fictitious agent of the German Government and never lived in Mexico, although the communications between him

and Hizar appeared to come from San Blas. The funds that Hizar received in connection with this matter were \$19,000.

The German chancellor in San Francisco, Henry Kaufmann, took \$14,000 to the International Banking Corporation in San Francisco and purchased a draft in favor of J.C.Hizar for \$14,000 and this money was paid to Hizar and by him expended, through the American National Bank of San Diego. He also received \$5,000 from the Germans from another source.

The plan was to ship these arms and ammunition on a schooner known as the ANNIE LARSON, and simultaneously, or within a short time after the sailing of the ANNIE LARSON, the steamer MAVERICK was to meet her at sea and the arms and ammunition were to be trans-shipped and taken to the revolutionaries in India.

The schooner ANNIE LARSON was chartered through a man named J.H.Rinder in San Francisco, the work having been done by M. Martinez and J.C.Hizar. Hizar would place the charter charges in the hands of Martinez and Martinez would forward the sums of money to the owners of the schooner, Olsen & Mahony of San Francisco.

The MAVERICK was purchased with German funds and fitted out with German money and had aboard five Hindus at the time she sailed from San Pedro to meet the ANNIE LARSON. She also had a number of German agents on board. The ANNIE LARSON wandered around for about four months and being unable to make connection with the MAVERICK, she put into port at Hoquiam, Wash. The arms and ammunition were seized by the authorities there, and a man who gave his name as Walter H. Page, was the supercargo on

this vessel. Walter H. Page was none other than Capt. Othma, a German Captain of an interned German vessel formerly at Honolulu. This man Page or Othma, took an assignment of the charter party and was therefore, so far as the record showed, the real charterer of this vessel, although he himself a German Captain. The transfer of the charter party to this German was with the knowledge and assistance of J. C. Hizar.

The man Bowen was no doubt another German agent whose identify has never been discovered. Hizar is the only man in San Diego who did business direct with Page and with Bowen.

After the completion of the money transaction, Hizar drew his check in favor of Bowen for the remainder of the German fund, and Bowen cashed the check in Los Angeles and he never has been heard from since.

As soon as the Schooner ANNIE LARSEN put into port at Washington, Hizar was then afraid to authorize the payment of any more charges to the owner of the vessel, and accordingly Capelle and J. L. Bley with German money here in San Francisco, made the remainder of the payments that were due under the charter party agreement. In other words, Hizar accepted and handled the funds for the Germans, routed this vessel, hired guards for her while she was in port, and is the only man who could give us the real name of Bowen and is the only man who could have given us the information that Page was none other than the German Captain Othma.

This was a big transaction involving several millions of dollars. Hizar himself received large fees out of the transaction, the exact amount of which is unknown. The broker

who handled the matter for Hizar in clearing the vessel, received himself \$6,000 as his commission. A witness by the name of Miller told us of the meeting of Bowen in the office of Hizar. The correspondence between Hizar and Bowen when scrutinized itself will show that they each knew that they were conducting a fictitious transaction for the purpose of hiding the real facts.

Many other circumstances are in existence in connection with this case which, when viewed from a disinterested standpoint, I think would convince any one that Hizar knew that he was acting as a German agent in the dispatch of these arms and that he knew he was dealing with German agents who were using fictitious names.

Respectfully,

United States Attorney.

1607

LOUIS BARTLETT
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
1700 CLAUS SPECKELS BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO
CABLE: BARTLANG TEL. KEARNY 5750

LB:C

8 November 1917.

Rec'd. 11-9-19
Referred to Mr. *A. D. Davis*
Ans'd. *Embley* 19

Dear Sir:

I have applied to the inspector in charge of the immigration office at Sumas, Washington, for a certified copy of the record in the cases of Harnam Singh, Bhag Singh and Balwant Singh, who were held by the Immigration Officers at Sumas in 1914, because they did not return to Canada within the few hours leave which they had to remain on the American border. He replied that this record can be furnished only on request of the United States District Attorney at San Francisco, or on authority of the Bureau of Immigration at Washington, D. C. I desire this record for use at the trial of Paraknath Das set for the 20th inst. Kindly send me a request to the Inspector in charge of the immigration office at Sumas, Washington, that I may obtain this record.

Thanking you for your courtesy, I am

Very truly yours,

Louis Bartlett

John W. Preston, Esq.,
United States District Attorney,
Post Office Bldg.,
San Francisco.

Copy of telegram.

Rec'd. 11-10 1917
Referred to Mr. ~~Sumas~~ *John*
Ans'd. *Settled Nov. 10. 1917*

79 Paid 8 Ext M L
San Francisco Cal Nov 5th 1917

Inspector in Charge

Sumas, Wash

in 1914 Hernan Singh Bhag Singh and Balwan Singh were taken in charge by your office because they did not return to Canada upon expiration of the time they were allowed to remain at Sumas period. In the proceedings had testimony of Taraknath Das was taken period. I desire a certified copy of the entire proceedings please wire collect how soon I can receive it and the cost

Louis Bartlett

1700 Clas Spreckles Bldg
San Francisco
1120

No. 249

Sumas, Wash., Nov. 6, 1917

Copy to U. S. Commissioner of Immigration, Seattle, Wash., thru Inspector in Charge, Vancouver, B. C. Copy of reply enclosed.

W. C. Jenkins,
Inspector in Charge.

No. 1552.

Vancouver, B.C., Nov. 7, 1917.

Respectfully forwarded to U.S. Attorney, San Francisco, with the advice that the writer was the officer who conducted the examination above mentioned.

*and can verify to ~~Sumas~~ *W. C. Jenkins**

JLZ/AJK

Inspector in Charge.

San Francisco, Cal. Nov. 15, 1917.

United States Attorney.
Honolulu.

Taraknath Das petitions court for return papers seized at Honolulu alleging unlawful seizure. Wire brief statement for counter affidavit. Believe party who took over funds for Maverick was Alex. Victor Kircheisen who left here on Samoa June 8th and sailed from Honolulu on Siberia June 23rd.

Preston,

United States Attorney.

counter affidavit. Believe party who took over impregnates for Jenipaezya was Edisp Naezmup Yaezpviaetil who left here on salify June eighth and sailed from Javed on shinned June twenty third.

Preston,
United States Attorney.

official business.
Charge Acct. U.S. Attorney.
Send by wireless Govt. South
San Francisco.