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U. S. NAVAL STATION, Hawaii.
Pearl Harbor, T.H.

November 15, 1917.

From: Aid for Information, 14th Naval District.
To: Aid for Information, 12th Naval District.
Subject: A.V.Kirchesen.

1. Kindly advise United States District Attorney, Preston, San Francisco, that District Attorney Huber, of Honolulu, has shown me cablegram received from Preston today and in this connection I can give the following information:

I secured possession of personal diary of Capt. Grasshof, late Commanding Officer on German Gunboat "GEIER" interned at Honolulu. In this diary was a type-written report of a German agent known as K 17. From certain evidence in this report and through exhaustive search, we have reason to believe that K 17 was A. V. Kirchesen, then Quartermaster on S. S. "CHINA". Report was dated Feb. 27th, 1915 and the "CHINA" was here at that date. We find that Kirchesen was discharged from "CHINA" April 27th, 1915, because of too strong German sentiment; later reported by Army Intelligence Office, San Francisco, as working on docks at San Pedro, California, Sept. 1917. From a recent report from District Attorney at Los Angeles, to us, we learn he cannot be located there. Charles Tromp at present Steerage Steward on S. S. "CHINA" and on "CHINA" at the time Kirchesen was there, states he saw an article in San Francisco paper during August 1917, which told of Kirchesen's arrest in Denmark for having given information to the German Government on the sailing of ships from Denmark. Tromp states name was spelt differently but from description was convinced it was Kirchesen.

2. We will try to trace in every way, Kirchesen's movements here during June 1915 and will report more fully. Capt. Grasshof in his diary, refers to the arrival of A. H. Wehde here, all of which information I will furnish in a day or so.

(Sgd.) WILLIAM TODD.

San Francisco, Cal.

Nov. 23. 1917.

Hon. John W. Preston,
U.S. Dist. City,
City.

Dr. Sir:

I see you have one Dad in your conspiracy net. I have known this kindoo for some time - met him at Drum a few years ago when he was in the employ of the Pacific Gas & Electric Co. He knows all about the "East Indian Con-
spiracy", and might be induced to tell what he knows; in which event it should be an easy matter, it seems to me, to convert the other members of the gang.

Wishing you continued success in your good work, I am,

Very truly yours,

J. Walter Smith

714 Ashbury St.,
City.

ans. Mr. Roth

(COPY)

WmT-VFS.

U.S. NAVAL STATION, HAWAII
Pearl Harbor, T.H.

November 22, 1917.

From: Aid for Information, 14th Naval District.
To: Aid for Information, 12th Naval District.
Subject: Affidavit of Johann Otto Weber.

1. Yesterday I secured the enclosed affidavit from Weber, which I turned over to the District Attorney here and he is forwarding original by this mail to District Attorney Preston, in San Francisco. It will probably be of interest in the present trial covering the GERMAN-HINDU PLOT. Kindly advise Preston. Weber is available as a witness if desired.

(Signed) WILLIAM TODD.

(COPY)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA)
) S.S.
TERRITORY OF HAWAII)

1. JOHANN OTTO WEBER, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and say that I am a German citizen living in Honolulu:

That I came from India, arriving in Honolulu on the Steamship "OHILIA" July 21st, 1916:

That I called at the German Consulate in Honolulu on my arrival and there saw Rodiek, German Consul, and Schroeder, Vice-Consul, my object in calling at the Consulate being to register;

That on finding out that I had been a long time in India and could speak Hindustan, Rodiek asked me if I would like to return to India and said that he could arrange it if I did;

That the following day Schroeder called me up at the Lucas House on Nuuanu Street where I was staying and later came with an automobile and took me to Hackfeld & Company and there made me the following proposition:

He asked me to send my wife on to San Francisco stating that he would pay her expenses there and while she was there. I was to take a package of letters first to ex-Vice Consul, Freudenberg at Colombo, Ceylon, and if Freudenberg was not there on my arrival I was to continue on and see a Mr. Schuler in Calcutta and deliver the letters to him. On the delivery of the letters I would receive instructions as to what I was to do in India and I was told that if I carried out instructions to their satisfaction, I would receive from five to ten thousand dollars for my services, together with all expenses.

I was given the pass word PAL which I was to give to Freudenberg at Colombo or to Mr. Schuler in Calcutta;

That I refused this offer and that I was approached by Schroeder three or four times afterwards to undertake the same proposition, but refused;

Further deponent saith not:

Subscribed and sworn to before me
and in my presence by Johann Otto Weber this
21st day of November, A.D. 1917.

FEDERAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY

POULSEN RADIO SYSTEM

TELEGRAM

351

E. W. HOPKINS, Vice-Pres.

JOHN L. DEAHL, Pres.

H. P. VEEDER, Vice-Pres. & Gen. Mgr.

The Federal Telegraph Company transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions accepted by sender.

Received at HOBART BLDG., San Francisco, Calif.

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HONOLULU NOV 23rd 1917.

UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

SAN FRANCISCO (CALIF)

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All witnesses will reach San Francisco by Whiteminia
about now twenty seventh.

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GIVE THE "FEDERAL" THE ANSWER—GARFIELD 1303

S. F. 76
FEDERAL

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