

Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei

Gauleitung

Hessen-Nassau

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Before the Tribunal: The Investigation of Friedrich Kellner

On three occasions the local leaders of the Nazi Party in Laubach, and the leaders of the Party in the headquarters in Giessen warned Friedrich about his attitude and threatened to send him and his wife to a concentration camp. To protect his wife, and to continue to be able to record his observations in his diary, Friedrich limited his overt anti-Nazi activities.

Incident 2: Before the Court in Giessen

February 19, 1940:

Friedrich was summoned to the regional court in Giessen to appear before Court President Colnot. Also present at the meeting was the area political leader of the National Socialists, Heinrich Backhaus.

Backhaus complained that Friedrich continued to refuse to join the Nazi Party. He also noted that Friedrich would not join any of the Party's auxiliary organizations and was impertinent to Party members who solicited contributions.

President Colnot acknowledged that Friedrich had a choice in the matter, but he added that it was unthinkable for an official of Friedrich's standing to have a wife who refused even to participate in the Nazi Party Women's Auxiliary.

President Colnot told him that no action would be taken against Friedrich or Pauline at this time, but that Friedrich would be monitored closely, and that both he and his wife needed to alter their attitudes.

Upon his return home, Friedrich promised Pauline he would be more careful in the future, and he would no longer deliberately antagonize the Nazis.