

# Camp Hale Soldier Is Caught in Mexico With 2 Escaped Nazis

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—(UP)—Director J. Edgar Hoover of the Federal Bureau of Investigation tonight announced the arrest in Mexico of Dale H. Maple, former Harvard student and now a private in the U. S. Army, and the filing of a treason charge against him for allegedly helping two German prisoners of war to escape.

Hoover said the prisoners, Earhard Schwichtenberg and Heinrich Kikillus, escaped from Camp Hale, Colo., Internment Camp last Wednesday and were subsequently found to have been accompanied by Maple, a fluent speaker of German.

## Three Miles Inside Mexico

Maple, 24, and the prisoners were apprehended three miles south of the Mexican border by Dedaro Martenias Mejia, custom

## Maple's Dad Won't Talk About Arrest

SAN DIEGO, Calif., Feb. 19.—(UP)—L. G. Maple, father of Dale Maple, tonight said he had not been informed of his son's arrest and would make no comment.

Maple, who said he worked at the National Iron Works, seemed belligerent when called on the telephone, and would not give any information about his son.

School records showed that Dale graduated from San Diego High School at 16, with high honor ratings.

official assigned to the Mexican Immigration Office, who notified the FBI.

Maple was found to have purchased a sedan at Salida, Colo., on the day of the escape. He reported for sick leave at that time.

Maple was the subject of an FBI investigation in 1940 after being dismissed from the Harvard University ROTC because of alleged pro-Nazi sympathies.

(In Denver, the FBI said Maple had been requested to resign from a German club at Harvard because of his insistence on singing Nazi Party songs. That request presumably followed his dismissal from the Harvard ROTC.)

(Denver FBI agents further quoted Maple as having said he would "do anything" to aid Germany in the war against the Allies.)

## Held Under \$100,000 Bond

Last July he was arrested at Deadwood, S. D., on a charge of grand larceny while he was stationed at Fort Meade, S. D. The charge was subsequently changed to tampering with an automobile without the owner's consent after he had allegedly stolen a car, wrecked it and then paid for damages.

Hoover did not divulge details of how Maple aided the escape.

U. S. Commissioner Jess Williams in Las Cruces, N. M., on charges of treason, and then taken to Albuquerque, for grand jury action. Maple pleaded innocent and bond was fixed at \$100,000. He faces a possible death penalty.

## Three FBI agents left with the two German war prisoners—for Camp Hale.

Maple was questioned behind closed doors for five hours. The 165-pound, ruddy complexioned, blond soldier still was wearing his army uniform when arraigned.

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# Hale Officers Suspected Maple As Pro-German

CAMP HALE, Feb. 19.—(UP)—Arrest of Pfc. Dale Maple on charges of treason, announced today in Washington, climaxed a search which began last Wednesday, when he disappeared from Camp Hale at the same time two German prisoners escaped from the Camp Hale Internment Center.

Col. John Chase, commander of the camp, characterized Maple as "highly intelligent and plausible."

Suspicion that Maple had aided the Germans in their escape was directed to the colonel at once, as army officers previously had suspected him of pro-German sympathies, and in his announcement of the Germans' escape, Colonel Chase simultaneously stated that "the two Germans, neither of whom is believed to speak any English, may be traveling with Maple."

(The Associated Press quoted Lt. William W. Garner, public relations officer at Camp Hale, as reporting all three were believed to have traveled in U. S. Army uniforms and with forged passes. Camp Hale authorities said the manner in which the escape was perpetrated is still under investigation.)

Maple's home is in San Diego, Calif. He was stationed at Camp Hale at the time of the Germans' escape.