

British Hang Two German Spies

Nazi Agents Were Dropped From Plane, Rowed Ashore With Full Equipment

LONDON, Aug. 7.—Two German spies who landed in Britain elaborately equipped to send information to the continent were hanged at Wandsworth Prison yesterday.

They were Karl Theo Druke, 25, formerly a merchant, and Werner Heinrich Waelti, 35, formerly a chauffeur.

They were landed off the Banffshire coast by a German seaplane and rowed ashore in a rubber boat in darkness. Both were arrested a few hours later. They had pistols, large sums of British currency, food and radio transmitting and receiving apparatus.

Druke and Waelti were the fifth and sixth persons to be executed in Britain for espionage since the war began.

“The spies were dropped some distance from the coast and rowed several hours in a collapsible boat similar to those used by pilots who are shot down,” a Home Office announcement said. “On reaching shore they tried to sink their boat. Carrying suitcases, one turned west and the other east in an endeavor to find railway stations.

“A few hours later one of them was found looking at a timetable in a railway station. He possessed a complete spy outfit, wireless, pistol, English money and food, including German sausage.

“Suspecting that he might have a companion, search was instituted and the rubber boat recovered. Later in the day the second man was arrested in Edinburgh. This man attempted to reach his loaded pistol.

“The spies carried foreign passports and spoke English.”



THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 1941