

Box 6  
Folder 6  
Item 29  
Page 1For Release  
SUNDAY, MAY 3, 1942

Ch. Biddle

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

51/6 Attorney General Francis Biddle announced today that out of a total of 2,548 cases of alien enemies heard before local Alien Enemy Hearing Boards through April 25, he had ordered internment for the duration of the war for 1,329, parole for 875 and outright release for 371.

Of the total number of alien enemies involved, Mr. Biddle said, 1,275 were Germans, 96 were Japanese and 277 were Italians.

Under the procedure which has been followed since the declaration of war, alien enemies believed to be dangerous are apprehended by the FBI. Each alien is held in custody by the Immigration and Naturalization Service until a hearing on his case can be held before an Alien Enemy Hearing Board sitting, usually, in the community from which the alien comes. After hearing all evidence in the case, including, usually, the alien himself and any character witnesses or affidavits he may present, the board may recommend either outright release, release on parole, or internment. These recommendations are reviewed by the Alien Enemy Control Unit of the Department of Justice and final decision in each case is made by the Attorney General.

Mr. Biddle pointed out that parole is usually accorded those alien enemies against whom no subversive intent can be proved but who, through family ties or former membership in suspected organizations, leave some doubt as to their loyalty. In order to secure parole they must be sponsored by a reputable citizen and report regularly to him as well as to the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Violation of parole results in immediate internment for the duration of the war.

In order to be released outright alien enemies must prove their loyalty beyond question. In the case of many of those who have been released, their

(OVER)

ASW 014.311 Second

5-3-42

apprehension in the first instance was due to some suspicious circumstance which they were able later to explain satisfactorily. Mr. Biddle said that of the 371 released to date, 215 were released during the first month after hearings began.

The following table shows, by nationalities, the disposition of alien enemy cases through April 25.

Nationality	Released	Paroled	Interned	Total
German	228	491	556	1,275
Italian	73	91	113	277
Japanese	70	293	633	996
TOTAL	371	875	1,329	2,548
	(14%)	(34%)	(52%)	(100%)

*See Section  
A-1  
a.k.a.*