

examination of the container by the Military Authorities disclosed that it had been fitted with a false bottom. Under this bottom were thirty-three newspaper clippings and a letter in the German language.

Information concerning this discovery having been referred to the R.C.M.P., on May 25, under authority of a Search Warrant, the Lulu Island home of Mrs. Bronny was carefully searched and quantities of documents, most of which were in the German language, were seized. Among the papers found were Mrs. Bronny's Certificate of Membership in the N.S.D.A.P., issued in Berlin on March 1, 1937. An interesting hand-drawn plan of Kananaskis Internment Camp, and a picture of the Camp taken from a German newspaper was also seized. Mrs. Bronny admitted that she had endeavoured to send information to her husband by placing it under the false bottom of the container which had been examined in Kananaskis Camp. She was, of course, immediately placed under arrest.

The evidence in this regard was then submitted to the Attorney-General of the Province of British Columbia, and his authority to proceed by way of indictment was obtained. It was decided that proceedings should be taken against the accused in connection with only one of the offences committed by her. Accordingly, information was laid under the provisions of Section 16(d) of the Defence of Canada Regulations, charging Mrs. Bronny with "having in her possession, in a manner likely to prejudice the safety of the State or the efficient prosecution of the War, a document containing information purporting to be information with respect to the location of Prisoners of War, to wit, a sketch or plan of the Internment Camp for enemy aliens known as Kananaskis, situated at Seebe, in the Province of Alberta."

On June 15, 1940, the accused appeared for preliminary hearing and was committed to Oakalla Prison Farm pending her trial. Mrs. Bronny elected for speedy trial and appeared before His Honour Judge Lennox at Vancouver, on June 24, 1940. As witnesses for the Defence the wives of six interned enemy aliens were called, but, since their evidence was conflicting, it carried no weight with the trial judge. The accused was accordingly found Guilty and sentenced to serve two years imprisonment and in addition to pay a fine of \$500.00. The severity of the penalty imposed would indicate that the trial judge took into consideration the seriousness of the offence which had been committed.

Mrs. Bronny later entered an appeal on the grounds that there was no evidence to prove that the diagram of the internment camp was in her possession in a manner likely to prejudice the safety of the State or the efficient prosecution of the War, and that there was no evidence adduced to indicate criminal intent. The appeal against conviction, upon these grounds, was heard by the Court of Appeal of British Columbia on September 17, 1940, and dismissed. Appeal was also made against the severity of the sentence imposed, but judgment in this respect has, at the time of going to press, not been handed down.

This case is outstanding since it appears that it is the first instance where action was taken by indictment for an infraction of the Defence of Canada Regulations, and having been taken to the Appeal Court of British Columbia, it also established a valuable precedent concerning the interpretation of what constitutes activities likely to prejudice the safety of the State or the efficient prosecution of the War.