

Verbundkatalog Kalliope

My naturalization as an American citizen...

Mann, Klaus

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E-Mail: monacensia.literaturarchiv@muenchen.de

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STATEMENT:

To whom it may concern:

My naturalization as an American citizen has been delayed at a moment when I was on the point of going overseas with my military unit - the 1st Mobile Radio Broadcasting Company. I am particularly eager to work with this organization abroad, and believe - as do my officers - that I could be useful in this particular outfit. I am told, however, that I shall not be acceptable as a member of the company, unless I become an American citizen in the nearest future.

Unfortunately, it seems that the postponement of my naturalization is due - in part at least - to political considerations, or, to be more precise, to the erroneous suspicion that my political ideas do not correspond with the ideals proclaimed and promoted by the Government and the people of the United States. I consider it necessary, therefore, to declare - solemnly and emphatically - that such suspicions (if they exist) are completely unjustified.

I want to repeat and stress, in particular, that I am not, and have never been, a Communist; that I am not, and have never been, a member or a "fellow traveler" of the Communist Party - neither here nor abroad -; that I have never received - neither directly nor indirectly - any financial support from the Communist Party or from any so-called Communist "front organization;" that the magazine "Decision" (which I edited in New York City, from January, 1941, to February, 1942) was neither financially nor morally supported by the Communists. It was, quite the contrary, the definite and often-announced purpose of that "Review of Free Culture" to serve the democratic principles on which the moral cause of the United Nations is based.

My literary work as well as my personal record are apt to prove that I am, and have always been, an active and uncompromising supporter of the believes and tenets formulated in the American Constitution. Nobody will be able to trace one anti-democratic, or politically equivocal, sentence in my entire literary output.

I am the author of about 20 books, 8 of which are available in American or English editions - nemely:

- "The Fifth Child" (A long short story; New York, 1927)
- "Alexander" (Historical Novel; N.Y., 1929)
- "Journey into Freedom" (Novel; N.Y. & London, 1935)
- "Psthetic Symphony", A Tchaikovski Novel (London, 1936)
- "Escape to Life", in Collaboration with Erika Mann (Boston, 1939)
- "The Other Germany", in Collaboration with Erika Mann (N.Y., 1939)
- "The Turning Point: 35 Years in this Century" (N.Y., 1942)
- "André Gide, and the Crisis of Modern Thought" (N.Y., 1943)

Moreover, I contributed to all leading German liberal periodicals during the years from 1925 to 1933, and, during the years of my voluntary exil from Nazi Germany, to most of the important daily papers and magazines of Switzerland, France, Holland, Czechoslovakia, and so forth. As for American periodicals, the following have published - more or less regularly - my contributions: "The Atlantic", "Esquire", "Town & Country", "The Saturday Review of Literature", "Common Sense", "The Nation", "Free World", "The Survey Graphic", "Tomorrow", "The American Mercury", The Washington "Post", "The Chicago Sun", etc.

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This statement may be confirmed and amplified by many American and European friends who are familiar with my work and background. The following names are but a selection from a more extensive list I might present, if necessary or advisable:

President Joseph Brewer, Olivet College, Olivet, Michigan
(acquainted with me since 1927)

Ernest Boyd, 151 East 19th St., N.Y.C.
(acquainted with me since 1927)

Selden Rodman, 8 Prospect Place, N.Y.C. (now in the U.S. Army)
(American poet and editor of "Common Sense"; acquainted with
me since 1929)

Horace Gregory, 524 Riverside Drive, N.Y.C.
(American poet; professor at Sarah Lawrence College; "Literary
Advisor" of "Decision" Magazine; acquainted with me since
1936)

Robert Sherwood, 25 Sutton Place, N.Y.C.
(American playwright; "Literary Advisor" of "Decision" Mag.)

Prof. Albert Guérard, 333 West 56th St., N.Y.C.
(formerly at Stanford University, Calif., now connected with
the OWI)

Julian Green, 455 East 57th St., N.Y.C.
(French-American writer; formerly at Camp Ritchie, now with
OWI; "Literary Advisor" of "Decision" Mag.; acquainted with
me since about 1930)

Prof. G. A. Borgese, Chicago University, Chicago, Ill.
(husband of my youngest sister, Elizabeth)

Prof. Peter Pringsheim, Chicago University, Chicago, Ill.
(brother of my mother, Katja Mann, née Pringsheim)

Dr. Gottfried Fischer, L.B. Fischer, Publishers, 381 Fourth Ave.,
N. Y. C.
(My publisher, in Germany from 1928-1933; now, in the U.S.)

Dr. Fritz Landshoff, same address
(My publisher, in Amsterdam, Holland, from 1933-1938;
now, in the U.S.)

Mrs. Eileen Garrett, "Creative Age Press", 11 East 44th St.
N. Y. C.
(Publisher of my recent book, "André Gide.")

Prof. Bruno Walter, 930 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C.
(famous conductor; acquainted with me since my childhood)

Bruno Frank, 513 N. Camden Drive, Beverly Hills, Calif.
(German refugee writer; acquainted with me since my
childhood.)

Frenz Werfel, c/o Viking Press, 18 East 48th St., N.Y.C.
(Austrian writer; acquainted with me since about 1936)

Major Markey, Consulting Servise, Camp Joseph T. Robinson, Ark.
(Acquainted with me from the time of my Basic Training)

Lt. Hans Habe, 1st Mobile Radio Broadc. Co.

Lt. Hans Wallenberg, dito

CARAVAN BOND