

Handbill

This anti-German handbill was distributed to residents of Barton County, Kansas, on April 18, 1918. It was directed at those of German birth or descent who were suspected of being loyal to Germany during World War I. Newspaper reports indicate that, between midnight and 1:30 a.m., the handbill was distributed individually to almost every residence and business in Great Bend, and a plane was used to drop handbills on Hoisington, Redwing, and Larned. In Ellinwood, the handbill was distributed by men on horseback firing pistols in the air. Newspapers report similar late night distributions had been conducted in other parts of the state in the preceeding days. On April 23 and again on June 10, a group of Night Riders tarred and feathered Mennonite leaders in McPherson who spoke against supporting the war effort.

Creator: Night Riders

Date: 1918

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Join the NIGHT RIDERS

Our Motto:
"TRUE BLUE AMERICANS"

Our aim is to clean up the county of German spies,
German sympathizers and Dirty Slackers.

We are now among you and know all of these who
are secretly traitors to their country and these parties
may expect a visit from us.

There Is No Neutral Ground, You Are Either For
or Against the Government

LINE UP AND GET RIGHT

Signed: BASS RIDER

April 1918