Espionage and Vigilantes in World War I

Chapter 4

The Imperial German Secret Service, a network of spies spread across Europe and the Americas, was the backbone of the German military intelligence effort. Through a system of saboteurs and infiltrators, they hoped to disrupt America's war effort and sow discord between the two nations.

Dr. Albert, a German military attache, was tasked with organizing a sabotage campaign in America. To accomplish this, he formed a network in every major city, including Manhattan and Brooklyn. The idea appealed to Brig. Gen. C. P. Briggs, who was encouraged to go beyond his regular duties of investigating illegal arrests and the "Secret Service" division of the Treasury Department.

In the dark morning hours of 30 September 1916, two 10-ton freight cars containing dynamite were loaded onto a train in New York City and shipped to Europe. The idea of a sabotage campaign in America had gained momentum, and the military attache was preparing for a response.

In response, the government began intercepting ships and intercepting the activities of the saboteurs. The train carrying the dynamite was eventually stopped, and the saboteurs were arrested. The idea was abandoned, and the military attache was reassigned to duties in Europe.

Dr. Albert had been successful in organizing a sabotage campaign in America, but the train carrying the dynamite was intercepted by the intelligence service. The idea was abandoned, and Dr. Albert was reassigned to duties in Europe.