

Abs, Ex-Nazi, Met Many U. S. Officials Here

By The Associated Press

It was learned yesterday that Herman J. Abs, German banker, has met with officials of a wide range of Government agencies during his unpublicized month's visit to the United States.

The fact that Abs, a financial power in Germany during the Hitler regime, was in this country became generally known only Wednesday night. The State Department acknowledged it in response to an inquiry from Senator Gillette (D., Iowa).

Gillette said the German's visit "would appear to have been kept a closely guarded secret." On that point, State Department officials said there had been no publicity ban. But they said the department did not want to increase Abs' prestige in Germany by drawing attention to his activities here.

Officials said that investigation has shown that although Abs actively supported the German war effort he was not a Nazi party member.

Abs arrived in New York November 17 as a business visitor and is due to leave by December 25.

Officials said most of his discussions here have been with the committee for standstill creditors of Germany, an organization representing American banks which held large amounts of short term German credits when the 1931 international moratorium went into effect. These meetings have been in New York.