

On the evening of March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1932, Charles Lindbergh Jr., son of Charles Lindbergh (famed pilot and ~~infamous~~<sup>infamous</sup> leader of the America First Committee), was kidnapped from his home in Highfields, New Jersey. In what was labelled the "Crime of the Century," the Lindbergh baby would later be found dead around two months after his initial abduction and after a large ransom was paid. Trenton carpenter Bruno Richard Hauptmann was arrested, convicted, and executed for his role in the kidnapping and murder of the Lindbergh child. However, many doubted that Hauptmann truly acted alone, and this is where Summit enters our story.

In 1948, a table was being repaired by a handyman when he discovered a note scribbled on the underside of the table. It read, translated from German, "In Hamburg I was dressed in velvet and silk. I am not allowed to say my name. I was one of the kidnapers of the Lindbergh baby and not Bruno Richard Hauptmann. The rest of the ransom lies buried in Summit, New Jersey." It was signed the National Socialist German Workers' Party, or as it is more commonly known, the Nazi party. Former Summit Police Department Detective Nicholas Grasso told the Newark Herald that he had detained an ex-convict named Stephen Spitz who claimed to know where the rest of the Lindbergh ransom was buried. Nevertheless, Detective Grasso did not make much of Spitz's claims and no investigation was opened. So, while Spitz may have been full of it, Summit does have an interesting and curious connection ~~to~~<sup>to</sup> the crime of the century.