

Grand Jury Digs for Source Of Hill's Cash

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Nazi Agent Inquiry
Calls for Bank Data
Of Fish's Clerk

By Dillard Stokes

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Still on the trail of the mysterious man who gave \$12,000 to George Hill, indicted employe of Representative Hamilton Fish, the special grand jury on German agents yesterday dug into the records of Hill's banking transactions for the last two years.

Other developments in the expanding investigation of Hitler's propaganda machine included:

1. On technical grounds, two of the five counts of the indictment against George Silvester Viereck, top Nazi propagandist in this country, were quashed. The Government served notice that it planned to try Viereck on the other three counts November 17.

2. Representative Martin Dies, chairman of the House Committee on Un-American Activity, revealed that his group has turned its fire on the use of Congressional franks by German agents. Dies said, "The evidence shows a well-organized Nazi movement with leadership by persons in high places.

3. Three young women familiar with preparation of mailing lists for antiinterventionist groups appeared before the special grand jury.

4. Also questioned in the grand jury room was Anthony F. Junga, "magistrate" of a New York Steuben Society unit, which last summer invited its members to mail franked propaganda to their friends. Junga will be questioned again today.

When the special grand jury summoned an alleged henchman of Viereck's on September 19 Hill sent him a House truck which hauled off a ton of franked envelopes. Hill had eight mailbags full of such envelopes placed in a storeroom used by Fish. When he denied this and also denied knowing Viereck,

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he was indicted on two charges of perjury.

Questioned by the grand jurors Hill admitted that he received \$12,000 in the last five months, but he would not tell who gave it to him or what he did with it. His pay is \$2000 a year.

Special Prosecutors William Power Maloney and Edward J. Hickey, jr., of the Department of Justice propaganda squad, yesterday renewed the quest for the true story of the \$12,000, calling D. M. Grant, assistant cashier of The City Bank, who was directed to produce:

"All cancelled checks and any papers, letters or documents pertaining thereto on the account of George Hill for the years 1940 and 1941."

Since Fish said in a public statement that it was "ridiculous" to suppose Hill got the money from subversive sources the Congressman may later on be invited to tell the grand jury why he thinks so.

The Government setback in Viereck's prosecution came when Justice T. Alan Goldsborough, of the District Court, ruled that the law requires no detailed statement of the activities of an alien agent when he files his initial original registration with the State Department.

Viereck was accused of concealing the fact he set up and financed the Make Europe Pay and Islands for War Debt committees so he could use them and their secretary-treasurer, Prescott Dennet, to get German propaganda carried postage free, under Congressional frank.

Since two of the five statements filed by Viereck were "initial registrations," Justice Goldsborough ruled that he was not required to make these disclosures. However, Viereck must stand trial on the other three, the possible penalty for which would be \$3,000 fine and six years in prison.

Representative Dies said his agents have gone deeply into the use of the franks for propaganda purposes. Records are being collected, said Dies, of all reprints from the Congressional Record, of who ordered them, who paid for them and who mailed them out.

Dies said the propaganda money also is being traced through the bank accounts of known pro-Nazi organizations. In Philadelphia, he said, agents have been busy for months copying thousands of checks issued by one "bund" group.

Mrs. Esther Van Sciver, New York, who testified before the grand jury yesterday, made an affidavit several months ago in which she described the preparation of a mammoth mailing list, from the names signed to letters written to Charles A. Lindbergh, Representative Fish and former Senator Rush D. Holt (Democrat), of West Virginia.

Mrs. Van Sciver said in her affidavit that a year ago she was employed by Gladys La Vance to work on the mailing list, which was done in the premises of the Ford Motor Co., in New York. Directing the work, the affidavit said, was Bessie Feagan, of Scribner's Commentator.