

Fish Puts Off Grand Jury Until Friday

**Committee Session Is
Reason; Hill Case
Goes to Goldsborough**

By Dillard Stokes

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Pleading that he had to go to an important committee meeting, Representative Hamilton Fish yesterday put off for two days more his appearance before the special grand jury on German agents. He is now scheduled to testify Friday.

Meanwhile, the Government's efforts to obtain prompt trial of Fish's secretary, George Hill, 45, who was indicted October 24 on two perjury charges, went before Justice T. Alan Goldsborough, who will hold a District Court hearing Wednesday to set the date.

Special Prosecutors William Power Maloney and Edward J. Hickey, jr., want the trial next week. Hill's lawyers want it put off until next month.

Referred to Goldsborough

The prosecutors of the Department of Justice propaganda squad, who have told the court Hill was the Washington key man of a Nazi propaganda machine, asked last week that Hill be placed on trial in the perjury case next Monday. The matter was referred to the justices of the court, who yesterday adopted a rule placing the judge presiding over Criminal Court No. 1 (the post now held by Justice Goldsborough) in control of the criminal calendar.

Fish did not go before the grand jurors when he was informally invited the first week in November. When subpoenaed, he raised a point of personal privilege in the House. A week later, when the House authorized him to appear, he was on active duty with the Army and the grand jurors awaited his return. Last week Fish offered to appear whenever the House or its Foreign Affairs Committee was not in session and his appearance was set for tomorrow.

In the meantime, Fish discovered that there was another committee he wished to attend. To a request from another Fish secretary, Walter

L. Reynolds, Grand Jury Foreman John S. Gorrell yesterday sent this reply:

"Dear Mr. Fish:

"Mr. Maloney, special assistant to the Attorney General, has communicated to me your telephonic request that your appearance before the Federal grand jury for the District of Columbia be postponed.

"We are informed that your request for a postponement is based upon the fact that your presence is required at an important Congressional committee meeting scheduled to be held on Wednesday morning.

"It is the desire of the grand jury that your appearance before it shall in no way conflict with your duties and obligations as a member of the House of Representatives. For that reason your request for a postponement of your appearance as a witness before the grand jury from December 3 to December 5 is granted."

Hill was indicted after he is alleged to have told the grand jury under oath that he did not know George Sylvester Viereck, ace Nazi propagandist, and that he did not arrange for mailbags taken from the headquarters of an alleged agent of Viereck's to be stored in a room on Capitol Hill used by Fish.

Since Justice Goldsborough served nearly 20 years in Congress will Hill's employer, Fish, and 18 years with his lawyer, former Representative John O'Connor, it was conjectured by courthouse attaches that he would assign the Hill trial to Justice James W. Morris, Justice Jesse C. Adkins or Federal Judge Leroy Adair, of Illinois, here on "loan" duty.