

Viereck Hinted As Witness Against Hill

Fish's Aide Seeks
Hearing Prior to
Nazi Agent's Trial

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12/4/41

Lawyers for George Hill—alleged Nazi propaganda keyman and secretary of Representative Hamilton Fish—yesterday said they looked for George Sylvester Viereck to be the star witness against Hill when he is tried on two perjury charges January 7.

The special grand jury on German agents accused Hill of swearing falsely that he had no contact with Viereck, when, it is alleged, the fact was Hill helped circulate propaganda material under Congressional frank.

Viereck also has been indicted on charges of failing to reveal when he registered as a German agent, that he was having his propaganda placed in the Congressional Record and mailed postage free under the franks of anti-interventionist Congressmen.

Hill's lawyers yesterday demanded that their client be placed on trial in the District Court before the case against Viereck is heard.

"We want this trial before the Viereck case," explained former Representative John O'Connor, also counsel for Fish when the grand jury summoned the Congressman, who has not yet appeared. "We apprehend that Viereck might be called as a witness against Mr. Hill. When Viereck is tried, he might be acquitted. Now, when Viereck appears against Hill we want him to be either under indictment or con-

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INDICTED—Indicted by a District grand jury on perjury charges, George Hill, second secretary of Representative Fish, Republican, of New York, is shown as he was photographed today by police before posting \$5,000 bond. Mr. Hill denied the charges.

—Star Staff Photo.

Hill

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office in New York City, but he did not know by whom.

Mr. Cusick said Mr. Hill probably would pay the bond fee himself.

Inquired Into Mail Bags.

The additional grand jury investigating alleged Nazi activities in the country inquired into Mr. Hill's reputed part in directing that mail bags, containing isolationist literature and congressional franked matter, be removed from the residence of Prescott Dennett, 1430 Rhode Island avenue N.W., to the New House Office Building.

Special Assistant to the Attorney General William Power Maloney told Justice Goldsborough at the arraignment that Mr. Hill had admitted receiving \$12,000 in the past five months from sources which the defendant would not disclose. Further, he said that Mr. Hill was the key man in a plot to disseminate propaganda, under congressional franking privileges, "master minded by foreign agents."

The Government is represented by Mr. Maloney and Edward J. Hickey, jr., also a special assistant to the Attorney General, under the direction of Assistant Attorney General Wendell Berge and Special Assistant to the Attorney General George A. McNulty, who is in charge of the trial section, Criminal Division, Department of Justice.

Says Money Was Not Nazis'.

Answering Mr. Maloney's charge of money handled by Mr. Hill that came from foreign agents, Mr. O'Connor told the court yesterday that his client had informed him that he told the jury where the money came from—"and it never came from the German government."

"I again say that is an attempt to implicate Representative Fish," asserted Mr. O'Connor, who a short time earlier had told the court: "I am here to plead Congressman Fish not guilty."

"This is aiming at the lion and shooting the rabbit," asserted Mr. O'Connor.

At his New York office, Mr. Fish said that Mr. O'Connor by that remark "probably meant that Mr. Hill's indictment was part of the smear campaign against me."

Fish Backs Secretary.

Declaring he was not sufficiently informed to comment on the indictment, Mr. Fish asserted:

"I will say that George Hill is 100 per cent O. K., and I'll back George Hill to the limit on anything."

The indictment against Mr. Hill is in two counts. The first charges him with making false and perjured statements under oath before the grand jury as to a material matter under investigation, in that he denied he gave directions or instructions to certain persons named in the indictment concerning the removal of mail sacks from Mr. Dennett's residence and the storage of these in storage space No. 30, New House of Representatives Office Building.

Second Count of Indictment.

The second count charges that Mr. Hill falsely testified before the grand jurors, claiming not to know George Sylvester Viereck, reputed Nazi propagandist, when in fact he does know him.

Mr. Viereck was indicted recently by the District grand jury on charges of failing to make a full disclosure of his activities as a registered Nazi propagandist in papers filed with the State Department under the Foreign Agents' Registration Act. Yesterday in District Court, Mr. Viereck filed a demurrer to the indictment, contending that the acts complained of do not fall under the ban of the law and that the true bill is worthless.