

# Fish Testifies At Nazi Probe; May Return

## Congressman Appears Before Grand Jury After Two Months

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Representative Hamilton Fish yesterday made his long delayed appearance before the special grand jury on German agents.

Fish had "nothing at all" to say when he came out of the grand jury room after an hour and 20 minutes of questioning.

Fish would not say whether the grand jury had asked him to return for further examination, but Special Prosecutors William Power Maloney and Edward J. Hickey, Jr., declared that they could not say that his questioning was completed.

### Awaited for Two Months

The Congressman's testimony had been awaited for more than two months, since The Post revealed that his secretary, George Hill, 43, sent a truck which hauled evidence away from the headquarters of another witness, who was alleged to be in the pay of George Sylvester Viereck, ace German propagandist.

In the meantime, Hill had been before the grand jury and was indicted on two perjury charges. Viereck was indicted, charged with using Congressional franked envelopes to carry German propaganda. And questions had been asked about the financing of the anti-interventionist committee Fish started before his trip to Europe in 1939.

Summoned nearly a month ago, Fish claimed the "privilege of the House," and won delay, but the House declined to protect him from giving evidence and authorized him to appear.

On his arrival at the grand jury

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In room, Fish was accompanied by Attorney William F. Cusick, one of the lawyers defending Hill in the perjury case. Fish declined to talk to reporters during the 15 minutes he waited in the witness room.

After he testified, Fish hurried back to the witness room, where he waited alone while Cusick found him a taxicab. Fish was grave and did not appear pleased. Prosecutors Hickey and Maloney and Grand Jury Foreman John S. Gorell were equally taciturn, but appeared gratified by the day's developments.

Following the Fish testimony, the grand jurors adjourned their investigation until Tuesday, December 16. In the interval, the propaganda squad of the Department of Justice special prosecutors will press its inquiries both in Washington and other cities.

Still sought for questioning is Ralph Townsend, who disappeared after the grand jurors started investigating Scribner's Commentator and the Herald, anti-interventionist publication of Lake Geneva, Wis. One Scribner's executive testified

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that shortly before Townsend vanished he was given a copy of the secretly compiled mailing list of the interventionist, to which letters mailed to Fish were said to have been contributed.

The grand jurors have examined Fish's other secretary, Walter L. Reynolds, who was treasurer of Fish's National Committee to Keep America Out of Foreign Wars. A few days after the House authorized Fish to tell the grand jurors what he knows, it was Reynolds who announced that the Fish office had been burglarized and the files rifled. Later Reynolds said nothing was missing and the matter appears to have been dropped.

Fish's second secretary, Hill, will go on trial January 7 on an indictment charging two counts of corrupt perjury. Hill is alleged to have sworn falsely when he denied knowing Viereck and when he denied storing eight mailbags of evidence in a room used by Fish. Hill eventually surrendered the eight bags to the grand jury.