

Viereck Defense Opens

Pvt. Holt Getting Leave to Testify

N. W. 2/20/42
Counsel for George Sylvester Viereck disclosed today that Rep. Day (R., Ill.) and former Sen. Holt (D., W. Va.) have been asked to testify in defense of the German agent on trial for alleged concealment of some of his propaganda activities.

Due to the Third Annual Judicial Conference opening here today, the Viereck trial is recessed until Monday. This will give the former "boy" senator, recently drafted, time to obtain leave from the Army.

VIERECK A GUEST

The defense counsel announcement came after the Government had rested its case and the first defense witness—the widow of the late Sen. Lundeen (F.-L., Minn.)—had testified she never heard Viereck say anything to indicate disloyalty to the United States.

Black-clad and veiled, Mrs. Lundeen was asked by Defense Atty. Emil Morosini:

"Did you ever hear him say anything that would indicate he was anything but a loyal American?"

"No," she replied. "If he had he wouldn't have been welcome in my home."

'SURPLUS' FOR 'RESEARCH'

Mrs. Lundeen controverted earlier testimony that she personally took possession of all her late husband's files relating to Viereck, or that she victimized his office help thru a "kickback" of their pay.

"When my husband employed these girls," she said, "he hired them at certain specified salaries. The difference

between the amount allowed by the Government and the amount specified, was put into a fund for clerk hire, additional help and research work, not for his personal usage."

"Research work" is the phrase Mrs. Lundeen used in describing Viereck's services to her late husband. The Government charges that the German agent actually wrote Sen. Lundeen's speeches, in one instance using material supplied by the German Embassy.

BRITISH CENSOR CALLED

Before resting, the Government sought to show that a manuscript of a non-interventionist book written by ex-Sen. Holt, was mailed to Berlin. It attempted to link the mailing with Viereck.

Prosecutor William P. Maloney called Nadya Gardner, an examiner in the British censorship office in Bermuda, to relate a story involving strange signatures, alleged false names used by a German ambassador and a reputed alias adopted by Viereck.

Miss Gardner identified an envelope which she intercepted in Bermuda. It was addressed to Senhor Hoyningero Hueneros of Lisbon which, she said, was an alias used by the German ambassador to Portugal.