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THE PERJURY TRIAL OF GEORGE HILL
Secretary to Rep. Hamilton Fish

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George Hill, Secretary to Representative Hamilton Fish, in a surprise move through his counsel, John O'Connor, today rested his defense on the Government's case presented in Federal Courts here since January 7.

Hill's action followed the denial by Justice F. Dickinson Letts of a defense motion for a directed verdict of acquittal made by defense counsel on January 13.

The action of the defense in offering no witnesses or evidence to counter the devastating testimony of witnesses for the prosecution demonstrates clearly the defense's fear of having the true story of the activities of George Hill, Representative Fish, George Sylvester Viereck and others revealed further to the jury.

On October 24, 1941, following Hill's indictment by the Federal Grand Jury on two charges of perjury, Representative Fish, in a statement to the Associated Press, said:

"O'Connor (counsel for Hill and long-time friend of Representative Fish) probably meant that Hill's indictment was part of the smear campaign against me. I will say that George Hill is 100 percent O.K. and I'll back George Hill to the limit on anything."

Ex-Representative and now Defense Counsel John O'Connor, earlier conceded Fish's part in the conspiracy to propagandize the American people on behalf of Germany and other Axis powers, when he stated at the arraignment of Hill:

"This defendant is Secretary to Congressman Fish. He is an unimportant person in the picture. This is aiming at the lion and shooting the rabbit, and if I may say, I am here to plead Congressman Fish 'not guilty'".

It is evident that the "lion" has agreed to sacrifice the "rabbit" to protect himself. George Hill's failure to present a defense, and Representative Fish's failure to come to the aid of his indicted secretary is indicative of the weakness of the defense position.

As the afternoon session opened January 14, counsel continued to confer with Judge Letts concerning the charge to the jury. Closing arguments will be given this afternoon and the case will probably go to the jury early Thursday morning, January 15, 1941.