

Viereck Asks Court For Change of Venue

A change of venue because of alleged "inflamed" public sentiment was sought in District Court today for George Sylvester Viereck, indicted Nazi agent booked for trial February 4.

Defense Counsel Emil Morosini of New York sought to have the trial removed from Washington or postponed until public sentiment will allow the defendant "some measure of a fair trial."

Also filed with Justice T. Alan Goldsborough was a motion for reargument of the defense petition to suppress evidence allegedly seized by F. B. I. agents when they arrested Viereck in New York and searched his apartment and office.

Justice Goldsborough, who has eliminated himself as trial judge in the case, granted the reargument petition and set the hearing for 10 o'clock Thursday before either Justice F. Dickinson Letts or Justice James W. Morris. Previously Justice Goldsborough had denied the defense plea to suppress the evidence.

Viereck was indicted for alleged failure to file with the State Department a complete statement of his activities as a representative of the German Government.

In regard to the change of venue plea, District Courts have held recently, particularly in criminal assault cases, that contentions that public opinion was "inflamed" had no substance in fact and that specific evidence of prejudice was lacking.