

Viereck Seeks New Trial; *Post* Error Claimed

7-20-43

A motion for a new trial was filed in District Court yesterday by attorneys for George Sylvester Viereck, German agent convicted Friday night of six violations of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

Cited as grounds for the motion were claims that the guilty verdict was "contrary" to the evidence and the law. The court also had "erred in admitting certain evidence" on the part of the Government, refusing to admit certain defense evidence and in denying Viereck's motion for a mistrial, according to the filed statement.

The Government evidence to which the motion takes exception is believed to be a transcript of proceedings before the special Federal grand jury which originally indicted Viereck in October, 1941. Lea A. Rover and John J. Wilson, court-appointed counsel for Viereck, had strongly objected to its introduction in court two weeks ago, and had indicated they would cite it in asking for another trial.

The motion will be argued before Justice Bolitha J. Laws on Friday, July 30. Special Assistants to the Attorney General George A. McNulty and Albert E. Arent, who prosecuted the case, will represent the Government.

Attorney General Biddle yesterday announced approval of a revision in Rule 303(b), Rules and Regulations, of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

Wording of the regulation has been altered, but its requirements are not "substantially affected," according to the announcement. engaged in propaganda or other activities at the direction of foreign governments or political parties are required to register and otherwise comply with the Act. This also holds true for correspondents employed by foreign-owned or controlled publications, radio or news services.