

Viereck's Strong Link With Nazi Consul Retold

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By HARRY E. GABBETT

Corroborating testimony given previously by Government witnesses, the former secretary to the German consul general in New York yesterday told a District Court jury that German Agent George Sylvester Viereck's visits to the consulate were stepped up to a three-a-week frequency, at the outbreak of war in Europe.

Identifying herself as Miss Frida Spardel, the witness said she had been employed at the consulate from 1925 until shortly before it was closed and that from 1937 onward she was private secretary to Dr. Hans Borchers, the consul general.

Describes His Activities

Viereck, she said, was in almost constant communication with Dr. Borchers after hostilities broke out in Europe and during the time the Government contends the ace propagandist was flooding this country with anti-British booklets designed to keep the United States from siding with the Allies.

Miss Spardel was preceded to the stand by Captain Abel Schechter, of the Army Air Forces, who entered the armed services from his civilian post as director of newscasts for the National Broadcasting Company in New York. He told of arranging a 15-minute broadcast by Viereck on the European situation shortly after the 58-year-old author-journalist returned from a tour of the warring countries.

Captain Schechter said he refused to allow the broadcast to proceed after examining the script of the proposed speech submitted by Viereck. The script, which Special Federal Prosecutor Albert E. Arent read to the jury, referred to Hitler's "magnetic blue eyes," and contained Viereck's prediction that "for better or worse he (Hitler) will make history."

Explains Censorship

Schechter said his reasons for canceling the talk was "because it gave only one side of the situation" and conflicted with established censorship rules set up to safeguard the country's neutral status.

Earlier, Miss Frida Gillar, who was Viereck's private secretary for nine years, testified her employer sent weekly news reports to former German Ambassador to the U. S., Hans Dieckhoff, in Berlin.

A carbon copy of Viereck's news report, gleaned from authoritative periodicals of the day, was sent each week to the former German Ambassador and another to the editor of a Munich newspaper, she said.

Others Given Copies

Representatives in Berne, Switzerland, and Lisbon, Portugal, also received a copy of each report, the witness said, while "a Mr. Von Stempel, in Bethesda, Md." received a copy "if the fifth carbon was clear enough."

Under cross-examination by Defense Counsel Leo A. Rover, Miss Gillar said that during the two-year period in which her employer worked for the German Library of Information and as a correspondent for the Munich newspaper, he also found time to write two books and make frequent literary contributions to the Saturday Evening Post, Liberty, the New Yorker and Physical Culture.

The trial was adjourned until 10 a.m. Tuesday.