

EXTRA

18 Christian Fronters Held After Raid

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Rifles, Bombs Seized— Men Were Members of 'Inner' Group

(By United Press)

The arrest of 18 members of the "Christian Front" and the seizure of a large quantity of arms and ammunition was announced last night by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The men arrested were members of an inner organization of the "Christian Front" known as the "Sports Club" or "Country Gentlemen."

The prisoners were charged with seditious conspiracy and violation of Section Six Title 18 of the United States code. The penalty is a \$5,000 fine or six years in prison or both.

Specifically they were accused of "conspiracy to overthrow, put down and destroy by force the Government of the United States, conspiracy to oppose by force the authority, thereof and conspiracy to seize and possess the property of the United States Government."

Eighteen raids were made yesterday. Fifteen partially completed bombs, a quantity of powder and ammunition, scores of rifles including 30.06 Springfields, a number of automatic rifles and shotguns, 3,500 rounds of ammunition for the Springfields, bombing materials and blackjacks were seized in the raids, the FBI said.

The FBI said that William Gerald Bishop, 39, was leader of the "Sports Club" and John E. Cassidy, 30, was leader of the "Christian Front."

The members had discussed plans to seize public utilities, communications systems, docks, railroad stations, and the post office and custom house in New York, it was said.

Half of the prisoners were members or had been members of the National Guard, the F.B.I. announced.

The F.B.I. said plans were found showing the layout of the offices of the Daily Worker, Communist newspaper, and the Cameo Theatre on 42nd Street.

He said that they had planned to bomb these buildings as well as the Jewish Daily Forward.

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