

DW 1-11-40

Court-Martial Acquits 2nd In 'Front Trial'

DW 12/14/40

Quietly and without publicity, an Army court-martial last week acquitted a second defendant charged with giving 1,800 rounds of army ammunition to Christian Front plotters who were tried in a Federal court on charges of conspiring to overthrow the government.

Two weeks ago the same military tribunal acquitted Captain John T. Prout, Jr., on the same charge, despite Prout's admission during his federal trial that he had taken ammunition from his armory for the Christian Fronters.

Acquitted last week was Sergeant Alfred J. Quinlan, 23 years old, a member of the 101st Military Police Battalion, New York National Guard.

The military court found Quinlan not guilty without troubling to hear the defense state its case.

No witnesses were called.

The prosecution merely presented the charge, introduced some of the testimony given in the federal trial, and a statement given to FBI agents by the accused.

When the prosecution finished, Quinlan's defense attorney moved that the charges be dismissed. The eight-man court sustained the motion after deliberating for a half hour.