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'Front' Wanted Ghettos, Witness Says ³

Also Charges Terrorists Planned to Take Over Utilities

(By United Press)

The government's chief witness testified yesterday at the trial of 17 men accused of plotting against the government that he had heard some of the defendants say that "when the revolution came" they would take over utilities and public buildings.

The witness was Denis A. Healy, civil engineer who spied on Brooklyn members of the Christian Front for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Leo Healy, attorney for 11 of the defendants, cross-examined the witness vigorously and brought out that he had difficulty in remembering events without using notes.

The witness said he did remember, however, a meeting at which one of the defendants, John P. Cassidy, "advocated overthrow of the Jewish government" of the United States and proposed that Jews be "put in ghettos."

Another of the defendants, Claus Gunther Ernecke, wanted to go to Germany "to fight against the United States in case we got into war," Healy testified, because he believed "it would be a Jewish war" with Jewish refugees from Germany comprising the American expeditionary forces.

The attorney asked Healy if he had ever seen any of the munitions which the government charges were stolen by the alleged conspirators from a United States army truck. The witness said he saw "only seven or eight" rifles in the group's possession.