

Macklin
4/30/40-5

Congressman Called Active 'Front Man'

Strikebreaking Group Was Maintained By Terrorists

One of the 16 Christian Front terrorists on trial in Brooklyn Federal Court for an alleged conspiracy to "overthrow the government" named Rep. J. Thorkelson (R. Mont.) as a member of the Front's "Action Committee" and declared that three U. S. Senators were friends of the group.

Macklin's statement was introduced into the trial by G-man Peter J. Wacks who charged that Macklin made the admissions to him and another G-man, J. J. Keating last Jan. 14.

STRIKE-BREAKERS

The so-called Action Committee of the Christian Front was described as groups of "citizen-soldiers" whose main activities were allegedly to "combat" mythical Communist uprisings. It developed however, that the Action Committee members were merely cut-and-out strikebreakers. Evidence of their anti-union activities were admitted to by Front members who said "A. C." groups had broken the strike of the Hershey, Pennsylvania factory workers, and later a cement mills strike at Martinsburg, Md. Boettger declared in his statement that William Gerald Bishop, one of the Front leaders and defendants had said that he (Bishop) "would personally like to put every Jew under ground."

Bishop also told Boettger, the latter said that "Col. Anderson was one of the superior A. C. (Action Committee) men in the army units of the A. C." (The reference to Col. Anderson was presumed to mean Brig. Gen. Alexander E. Anderson, of the National Guard.)

"He (Bishop)" the Boettger statement charged, "always made an effort to connect himself up with high officials in the army and with high officials in the government but would never give any direct answer as to who the higher officials in the army were, and sometimes later, to prove this contention to me, after many promises, he introduced me to Capt John T. Prout, Jr., of the 165th Infantry, N. Y. N. G."

Prout is one of the defendants now standing trial.