

Gave Munition To Front, Guard Captain Admits

Prout, Jr., Says He Gave
1,500 Rounds to
Plotters

John T. Prout, Jr., 29-year-old National Guard captain and one of the 14 defendants on trial in Brooklyn for seditious conspiracy, admitted yesterday that he had given away ammunition stored in an armory where he was stationed.

Testifying before a Brooklyn Federal Court jury under direct examination, Prout supported evidence submitted earlier in the trial that he had permitted others of the defendants to remove 1,500 rounds of ammunition and a quantity of cordite. The defendants were indicted for "conspiracy to overthrow the government" by instigating a reign of violence and anti-Semitic demonstrations.

Prout said he was anxious to give ammunition away because Company M, under his command, was supposed to have used it all in maneuvers at Camp Dix. He said that most of the ammunition was removed by William Gerald Bishop and that Macklin Boettger and John A. Vriebock were present at the armory on one of the occasions. The three men are defendants.

Prout said Bishop talked frequently of a plotted Communist "uprising" and of anti-Semitism but that he, Prout, never took such discussions seriously.