

SW 6/16/40

'Christian Front' Revelations

• The so-called "Christian Front" hooligans who were caught with stolen rifles, and plans for bombing various buildings, were defended yesterday in court with the astonishing plea that they were merely "defending the country from 'Communism.'"

Therefore, implied their attorney, Martin Conboy, since people like Dies and others are also yelling about "saving the country from Communism," the hooligans should no more be punished for their acts than their more respectable fellow witch-hunters. Thus all crimes are to be forgiven if they were directed "against Communism."

The argument of Mr. Conboy is crafty. It counts on proving his clients innocent, by proving that the Government officials and the press are as guilty as they are. And in fact, he is right.

But his argument merely proves again that the violence and anti-Semitic plots of the "Christian Front" are the direct result of the Red-baiting of Government officials, the Dies Committee, and the press. In fact, the mentality and opinions of J. Edgar Hoover can hardly be distinguished from that of the Christian Front platform. In the trial of the "Christian Front" bigots, the prosecutors and the accused are almost indistinguishable.

In short, Mr. Martin Conboy, attorney of the "Christian Front," proved to the hilt the contention of Earl Browder that the sure-fire hallmark of the "Fifth Column" in America is the hatred of Communism and Communists. This is what unites these mobsters now on trial with all the respectable witch-hunters in Washington.