

Is This the Christian Front Salute?



Irving Haberman

Here are some of the 14 defendants, charged with plotting against the Government, soon after the verdict freeing nine, disagreeing on five. John F. Cassidy, one of those acquitted, shakes hands with defense counsel Leo Healy. Note the two-finger salute given by almost all. During the trial an FBI man described this as the "Christian Front salute."—w. M. C. E.

U. S. Weighs Fate Of 5 in Plot Trial

Attorney General's Staff as Undecided as Jury Was in Mistrial

Surprised and a mite bitter, members of the U. S. Attorney General's staff were hotly debating today what to do with the five alleged conspirators over whom a jury yesterday failed to agree, after a costly 11 weeks' trial and 124 hours of verdict weighing.

Their nine co-defendants, accused of conspiracy against the U. S. Government in an E. Phillips Oppenheim scheme to seize arsenals, were acquitted. Nothing more can be done to or with them.

But their alleged leader, 29-year-old William Gerald Bishop, is still in jail. Macklin Boettger, 32, Brooklyn salesman; John T. Prout, 29, New York National Guard captain; John A. Viebrock, 34, Brooklyn elevator mechanic; William H. D. Bushnell Jr., 18, Brooklyn student—have been released on bail.

The acquitted:

John F. Cassidy, 34, Brooklyn clerk.

Michael Vill, 35, Brooklyn bus driver, naturalized American of German birth.

Michael J. Beirne, 32, Brooklyn telephone company employe, naturalized American of Irish birth.

Andrew Buckley, 34, Bronx tailor, naturalized American of Irish birth, National Guard Sergeant.

Francis M. J. Malone, 25, Brooklyn clerk.

John A. Graf, 23, Brooklyn clerk.

John F. Cook, 19, Brooklyn, U. S. Marine Corps Reserves.

Leroy Keegan, 38, Brooklyn baker, and member of U. S. Naval Reserves.

Alfred J. Quinlan, 27, sergeant in New York National Guard.

To PM, Assistant U. S. Attorney T. Vincent Quinn, in charge of the Criminal Division, admitted: "We will have to decide what to do with the other five by July 3rd. Right now we have no fresh evidence. Nor are we, as rumored, investigating any member of the jury."—J. K.