

Sedition Defendant Blames 'Father Divine' for Troubles

By the Associated Press.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7. — Will
liam E. "Father" Riker, whose se-
dition trial is scheduled to resume
in Federal Court tomorrow, blames
his troubles with the Government on
"Father" Divine of Harlem, N. Y.,
an affidavit informed the court to-
day.

Riker's attorney asked to have
the New York Negro brought here
as a witness, charging he had spread
false reports about Riker's attitude
toward Negroes and had been de-
sirous of getting Riker arrested ever

since 1936, when he wrote a letter
to Postmaster General Farley about
the California cult leader.

The Government charges Riker
with making seditious statements
to soldiers stationed in the vicinity
of Holy City, the community Riker
founded in the Los Gatos foothills,
and of advocating that the United
States join Germany and Italy in
a war to establish supremacy of the
white race throughout the world.

"Father Divine is jealous of Fa-
ther Riker because Father Riker
has used the name 'Father' and

calls himself 'The Wise Man of the
West,'" the affidavit stated, "where-
as Father Divine claims he is the
one wise man, and, in fact, claims
he is God."