

## Dufala says he was spy, not assassin

*F Post 3/4/77*  
CAMDEN, N.J. (AP) — Former congressional aspirant Robert F. Dufala testified Thursday he added fictitious names to an alleged assassination plot against Nelson A. Rockefeller to prevent an undercover Secret Service agent from killing him.

"If I'm the one loose-end in the conspiracy they can take me out because I know their plans," said Dufala, who has asserted he was trying to spy on the conspirators, not lead them. "I figured if I brought more people into this (the plot) that's more people they'd have to kill."

Dufala, 35, a Williamstown day care school owner, testified in his own defense on the seventh day of his trial on charges he threatened to kill the former vice president with a cyanide bullet last July in Philadelphia.

The prosecution charges Dufala made the threat three days after he was defeated in the June 8 primary for the Republican nomination in the 2nd Congressional District.

Dufala had testified Wednesday he was terrified of undercover agent Michael Maddaloni because he thought Maddaloni was leading the plot to kill Rockefeller. Dufala said he made up the name of Philadelphia jeweler Barry Barber and also made up the existence of an FBI agent in Washington for his

own phony plot because he feared Maddaloni would kill him.

"Every day that ticked by that the government didn't contact me made me believe more and more that this man was really an assassin or a Mafia man trying to unload guns on me," Dufala said.

Dufala testified earlier in the trial he sought to uncover the plot by himself after he received cryptic letters signed by unidentified John Birch Society members inviting him to join in political assassinations on July 2, 3 and 4.

Dufala said he didn't tell authorities of the letter or of the agent's plot because of "recrimination against my family."