

Post 8-23-72

## Court Delay Protested by 2 Berrigans

HARRISBURG, Aug. 22 (UPI)—Antiwar priest Daniel Berrigan camped outside the federal building today to protest a 4½-month delay in sentencing for his brother Philip, who he claimed was a political hostage of the Nixon administration.

"It is our belief that our brother is being held hostage by the Nixon war administration," Berrigan said Monday as he and another brother, Jerome, began a fast and vigil as an "act of brotherly love."

Philip Berrigan, serving a prison sentence for destroying draft records, and Sister Elizabeth McAlister were convicted last spring of smuggling letters out of a federal prison in Lewisburg, Pa.

However, the federal government failed to win a conviction on charges they and the other members of the "Harrisburg seven" plotted to kidnap presidential adviser Henry Kissinger and blow up heating tunnels under federal buildings in Washington.

Judge R. Dixon Herman, who presided at the trial, has been deliberating 19 weeks on post-trial motions regarding the smuggling convictions.

"We will leave these steps when the judge says Philip will be sentenced for those two infamous letters," Daniel said. He said Herman had told him a date would be announced sometime in August.