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NONVIOLENCE PLEA LINKED TO PRIEST

Daniel Berrigan Said to Have
Sent Tape to Weathermen

By LINDA CHARLTON

A tape-recorded message to the Weatherman underground, attributed to the Rev. Daniel J. Berrigan, pleads with the radical group to return to non-violence, warning that: "No principle is worth the sacrifice of a single human being."

A condensed version of the taped text was published yesterday in the current issue of The Village Voice, the weekly newspaper. A spokesman for The Voice said that the authenticity of the tape, which he said had arrived by mail accompanied by a Weatherman communiqué, was established through friends of the Roman Catholic priest who made contact with him in prison.

Father Berrigan is serving a three-and-a-half-year sentence in the Federal prison in Danbury, Conn. He and his brother, the Rev. Philip F. Berrigan, were among nine Catholic war-protesters arrested for burning draft files at the Selective Service office in Catonsville, Md.

The taped message, according to The Voice, was made by Father Daniel Berrigan three days before his arrest on Aug. 11 at the home of a friend on Block Island, R. I. He was also among seven persons named on Jan. 12 as co-conspirators in an alleged plot to kidnap Henry A. Kissinger, the President's foreign-affairs adviser. Father Philip Berrigan was one of the six persons indicted in connection with the alleged plot; the Berrigans have denied the allegations.

In the message addressed to the "Dear Brothers and Sisters," Father Berrigan says that the

Weatherman can "break this myth that has you stereotyped as mindless, indifferent to human life and death, determined to raise hell at any hour or place."

He writes of his hope "that affection and compassion and nonviolence are now common resources once more," saying: "The mark of inhuman treatment of humans is a mark that also hovers over us. It is the mark of the beast, whether its insignia is the military or the movement."

The revolutionary movement, Father Berrigan writes, can have "historic meaning" only as it is dedicated to "human dignity and the protection of life, even the lives most unworthy to heal. A revolution is interesting insofar as it avoids like the plague the plague it promised to heal."

He exempts from his prohi-

bition the Vietcong and the Black Panthers, "for their acts come from the proximate threat of extinction," but he adds that

"no matter what admiration or fraternity we feel with them we have other demons to battle." As for a movement that is "seduced by violence" both as a method and an end in itself, Father Berrigan writes: "I can't be a part of it."

The short accompanying communiqué, signed "Weatherman Underground," and dated Oct. 8, is apparently equivocal in its response, citing the "courage" of the Palestinian comandos and the Vietnamese but stating that the revolutionary culture is "one of respect for human life and a deep belief in peace."

The so-called "New Morning" communiqué allegedly signed by Weatherman leader Bernadine Dohrn was made public some time later, in mid-December, 1970. Some observers believe it likely that its tone—an easing of the Weatherman commitment to violence as the only valid and necessary instrument of the revolution—may reflect

the influence of Father Berrigan's statement.

Indictments Protested

BOSTON, Jan. 20 (AP)—About 80 persons jammed into the Federal Bureau of Investigation office today and protested recent indictments on conspiracy charges against the Rev. Philip Berrigan and five other persons.

The incident was orderly and lasted about 10 minutes.

A spokesman for the group, calling itself the Faneuil Hall Committee, read a statement to an F.B.I. official, then gave him a copy and asked that it be mailed to J. Edgar Hoover, the bureau's director.