

# Embassy Aide Alleges U.S. Threat

By Betty Medsger

Washington Post Staff Writer

A part-time employee at the Chilean Embassy says the U.S. government threatened to deport him if he would not cooperate in the case against eight antiwar activists charged with plotting to kidnap Henry Kissinger.

He says he refused to cooperate.

Government spokesmen claimed that the employee's cooperation had been coerced and that his status in the country is under investigation. But they denied any link between the two circumstances.

The man involved is Jaime Fernandez, a Chilean citizen who works as a part-time translator at the embassy. He is also employed by the Foreign Medical Program for Inter-American Communication Action, an Administration fund of the National Council of Churches.

He does not enter diplomatic immunity.

Fernandez said he was approached by a U.S. official who requested his cooperation as an editor in the Kissinger kidnap case, William S. Lynch. He

said his Oct. 4 meeting with Lynch was attended by two other government agents, William M. Corbett and Phillip Kraewel.

"They told me they had information about my activities and about the Berrigan case," Fernandez said. "Lynch confirmed to me that the Justice Department had asked Fernandez about the case. We sought to know what the source of the information was. He denied that Fernandez had been threatened with deportation if he would not cooperate."

The spokesman said he understood, however, that the Immigration and Naturalization Service, a branch of the Justice Department, was considering some kind of deportation proceeding against Fernandez.

Two weeks ago Fernandez was subpoenaed to appear in court in the case against the Berrigans. He said he was subpoenaed by the U.S. Attorney General's office.

Fernandez said he was first called to the U.S. Immigration office at the State Department to meet with William S. Lynch, an investigator according to Fernandez. Reissig charged him with evading a draft notice, which Fernandez denied.

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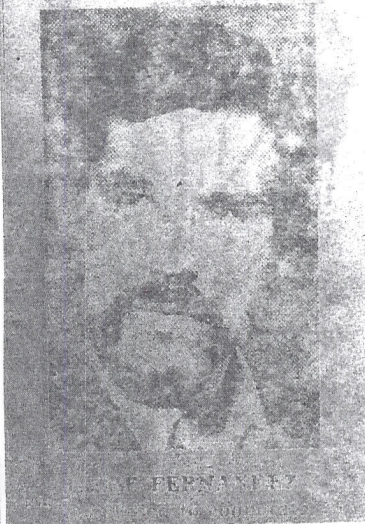
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JAIME FERNANDEZ

Fernandez said Reissig then indicated he would check the Selective Service records again. Later, Fernandez said, Reissig asked him to come to the meeting with Lynch. Reissig declined to discuss the case, deferring to David Drummond, assistant director of the Immigration office. "We're looking into his status to see if he left the country to avoid the draft," Drummond said of Fernandez. "I don't know much about his case, but whatever it is we're doing, it has nothing to do with that Berrigan case." The Rev. Philip Berrigan is one of the defendants in the alleged plot to kidnap Kissinger. "We're only concerned with whether this man is legally in the U.S.," Drummond said.