

# Informer Links Berrigan to Plot

Examiner News Services

HARRISBURG. (Pa.) — An FBI informer testified today that one of the "Harrisburg Seven" told him in 1970 that the Rev. Philip F. Berrigan headed a project to blow up underground utility tunnels in Washington, D.C.

The informer, Boyd Douglas, 31, key prosecution witness, said the Rev. Joseph Wenderoth a defendant and Catholic priest told him early in July 1970 that the plan to blow up the tunnels and vandalize draft boards was proceeding under Berrigan's direction.

"Joseph Wenderoth" Douglas said "told me in the winter months of 1970-71 this project would be completed in those months. He told me to relay to Philip Berrigan that they were working on the project and that it would be carried out as planned per his instruction."

"Whose instructions?" the witness was asked.

"Philip Berrigan's" Douglas replied.

In his seat at the defense table, Berrigan broke into audible laughter at this point. Sitting beside him, Sister Elizabeth McAllister, another defendant, grinned.

Berrigan and the six other anti-war activists are charged with conspiring to blow up Capitol heating systems, vandalize draft boards and kidnap President Nixon's aide, Henry Kissinger.

"Since resources appear available for the subterranean project in the District this should have priority for the winter of 1970-1971." Berrigan is quoted as writing in one of more than a dozen letters turned over by Douglas and read into the trial report by Assistant Attorney General William Lynch.

However, less than two months later, the government claims, the plan to kidnap Kissinger threatened to push the tunnel bombing scheme into the background.

"Joseph Wenderoth stated to me he had 15 people who

would be involved in the project." Douglas testified.

Douglas and Berrigan were inmates at the Lewisburg, (Pa.) Federal Penitentiary.

Douglas testified that he was recruited by Berrigan to smuggle letters in and out for the priest.

Douglas, a 31-year-old convict, was able to leave and re-enter the prison daily as a study-release student at nearby Bucknell University. He was paroled Dec. 16, 1972 from a term for transportation of fraudulent checks and assault on an FBI agent.

He turned FBI informer while serving as Berrigan's courier, Douglas testified.

The defense is seeking to subpoena FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover to produce voluminous records relating to Douglas' criminal record and his work as an FBI informant.