

Extortion Claim

Berrigan 'Spy' Is Grilled

Harrisburg, Pa.

The Rev. Philip Berrigan's defense claimed yesterday that FBI informer Boyd Douglas was waiting impatiently for the anti-war priest's arrival within prison walls, with extortion in mind.

"I asked another inmate to notify me when he arrived," Douglas testified at the federal conspiracy trial of Father Berrigan and six codefendants. He denied any intent to extort money.

Terry Lenzner, the third of six defense attorneys to cross-examine Douglas, told U.S. District Judge R. Dixon the defense had found a witness only Wednesday night with whom they hoped to back up the extortion claim when they began presenting their case.

Earlier, Douglas testified he was wired for sound only after FBI director J. Edgar Hoover's original allegation of a conspiracy to kidnap presidential aide Henry A.

Kissinger.

"Did you ever tape record any conversations up to Nov. 27, 1970?" asked Lenzner's predecessor for the defense, attorney Paul O'Dwyer. He referred to the date the FBI director first revealed the purported anti-war conspiracy involving Berrigan and the others.

"Not that I recall," replied Douglas, star government witness at the trial of the Harrisburg 7.

Deputy Assistant Attorney General William Lynch interrupted to concede that the government had no recordings taped by Douglas prior to Hoover's speech before a Senate Appropriations subcommittee.

The witness said he was provided with a concealed tape recorder by the FBI some time after Hoover's address and that he used it to tape conversations with several defendants.

The defense attorney implied that after Hoover's speech there was pressure

to back up the FBI director's charges.

Berrigan, 48, and his six fellow anti-war activists are on trial on charges of conspiring in 1970 to kidnap Kissinger, blow up heating tunnels under government installations in Washington and destroy draft records in several Selective Service centers.

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