

Agent 'Didn't Know' Plot Informer Was Recruiting

Harrisburg, Pa.

FBI agent Delmar Mayfield testified yesterday he did not know Boyd F. Douglas, key witness against the Harrisburg Seven, was recruiting people for the anti-war movement while working as a government informer.

Under cross examination, Mayfield testified he had never seen a letter Douglas had sent to a young woman in Rochester, N.Y., suggesting "there may be an interesting project that would interest you at the beginning of the year."

Douglas had testified earlier that he was talking about a plan to blow up underground heating tunnels in Washington. The Rev. Philip F. Berrigan and six of his followers are charged with plotting to destroy the tunnels, kidnap Henry A. Kissinger and raid draft boards in nine states.

"If you had known Mr. Douglas had sent a letter with this statement, would you have retained him as an informant?" defense attorney Leonard Boudin asked.

"Yes, I believe I would," Mayfield replied. "But I would have instructed him not to try and recruit anyone."

"For him to attempt to recruit people to violate federal laws would be a violation of FBI regulations and of my own personal standards."

The letter was sent to Susan Williams, an anti-war activist who was convicted of destroying government property, following a draft board raid in Rochester in the fall of 1970.

Boudin showed Mayfield six letters which Douglas had written without the FBI's knowledge.

The agent confirmed that Douglas had asked the FBI for a pay increase of \$200

per month on Feb. 26, 1971, six weeks after the seven defendants were indicted.

Mayfield also testified he had not been notified in advance that FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover would announce on Nov. 27, 1970, to a congressional subcommittee that a group, including Father Berrigan, was planning the Kissinger kidnaping and the sabotage.

Defense attorney Paul O'Dwyer then asked.

"Was there a stepup of activities of the FBI investigation with respect to these defendants immediately after that statement was issued?"

"Not to the best of my knowledge," Mayfield replied.

The defense has contended that the case against the seven defendants was pursued vigorously only after Hoover made the announcement.

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