

# INFORMERS MARK VETERANS' TRIAL

## 4 Florida Witnesses Were Active in Antiwar Group

By JOHN KIFNER

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GAINESVILLE, Fla., Aug. 19 —A strange procession of informers is filing through the trial of seven antiwar veterans and a supporter charged here with plotting an assault on the 1972 Republican National Convention.

Two have been national officers of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War and two have been men that the two of the defendants regarded as their "best friends."

They of the informers have described their occupations in a variety of ways.

One of them, William W. Lammer, said he was a "political monitor" for the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Another, Charles H. Becker, said he was an "intelligence operative" for the New Orleans police and the F.B.I. Lewis B. Anchill said he was a "source of information" for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

The fourth in what is expected to be a long series of informers, Emerson L. Poe, is expected to take the stand when the trial resumes tomorrow.

Vietnam Veterans Against the War has always suspected that its activities were heavily infiltrated. The New Orleans chapter was at one time down to three members, all of whom have since turned out to be informers or undercover agents.

When a chapter was started in Jacksonville, Fla., with three members, two of them later stole a print of the film "Winter Soldier" from the garage of the third and turned it over to the F.B.I., court records filed in Pensacola have disclosed.

### Tell of F.B.I. Funds

Indeed, it now appears that the veterans' activities were at least partly supported by the Government. Both Mr. Lemmer and Mr. Becker rose to become regional coordinators and members of the national steering committee, other members of the veterans group say, primarily because they had the funds in the money-starved organization to fly to various meetings.

They testified that the money came from the F.B.I.

Under examination by the prosecution, the informers have given details of their recollections of the alleged plot. When Mr. Becker was on the stand, questioning by the prosecutor, Jack Carrouth, consisted mainly of the query, "What else?"

Under questioning by the defense lawyers, however, their memories have appeared less flawless. Time and again they have said that they did not remember details of meetings they were said to have attended.

Among the things they were not able to remember was how much money they had been paid for their services.

### F.B.I. Man Present

Only the memory of Mr. Anchill, a telephone installer who posed as a member of the Florida Peoples Coalition, appeared to have slipped under prosecution questioning.

While Claude Meadow, the F.B.I. agent in charge of the investigation, sat at the prosecution table going over Mr. Anchill's four-page statement, several of Mr. Carrouth's promptings for more details received only blank stares.

When Mr. Anchill was asked by a defense lawyer, Larry Turner, whether he was employed by a law-enforcement agency, he paused for a long while before answering, staring at the ceiling.

The defense has largely been blocked by prosecution objections in its attempt to find out what motivated the men to become informants, and whether some had acted, as the defense contends, as "agents provocateur."

The prosecution fought, largely successfully, to keep Mr. Lemmey's record of mental instability out of the trial. He is regarded as their star witness.

"The jury might think he's crazy or something," protested Robert Schnieder, assistant prosecutor, during a hearing on the scope of questioning.

Mr. Poe, the latest informer to appear, had been the "best friend" and chief confidant of a defendant, Scott Camil, said to have been the ringleader of the alleged plot. Mr. Becker, an earlier witness, had been the "best friend" of another defendant, Peter P. Mahoney.

### Halt in Trial

Federal District Judge Winston E. Arnou halted the trial Friday for a hearing when the defense protested that the government had invaded its camp.

Mr. Poe testified at the hearing that he had reported "every conversation" he had with Mr. Camil after the indictment, but the Government asserted it had not spied on the defense, and Judge Arnou ruled the trial would go on.

Although the defendants often described themselves as "paranoid," their fears appeared often to have been mixed with naiveté. And, in many earlier discussions the veterans have talked of the bond that exists between those who went to the war, and have expressed sympathy for their chief accuser, Mr. Lemmer, as a "misguided brother."