

Kissinger in Talk With 3 Berrigan Case Figures

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WASHINGTON, March 12—Henry A. Kissinger held an ex-who have been named as co-ordinary philosophical and political discussion last week with three antiwar protesters conspirators in the alleged plot to kidnap him.

According to details provided in a telephone interview today by one of the three, Thomas Davidson, the 75-minute discussion was both "civilized and amicable." But Mr. Davidson's account also suggested that neither side influenced the other.

Mr. Kissinger, who is President Nixon's national security adviser, would volunteer little today about the discussion, which occurred Saturday in the situation room in the basement of the White House.

His visitors were Mr. David-son, a 25-year-old peace organ-

izer from New York; William Davidson, a 44-year-old Quaker, who is a professor of Physics at Haverford College, and Sister Beverly Bell, 44, of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, who is a resident of Washington.

They are among seven persons, including the Rev. Daniel J. Berrigan, named by a Federal grand jury as co-conspirators but not defendants in the alleged plot. Six others, including Father Berrigan's brother, the Rev. Philip F. Berrigan, have been indicted for conspiracy to

blow up heating systems in Federal buildings here and kidnap Mr. Kissinger.

Mr. Kissinger said that the meeting Saturday had been the sort he tried to have with outsiders at least once a week to give "concerned people a sense of being listened to."

He also said, in a brief telephone interview, that the three had asked him whether he would be willing to chat with the co-defendants in the trial, and that he had agreed to "think about it." He said, however, that he would have to consult the Justice Department about this.

The unusual meeting was first disclosed by Mary McGrory today in The Washington Star. It was arranged, according to sources on both sides, by a mutual friend, Brian

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KISSINGER IN TALK WITH 3 WAR FOES

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McDonnell, an antiwar protester, who fasted for 30 days in Lafayette Park across from the White House and conferred with Mr. Kissinger while fasting.

Mr. Davidson said that he and his colleagues had agreed not to quote Mr. Kissinger directly. But he recalled at least three basic areas of disagreement.

First, he said, Mr. Kissinger defended Mr. Nixon's policy of gradual disengagement in Vietnam and left the clear impression that, for all practical purposes, the United States will have transferred ground combat responsibilities to Saigon by mid-1972.

Finds Incentive Reduced

His three visitors were said to have replied that the United States could continue to make

a heavy "technological" contribution to the war, through the use of aircraft and bombing, and that even if the United States withdrew completely, leaving the South and North Vietnamese to fight it out, the "basic immorality of the conflict" would endure.

Second, Mr. Davidson went on, the three argued that the United States should announce a deadline for withdrawal. Mr. Kissinger, he said, contended that this would reduce the enemy's incentive to negotiate, and would also, in Mr. Davidson's words, "prevent the United States from getting out sooner than it might."

"I'd never heard that last argument against a deadline before," Mr. Davidson said.

Third, he said, Mr. Kissinger and his visitors disagreed over the shape of a possible political settlement with North Vietnam. Mr. Davidson suggested a coalition regime along the lines proposed by the North Vietnamese; Mr. Kissinger, he recalled, suggested that this would leave Saigon in the hand of the enemy.

"This was one of the

scary aspects of the meeting," Mr. Davidson said. "I always thought of Kissinger as a liberal, but here he was, all hung up over the Communist threat, the Red scare, the idea that we couldn't let South Vietnam go Communist."

Admiration Develops

Equally "scary," Mr. Davidson said, was the fact that he found himself developing a certain admiration for Mr. Kissinger—an emotion, he later said, that he eventually brought under control.

"I found it scary because here was a guy you could talk to, a guy you almost started to like, not defensive, not really reactionary," he said. "But then you step back and remember who the man is, and the policies he represents, and you see that sitting before you is a good German."

Dr. Davidson, the Haverford professor, seemed to emerge with less apprehension about his host. He was quoted by The Associated Press this afternoon as saying, "These kinds of discussions have some value," and he told Miss McGrory of The

Star, "He is an excellent listener, he never took advantage of the weaknesses in our presentation. But that personal humanity, and subjective concern, have to be considered as part of a decision-making system which is grossly brutal."

Sister Beverly, reached at her home here, declined to comment.

The meeting closed with the suggestion from one of the three visitors that Mr. Kissinger confer later with the other accused co-conspirators as well as the defendants. Mr. Kissinger suggested that he might like to do so but had no wish to interfere with or influence the judicial process and therefore would seek legal advice.