

# Harrisburg 7 Charge Killed

HARRISBURG (Pa.) — (AP) — Eqbal Ahmad, one of the defendants in the Harrisburg Seven trial, was acquitted today of sending a letter threatening to kidnap presidential adviser Henry A. Kissinger, but he remained in the case charged with conspiracy to kidnap, bomb and vandalize draft boards.

U.S. District Court Judge R. Dixon Herman also handed down a directed verdict of acquittal on a charge of causing an illegal letter to be smuggled into a federal penitentiary.

But the trial judge rejected other defense motions to acquit the six other defendants on all charges.

#### Non-Catholic

The decision on Ahmad, a Pakistani Moslem and the only non-Catholic among the defendants, reduces the possible maximum penalty he could receive if convicted from 20 years to five.

Only two of the defendants now face lengthy sentences — antiwar priest Philip Berrigan, who could get up to 45 years, and Sister Elizabeth McAlister could get 40 years.

The others are subject to five-year penalties on the conspiracy count.

Herman's decision to remove Ahmed from the letter exchange about Kissinger stemmed from his striking of all evidence relating to

the Pakistani's voice identification by paid FBI informer Boyd F. Douglas Jr., the government's chief witness.

Douglas had testified that he received two phone calls from Ahmad relating to the letter outlining the alleged plot to kidnap Kissinger which was sent by Sister Elizabeth to Berrigan. Sister Elizabeth had written in the letter that the kidnaping idea was Ahmad's.

#### Summations Due

At the time Douglas and Berringer were inmates at the federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pa. Douglas, who was a convict on study-release at nearby Bucknell University, was serving as a courier for Berrigan and his peace movement followers.

The attorneys were expected to begin their summations later today.

Earlier today, the defense technically reopened its case briefly to submit as evidence 35 exhibits designed to show that Douglas promoted the antiwar movement while in the employ of the FBI.



**EQBAL AHMAD**  
Two counts thrown out