

VETERANS LINKED TO VIOLENCE PLAN

Policeman Tells Jury of Infiltrating War Critics

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—A police undercover agent told a jury here today how he infiltrated the Vietnam Veterans Against the War.

The witness, Sgt. Harrison Crenshaw of the Dade County Public Safety Department testified at the trial of seven anti-war veterans and a supporter who are charged with plotting to disrupt the Republican National Convention.

He said at the first meeting he attended the veterans talked of financing an arsenal, including antitank guns, through the sale of marijuana, and of blowing up underwater telephone lines and throwing rotten pigs' blood at the police "to make them physically ill."

The sergeant said that he and his partner, Sgt. Gerald Rudolph, had gone to the meeting at the home of a defendant, Alton Foss, after hearing a V.V.A.W. membership ad on the radio.

"Hi fellows, come on in. This is the right place," Sergeant Crenshaw said members of the group shouted when he and Sergeant Rudolph approached.

The next day the two sergeants were in the forefront of a demonstration at the gates of President Nixon's home in Key Biscayne.

How to Fool 'Stupid Pigs'

At the meeting, Sergeant Crenshaw said, Mr. Foss and other veterans said they would "fool those stupid pigs" by talking only of plans for peaceful demonstrations in their meetings with local officials.

But, he said, Mr. Foss, the Miami V.V.A.W. coordinator told a June meeting of the radical Miami Convention Coalition that his group's plans for the Republican Convention did not exclude violence.

He said that Mr. Foss had told him on several occasions that he had access to antitank guns. He said that Mr. Foss suggested that other members of the group buy \$60-rifles at a local gun shop and talked of buying 400 cases of "50 pineapple-grenades.

He said that Mr. Foss had talked of making incendiary devices and of sabotaging power lines to "cause a massive power failure."

Another defendant, Donald C. Perdue, Sergeant Crenshaw said, described himself as a diver and demolition expert and said the group needed explosives to blow up underwater telephone cables.

Sergeant Crenshaw said that when he asked Mr. Foss how the guns were to be paid for, the Navy veteran told him that he and another defendant, Scott Camil, had a stash of marijuana and they could sell the crop to raise the money.

Sergeant Crenshaw, who is black, and Sergeant Rudolph, white, who infiltrated the V.V.A.W. in preparations for the conventions in the late spring of 1972 and quickly became prominent in the Miami organization.

Shortly after their indictment was handed up in July, they surfaced by arresting Mr. Foss on a charge of possession of LSD, the hallucinogenic drug.

In an affidavit filed in Federal Court in Miami last November and in a long interview at the time, Mr. Foss said they had used the charge in an attempt to put pressure on him to turn informer. He was hidden for a period by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, made a taped call to Mr. Camil and was presented with a statement that he said he did not sign.

Mention of Weapons

Earlier today, two Government witnesses who had lived with the defendants, testified under cross-examination that they had not heard any discussion of plans to use automatic weapons, grenades, cherry bombs or incendiary devices, as charged at the Republican convention.

Both men said under cross-examination that the only weapons they had heard discussed in plans for the convention were wrist rocket slingshots.

These, both testified under defense questioning, were said by Mr. Camil and others to be for use for defense in the event of an attack on demonstrators by the police.

The first witness, William Koehler, a \$150-a-week informer for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, who also received \$500 in overtime for his convention snooping, stayed for several weeks at Mr. Foss's home.

Under examination by the prosecution, he testified that he had seen Mr. Camil display a length of piano wire and make the strangling motions of a garrote with it.

The second witness, Edward F. Cornwall, lived for a time in Mr. Camil's attic, drew cartoons for the V.V.A.W., drove Mr. Camil about on his motorcycle and served as a security guard at the Memorial Day, 1972, meeting that is the heart of the Government's indictment.

Under prosecution examination, he testified that he had seen Mr. Camil demonstrate a homemade incendiary device during a break in the meeting and had seen a cross bow fired into a door.