Plan to Convert Bombers In France Revealed at Trial

B-26s Flown Abroad to Be Adapted For Executive Uses, Witness Says

CPYRGHT By RON MASELKA

The government today contin ned its case in the Federa Court trial of three men charged with conspiring to unlawfully ex port seven B-26 bombers to Port ugal in 1965.

In testimony Thursday, David B. Berge of St. Johns, Nfld., and James L. Shanahan of Sydney N. S., said the defendant, John R. Hawke, told them he was flying the bombers to France for the control of the conversion into executive air craft.

Both men testified they serviced the bombers which landed in Canada during the summer o

of attorney from the missing de fendant, Gregory R. Board, t handle transactions with Tucson bank involving the air plane deal.

"Forget About It"

Mr. Dolgaard said he receive a telephone call from Hawk from Newfoundland in which "h addressed me as Hawke and sai

would be leaving tomorrow.'

When he asked Board about the "Hawke-Sparrow business, Mr. Dolgaard testified: "Board said Sparrow was a code name for the bombers and to forget about it."

He is Gordon B. Hamilton, a Tucson, Ariz., businessman.

The defendants are: Woodrow W. Roderick, 47, a Winnipeg, Man., businessman; John R. Earlier, a Tucson, Ariz., ad Man., businessman; John K. Hawke, 28, a former Royal Air countant Keith Dolgaard, sail Force pilot, and Henri Marie in July 1965 he was given power Force phot, and from de Mont-Force pilot, and Henri Marie marin, 58, a French businessman.

> Mr. Hamilton's company had a contract with the missing defendant in the case, Gregory R. Board, 45, to rebuild 20 of the World War II planes.

> After seven planes were delivered to Board's company (Aero Associates Inc.), Mr. Hamilton testified that in mid-September 1965 he, himself, tried to sell the others to Portugal,

Limits on Use

"We had done considerable work on at least three of the aircraft and had a substantial investment in them," Mr. Hamilton added.

He said that he talked to State Department officials in Washington who set a condition on exporting the B-26s to Portugal "that use of the aircraft would be limited to Portuguese Euro-

pean territory."

He said negotiations were broken off with Portuguese officials when they would not agree to that condition.

"They wanted to use them in Angola in their African colonies, I guess," Mr. Hamilton said. **CPYRGHT**