

Kimberlin Gets 50 More Years

By DAVID ROHN

Chief Federal Judge William E. Steckler today sentenced Brett C. Kimberlin to 50 years in prison for his conviction in connection with eight bombings in Speedway more than three years ago.

The total of 50 years on conviction of 22 counts of a Federal grand jury indictment will be served in addition to the 21 years Kimberlin is now serving as a result of convictions on previous drug, receipt of explosive devices and unlawful use of government insignia charges.

Kimberlin showed little emotion as Steckler pronounced the sentence. At his hearing, he maintained his total innocence and vowed to appeal the case through the court system to the United Nations or World Court if necessary. He told Steckler that his conviction was based on perjured testimony and government misconduct and added, "If I'm sentenced to one day or 100 years, it's a tragedy and travesty and injustice."

Steckler, prior to announcing the sentence, said that probation officers had advised him that Kimberlin could be eligible for parole in little more than seven years in connection with all of his sentences on all of his convictions. He noted that under Federal law, anyone sentenced to a total of more than 25 years is eligible for parole in 10 years and added that Kimberlin has already been in jail nearly three years since his arrest on

drug charges in Texas in February of 1979.

Asst. U.S. Attorney Kennard Foster, conceded that Steckler's information was correct. He added, however, "The government will have continued interest in this man not being out where he can plague society again."

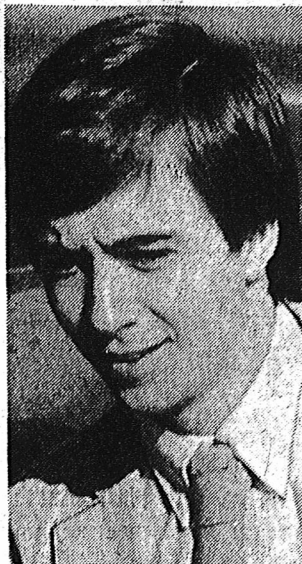
The sentence was considerably less than the total maximum potential exposure of 230 years in prison, that the aggregate counts of the indictment carry. It was slightly less than the government's recommended 79-year sentence.

Foster described Kimberlin as "an individual without conscience who planned, plotted and carried out a reign of terror in Speedway from Sept. 1 through Sept. 7 of 1978." He added that Kimberlin's conduct "cries from the public and from the government for a substantial sentence."

Government lawyer Jack Thar noted testimony from witnesses who lived in Speedway during the trial of the fear experienced by the residents of Speedway during the 1978 "reign of terror invested in the community."

Kimberlin, maintaining his innocence, vowed to file lawsuits against every witness who, he said, committed perjury and every government agency involved in judicial misconduct. He has already filed suits in state court against two key government witnesses, Ronald Confer and Lynn Coleman.

Also handing Steckler 28 pages of



Brett Kimberlin

signatures from people who he said believe in his innocence, Kimberlin said, "It will be a sad day in America if I am sentenced to even one day."

Steckler noted that although Kimberlin had an ample opportunity to present his case during the trial earlier this year, the jury found him guilty.

"I could not disagree with the

jury's verdict," Steckler said. "There was ample evidence to support the jury's verdict."

Steckler read from a pre-sentencing report filed by government probation officers which described Kimberlin as having been an individual of near or superior intelligence. It noted, however, that very few parental restrictions were placed on Kimberlin during his youth.

According to the report, out of boredom or a sense of excitement, Kimberlin became involved in drug transactions on an increasingly broader scale. He ultimately became involved in international drug smuggling.

Although the report said that as a result of the trial much of the mystery surrounding the series of bombings has been cleared up, there is still the major unanswered question of a motive for the bombings.

Steckler, responding to that statement, noted that he was not only convinced of Kimberlin's guilt but said he was distressed that Kimberlin had failed to cooperate with government authorities and help establish the truth of what happened in Speedway.

He noted that even if Kimberlin was truthful in maintaining his own innocence, the evidence during the trial indicated he could tell authorities who was involved in the bombings.

Steckler also noted that Kimberlin had stood in his courtroom nearly nine

Continued on Page 14