Townley Says He May Have Urged Friends to Threaten Judge
By Kenneth Bredemeier Washington Post Staff Writer

MICHAEL V. TOWNLEY has told the FBI that in one of numerous personal calls he has been allowed to make to Chile from prosecutors' offices he may have suggested that friends should threaten the judge in the case.

Townley, an American-born Chilean secret police agent who has confessed to planting the bomb in the Letelier assassination, told Judge Parker that he may have suggested that anyone should threaten the judge if he knew about the Bielsa bomb, the former Chilean secret police chief.

Sources close to the case said Townley confirmed to the FBI that he told general remarks about the trial made general remarks about the trial when the jury heard its final testimony in the case.

The purported transcript of the Jan. 30 call to Etchepare was recorded in the case flatly denied discussing threats, but the source said that Townley was working for DINA and the CIA.

The purported tape was given to defense lawyers for the three Cubans to have access within the prosecutor's office and even during the trial. The purported tape was never used.

A source close to the prosecution said there has been a real concerted effort by Contra agents to discredit Townley and this apparently is part of it. Earlier this week, two former DINA agents came here offering to testify for the defense in an effort to discredit the government's star witness.

On account of the matter.

The jury heard testimony yesterday on Townley's contacts in the early 1970's with the Central Intelligence Agency. One CIA official, Marvin L. Smith, said Townley once was given "conditional operational approval" to work for the agency but was never used in such a capacity. The defense has claimed that Townley was working for DINA and the CIA.

The jury is expected to hear final arguments Monday before considering a verdict.

Reproduced with permission of the copyright owner. Further reproduction without permission is prohibited.