

German Bonnie, Clyde on Trial

STUTTGART, West Germany (AP) — West Germany's Bonnie and Clyde go on trial today in a special courthouse built in a maximum-security prison at a cost of \$3.5 million.

Andreas Baader, 32, and Ulrike Meinhof, 40, the leaders of the Baader-Meinhof gang of anarchists, are accused of a wave of bombings, shootings and robberies in 1971-72 in which four U.S. soldiers and a German policeman were killed, 65 persons were injured and the equivalent of about \$200,000 was stolen from six banks.

Two other leaders of the gang, Jan-Carl Raspe, 30, and Gudrun Ensslin, 34, were to face the five-judge tribunal with Baader and Mrs. Meinhof. A fifth leader of the band, Holger Meins, 33, died of starvation last Nov. 9 during a hunger strike that the other four gang leaders kept up for 145 days.

With 1,000 witnesses expected to testify, the trial is expected to last at least 18 months.

Defense lawyers said the four

defendants would go on another hunger strike to protest being tried within Stuttgart's Stammheim prison. Fifteen sympathizers in West Berlin jails began a fast Tuesday to protest the trial.

There were persistent reports that German anarchists would attack the West German embassies in Oslo and Stockholm in another attempt to force the government to free the defendants. The police in the two capitals put extra guards on the embassies.

A band of anarchists occupied

the Stockholm embassy last month, killed two West German diplomats and blew up the building, but the Bonn government refused to free the defendants and 22 other alleged members of the gang in German jails.

More than 50 other followers or members of other anarchist groups are behind bars, awaiting trial or serving sentences.

Three of the defense attorneys have been excluded from the trial under special antiterrorist laws passed by the

West German parliament. The government said they acted as go-betweens to coordinate the previous hunger strike by the quartet and aided efforts by sympathizers to spring the gang leaders from jail.

Among the crimes listed in the 354-page indictment are the bombing on May 24, 1972, of the U.S. Army's European headquarters in Heidelberg. Three American soldiers were killed and a fourth died in another bomb attack 13 days earlier at a corps headquarters in Frankfurt.

The four are also accused of the murder of a German policeman during a bank holdup in Kaiserslautern on Dec. 22, 1971; bombing police buildings in Augsburg and Munich; bombing a judge's car in Karlsruhe, and a bomb attack on the Hamburg publishing house of conservative newspaper magnate Axel Springer.

The four were rounded up by West Germany's biggest postwar police dragnet several weeks after the bombings in June 1972. They have been in jail ever since.