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Jurors in George Trial Told to Keep Trying

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Jurors at the retrial of former CIA spy chief Clair E. George were told yesterday to make a final effort to resolve the case after reporting they were "deadlocked" on some charges.

In their ninth day of deliberations, the jurors said, as they first indicated last week, that they had made "a unanimous decision on some counts" but were deadlocked on others. They said they had "worked very hard" on all seven counts in the indictment.

The jury's note, signed by foreman Benjamin Vaughan, gave no hint of whether the partial verdicts were for acquittal or conviction.

Former CIA deputy director for operations, George went on trial in

October for a second time on seven felony counts of obstructing justice and lying about his knowledge of the Iran-contra scandal.

U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth gave the jury a final charge asking them to make one last effort to break the impasse. Defense attorney Richard A. Hibey objected, asking the judge to accept the partial verdict and declare a mistrial on the remaining counts, but Lamberth denied the motion.

The instruction Lamberth gave the jury was identical to the one he gave the jury in the first trial. That ended Aug. 26 with Lamberth declaring a mistrial on all counts.

Lamberth told jurors yesterday that they should "listen to each other's arguments carefully." He said

jurors favoring acquittal "should consider whether their doubt is a reasonable one which makes no impression on the minds of others" equally honest and intelligent.

Jurors favoring conviction were told at the same time to "seriously to ask themselves whether they might not reasonably doubt the correctness of a judgment" not concurred in by others.

"In most cases," Lamberth reminded them all, "absolute certainty cannot be attained or expected." He told them that "it is desirable that the case be decided."

The judge indicated he would bring the trial to an end following the next status report from the jury room. The jurors continued deliberations and went home at 4:30 p.m.