

Around the Nation *Pres 6/1/78*

'Chicago 7' Lawyer Says a Judge Was An 'FBI Informant'

CHICAGO—Attorney William Kunstler says that William J. Campbell, former chief judge of the U.S. District Court in Chicago, acted as an "FBI informant" during the Chicago Seven conspiracy trial.

Kunstler, who was the chief defense attorney during the 1969-1970 trial, showed reporters FBI documents obtained through Freedom of Information Act requests that indicated Campbell had discussed with Marlin Johnson, then the FBI's Chicago bureau chief, how he thought trial Judge Julius J. Hoffman would rule in the case.

Campbell also told Johnson he would "ensure" that a subpoena seeking surveillance data, served on then-FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, would be quashed, Kunstler said, quoting another FBI document.

"I think it's a crime," Kunstler said of Campbell's alleged communications with the FBI. "It violates his oath of office, [and] it certainly is in contempt of court."

He said Campbell "was apparently the chief informant in the courthouse for the FBI."

Campbell, now a senior federal judge, was not available for comment. Johnson, who retired from the FBI in May 1970 and is vice president of the Canteen Corp., declined to comment on Kunstler's charges.