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Protesters To Challenge Riot Law

Antiwar demonstrators held news conferences yesterday, challenging the House Committee on Un-American Activities to a television debate, announcing plans for a demonstration when the Committee resumes its hearings today, and disclosing plans to file a law suit challenging the anti-riot provisions of the 1968 Civil Rights Act.

Group leaders said the suit would be filed in U.S. District Court in Chicago, where a grand jury is investigating to determine whether the new law was violated in the street demonstrations during the Democratic National Convention.

The law provides for a five-year prison sentence or a \$5000 fine, or both, for anyone convicted of crossing state lines to promote, encourage or carry on a riot.

The group coupled announcement of the suit with criticism of the Justice Department, the FBI and the House Committee on Un-American Activities, which is holding hearings to investigate the disorders during the Chicago convention.

Spokesmen for the antiwar groups said the anti-riot law was "too broad" in its provisions and was unconstitutional.