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Md. Opposes Brown Case Subpoenas

Associated Press

Maryland intends to ask Judge James Macgill in Howard County Circuit Court next week to quash subpoenas issued for members of the Dorchester County grand jury that returned indictment against H. Rap Brown.

Atty. Gen. Francis B. Burch made the announcement as he prepared to take charge of the prosecution in the case, which dates back to civil disorders in Cambridge, Md., in July, 1967.

Burch said he is taking charge in an effort to determine whether original felony charges against Brown were fabricated by Dorchester officials, as has been alleged by Richard Kinlein, Howard County state's attorney.

Brown has been missing since his trial on arson and riot charges was to begin last year.

The attorney general said he was taking charge of the case now because his deputy, Robert F. Sweeney, has been appointed the chief of the new District Court system.

The surviving Dorchester grand jury members were subpoenaed to appear at a special evidence hearing April 16, which was postponed because of Sweeney's appointment.

Those subpoenas, issued at the request of Brown's lawyer, William Kunstler, had to be re-issued because of the postponement.

The former grand jurors have been ordered to appear and to testify May 7 at the rescheduled hearing into Kinlein allegations.