

T.P. 1-68

S. LA., SUNDAY MORNING, 1

## PROBE PLANNED OF TV COVERAGE

### Senate to Study Convention Telecasting

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chairman Warren G. Magnuson, D-Wash., of the Senate Commerce Committee said today his committee plans to look into the question of how television coverage of a national political convention can be improved.

Referring to network television coverage of the Democratic National Convention in Chicago this week, Magnuson said: "There certainly has got to be a better way."

Magnuson, whose committee handles legislation pertaining to radio and television, said he and other committee members received complaints that television spent too much time on what he called periphery events.

He said in an interview he feels that events surrounding a convention should be reported but they should not be given, as he put it, disproportionate attention. He suggested that local television stations could play a greater role in covering events not pertaining to the actual work of a convention.

As an example, he referred to the amount of attention that was given to the difficulties of a delegate who tried with a card other than the official delegate card to activate the green light permitting entrance to the convention floor.

"And this was all done while we were naming a vice presidential candidate," he said.

His committee, Magnuson said, is not interested in censorship.

"But," he said, "I think we should take a look at this thing and see if we can set up guidelines."

The study, he said, will not be conducted until next year. Representatives of the television industry will be asked to participate, he said.

## Didn't Disclose Camera Location, Say Networks

All Deny Giving Information to Demonstrators

NEW YORK (AP)—The three major television networks denied Saturday that they had informed demonstrators where their cameras would be set up at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago so the demonstrators could stage protests before a national audience.

The charge was made by a Chicago police undercover agent who quoted Youth International Party (hippie) leader Jerry Rubin as saying the networks had given the hippies advance notice. The undercover agent, Robert L. Pierson, infiltrated the hippies and became Rubin's bodyguard.

Spokesmen for the National Broadcasting Co., Columbia Broadcasting System and American Broadcasting Co., said that their live and videotape cameras were restricted to locations approved by the Chicago police

and were plainly visible to anyone. Hand-held film cameras simply followed the demonstrations, the network said.

NBC news director Joe Derby termed the policeman's quote from Rubin as "utterly ridiculous."

"It just couldn't be," he said. "We were completely restricted and were not allowed on the street by order of the chief of police. We had to use a long range lens to get what we got. That (collusion) is not NBC policy," Derby said.

Jim Byrne of CBS said of the charges, "That is not the case." Another CBS employe termed the allegation "baloney." "Anyone with eyes could see where we were," the television newsmen said.

William Sheehan, a vice-president of ABC, said the accusation was "totally without substance."

Another ABC official, Richard Connelly, said the demonstrators "had no forewarning of where our cameras would be."