Yippie Walkout Livens HUAC Hearing

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More than a dozen Yippies, their lawyers and their friends accepted the invitation of a House Un-American Activities subcommittee yesterday and walked out of a hearing on the violence at the Democratic National Convention.

In doing so, the bearded and costumed antiwar demonstrators enlivened what had promised to be one of the most monotonous inquiries in the annals of the parent Committee's three-decade hunt for subversives.

The protesters, themselves the target of the Congressional investigation—left quietly, escorted by some of the 20 uniformed policemen and 20 deputy marshals who helped to make the hearing a standing-room-only affair.

Subcommittee Chairman Richard Ichord (D-Mo.) vowed to press on with the hearings on Thursday when six prominent protesters are scheduled to appear under subpoena. He insisted that the day's session had amply documented the presence of subversive elements in Chicago in August.

The prospective witnesses—two members of the Youth International Party (the Yippies) and four leaders of the National Mobilization to End the War in Vietnam—filed suit in Federal District Court here seeking to enjoin the proceedings.

None of the evidence offered by a subcommittee consultant and two Chicago policemen was news to anyone who watched Mayor Richard J. Daley's televised version of the Convention disturbances. It consisted of staff and police "research" into the widely published statements and pamphlets of the protesters.

Consultant James L. Gallagher said the evidence indicated a long and carefully planned attempt to aid "the
Yippy Abbie Hoffman plays with yo-yo during recess of House Un-American Activities subcommittee hearing.
Yippie Walkout Livens Session Of Un-American Activity Probe

HUAC, From A1 policies of Hanoi," radicalize American youth, break down the two-party system with an independent movement to the left and "disrupt the total political process."

The policemen, Lt. Joseph J. Healy and Sgt. Joseph Grubisic of the Chicago force's intelligence unit, said the protesters' documents disclosed continuing plans to interrupt campaigning candidates, harass voters on Election Day and crash the presidential inauguration in January.

Ichord said the subcommittee was unconcerned with other controversies out of Chicago, including whether news media "distorted" reports of the violence or whether police over-reacted or under-reacted to provocations. These matters are under investigation by the FBI and the President's Commission on Violence.

The late afternoon walkout was the culmination of a series of caustic exchanges between Ichord and lawyers for the subpoenaed protesters.

No Roughhousing

There was none of the roughhouse that attended a Committee inquiry into the peace movement two years ago when a lawyer was carried from the room. But the attorneys repeatedly raised points of order with the chairman and Ichord, despite his own statements that he would not entertain objections, repeatedly entertained them.

Yippie leader Jerry Rubin, bare-chested, body-painted and dressed as a guerrilla, shuttled in and out of the room and rattled his beads and bracelets. Guards relieved him of several rounds of ammunition but let him keep his toy M-16 rifle. Fellow Yippie Abbie Hoffman stood up to ask special leave to go to the bathroom and point to a policeman complaining, "That man has a loaded revolver."

Lawyers Join Protest

Finally, the youths' lawyers joined their clients in a "silent protest" against Ichord's refusal to exclude testimony about their contingency legal defense plans for Chicago. Attorney William M. Kunstler, American Civil Liberties Union legal director Melvin L. Wulf and others argued that the constitutional right to counsel was being invaded.

"You are raping the Constitution, Mr. Chairman," said Kunstler. He charged an attempt to "reach the public" by discrediting lawyers.

"You have not been trying to reach the public" Ichord asked. "Of course I'm trying," Kunstler replied. "We all are."

Ordered to sit down or leave, the group left, gently prodded by deputy marshals who were veterans of showdowns at "Ole Miss" Montgomery, Ala.; and the Pentagon.