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Mayday Aide Is Jailed for Contempt

A federal judge yesterday ordered a 25-year-old press officer for the Mayday Collective jailed after finding her in contempt of court for refusing to answer questions before a grand jury.

Judge John J. Sirica ordered Carol Evans held in custody until "the life of the grand jury expires or until she purges herself of contempt."

The grand jury investigating the Mayday Collective and the related antiwar protests here on May 3, 4 and 5 was sworn in April 5 for an 18-month term.

Judge Sirica acted on a petition by Justice Department attorneys after Mrs. Evans had been granted immunity from any prosecution that might stem from statements she might make before the grand jury.

That immunity was granted during an earlier proceeding yesterday before Judge Sirica, who also ordered her to testify before the grand jury.

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Mayday Aide Jailed On Contempt Charge

WITNESS, From B1

But when Mrs. Evans appeared before the panel later in response to a subpoena, she continued her refusal to answer. Justice Department lawyer Eldon Hawley of the Internal Security Division immediately brought the matter back to Judge Sirica.

The judge ordered Mrs. Evans jailed immediately, rejecting pleas that she be given a three-hour stay to make arrangements for someone to care for her 2-year-old son, Darin.

"She's got lots of friends in the courtroom," Judge Sirica said looking out over a crowd of about 50 Mayday supporters. "If she wants to take him with her I'm sure they can make arrangements at the Women's Detention Center."

A group of Mrs. Evans' friends from the Mayday Collective later agreed to care for the child. She is divorced.

Mrs. Evans' lawyer, Philip Hirschkop said he would appeal Judge Sirica's ruling to the U.S. Court of Appeals today.

Yesterday's decision by Sirica follows a series of legal maneuvers that began June 8 when the government sought to bring Mrs. Evans before the grand jury.

She refused to testify then, and most of the day was taken up with legal wrangling as the government sought to force her to testify and her lawyers sought to have the subpoenas quashed.

A week later, Mrs. Evans was back in court asking that she not be forced to testify before the grand jury until a full

court hearing could be held on whether her telephone had been illegally tapped.

But that request was turned down, and the hearing on the offer of immunity was set for yesterday as was the second grand jury appearance.

Mrs. Evans told a reporter that she was asked four questions before the grand jury:

What is the People's Coalition for Peace and Justice and what was her connection with it?

• What is the People's Collective and what was her connection with it?

• Did she ever travel for the People's Coalition?

• Did she ever discuss the May activity with the members of the Mayday Collective?

She said she refused to answer "on advice of counsel" because she thought information leading to her subpoena might have come from an illegal wiretap and because "the grand jury is conducting an investigation on behalf of the FBI."

As she was led away by marshals yesterday, a number of her supporters rose in the courtroom and shouted "right on." One youth said the judge was guilty of "genocide" and suggested that the Mayday group make a "citizens' arrest" of him. Sirica ordered the courtroom cleared.

At least four persons, Mayday leader Rennie Davis, Bradford Lyttle, a coordinator for the People's Coalition Yippie leader Abbie Hoffman, and John Froines, a Chicago Seven defendant, already have been charged in connection with the Mayday investigations.