

Doesn't Believe Defection Voluntary

Hearst Family Is Stunned

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—Friends and family of Patricia Hearst reacted with stunned incredulity today to her bitter renunciation of her parents, her fiance and the life she led before she was kidnaped two months ago.

Speaking forcefully and with apparent conviction, on a tape delivered to a radio station Wednesday, the voice of 20-year-old Patricia Hearst denounced her father as a liar, told her fiance, Steven Weed, that her love for him had changed, and announced that she had "chosen to stay and fight" with her abductors, the Symbionese Liberation Army.

But her mother, Catherine, insisted today "only Patty in person can convince me that the terrible, weary words that she uttered came from her

heart and were delivered by her own free will.

Patricia's father, Randolph A. Hearst, editor of The San Francisco Examiner, who had arranged for donations of \$2 million in a vain effort to ransom his daughter, added, "Personally, I don't believe it. We've had her 20 years, they've had her 60 days and I don't believe she is going to change her philosophy that quickly and that permanently, and I'll never believe it until she comes to me, or her mother or her sisters or one of her cousins, and is free to talk without any interference whatsoever."

Weed, his voice near tears, told reporters, "It seems to me incredibly cynical on the part of the SLA for them to think that in the manner this has been presented that I can believe that Patty has refused her freedom."

Reaction came also from Cal-

ifornia Gov. Ronald Reagan, who said, "Until she says that in person, I think it would be folly to believe that she's made this of her own free will."

Meanwhile, the FBI sought to scotch assumptions that Miss Hearst's alleged conversion either nullifies the kidnaping or clears the way for direct police action against the SLA.

FBI Director Clarence M. Kelley said in a statement from Washington that the agency is continuing its investigation with "all available resources" and "all necessary action to carry out its responsibility to pursue this case to its successful conclusion."

He added, however, that the welfare and safety of Miss Hearst remains the "primary concern."

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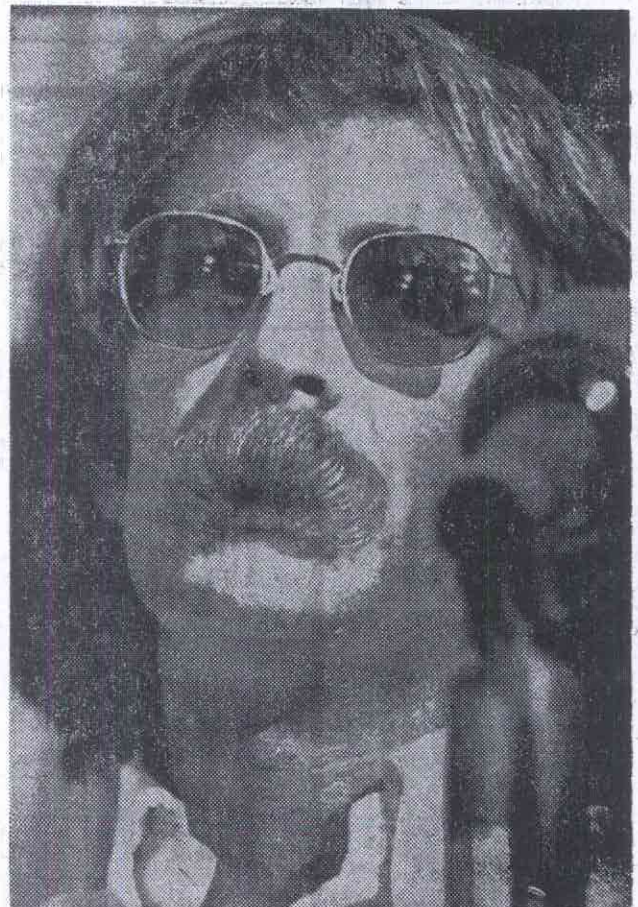
Hearst Family Stunned

HEARST, From A1

In San Francisco, local FBI agent-in-charge Charles Bates was asked if the Hearst family had given the bureau the green light to move in on the SLA.

"They don't have control of the light, and they never have had control of the light. There's nobody controlling this investigation but the FBI. We are going to do what we as professionals think should be done."

Another official, local S.S. Attorney James L. Browning,



Associated Press

Steven Weed: "It seems incredibly cynical . . ."

said indictments could still be sought against Miss Hearst's kidnapers, but that is too early to tell.

"If she is now saying she was never taken against her will, the you don't have a crime," Browning said. He added, according to Reuter news agency, that there is now an "excellent possibility the authorities will move."

Miss Hearst's supposed conversion was the latest development in a case that has grown more bizarre with each passing week. The latest tape came on the heels of a message two days earlier that raised hopes that Miss Hearst would be released.

That message was hidden in a bouquet of flowers containing half of a drivers license that apparently came from Miss Hearst's wallet, which was taken when she was kidnaped from her Berkeley apartment Feb. 4.

But Wednesday's communique could not have been more of a reversal. In addition to Miss Hearst's own shrill speech, the new tape contained segments by two other women and two men, one of them escaped convict Donald DeFreeze, who calls himself SLA Field Marshal Cinque. Cinque declared that in the future SLA would not resort to kidnapings, but "enemies of the people will be shot on sight..."

He also announced death warrants against three "agents of the enemy," namely, Robin Steiner, who is white, former girlfriend of Russell Little, one of two alleged SLA members now in custody; Chris Thompson, a black Berkeley resident described by Cinque, who is also black, as "a paid informer for the FBI," and Colston Westbrook, who is black.

Westbrook, 35, an instructor and graduate student, was outside coordinator of a prison self-help organization called the Black Culture Association. The BCA is widely suspected as the forum within which SLA germinated. Westbrook is described by SLA as a government and CIA agent.

Thompson, said to have been friendly with several known SLA members, told reporters yesterday he had appeared before an Oakland grand jury in connection with a gun he sold to Russell Little.

Most attention, however, was focused on the tone and substance of Miss Hearst's

new statement. It was the fourth taped communication from her, the latest in a series that has grown progressively militant.

The first tape was that of a frightened, exhausted young woman. Subsequently, Miss Hearst began criticizing her father's response to the SLA demand for a multimillion-dollar food program for the poor, chided her mother for wearing black dresses on television, and on March 9 told her father, "I don't believe you're doing everything you can." In that communique, she noted that she had been given a rifle to defend herself in case the FBI were to burst in.

Wednesday's message went much further, echoing with the ringing phrases of the far left. Assuring her family that she had not been brainwashed, tortured or drugged, she called her father a corporate liar, and challenged him to "tell the poor and oppressed people of this nation what the corporate state is about to do; warn black and poor people that they are about to be murdered down to the last man, woman and child..."

"I should have known that if you and the rest of the corporate state were willing to do this to millions of people to maintain power and to serve your needs, you would also kill me if necessary to serve those needs..."

Miss Hearst said she had been given the name of Tania, "a comrade who fought beside Che [Guevara] in Bolivia." Tania, according to published reports, was a Soviet agent who fell in love with Che and who inadvertently caused his downfall by driving two journalists to Che's hideout, leaving a trail for government troops.

It was the stridence of Patricia's speech that seemed unreal to people familiar with her style. She is known as a strong-willed individual with liberal ideas, but by no means a person attuned to the concept of violent change. She is known also as neither naive, malleable nor highly impressionable.

Her mother today described

her thus: "Until the day of her capture, Patty was a young lady of great assurance who was content with the direction she was going. Only a few months ago she was happily planning her wedding and a career in the field of art history. Before Christmas we went to a local store, and she was terribly excited as she selected the china for her home."

Steven Weed, while acknowledging that "Patty must have matured a great deal in the last two months," added, "For me to accept what happened today in the manner it has been given to me would be to sell her out."

Asked if Miss Hearst might have been brainwashed, Richard Lazarus, professor of psychology at the University of California at Berkeley, an expert on the effects of stress, said: "There has been a lot of skepticism among social psychologists specializing in attitudinal change of the capacity of brainwash people—even under fairly severe conditions."

Lazarus added: "I don't think she could have been pushed in the direction of SLA ideology if she hadn't been somehow predisposed toward it in the first place. The power to force people over to your way of thinking seems to be much less than is usually presumed. We can't rule out brainwashing, but I'm skeptical."

Special correspondent Robert Joffe assisted in the preparation of this story.