

# UPHOLDS CONVICTION ON WEAPONS CHARGE

By a Special Correspondent of the Post-Dispatch

CHICAGO, Dec. 6 — A firearms conviction against Richard Lauchli Jr., Collinsville, Ill., once a leader of the Minutemen in Illinois, was upheld yesterday by the Seventh United States Circuit Court of Appeals here.

In his appeal, Lauchli contended that Treasury agent Fortino Gutierrez was guilty of entrapment because he posed as an exile Cuban general trying to buy arms. A unanimous opinion written by Judge F. Ryan Duffy discounted the contention of entrapment.

Lauchli was sentenced to two and a half years in prison on a charge of manufacturing firearms without paying a tax on the arms or registering them. In addition, he was given a suspended two-year sentence on a plea of guilty of stealing 23 bazookas from the Jefferson Proving Ground, Madison, Ind.

Evidence was presented in Lauchli's trial that he had sold \$17,000 worth of machine gun to Gutierrez and Treasury agent Thomas Mosely. The sale took place on a farm near Wapella, in DeWitt county,

## ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH - SEPT. 13, 1967 EX-MINUTEMAN TESTIFIES ON SELLING MACHINE GUN

JOPLIN, Mo., Sept. 12 (AP) — A former Minuteman testified yesterday that he sold and shipped a .50-caliber machine gun to a Joplin man in 1965.

Richard A. Lauchli Jr., 40 years old, Collinsville, Ill., gave the testimony in his trial before Judge William Collinson in United States District Court.

Lauchli was charged with transferring a machine gun to a Joplin purchaser May 27, 1965, without having bought a special Treasury Department tax stamp. He testified that he sold the weapon without a firing pin and considered it to be a war trophy or souvenir.

Judge Collinson who heard the case without a jury on Lauchli's waiver, took the case under study.

## ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH - 9/23/67 COLLINSVILLE MAN FOUND GUILTY IN SALE OF GUN

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 23 (AP) — Richard A. Lauchli, Jr., former Minuteman from Collinsville, Ill., was found guilty yesterday of selling a machine gun without having purchased a special \$250 Treasury Department tax stamp.

The defendant, now serving a two and one-half-year prison term at the Terre Haute, Ind., federal prison for violating the Federal Firearms Act, was tried earlier this month before Judge William A. Collinson in the United States District Court at Joplin. Judge Collinson filed his written opinion in the case yesterday.

In his trial at Joplin, Lauchli admitted that he sold and shipped a .50-caliber machine gun to a Joplin man in 1965, but said he sold the weapon without a firing pin and that he considered it to be a "war trophy or souvenir."

## ST. LOUIS POST DISPATCH - 9/24/67

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## ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH - 9/26/67 GUN SALE ADDS TO TERM OF FORMER MINUTEMAN

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 26 (AP) — United States District Judge William R. Collinson yesterday added 18 months to the 2½-year federal prison sentence of Richard S. Lauchli, a former regional co-ordinator of the Minutemen.

Lauchli, 40 years old, Collinsville, was found guilty Friday of selling a .50-caliber machine gun without having purchased a special \$250 tax stamp on the weapon as required by the federal firearms act.

He had been tried in Joplin earlier this month before Judge Collinson. The judge ordered the serving of the 18-month sentence to begin after Lauchli finishes the 2½-year term in the federal prison at Terre Haute, Ind.

## ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH - MAY 9, 1967 COLLINSVILLE MAN GOING ON TRIAL IN ARMS CASE

JOPLIN, Mo., May 9 (AP) — Richard A. Lauchli Jr., Collinsville, Ill., withdrew two guilty pleas on federal firearms charges yesterday and chose to stand trial in United States District Court.

Lauchli, 40 years old, is serving a 2½-year term in the federal prison at Terre Haute, Ind., on another firearms charge.

He had pleaded guilty April 18 before Judge Elmo B. Hunter in Joplin of transferring a machine gun in 1965 in Joplin without having a federal tax stamp. He pleaded guilty also of taking a mortar from St. Louis to Des Moines, Ia.