

Antiwar Veterans' Trial Is Recessed for One Day

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7—A one-day recess was called today in the trial of eight antiwar protesters charged with conspiracy to riot after the government disclosed it had more than 10 hours of tapes of statements made by a government informer concerning the case.

Obviously upset over the government's decision to wait until the witness had finished testifying before disclosing the material, U.S. District Judge Winston E. Arnow called U.S. Attorney William Stafford and Assistant U.S. Attorney Jack Carrouth into his chambers for a 45-minute discussion. Neither Stafford nor Carrouth would comment afterwards.

In addition to the 10 hours of tapes that Arnow ordered turned over, the government also gave to the defense two written statements by the witness, William W. Lemmer. Defense sources said one of the statements was 30 pages long and the other was four pages.

The government is not required by law to turn over all written or oral statements by witnesses until after they have testified. However, in complex conspiracy trials it is not unusual for a judge to order the material turned over shortly before the trial begins so the defense will have time to prepare its cross-examination.

Today's recess came after Lemmer finished testifying for the government and the defense prepared to question him. Also recessed until the trial resumes Thursday are any further hearings on an alleged FBI attempt to eavesdrop on defense attorneys. The sequestered jury was allowed to go home during the recess.

In his testimony today, Lemmer had told how he had continued to work with

the alleged conspirators—all members of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War—even after he had told them he was an FBI informer.

The former Arkansas VVAW leader described on Monday an alleged VVAW arsenal of bizarre weapons, including crossbows, wrist-braced slingshots, and "fried" marbles. Today, he told of conversations that defendant Scott Camil had with a Cuban in Miami concerning additional weapons ranging from Israeli-made machine guns to claymore directional mines.

These discussions occurred after Camil contacted Abdulla, which Lemmer described as a Cuban nationalist organization. Representing Abdulla in these talks was a man that Lemmer identified as Pablo Manuel, who has previously been identified as Pablo Manuel Fernandez, a police informer who also had worked occasionally for the Committee for the Re-election of the President.

Camil and Manuel met on a Miami street corner near a Cuban-owned grocery, Lemmer said, and discussed possible alliances between the Cuban nationalists and VVAW. "Scott then indicated his curiosity of the Cubans' access to weapons," Lemmer testified.

Manuel told him that officially the Cubans only had carbines, but unofficially they had access to M-16s, recoilless rifles, mortars, light-weight submachine guns, hand grenades, and claymore mines, Lemmer testified.

Lemmer also said that the same weekend of that meeting, Camil told his brother, Gary Camil, about weapons and plans for violence at the Republican convention in Miami. Gary Camil was identified by Lemmer as a Miami policeman.