

Day Routine in D.C. Superior Court

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Charles Ray Evans, 18, was sentenced yesterday to an indeterminate term of up to six years in prison in D.C. Superior Court, where few white-collar defendants are tried and where most people in the dock are black and poor.

Evans was sentenced for two burglaries under the federal youth corrections act. Although it was his first conviction as an adult offender, his record reflected five arrests as a juvenile for burglary, marijuana possession, assault, robbery and grand larceny.

Too poor to pay for legal aid, he had a court-appointed lawyer beside him as he faced Judge Charles W. Halleck. His sentencing was one of 22 scheduled yesterday before Halleck, considered by court observers to be a judge more lenient than most and tougher than some.

Yesterday, Halleck also gave a man already on parole for housebreaking five to 30 years or armed robbery, placed on probation for a year two persons charged with unlawful entry into an abandoned funeral home and imposed two years' probation on a woman caught with a pistol, which she said she had taken away from someone else in a domestic dispute.

Most of the convictions for which the defendants were sentenced resulted from guilty pleas, sometimes to lesser crimes than originally charged.

Superior Court records reflected sentences of three to nine years—close to those imposed yesterday in District Court on the Watergate defendants—for such crimes as armed robbery, armed burglary, assault with intent to kill and rape.

However, sentences for such crimes may vary con-

siderably, based on the limits on punishment prescribed by law and on judicial discretion.

Evans, a tall youth in a black jacket, stood before the bench as Halleck read the recommendation for probation of a Lorton Youth Center committee. "A masterpiece of illiteracy," Halleck called it, "worthy of a D-plus, just barely."

"Well, that's passing," said Irving Levine Evans' attorney.

"You got no idea what's in it," Halleck asserted. "This morning, Mr. Levine, they sentenced a bunch of people over there in the big court." Halleck continued, referring to the Watergate defendants. "Their lawyers put more time in than any who came before me in sentencing today."

"For \$95,000, I could do just as well as they did," Levine said, adding quickly, "and I'll do just as well for nothing for this gentleman."

Nothing that the probation board had recommended incarceration, Halleck asked Levine for "any suggestions on how to assist your client and protect the public." Levine suggested work release. Not on a felony conviction, Halleck said.

"Put him where all the high-class prisoners go, out in Pennsylvania," Levine said, referring to the federal prison at Allenood where some Watergate defendants have served time.

"Maybe I should request (the federal prison at) Lompoc, Calif., where he can get one-to-one counseling," Halleck said.

"That would be great," Levine said. Describing himself as a realist, however, Halleck said he would strongly request that Evans be incarcerated at a federal prison in West Virginia or Kentucky.

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