7 KLAN CONVICTIONS IN KILLINGS UPHELD

NEW ORLEANS, July 17 (UPI) —The United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit upheld Thursday the conviction of seven Mississippi Ku Klux Klan members in the 1964 murders of three civil rights workers.

The Klan members were charged with "conspiring to injure, threaten, oppress and intimidate," the three workers, Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman of New York City and James E. Chaney of Meridian, Miss.

"We find ample proof of conspiracy and each appellant's complicity in a calculated, cold-blooded and merciless plot to murder the three men," the Circuit Court said.

The seven are Billy Wayne Posey, Cecil Ray Price, Horace Doyle Barnette, Jimmy Snowden, Jimmy Arledge, Alton Wayne Roberts and Sam H. Bowers Jr., a former Imperial Wizard of the White Knights.

Their appeal alleged errors in trial procedure and lack of evidence.

The civil rights workers were murdered near Philadelphia, Miss., where they had gone to investigate the burning of a Negro church.