

20 JAN 70

THE NEW YORK TIMES, T

CONSPIRACY JURY HEARS EX-U.S. AIDE

He Reports Bid to Achieve
Negotiations in Chicago

By J. ANTHONY LUKAS

Special to The New York Times

CHICAGO, Jan. 19 — A former high-ranking Justice Department official testified today that the department made unsuccessful efforts to get Chicago officials to negotiate with demonstrators prior to the 1968 Democratic National Convention here.

Appearing as a witness at the Chicago conspiracy trial, Wesley A. Pomeroy said he and Roger Wilkins, another former Justice Department official, came here in July, 1968, to meet with Mayor Richard J. Daley.

Judge Julius J. Hoffman would not let Mr. Pomeroy tell the substance of their conversation with Mayor Daley on July 25, 1968.

But Mr. Pomeroy was allowed to describe a conversation he and Mr. Wilkins had later that day with Rennie Davis, one of the seven defendants who are charged with conspiracy to incite a riot during the convention.

Mr. Pomeroy said Mr. Wilkins had told Mr. Davis "we were trying to get the city to open lines of communication with the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam."

He said Mr. Wilkins had told Mr. Davis that their meeting with the Mayor was "not too successful."

Also present at the meeting, Mr. Pomeroy said, was Thomas A. Foran, the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, who is the chief Government prosecutor in the current trial.

Mr. Pomeroy recalled that Mr. Foran said he was meeting with the Mayor later that day and would try to get him to start negotiations with the Mobilization Committee.

Davis Quoted

He said Mr. Davis emphasized that the Mobilization Committee wanted peaceful demonstrations and welcomed any Federal efforts to get negotiations started with the city.

Mr. Pomeroy, who now runs a private law-enforcement consulting concern, was associate administrator of the Law Enforcement Assistance Division of the Justice Department at the time of the convention.

He said Ramsay Clark, who was then Attorney General had

appointed him to coordinate Federal, state and local security at both the Republican and Democratic conventions in the summer of 1968. In that capacity, he said, HE submitted a memorandum to the Attorney General on July 23.

The Government objected to introduction of the memorandum and, after examining it,

Judge Hoffman upheld the objection.

The judge said the document was "irrelevant and immaterial, adding that there was "so much that has nothing to do with this case."

Seizing on the judge's last remark, Leonard I. Weinglass, a defense attorney, urged that portions that did have to do with the case be admitted as evidence. But Judge Hoffman remained adamant.

Later, at a news conference, Mr. Pomeroy read the portions of his memorandum that the defense considered relevant.

One section said, "The primary problem in Chicago seems to be the unwillingness of the

city to negotiate. Mayor Daley must be convinced that the policy of non-negotiation must end."

The memorandum suggested that he and Mr. Wilkins, then head of the Justice Department's Community Relations Service go to Chicago to meet both with city officials and with those planning the demonstrations.

At the news conference, Mr. Pomeroy put the blame for the clashes between policemen and demonstrators directly on Mayor Daley.

"There was one city official responsible for the disorders that occurred in Chicago," he said.