'Harlem Five' Contend They Are Victims of a Police

By JUAN M. VASQUEZ
The conspiracy trial of five young black men whose indictment attracted considerable attention three years ago is expected to go to the jury today in State Supreme Court here. The defendants contended yesterday.

The conspiracy trial of five yesterday.

Last week, Justice Arnold G. Fraimon dismissed for lack of evidence the charges against John Aykik Garrett, 26 years old, of 893 Crotona Parkway North, the Bronx. He was one of the original group of six defendants contended yesterday that they were victims

The two black undercover police agents first contacted Mr. As for Mr. Lay, whom the defendants. They helped to provide "bugged" conversations used as evidence.

Still on trial are Preston Lay Ir. 26. of 921 Hancock Street, courageous was brilliant." Mr.

But the defense lawyer, William M. Kunstler, called the indictment an effort by the police to create the appearance that they were controlling potential violence and to take credit for what he called "the discipline of black people."

After declaring that he would not call any defense witnesses, Mr. Kunstler delivered a seven-

The defendants contended yesterday that they were victims of a "police conspiracy."

The case against the so-called "Harlem Five" charges that the group conspired to "kill a cop a week" and raid the Kingsbridge Armory in the Bronx to obtain weapons.

At the time of the indictment in June, 1968 — shortly after the riots touched off by the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.—the case was cited as evidence of incipient racial violence in New York.

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Conspiracy

however, the Harlem Five trial has been marked by reasonably friendly relations among the prosecution, the defense and the judge.

The only time the jury heard from the defendants was when Mr. Marks, who is defending himself, delivered a one-hour summation. He said there "was never a collective agreement among us to do anything."

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The defendants have attracted considerable support in the black community. Among their visitors in court have been Basil A. Paterson, the former Democratic candidate for Lieutenant-Governor, and Livingston L. Wingate, executive director of the New York Urban League.

League.
All of the defendants are free on \$5,000 bail.