

# Leslie Bacon Case-- A Charge Dropped

## Washington

The Justice Department announced last night that it had dismissed a perjury indictment against Leslie Bacon in connection with the bombing of the United States Capitol March 1, 1971.

The department said it had ordered the dismissal of the indictment, and secured a federal District Court's permission to do so, "because the decision was made not to answer defendant's motions of disclosure of electronic surveillance" regarding the case.

The department would not say what the nature of the surveillance was or what persons were involved. The federal government recently has dropped several criminal prosecutions as a result of a Supreme Court ruling broadening the obligation of the government to tell a defendant how prosecution evidence was obtained when it is connected with wiretapping.

## CHARGE

Miss Bacon was charged in a March 24, 1972, federal grand jury indictment with perjuring herself in a previous grand jury appearance in which she was questioned about the Capitol bombing.

The charge specified that while she had testified she had never visited the Capitol building or grounds, she had in fact visited the building and a House office building on Feb. 28, 1971.

She is the only person to be charged with any offense relating to the pre-dawn bombing, which destroyed a washroom in the Senate wing of the Capitol but caused no injuries or major structural damage.

## BOND

The Justice Department said it did not know the

whereabouts of Miss Bacon, who had been free on bond on the perjury charge.

Miss Bacon, then 19, was arrested in Washington April 27, 1971, as a material witness with "personal knowledge" of the March 1 bombing of the capitol, according to the government.

She was subsequently flown to Seattle, where she appeared before a federal grand jury which the Justice Department said was looking into that bombing and other matters "relating to national security."

## COMMUNE

The arrest was made by FBI agents during a raid on a youth commune here where Miss Bacon lived with alleged members of the Mayday tribe, a group which was organizing anti-war protests in Washington.

She lived across the street from Rennie Davis, a prominent anti-war organizer, who charged after her arrest that the FBI had been harassing Mayday tribe members.

The Seattle grand jury sessions were closed, but Miss Bacon was allowed to consult with her lawyers between questions. They reported that she denied knowing anything about the Capitol bombing, but that she pleaded the Fifth Amendment later when the questioning turned to an attempt May 4, 1970, to bomb a New York City bank.

## INDICTMENTS

Federal indictments alleging illegal actions on her part in relation to weapons and explosives associated with the New York incident are still outstanding, the Justice Department said.

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