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WINSTON E. ARNOW
Anti-war case

Hearing Set On Veterans' Trial Bugging

Gainesville, Fla.

U.S. District Judge Winston E. Arnow announced at the conspiracy trial of eight war protesters yesterday that he will hear evidence on whether FBI agents attempted to bug defense conferences or telephone calls.

Arnow scheduled a hearing with attorneys for tomorrow morning. He announced the hearing after a jury of seven women and five men was seated for the trial of the seven members of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War and a sympathizer.

Arnow ordered the jury sequestered, but said he might lift the isolation at a later date if publicity around the trial subsides.

The jury will hear the case of the anti-war activists, who are charged with conspiring to cause violent disruptions during the 1972 Republican National Convention, starting Friday.

The judge said he believed it was necessary to sequester the jury because of extensive news coverage after the discovery Tuesday evening of two FBI agents in a telephone closet adjoining the defense conference room in the federal building. The agents had electronic telephone equipment with them.

A brief hearing was held at the time, but the judge shut off most questions and took no action against agents Carl Ekblad and Robert Romans of Jacksonville.

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