

JUDGE HEARS PLEAS IN 3 RIGHTS KILLINGS

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JACKSON, Miss., Nov. 2—Federal District Judge W. Harold Cox took no action today on arguments for new trials by seven men convicted of conspiracy in three Philadelphia, Miss., civil rights slayings. He postponed sentencing for at least 10 days.

Attorneys for the seven asked Judge Cox to throw out the convictions returned in Meridian, Miss., two weeks ago because of a alleged clearing of the courthouse while the jury was deliberating the case, and a slip of the tongue by a Government attorney.

The defense contended that deputy United States marshals, in clearing the courthouse, had deprived it of its right to be present at all times while the jury was deliberating.

The defense attorneys also contended that Assistant Attorney General John Doar had prejudiced the case against Neshoba County Deputy Sheriff Cecil Price, one of the seven convicted men, when he used Price's name relative to a confession in which his name had been deleted by the court.