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2 Minutemen Ordered to Missouri



United Press International

Robert Bolivar DePugh, left, and Walter Patrick Peyson just before they were arraigned yesterday in Kansas City.

ALBUQUERQUE, N. M., July 16 (UPI)—The founder of the anti-Communist Minuteman organization, Robert Bolivar DePugh, 47 years old, and his top aide, Walter Patrick Peyson, 27, were ordered today to be transferred to Kansas City, Mo.

Under the order by United States Commissioner Robert McCoy, DePugh was to begin serving a one-year sentence on a Federal firearms conviction in Missouri.

Peyson's return was based on a bench warrant for his arrest for failure to appear for trial in Kansas City in a similar case.

The two were arrested last week by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents on

charges of conspiring to rob banks in Washington State to finance the purchase of arms to maintain what their organization called "the last line of defense against Communism."

United States Attorney Victor Ortega said the Government chose to return DePugh and Peyson to Missouri because their transfer could be made without a removal hearing. He said the Washington Federal district would be able to process their return to that state in the future.

The United States Marshal's office said the two men would be taken to Missouri as soon as a formal removal order was obtained from the Federal District Court here.