

NYT 11/7/72
204

Veterans Against the War Deny Plot to Disrupt G.O.P. Parley

Special to The New York Times

GAINESVILLE, Fla., Nov. 6—Seven members of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War and a nonveteran supporter pleaded not guilty today to charges stemming from an alleged conspiracy to disrupt the Republican National Convention.

Six of the eight had already been indicted on the charges when a Federal grand jury in Tallahassee reindicted them on Oct. 18 and added two more names and two counts to the indictment.

Charged in the earlier July 13 indictment with plotting to organize into "fire teams" to attack police stations and stores in Miami Beach and disrupt communications were the following:

Scott Camil, 26 years old, of Gainesville; John W. Kniffin, 32, of Austin, Tex.; William J. Patterson, 24, of Austin; Peter P. Mahoney, 23, of New York City; Alton C. Foss, 25, of Hialeah, Fla., and Donald P. Perdue, 23, of Hollywood, Fla.

Two Additional Suspects

The Oct. 18 indictment added John K. Briggs, 20, of Gainesville, to the list of those accused of conspiracy and charged his roommate, Stanley K. Michelsen, 23, of Gainesville, with failure to report a crime and with providing assistance to the alleged conspirators. Mr. Briggs is a nonveteran supporter of the group.

At the arraignment today all the men charged told United States District Judge David L. Middlebrooks that they were guilty of war crimes against the people of Indochina but

innocent of the charges presented.

Bond for the six who had been indicted earlier was reduced from \$25,000 to \$10,000 each. Judge Middlebrooks said the trial would begin in January.

Morton Stavis, a lawyer of the Center for Constitutional Rights in New York City argued that the defendants should be released on their recognizance or at least be allowed to be released upon depositing 10 per cent of the bond with the clerk of the court.

Mr. Stavis continued to argue for a more favorable bond term under the Bail Reform Act of 1966 until Judge Middlebrooks told him "I don't want to hear any more."

Two Children Die in Fire in Newburgh Apartment

NEWBURGH, N. Y., Nov. 6 (UPI)—Two children died when fire swept their first-floor apartment here today. They were identified as Hiram Cline, 21 months old, and his sister, Christine, 6.

A brother, Michael, 3, also was injured in the early-morning blaze and was listed in satisfactory condition at St. Luke's hospital.

Mrs. Nancy Cline, 26, mother of the children, was released after treatment for shock.

The police said the fire broke out in the rear of the apartment, part of a three-family dwelling. The other two families were evacuated.

Four policemen and firemen were treated at the scene for smoke inhalation and minor injuries.