Uptight Judge Who Turned Mod

By Carl Bernstein N.Y. Times Service

Washington

Three years ago, Judge Charles W. Halleck, his hair trimmed neatly in a military brush cut, refused to release on bond two bearded, long-haired young men farrested for possession of marijuana unless they agreed to cut their hair.

"If you come in here looking lik ea bunch of kooks and dressed up in crazy clothes and beads, you're going to be found guilty before they call the case," he said.

Last week, wearing brown bell-bottom trousers and ankle-high boots under his black judicial robe, with his dark hair inching below his collar and his face transformed by thick sideburns, mustache and goatee, Judge Halleck, never known for his reticence, again startle the city's legal community.

JAIL

On one day, he threatened to jail policemen who fail to show up punctually in court for trials, and on the next he did jail a court clerk for failing to produce a lost case file.

p The two actions by Halleck — former prosecutor, Navy officer, subpoena server for the Senate Internal Security Committee and the son of conservative former House Republican leader Charles A. Halleck — were the latest of a series that have almost erased the judge's previous reputation as a tough proprosecution judge.

His notoriety of outspokenness, startling judicial methods and controversy has not been diminished, however.

HIPPIES

Within months after Lyndon Johnson appointed Halleck to the General Sessions bench as a favor to the Dem-

ocratic president's old congressional colleague the new judge had become widely known for his antipathy to hippies the long jail terms he gave some defendants and his remarks about "criminal anarchy" in the District of Columbia.

Today he is eagerly sought by attorneys for marijuana users who know that Halleck will almost invariably give their clients suspended sentences.

Since voluntarily spending a couple of nights incarcerated at Lorton Reformatory with men he sentenced to terms there Halleck has become known for generally lenient sentencing policies and his belief that prisons are merely "finishing schools for crime."

DIVORCE

"I wouldn't say I've been radicalized exactly" Halleck-said in an interview "but I think to a certain extent that I have come full circle particularly in the last year or so" since he noted the divorec from his wife of 19 years and remarriage to Jeanne Wohl 33 a former General Sessions Court probation officer.

p Miss Wohl had worked among reform-minded young lawyers in the city's anti-poverty law circles. Halleck says the marriage has "undoubtedly affected some of my old opinions. I can bounce ideas off Jeanne; she's traveled in different circles than I have."

According to Halleck who is 42 his view from the bench began to change perhaps two years ago "when I saw the same people I had sent to prison come back into court on new charges two years later.

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HALLECK TODAY Beard and sideburns