

A Sweeping Order on Mass Arrest

Washington

The U.S. Court of Appeals issued a sweeping order yesterday setting the stage for possible recovery of bail and expungement of police records for thousands of demonstrators caught in sweep arrests during the 1971 Mayday disruptions here.

Expanding on an order of Oct. 1, 1971, the three judge panel directed U.S. District Judge Howard F. Corcoran to examine ways of removing the records and recovering the bail or collateral for many of the 14,500 persons who were arrested without field arrest forms or booked improperly.

The order was hailed as a "tremendous victory" by Monroe H. Freedman, an American Civil Liberties Union attorney representing the demonstrators.

The 69-page opinion and order said that Corcoran, as a federal judge, has full authority to act in the case and

put the burden on the city government to prove the legitimacy of the arrests if it hopes to prevent the expungement or removal of police records and recovery of collateral for arrested demonstrators.

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