New U.S. Move

Switch in Chicago 7 Case

Chicago

The federal government, rebuffed in a move to enter tape recordings of the first Chicago Seven trial into evidence at a retrial of contempt charges, yesterday staked its case in the new prosecution on 27,000 pages of transcripts of the tumultuous 1969-70 trial.

Prosecutors rested their case against the seven anti-war revolutionaries and their two original trial attorneys in the opening session of the new trial after U.S. District Judge Edward T. Gignoux refused to admit the electronic tapes of the 103-day trial of the Vietnam war era.

The defendants, in opening statements, indicated they might take weeks in their defense against contempt charges on which they were found guilty by U.S. District Judge Julius J. Hoffman at the conclusion of their trial on charges of conspiring to incite riots during the 1968

Democratic National Convention.

Yesterday's session was quiet and orderly in comparison to the violence and uproar that frequently dis-rupted the trial before Hoffman.

U.S. Attorney James R. Thompson told Gignoux the government had decided to press the contempt charges despite some fears within its own ranks that to do so would "reopen old wounds in the body politic at a time when the body politic cannot sustain many more wounds."

He said the government has "no passion, no fury, no motives and no political goals to achieve," and "we are here quite simply because the charges represent a fundamental assault oil the court's ability to try a

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