

Silent Vets Jailed--Contempt

Tallahassee, Fla.

Four Vietnam Veterans against the War (VVAW) members were ordered jailed without bail yesterday by a federal judge who held them in contempt for refusing to answer a grand jury's questions.

Earlier in the day the federal grand jury investigating an alleged VVAW plot to disrupt the Republican National Convention with violence recessed until September 7.

The U.S. Attorney's office refused to say whether any new indictments had been handed down in the VVAW case.

U.S. District Judge David L. Middlebrooks denied a defense request that he either stay his contempt order or set bail pending an appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

"This court finds the request for a stay frivolous, taken for the purpose of delay," said Middlebrooks. Letting the four VVAW members stay free would defeat the purpose of the law requiring them to testify after being given immunity, he said.

"This court will not be a part of defeating the statute," he said. "The request for bail is denied and custo-

dy is remanded to the U.S. Marshal."

Jailed for the life of the grand jury, which is expected to run until January, were Robert Wayne Beverly of Austin, Texas, John Chambers of St. Petersburg, and Bruce Horton and Jack Jennings, both of Gainesville, Fla.

Defense attorney James Reif of New York contended that the four VVAW members had a right to refuse to answer the grand jury's questions because the questions were aimed at getting evidence to substantiate indictments against six other VVAW members.

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