

MAY 13 1973

SF Examiner

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How Ellsberg Jurors Felt

LOS ANGELES — (AP) — Seven of the 12 jurors in the Pentagon Papers trial say they favored acquittal of Daniel Ellsberg and Anthony Russo on charges of espionage, theft and conspiracy.

The Associated Press polled the jurors after the case was dismissed and found that one leaned toward acquittal, two had not fully decided, one would not comment and one leaned toward conviction on at least one count.

U.S. District Judge Matt Byrne, who presided over the four-month trial, ordered the charges dismissed Friday because of government misconduct, including revelations of White House spying.

Darlene Arneaud, 37, was the only juror who appeared to be in favor of conviction. She said Ellsberg admitted he copied the papers, "and it was obviously wrong or he wouldn't have been brought

to trial."

Wilfred R. Baltodano, an Irvine oil worker and ex-Marine, said, "As far as I'm concerned, there wasn't enough evidence to sustain a guilty verdict . . . whether a crime had been committed or not."

"I would have liked to say not guilty," said Donna Kelp. "I feel the information in the papers probably should have been public long ago and nothing I could see would have compromised the United States in any way."

Cora Neal, 53 and a widow, said, "I'm pretty sure I would have said not guilty. I think Mr. Ellsberg has a message for the people of the United States and that was the only way to put forward that message to them."

Others who said they had decided on a not guilty verdict were Joan Duhigg, Monellis Pittman, Lupe Vasquez

and Phyllis Ortman.

Dulcy Embree said she was leaning toward acquittal in all counts.

Jean Boutelier said she would not have found Ellsberg and Russo guilty of espionage but added that she hadn't made up her mind on the other charges.

Margaret Kaschube said she didn't lean either way and Annie Saunders would not comment.