

Antiwar Veterans Case Expected to Go to Jury Today

By JOHN KIFNER

Special to The New York Times

GAINESVILLE, Fla., Aug. 29

— As the case of the Gainesville Eight neared the jury, the Government released to the defense today 44 pages of documents concerning its star informer.

The 18 documents reflecting Federal Bureau of Investigation interviews with its informant, William W. Lemmer, are part of a controversy that has run throughout the trial over the prosecution's reluctance to release such material.

Case Going to Jury

Seven antiwar veterans and a supporter are charged with having plotted an assault with automatic weapons, slingshots and a crossbow on the Republican National Convention in Miami Beach last summer.

Much of the proceedings today was taken up in legal arguments over Federal District

Judge Winston E. Arnow's instructions to the jury on the nature of conspiracy and other points of law.

Closing arguments are scheduled for tomorrow and the case is expected to reach the jury by late afternoon.

The defense rested yesterday after calling only one witness, a chemistry professor who testified that a device composed of drugstore chemicals that was allegedly demonstrated by Scott Camil, a defendant, for use in the plot was "not an explosive."

Strategy Charged

The Government has put 28 witnesses on the stand, but its case rests heavily on the testimony of five paid informers and a police undercover agent.

The Government charges that the defendants—seven members of the Vietnam Veterans Against the War and a supporter of the group—planned to fire powerful slingshots at the Miami Beach police to goad them

into attacking anti convention demonstrators.

Simultaneously, the government charges, other alleged conspirators would attack stores, police stations and power plants in the city of Miami as a diversion, apparently to lure the police away so the others could escape.

The defense contends that the charges are part of a Government plot to discredit the defendants' antiwar activities.

The prosecution is required by law to turn over pre-trial statements made to the Federal authorities by Government witnesses after they have testified. In efforts to speed the trial, Judge Arnow had asked that the material be released earlier.

The Government delayed in releasing the material and the defense raised continuous objections to the delay.

Yesterday, Jack Carrouth, the prosecutor, said that new material had been found. Sixteen

of the 18 documents were of interviews with Mr. Lemmer by his control agent, Richard O'Connell of Fayetteville, Ark.

The defense, however, does not intend to recall Mr. Lemmer to the stand because it does not want him to be the last witness the jury will hear.

Vermont Lodge Fire Kills 2

WARREN, Vt., Aug. 28 (AP)

—A fire believed touched off by lightning at a guest lodge in central Vermont took two lives today. The dead were tentatively identified as Charles Minnerly, 39 years old, and Thomas W. Bowers, 27, both of Warren. Firemen said that the Windbeam Lodge, near the Sugarbush Ski Area, was "an inferno" when they arrived shortly after 3 A.M. The lodge was destroyed.

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