#### Excalibur

# All seven acquitted of conspiracy charge

# Chicago 5 get five years for inciting riot

CHICAGO (LNS-Special) - All serve last November - and the seven defendents in the Chicago harshest contempt jail term ever conspiracy trial have been acquitted of conspiracy to incite a riot during the 1968 Democratic national convention, but five have been convicted of seeking to promote a riot through individual acts and have been given prison sentences of five years and fines of \$5.000.

The five men - Dave Delinger, Rennie Davis, Tom Hayden, Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin - were found guilty last Wednesday of crossing state lines with intent to incite a riot by Judge Julius J. Hoffman.

The verdict was the first legal test of the anti-riot provision of the 1968 Civil Rights Act. A legal team representing the two defense lawyers has filed a brief with the U.S. Court of Appeals

The two remaining defendants -John Froines and Lee Weiner were acquitted on the conspiracy and individual counts of teaching the use of incindiary devices.

Before the jury was brought in to pass their verdict Judge Hoffman ordered the courtroom cleared of all spectators and the defendants' families.

Screams and shouts could be heard from the corridor outside as the defendants' wives and girl friends were pushed into elevators and expelled from the building.

A minute later, three marshals seized Froines' mother-in-law, who had been sitting quietly further back in the courtroom, and halfdragged, half-lifted her from the courtroom.

After the court clerk had read the verdict, Judge Hoffman denied bail to the five convicted defendants, saying: "I find the men in this trial too dangerous to be at large."

The seven men are being held in the Cook County jail on sentences ranging from 2-1/2 months to 2-1/2 years for contempt.

Judge Hoffman also sentenced defense lawyers Bill Kunstler and Leonard Weinglass to jail for contempt.

Kunstler's 4-year, 22-day sentence is the longest Judge Hoffman has yet imposed - longer even than the four years he sentenced Black Panther chairman Bobby Seale to

given out anywhere in a U.S. court.

Judge Hoffman sentenced the five convicted defendants last Friday to the maximum jail term permitted under the law and ruled that their prison terms should be run concurrently with those they are serving for contempt.

The convicted defendants were also ordered to pay court costs of the prosecution, which have been estimated as high as \$60,000. Judge Hoffman ordered that they be held in jail until the costs are paid.

Section of a

Friends and families of the defendants were excluded from the courtroom during Friday's sentencing, too, on Judge Hoffman's orders. He said one of them had made a threat on his life.

"She said she would dance on my grave," the judge said, referring to a comment shouted by Abbie Hoffman's wife, Anita, when she was led from the courtroom last Wednesday.

"Are you serious?" defense lawyer Kustler asked incredulously.

'Yes, I am," Judge Hoffman said.

In his final statement Abbie Hoffman said the trial had been like "Alice in Wonderland in 1984."

"I keep comparing you to George III," Dellinger told the judge. "Perhaps because you're trying to hold back the tide of history and won't succeed.'

Rubin presented the judge with a copy of his new book, Do It.

The inscription in it, Rubin said, read: "Dear Julius - If the 1968 demonstrations in Chicago were the first step in the revolution, then what happened in this courtroom is the second."

Davis said he would serve his time, but eventually "we're going to turn the sons and daughters of the ruling classes in this country into Viet Cong."

In a statement released from their jail cell after their convictions, the Chicago Five said:

"This day will live in infamy. But the final jury is the people. Their verdict is already beginning to come in. We await the verdict of the people!"

"We are closer to the people of America in prison than the government is in the White House. . This day will live in infamy. But the final jury is the people. Their verdict is already beginning to come in. We await the verdict of the people!"



Demonstrators in New York carry an effigy of conspiracy trial judge Julius Hoffman in a march Feb. 16. More than 3,000 protested the judge's harsh contempt sentences.

# U.S. consulate in Toronto picketed

#### Thousands across U.S. protest trial

#### From LNS-CUPI-Special

A series of spontaneous demonstrations which sprang up across the United States to protest the Chicago conspiracy trial continued last weekend and sprang across the border to Toronto.

About 250 demonstrators splattered eggs filled with red paint across the front door and official seal of the U.S. consulate here Saturday in protest against

the convictions and sentences of demonstrators gathered across the five of the Chicago Seven.

One window was broken during the demonstration and one person, University of Toronto student Sherry Campbell, was arrested on

charges of public mischief. Demonstrators are organizing a telephone harassment campaign against the consulate this week, asking sympathisers to bombard telephone lines with questions concerning the justice of the lawyers appealing the charges, Chicago trial, police involvement said there is a good chance the U.S. in the original 1968 "riots" and U.S. government repression against the on requests to free the seven Black Panther Party.

More than 7,000 demonstrators gathered outside the Chicago favor," Tucker said. "If it were not federal building Saturday to for the political climate of the

street from the Justice Department to hear Bill Kunstler, chief attorney for the Chicago defendants, protest the conviction of five of his clients.

LNS - Mike Shuster

"I guess the answer is that government responds only to the power of the people," he said, adding that people must "put their bodies and minds where the government will be afraid.'

John Tucker, one of a team of Court of Appeals will rule this week defendants on bail.

"The precedents are all in our

terms of 6-1/2 and 2-1/2 months respectively on contempt charges.

About 300 protesters clashed with police outside the apartment complex where U.S. Attorney-General John Mitchell lives last Thursday.

A solid line of police, batons held breast high, stopped the marchers several hundred feet short of the building. Protesters pelted the police with stones, cinders, bottles and chunks of snow.

During several hours of intermittent skirmishes, 123 persons were arrested.

In Boston Thursday protesters battled with police after rallies in the city. Police estimated the crowd at a rally outside Boston's



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A schedule for public hearings will be made known at a later date. The Commission is anxious at this time to identify any individuals or groups who are interested in undertaking sponsored research. The 'Terms of Reference' of the Commission and 'Guidelines for Submitting Research Proposals' are available upon request from :

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protest the sentences, filling the whole thing there would be no plaza outside the building in a question on the issuance of bonds." peaceful protest.

The crowd later moved to the victed defendants are being held. Although several hundred policemen were stationed near the building, the only incident occurred when a young man, apparently a counter-demonstrator, threw a tear gas canister into the crowd near a speaker's platform.

The crowd was told by Jesse Jackson, a leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, that the "next conspiracy demonstration must be in Washington with a million people to say 'No more fascism, no more imperialism, no more capitalism'

In Washington, about 1,000

### City group plans

# conspiracy play

Toronto Workshop Productions' next play, Chicago 70, will be based on the Chicago conspiracy trial.

The group has opened a "Conspiracy Office" at 12 Alexander St. which has been receiving day-today transcripts of the trial from the Conspiracy office in Chicago.

TWP is also organizing a movement "to defend free speech and stop political repression. Chicago 70 opens March 10.

Two other defendants at the trial - John Froines and Lee Weiner -Cook County jail, where the con- were acquitted of the charges against them, but are in jail for

Federal Building at 20,000.

Large demonstrations were also held in New York, San Francisco, Ann Arbor, Seattle, Berkeley, Los Angeles, and dozens of other U.S. cities last week.

# Hanoi demands U.S. release Chicago 5

PARIS (Guardian-Special) -North Vietnam has demanded the immediate release of the five convicted members of the Chicago Seven and their two lawyers.

"We protest against the fact the Nixon administration has imprisoned seven persons of the antiwar movement in the United States, including two lawyers," North Vietnamese delegate Nguyen Minh Vy said last Thursday at the opening of the 55th session of the Paris peace talks. "We demand the immediate

release of these men.'

Last October, defendant Dave Dellinger, at the request of the Black Panther Party, announced at the Chicago conspiracy trial the possibility of releasing U.S. military prisoners in Vietnam if and when the U.S. unconditionally released Panther leaders Bobby Seale and Huey Newton.

The political import is that Seale

and Newton are not simply political prisoners, but prisoners of war, because, the Panthers say, it is a military policy the U.S. government uses against the Panthers.

## Jews at Columbia condemn Hoffman

NEW YORK (LNS) - Judge Julius J. Hoffman, who presided over the Chicago conspiracy trial, has been condemned by Columbia University's Radical Jewish Union for becoming the servant "of a repressive white ruling power structure."

The union is planning a ceremony to exorcise the "dybbuk" which they say has entered Hoffman's body. According to Jewish legend, a dybbuk is an evil demonic soul which enters the body of a weak and susceptible person.