

Miss Bacon Is Sent to Jail After Balking at Questions

By WALLACE TURNER

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SEATTLE, May 19—Leslie Bacon was sent to jail tonight when she refused to answer questions before a Federal grand jury investigating the bombing of the United States Capitol.

Miss Bacon, a 19-year-old anti-war activist, was sentenced for contempt in Federal District Court after having rejected the judge's grant of immunity from prosecution earlier today.

As she was led to jail, Miss Bacon denounced the Government's prosecutors as having "paranoid fantasies" about the bombing, which occurred March 1.

Before she was sentenced, Miss Bacon heard 18 questions that gave an outline of the Government's theory as to who was involved in the bombing, the amount of explosives used and where the plans were made.

"I have no intention of answering the questions," she told Federal District Judge William N. Goodwin before he sentenced her.

"I don't think the Government's attitude is one of trying to find the truth of this matter," she said. "I answered some of them over and over again. The Government is trying to frame us and other innocent people to make their own paranoid fantasies legitimate. I

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don't propose to talk to them."

Some members of the grand jury who had listened while Miss Bacon was questioned fruitlessly for many hours over the last three weeks were in the courtroom to see how their Government dealt with her.

Judge Goodwin turned her over to the United States marshal to be held until the grand jury's term ends, in March, 1972, or until she answers the questions.

Before the sentencing, more was disclosed about the Government's suspicions on the bombing than has been known since Miss Bacon was arrested on the night of April 27 in a house occupied by a communal group in the northwest section of the District of Columbia.

The questions revealed the names of nine persons whom the Government suspects of some involvement. They showed that the Government suspects that plan was made in Ann Arbor, Mich., at a meeting in early February and that a Seattle group was involved.

Miss Bacon's statement to Judge Goodwin before she was sentenced made it clear that she and her supporters will contend that she had already answered the Government's questions about the bombing when she was questioned on the weekend of April 30 to May 2. Later, she began to refuse to answer on the ground that her answers would incriminate her.

Given Immunity

Earlier today, Miss Bacon was given immunity by Judge Goodwin. Her lawyers argued against the immunity, contending that the statute employed did not fully protect her from being prosecuted for crimes she might discuss in her testimony.

Following are some of the questions that Miss Bacon refused to answer:

QDescribe for the grand jury everything you saw on March 1, 1971, in Washington, D.C., in relation to a knapsack in the possession of Stewart Albert at 2226 M Street, N.W.

QDescribe for the grand jury the conversation on March 1, 1971, in which Stewart Albert made the remark that the bomb at the United States Capitol contained 20 sticks.

QDid you tell anyone you were going to Boston to get explosives material to use in Washington?

QTell the grand jury the conversation March 1, 1971, at 2226

M Street, N. W., at which time those present were Jeff Leibling, Chris Lamb, Stewart Albert, Judy Gumbo, Colin Neiberger, Michael Tola, Terry Taub and Ken Kelly. [Maxine Robinson, the grand jury stenographer, said her spelling of the names was phonetic.]

QWere you present at a mountain cabin in Virginia where plans were discussed for the Mayday riots in Washington, D. C.?

QDid you learn from any source who the people were who traveled from Seattle, Wash., with Charles Clark Marshall to a meeting in Ann Arbor, Mich., in the first week of February to plan the Mayday riots in Washington, D.C.?

1970 Immunity Statute

From the witness's point of view, the 1970 Federal immunity statute used in Miss Bacon's case weakens protection because it does not forbid prosecution, as did the earlier statute, for any crime the witness testifies about after accepting immunity.

It only forbids the Government from using the witness's testimony against him, even as a basis for finding other evidence. But the witness could still be prosecuted if independent evidence is available.

The Supreme Court has not ruled on the 1970 immunity law, but the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which controls Federal courts in the Pacific states, upheld it in a ruling March 29. The court said that the new law was "clearly within the protective limitations" of the Fifth Amendment.

2 Figures Identified

Among the persons mentioned at the hearing for Miss Bacon was Judith L. Clavir, a militant formerly at the University of California at Berkeley who is a friend of Eldridge Cleaver, the fugitive Black Panther leader. Miss Clavir is also known in the radical movement as Judy Gumbo.

Also mentioned was Stewart Albert, a Yippie leader who is an associate of Jerry Rubin.

Miss Clavir and Mr. Albert charged in March that the Federal authorities were harassing them in connection with the Capitol bombing. They said that they and two companions were stopped on a Pennsylvania highway and "searched and harassed" by armed policemen at the direction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.