

Judge denies that Abbott trial became test case

by Sue Pettey
Nebraska Staff Writer

Assistant U.S. District Attorney, Duane L. Nelson Thursday, denied that the Stephen Abbott draft induction case was in any way a test case prosecuted simply to dissuade other potential "draft dodgers."

Nelson said that he considered the case, which he prosecuted, as merely another criminal case and believed that the outcome of the trial was right. He had objected to the defense proposal that Abbott be allowed to do civilian work in the custody of a probation officer because it would lessen the deterrent effect that the sentence might have on other young men.

The observed that the effect of a conviction is an example of the "deterrent power of punishment" and that this certainly was not singular to the Abbott case.

Nelson added that while Abbott was not used as an "example", it was to be hoped that others would consider the serious repercussions resulting from refusal of induction.

A recommendation from Nelson that Abbott be sentenced to two years in prison was based on the idea that two years was the minimum time requirement for the armed services, and that Abbott should serve at least a term of that length.

U.S. District Judge Robert Van Pelt clarified an earlier statement that the court would have to take into account the effect of the sentence imposed on Abbott because of the large

number of young men objecting to the draft.

He observed that "one of the purposes of punishment is its general effect on people, sometimes called deterrents to crime. If a fellow can resist the draft and get off without anything happening to him, then everyone will start resisting the draft."

Van Pelt told Abbott that he can modify Abbott's sentence within the next 120 days, and that any modifications would be based on proposals for civilian work made by Abbott.

He said that the nature of the work ideas presented would be important in his decision. Some conscientious objectors are serving in non-combat positions such as medics in Vietnam, and proposals of such work would be taken under advisement because of the danger and the evident seriousness on the part of the objector.

However, Van Pelt added that Abbott had indicated that he was unwilling to work under military supervision.

He emphasized that he was not aware if Abbott was planning such proposals and that there was no guarantee that they would be granted even if suggested.

Campus Calendar

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

- 12 p.m. Student Affairs Luncheon
- 2:30 p.m. Union Music Committee
- 3:30 p.m. Union Hospitality Committee
- Builders — College Days & Tours
- Quiz Bowl — Questions Committee
- Union — Talks & Topics
- Union — Trips & Tours
- 4 p.m. ASUN-Senate
- 4:30 p.m. ASUN — Free University — Money & Banking
- Seminar on the Disadvantaged Child
- AWS-Congress
- 5:30 p.m. Toastmasters
- 6:30 p.m. Builders — Workers Council
- 7 p.m. Union Board — Open Meeting
- Red Cross
- IFC
- Builders
- Alpha Kappa Psi
- 7:30 p.m. Math Counselors
- 9 p.m. Mortar Board
- 9:30 p.m. Kappa Alpha Psi
- Fellowship of Christian Athletes

'College students inexperienced idealistic, sheltered from life'

(I.P.)—The American college student is "inexperienced, idealistic... sheltered from the hardships of economic deprivation and often burdened with personal or familial problems relating to Freud if not Marx," says Milarad Drachkovitch, senior staff member at Stanford University's Hoover Institution.

Long a student of anarchy and totalitarianism, Drachkovitch noted that relatively few young radicals imbibe deeply and act upon the words of intellectual hatemongers.

The New Left would not have become what it is without a strong pervasive "casual link between the words of armchair intellectuals and the acts of campus radicals," he says.

In the writings of Herbert Marcuse, Jean Paul Sartre, Norman O. Brown, Norman Mailer, the late C. Wright Mills and Susan Sontag, among others, "every shortcoming of Western liberal civilization is catalogued and denounced, often brilliantly," Drachkovitch explains.

"If the democratic center" in the U.S. "should fail to prevent anarchy, the emerging victor will be the hard Right and not the hard left," he warned. In 1968 five major events accelerated the processes of radicalization in the New Left, according to Drachkovitch:

The Tet offensive of the Viet Cong "furnished to the militant war protestors another proof that their confidence in Viet Cong's final success was well founded" and also had strong impact on American policy and public opinion generally.

The revolt of French radical students in May: "The near-success of rebellion in a developed Western capitalist country, and the Students' (triggering of) a massive working-class quasi-insurgency remained as a powerful stimulus for future planning and actions."

The occupation of buildings at Columbia University, "to be transformed into a mass movement, succeeded not only in paralyzing that prestigious university, but also served as a worthwhile example of what to try elsewhere."

The disturbances at the Democratic National Convention in Chicago "transformed a manifestation which could have been a political fiasco for the organizers into a great propagandistic victory for their cause."

The lingering troubles at San Francisco State "served, by their duration, militancy and application of original forms of protest and disruption, as a prototype of an effective, large-scale effort, immensely embarrassing to both academic and political establishments."

The force of these events, he believes, has contributed to "an ideological and strategic reorientation

of the New Left, particularly of its most militant wing." Drachkovitch calls the main resolution from the December 1968 meeting of the Council of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS) "ideologically indistinguishable from the pronouncements of communist groups" in the U.S.

Drachkovitch traced the relatively recent developments of a common "arsenal of political weapons" helping to give the extreme Left some coherence and unity:

So-called "Free Universities" "radicalize the consciousness of their students."

Annual "Socialist Scholars Conferences" supply ideological anti-capitalist society and "build a net of like-minded faculty across the nation."

The "underground press" is in

many instances being transformed "into a self-conscious agent of revolution" by such devices as the widely-supplied Liberation News muniton for a radical critique of Service.

However, he noted in conclusions, all is not well with the New Left in 1969. The SDS and other leading groups are experiencing ups and downs, not uniform success. While San Francisco State and the University of California at Berkeley may presently be "up,"

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Sally Hall, Alpha Xi Delta

sophomore from Alexandria, Va. in home economics, to Ken Kroeger, Theta Xi senior from Litchfield in agriculture.

Sharon Wolf, Alpha Xi Delta sophomore from Craig in human development and elementary education, to sophomore Gary Loftis, also from Craig, Nebraska Wesleyan Theta Chi in physics.

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