Michigan Weather

Fifth Estate Collective

1970

"These people are very hard to find because where-ever they go, there are many other people who look, talk and act like them," said the Justice Department official to WJBK-TV on the seven o'clock news, July 23.

That day, a Federal grand jury in Detroit indicted 13 people, including leaders and former members of Weatherman, on charges of conspiring to bomb and kill.

The central "evidence" seemed to be last December's Weatherman War Council in Flint, where it was decided that Weatherman should disband as an aboveground organization and become guerillas swimming like fish among the sea of hippies, drop-outs and deserters.

The indictment listed 21 "overt acts" leading to the conspiracy charge, a number of them speeches and others as vague as the alleged departure of Bernadine Dohrn for San Francisco and the fact that someone made a telephone call from Vermont to the 11th Street house that blew up March 6, killing Ted Gold and Diana Oughten and one other person, probably Terry Robbins.

James Brickley, the U.S. Attorney in Detroit who will be the Republican candidate for Lieutenant Governor in Michigan this fall, said Detroit had been picked for the location of the Grand Jury because a number of the "incidents" took place in that area. He did not cite his own political ambitions as a factor.

The 13 people indicted are: Mark Rudd, Bernadine Dohrn, Bill Ayers, Kathy Boudin, Linda Evans, Cathy Wilkerson, Dionne Donghi, Russ Neufeld, Jane Spielman, Ron Fliegelman, Larry Grathwohl, Naomi Jaffe, Robert Burlingham.

Evans, Donghi, Neufeld and Spielman were arrested immediately after the indictment. The police couldn't find the rest.

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