

Peace Protest Leader Says He Met Vietcong

By Gene Bernhardt

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A peace protest leader told congressional investigators yesterday that he met in Hanoi, Paris and Prague this year with representatives of North Vietnam and the Vietcong to seek ways of ending the Vietnam war.

"I am willing to travel anywhere and speak to anyone at any time on any matter I believe has the slightest possibility of bringing an end to this cruel war," Robert Greenblatt testified in a paraphrase of President Johnson's famous pledge.

Testimony by Greenblatt, coordinator of the National Mobilization Committee to end the war in Vietnam (NMC), ended three days of tumultuous hearings before a House Un-American Activities subcommittee which is seeking to determine whether Communists or other "subversives" prompted street disorders during the Democratic National Convention.

Met Lao in Paris

Greenblatt acknowledged meeting in Paris with a "Col. Lao," identified by the Committee as Col. Ha van Lao, a member of the North Vietnamese negotiating team. He said he carried, but did not recall using, a letter of introduction to Lao from Tom Hayden, another NMC officer.

In addition, Greenblatt said he met in Prague with representatives of the Vietcong.

Greenblatt, who is under a narcotics indictment, also said he attended a meeting in Cyprus of the World Peace Council, which Committee counsel Chester Smith said was "created and dominated by the Soviet Union."

Chairman Richard Ichord (D-Mo.), said the hearings would resume Dec. 2. He said there was a "good possibility" he would ask Chicago Mayor Richard J. Daley to testify.

Leaders Walk Out

Greenblatt was called to the witness chair after the Committee resumed a session interrupted when lawyers for peace protest leaders walked out, claiming a Yippie Abie Hoffman was illegally locked up in a Capitol building office. A police paperwork snafu had delayed the temporary release of Hoffman, who was arrested Thursday on charges of desecrating the flag.

Another yippie leader, Jerry Rubin, bare chested and clad in velvet trousers and an empty bullet bandolier, jumped to his feet before the walkout and shouted, "last night Nazis tear-gassed my room and threatened to get me today!"

Rubin said he smelled tear gas in his hotel room Thursday night. He said police came and heard a telephoned threat. Capitol police confirmed they went to Rubin's room but said they smelled no gas and heard no threats.