

My name is Scott Camil and I'm sure you're all aware of that now. Five weeks ago when your participation in this case ~~when your participation in this case~~ started, you heard opening statements from the government and the defense. The government told you what they thought the evidence ^{would} prove and we told you what we ^{felt} ~~thought~~ the evidence ^{would} prove.

The government said that the evidence would prove that the eight of us were all guilty of the charges that they alleged we had committed.

Monday, when the government ended its so-called case, I am sure that it was as clear to you as it was to us 14 months ago when we were taken to jail, that the government never really had a case; but instead they were using the prosecutorial power that was provided for in the Constitution as a political weapon to attack and try to destroy VVAW.

The facade that the government calls its case clearly doesn't merit our wasting anymore of your time or our time. The burden of proof of guilt beyond a reasonable doubt is that of the government, and it is clear that although the government did prove a lot of things, they didn't and could not prove our guilt because we are not guilty. The record will show that at both arraignments we all pled not guilty.

What did the government prove? Let's look at the government's so-called case. The government took four weeks to put on 23 witnesses. I have taken the liberty of dividing those witnesses into five categories to make it a little easier to evaluate.

The first category, which I call the did-not-tell-a-lie category, was made up of ⁴ ~~five~~ men from the FBI, APT, SS, MI, _____, who all testified that Mr. Nielsen did not report any conspiracy to them. The reason is quite evident. There was no conspiracy on our part and at the time we were not fully aware of the government conspiracy to destroy VVAW.

The second category I call the sling-shot category. This group consisted of nine men who testified that 69 sling shots

went from Nebraska to Wang Dan Doodle in Gainesville, ordered and paid for by the manager of Wang Dang Doodle. We have never denied that, but the government found it necessary to prove how scientific it is by showing that they found one finger print on a booklet in the store and that finger print belonged to the manager, John Briggs.

The third category I call the honest group. This group consisted of four men: Mr. Barret from the Rancher, who sold me one bag of 36 cal. musket balls for \$2.00; Mr. John Gary who brought three rifles that my mother legally purchased for me in Miami, for a trip to South America; Mr. Yates, a government chemist, who said a match had a better chance of blowing up a car than the concoction that the government alleges that I had; and Mr. Mike Carr, who testified that I said, if it became necessary to defend ourselves, the VVAW "might possibly use cherry bombs laced with BB's" and remember the three key phrases: "if necessary", "defend ourselves" and "might possibly".

That leaves us with two categories and 10 witnesses. The next category I call the pressure category. These were four men who were under government pressure of some sort. Mr. Joseph Fennell, who is under investigation by Mr. Carrouth for allegedly misappropriating funds from the Housing Authority of Alachua County while he was ^{the Director} employed there; Mr. Simonton, who had left the state and testified that prior to leaving, the police found marijuana and ^{an illegal} sawed-off shot gun in his house; Mr. Marshall, who runs a private-eye corporation and had just lost his license to carry a gun -- and I'm sure that any questions you might have concerning what ^{WEAPONS} Mr. Marshall says he saw in my apartment can be answered by any jurors who are veterans ^{ESPECIALLY his supposed expertise AS A} -- And last, we have ^{ARMS EXPERT} Mr. Cornwall, who lived with me and testified that I used an old claymore mine carrying pouch to carry my books in and he also testified that he folded and mailed government exhibit No. 4, which went out all over the country to all VVAW regional offices. Mr. Cornwall lived with me during the time the government alleged that VVAW planned a conspiracy. Surely Mr. Cornwall was in a position to know what was going on, yet he testified that there were no plans to disrupt either convention. Finally, Mr. Cornwall

Cornwall #4 was the only plan Cornwall knew of

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testified that he saw a demonstration of something in a mayonnaise jar that caused a flame and broke the jar, ^{and he did!} ~~and actually~~ it was a smoke bomb that was in the jar.

Finally, we come to the last group, which has six men and I call ~~the~~ group informers. ^{First let's take} ~~the first one~~ Mr. Crenshaw, who worked for the Dade County Department of Public Safety. He was the one who testified under oath to simulating the smoking of marijuana. All he said about me was that I showed him a sling shot and said this was what VVAW would use during the conventions, and he didn't say what VVAW would use slingshots for.

Next, ~~was~~ Mr. Anchill, who worked for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and defined himself "as a source of information". He testified that I knew he was an informer. It doesn't make any sense that I would tell someone I knew ~~he~~ he was an informer and then explain to that person plans to break the law. If you can try to remember how angry he got under cross-examination and how he answered Mr. Turner's questions, and also try to remember his mannerisms while he was being cross-examined -- especially when Mr. Turner asked him if he thought that I was egocentric.

Next came Mr. Becker, who was on loan to the FBI from the New Orleans Police Department. He was also the VVAW regional coordinator in Louisiana. He testified that he infiltrated VVAW in 1971, and I can't see how Mr. Carrouth can say VVAW is not on trial. He testified how he told us the Weather~~s~~ Vet plan to have 300 VVAW members at the convention in uniforms with shields, helmets and 8' staffs, with nooses on them. Now, if we had done that, the police in Miami would have freaked out, it probably would have caused a riot, and it can't be called anything but extremely provocative. Yet Mr. Becker testified that we said No -- as if we should have said, that's a great idea!

Becker
← Isn't it convenient that his testimony was structured in such a way that the only people present during the alleged conversations were Mr. Becker, an agent, and John on the bus, or Becker and Pete in the attic, and Becker and me on a car ride with him and his partner, Mr. Franz. What better way to structure one's testimony? And another question is, where is Mr. Franz?

Mr. Becker said that we would shoot at police with slingshots in order to start a riot so that fire teams could attack police stations to cause diversionary actions in order to let those on the Beach escape. I submit to you that if we would have followed the Weather Vet plan we would surely have had a riot. I can't understand how Mr. Corruith can contend that the Weather Vet plan was anything other than extremely provocative.

Mr. Becker is listed in the indictment as an unindicted co-conspirator. Mr. Becker testified that he just sat in the Gainesville meeting and listened and did not participate in the planning, yet the indictment said he was a co-conspirator. Now I suggest to you that either Mr. Becker lied and his testimony should not be considered, or that the indictment is false on its face.

Why isn't he here to corroborate Mr. Becker's testimony? There can be only one reason: Mr. Becker's testimony was fabricated.

Next we have Mr. Lemmer, who worked for the FBI. He called himself a "political monitor" but Mr. Carrouth says this is not a political trial. Mr. Lemmer, like Mr. Becker, held a leadership position in VVAW. He was the regional coordinator for Arkansas and Oklahoma. He also infiltrated VVAW in 1971. He didn't infiltrate any splinter group; it was VVAW all the way. He testified to coming to my house and telling us about the Washington police he saw. He described them as "all black, except for their leaders, all over 6' tall, helmets, gas masks, powder blue uniforms and combat boots." He testified that he told us that the police were running down people with horses, *+ that he hoped this didn't happen to us in Miami.*

I don't know what these statements could be called besides extremely provocative. He also told us of the same Weather Vet plan that Becker described. On top of all this, Mr. Lemmer testified that he confessed to John Kniffin and me that he was an agent and then ~~we~~, Nancy and I went to Miami and I took him with ~~me~~ ^{us} and tried to purchase weapons from a militant right-wing Cuban organization, and we stayed at Alton's house, the convention headquarters. *He EVEN TESTIFIED THAT I ASKED him TO FILL A CONTRACT* There could only be two reasons that I would maintain a relationship with him after he confessed to being an informer. The first is if I didn't care that the FBI knew all of our alleged plans for violence, and the second is that I had nothing to hide because I had not done anything wrong and therefore didn't care if the FBI knew what I was doing. And I suggest to you that the second reason is the real reason. Finally, we have Mr. Koehler and Mr. Poe, both of whom were in a position to know what our real plans were.

First let's take Mr. Koehler. He worked for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and earned \$2,300 for three months' work. We had somewhat of an intimate relationship, sharing one room -- Nancy and I and Bill and his wife -- for two weeks in Alton Foss's home.

As you remember, this was for the last two weeks before the convention and Alton's home was convention headquarters for VVAW. Mr. Koehler testified that he was at my home in Gainesville

on July 8 while the attorneys were there advising us on the Grand jury. He testified he lied to me about being in the service. He testified the reason he told me he would testify against Rudolph and Crenshaw was so he wouldn't blow his cover, but he didn't explain why after he had told me he was an agent he ~~still~~ said he would still testify against Rudolph and Crenshaw. Finally, he testified about our true plans for the conventions. He testified that the only weapons he heard of or saw were sling shots and that they would only be used for a "defensive measure if VVAW was attacked".

Finally we come to Mr. Emerson Poe, a person I considered a close friend and confidant ^{up until} ~~until he blew his cover~~ ^{very} the morning he testified here. Mr. Poe was assistant regional coordinator, which meant that he was my ^p replacement, should anything happen to me. He was also the Florida State coordinator for VVAW. Mr. Poe's testimony shows that he infiltrated VVAW in 1971 because Mr. Claude Meadow wanted to know what VVAW had planned, who was coming to town and for what reasons. Mr. Poe was not satisfied with just infiltrating VVAW. He also infiltrated my private life. His testimony shows a very intimate relationship was fostered. Nancy and I spent many evenings with the Poe's. We slept there. We helped them in time of sickness. We had a surprise party on Nancy's birthday at Poe's where her parents were even invited. We helped decorate their Christmas trees. We were close friends.

Poe testified that I even discussed the selection of this jury with him on the first day of jury selection. He also testified that every time we spoke in person or on the phone, he reported it to Mr. Meadow. Mr. Meadow was not content with the infiltration of my private life up until the indictment; he was interested in Poe's cultivating a close relationship with me up until the day Poe testified. Why I don't know -- and Mr. Meadow never testified.

What is important about Mr. Poe's testimony was that he was in a position to know what we were really planning for the convention. He was second in leadership and the testimony shows that the regional coordinator is in charge of all actions that are to be held in his or her region. Mr. Poe had access to all incoming mail. Mr. Poe testified that he had my hunting equipment for safe-keeping; because I gave it to him before I was going to leave for the conventions. So how could I plan on taking ~~it~~ ^{them} to Miami Beach?

Mr. Poe testified that there were no plans to riot, no plans or talk of grenades, mortars, automatic weapons to be used at any convention, and he was in the position to know. What did he testify I was going to do? He testified that I had planned to go to South America to hunt for treasure in head hunter country and that I came to his farm to target shoot. It's also interesting to note that Mr. Meadow knew the real plans all along because they are contained in government exhibit No. 4, ^{of} which he reproduced 75 copies to be sent out.

So this is the government's case. Let's talk a little about informers. The testimony will show they remembered everything when being examined by the government but while being cross-examined, their memory faded and the record will reflect that the most common answer during cross-examination was, "I don't recall." Some of them couldn't even recall how much they were paid and couldn't estimate to within \$1,000, but they easily recalled what the government asked them. One thing really important about

informers is they have to be very convincing liars. *Another thing to T*

ABOUT IS THAT IF INFORMERS DON'T GIVE REPORTS THEY WILL LOSE THEIR JOB, WHO WILL PAY THEM FOR NO BACK WITH INFO?

Mr. Carrouth says VVAW is not on trial. Well, the testimony clearly showed that Poe, Becker and Lemmer came from three different ^{Fla, Ark., + Ga.,} states and they did not infiltrate a splinter group -- they infiltrated VVAW. The testimony showed a lot was said about VVAW.

The testimony showed that Poe, Becker and Lemmer all held leadership positions in VVAW. They were ^{among} the policy makers. The testimony showed that VVAW is an open organization. Mr. Crenshaw and his partner came in response to a radio broadcast. Mr. Simonton came in response to an ad donated to us by Playboy magazine.

Mr. Carrouth says this is not a political trial, but the

testimony showed that we were infiltrated, politically monitored, and even accused of having a deal with the Democrats to disrupt the Republican convention. On top of that, at least three government informers worked their way to leadership positions in VVAW. It was Mr. Becker who offered his motel room for a planning session in Houston. It was Mr. Becker who called everyone and set up the Gainesville meeting. It was Mr. Meadow who made copies of the newsletter. It was Mr. Poe who took over when I wasn't around. It was Mr. Cornwall who folded and mailed the newsletters. It was Mr. Lemmer who took me to Miami. It was Mr. Koehler who shared my bedroom. Yes, there was plenty of evidence of a conspiracy, but not a conspiracy of VVAW or even a splinter group. It was a government conspiracy to destroy VVAW, and if there ever was a splinter group it was all these informers and not us.

Last, we were an open organization and the testimony showed that because of this we were highly infiltrated and at times at least 50% of those at meetings were government agents. It's not really 11 years until 1984, it's a lot closer than that, and the testimony of Mr. Poe showed you that one can not even be sure of those who profess to be one's close friends. This reminds me of a quotation by a Dr. Martin Niemoller:

"When Hitler jailed the communists, I did not protest because I wasn't a communist. When he jailed the Jews, I didn't protest because I wasn't a Jew. When he jailed the Catholics, I kept silent as I wasn't Catholic. When he jailed the trade unionists, I remained quiet as I wasn't in a union. When he finally jailed me, there was no one left to protest."

They ~~came for us~~ ^{jailed us} on July ¹⁴ 7, 1972. When will they ~~come~~ ^{jailed}

for you?