

*A symbol of a tougher approach*

# AT&T faces biggest antitrust suit

By United Press International

WASHINGTON — The Justice Department demanded in court Wednesday that American Telephone & Telegraph Co., the largest privately owned corporation in the world, be ordered to break up its giant communications network.

The biggest antitrust suit ever filed in U.S. District Court also charged Western Electric Co. Inc., which manufactures most of AT&T's equipment, and Bell

Telephone Laboratories Inc., with monopoly.

It accused the three defendants "with combining and conspiring to monopolize, attempting to monopolize and monopolizing the telecommunications service and equipments market," and asked the court for "substantial divestiture." The suit will take at least three years to come to trial, legal experts estimated, and it could take much longer than that to exhaust all legal appeals and recourses.

Meanwhile, in New York, AT&T expressed astonishment at the action and said it "could lead to fragmentation of responsibility for the nation's telephone network."

"If that happens telephone service would deteriorate and cost much, much more," he said, expressing confidence the company has violated no antitrust laws and declaring that the action "represents an attempt to change through the courts what has been national policy for six decades."

Justice officials declined to predict that rates would be lowered for telephone users if the government wins its case, but they said the public interest would be served in other ways, such as allowing freer access to various kinds of telephone equipment by consumers.

Trading of AT&T stock was suspended on the New York Stock Exchange at 3 p.m. EST Wednesday until 10 a.m. EST Thursday at the direction of the

Securities and Exchange Commission. The SEC referred inquiries to the Justice Department, where announcement of the civil suit was made approximately an hour later.

The suit symbolizes a tougher approach toward anti-competitive and monopolistic practices by the Ford administration than was practiced in President Richard Nixon's term. Ford already has asked Congress to approve stiffer

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## U.S. government disrupts new left says Weinglass

Recent revelations of official documents show that the U.S. government had been carrying out a "massive" program of disruption and destruction of new left organizations, according to attorney Leonard Weinglass.

By MIKE DOLAN  
Of the Emerald

Weinglass, who became nationally known as a legal counselor to the Chicago Eight in 1970, spoke to about 50 students Wednesday in the EMU.



Leonard Weinglass

Weinglass was also involved in the Pentagon Papers and the American Indian Movement (AIM) cases, and he is representing Jame Fonda in a civil suit against the federal government.

He talked 80 minutes about one of his current cases, the representation of five Vietnamese students fighting deportation, and he spoke about government activities directed against the "new left."

Speaking of the Vietnamese students, Weinglass gave this account:

Partly to counteract the success of the 1968 Tet offensive, the U.S. government started the "hearts and minds program." As part of that program, Vietnamese students were awarded scholarships to American universities.

"For the first time students from an average background came to the U.S.—not from the privileged classes." In May of 1972, six of these students protested the U.S. presence in southeast Asia and the Thieu regime itself.

"Retribution was swift." Their scholarships were revoked and their visas cancelled. One of the students, Nguyen Dong, is attending Oregon State University.

Weinglass believes the student will be jailed if the are forced to return to South Vietnam.

During the presentation of the students' case in Los Angeles last week, Ohio Asst. Attorney General Robert Gould revealed that he personally wrote the Vietnamese civilian detention laws in 1968.

Weinglass called this, "the most dramatic evidence ever presented in a case like this." He said Gould had been working with William Colby who is now director of the CIA.

This indicated that Americans generated and created the conditions which now exist in Vietnam according to him.

Weinglass said Gould's testimony was only one example of a number of instances where the government's own documents prove cases against it.

Some other examples Weinglass gave in which documents will be used against the government include

- Jane Fonda vs. Richard Nixon;
- Dave Dellenger vs. John Mitchell, a case in which the Justice Department was forced to admit to "massive" wiretapping;
- the Pentagon Papers;
- the White House conspiracy trial which is relying on White House tapes;
- and suits against the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) which has revealed that it has harassed members of the new left.

Weinglass also noted the FBI was forced over the

weekend to admit to its nine-year program of covert operations against domestic political groups. The operation was known as "Cointelpro," or counter intelligence program.

"The FBI committed 2,300 acts of political dirty tricks between 1963 and 1971," he said.

Weinglass was not optimistic about change in America.

"I'm sure the activities are still going on—the problem is there is no current proof." He said that FBI director Clarence Kelly, Attorney General William Saxbe and President Gerald Ford defend such programs and do not find them to be violations of person's civil liberties.

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