

CO 212.24-c

10.0

APR 23 1970

DISTRICT DIRECTORS: LOS ANGELES
NEW YORK CITY

FEKIK. A17 587 321-JOHN W.O. LENNON BORN 9/10/40 ENGLAND; A18 523 007-GEORGE

HARRISON BORN 2/23/43 ENGLAND;

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

IF THEY APPLY FOR EXTENSIONS OF DEBT DEFER ACTION AND REFER
TO CONTRA. BENEED LOS ANGELES NEW YORK.

~~SECRET~~

TC:MJM:anp

CC: A17 597 321

A18 523 007

PAGE WITHHELD PURSUANT TO
(b)(6)

APR 20 9 11 AM '70

IMM. & NATZL. SERVICE
TRAVEL CONTROL

MAY 1 11 05 AM '70

RECEIVED

0 5 7 5 8

PAGE WITHHELD PURSUANT TO
(b)(6)

0 5 7 8 5

RECEIVED

MAY 5 2 05 PM '70

IMM. & NATZR. SERVICE
TRAVEL CONTROL

APR 30 11 29 AM '70

Sam Bennett
Assistant Commissioner, Adjudications

CO 212.24-C
April 23, 1970

Fred E. Harvey, Deputy
Assistant Commissioner, Adjudications

John W.O. Lennon, A17 597 321; George Harrison, A18 523 007 and

Mr. William deGrass, Visa Office, Department of State, advised us today that he had been informed telephonically by the Embassy that George and Harrison were not coming to the United States as he had previously advised (see my memorandum on the same subject dated April 22, 1970, CO 212.24-C). Apparently one of the is ill and their coming has been canceled. John Lennon and his wife will travel as he had advised us on April 22.

CC: W/F - John Lennon

CC: A17 597 321, John Lennon

CC: A18 523 007, George Harrison

CC:

TC:FKH:lg

Lyg Ad

Assistant Commissioner
Adjudications

CO 212.24-c
April 22, 1970

Deputy Assistant Commissioner,
Adjudications - East

John F.O. Lennon, A17 587 321; George Harrison, A18 923 007 and
[redacted]

(b)(6)

Mr. William deGrace, Visa Office, Department of State, advised me telephonically that he had just received an airmail, #3044, from the Embassy at London dated April 22, 1970, which reads as follows:

(b)(6)

- 1. Visas John Lennon, George and [redacted] Harrison
- 2. Embassy has just been advised subjects plan depart London Thursday, April 23 TWA flt. 761 arriving Los Angeles 1915 hours local time. Lennon manifested under name Chambers and [redacted] manifested under name Masters.
- 3. Will remain Los Angeles to May 6 for business discussion with Capital Records and others. Arrive New York May 7 for further business discussions and return to London on or about May 16.
- 4. While waiver granted for entry New York assume waiver amendment for arrival Los Angeles no great problem and Embassy intends issue visas today."

(b)(6)

I advised Mr. deGrace that no problem was anticipated as a result of the subjects' arriving at Los Angeles rather than New York, and that the Los Angeles office would be alerted telephonically.

CC: W/F - John Lennon

TC:FKH:amp

Referred to another gov't agency

Referred to another gov't agency

Referred to another gov't agency

Referred to another gov't agency

'Great incentive to meet prime minister'

Lençons love 'beautiful' Pierre

Canadian Press

OTTAWA — Beatle John Lennon and his wife Yoko Ono had an hour-long chat with Pierre Trudeau today and found the prime minister a "beautiful" person.

"If all politicians were like Trudeau, there would be world peace," Mr. Lennon told reporters after the interview in the Liberal leader's parliamentary office.

"You don't know how lucky you are in Canada."

The meeting, he said, was also "beautiful."

Mr. Lennon, on a mission to promote peace, said the three of them talked about things in general — "ourselves, himself and youth."

"I think he's a beautiful person," Mr. Lennon said, standing outside the PM's office with his tiny wife at his side, both clad in black, floppy hats and black floor-length cloaks.

To Yoko, Mr. Trudeau was "more beautiful than we expected."

Asked whether the prime minister shared his views, Mr. Lennon said they both want hope for the future and in that respect their views are similar.

"It was a great incentive just meeting him," Yoko added.

The three were a study in black — Mr. Trudeau had on a black suit — as they posed for pictures by about 20 photographers in Mr. Trudeau's office before the start of the private session.

Mr. Trudeau, smiling, told the couple at his side they drew more photographers than he usually gets for visiting ambassadors.

Mr. Trudeau put his arm for a moment only around Yoko, then withdrew it. As the photographers left, they wished the couple a merry Christmas.

"The same to you," Mr. Lennon replied through his beard, floppy like the hat.

After the Trudeau visit, the Lennons with their small entourage went to see Health Minister John Munro to discuss the "health aspects" of a July peace festival planned for Mosport, near Toronto. The aim is to "keep it healthy."

40

CO 212.23-C
CO 212.24-C
February 25, 1970

FILE

**Assistant Commissioner
Adjudications**

**Visa Petition by Sullivan Productions for John W. O. Lennon, A17 597 321
and George Harrison, A18 523 008 (Members of the "Beatles")**

Mr. P. A. Kasperdy, District Director, New York City telephoned on February 25, 1970 to advise that Mr. Bob Procht, representing Ed Sullivan Productions, telephoned today to advise that the services of the "Beatles" were no longer needed or desired by Ed Sullivan Productions. Mr. Procht stated he was calling to notify the Immigration and Naturalization Service so that the subjects would not use the petition filed by Ed Sullivan Productions to gain entry into the United States.

I immediately notified Mr. George H. Owen, Director, Visa Office, Department of State of the foregoing. He stated he would call the Embassy in London to ascertain whether visas had been issued. If they have been issued and the subjects have not embarked to the United States he will issue instructions to cancel the visas.

Mr. Owen advised on February 26, 1970 that the American Embassy at London had informed him that visas had not been issued to the subjects and since the petitioner did not desire their services the visas would be refused.

✓ CC: A17 597 321, John W. O. Lennon

CC: A18 523 008, George Harrison

CC: W/T - LONDON, JOHN

TC:BB:dms

Referred to another gov't agency

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Immigration and Naturalization Service**

FILE: (See attached list)

DATE: February 20, 1970

IN RE: Three British subjects (see attached list)

APPLICATION: Temporary admission to the United States pursuant to section 212(d) (3) (A), Immigration and Nationality Act

*Not sent
since subjects
will not be issued
visas.*

The applicant(s) has (have) been found by a consular officer

immigration officer to be ineligible to receive a nonimmigrant

visa under the following paragraph(s) of the Act: Section(s) 212(a) (23)

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| Nationality: British subject | Date and Country of Birth: (See attached list) | Country of Residence: England |
| Occupation: (See attached list) | Employer: (See attached list) | |
| Purpose in seeking entry into United States and destination: To tape a television program for the Ed Sullivan Show and to hold business discussions with United Artists in New York and Capital Records in Los Angeles. | | |
| Plans regarding travel to United States and period of temporary stay: One entry during February or March 1970 for twenty-one days. | | |
| Basis for favorable action: In the public interest | | |

ORDER: It is ordered that the application be granted for the above indicated purpose, subject to revocation at any time, valid as set forth below.

ENTRY: One at New York during February or March 1970.

PERIOD OF TEMPORARY STAY: Twenty-one days on the condition that the activity of the applicants is limited to such performances, promotion or exploitation of their radio, television, movie and recording interests as the Immigration Service specifically authorizes including the taping of an Ed Sullivan television show and business discussions in New York and Los Angeles.

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER, ADJUDICATIONS

TC: NJM:anp

Form I-194
(Rev. 5-1-69)

| <u>FILE</u> | <u>NAME</u> | <u>DATE OF BIRTH</u> | <u>COUNTRY OF BIRTH</u> | <u>OCCUPATION</u> |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| A17 587 321 | John W.O. LENNON | 10-9-40 | England | Member of the Beatles musical group |
| A18 523 007 | George HARRISON | 2-23-43 | England | Member of the Beatles musical group |

(b)(6)

Referred to another gov't agency

Referred to another gov't agency

Referred to another gov't agency

Referred to another gov't agency

FEB 19 12 03 PM '53

RECEIVED
FEB 19 1953

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

File

CO 212.23-G ✓

TO : File

DATE: February 17, 1970

FROM : Assistant Commissioner, Adjudications

SUBJECT: H-1 visa petition by Sullivan Productions for the "Beatles".

Mr. Bill deGrace, of the Visa Office, Department of State, advised that according to a cable from the American Embassy, London, the beneficiaries desire to come to the United States on February 23, 1970. The beneficiaries wish to be accompanied by their wives.

(b)(6)

[Redacted]

The Visa Office has requested additional information from the Embassy so that it can decide what position to take.

Call-up: February 23, 1970

CC: W/F - John LENNON

TC:SB:lcm

AB



1969

ELMER FRIED
ATTORNEY AT LAW

SANDRA G. LEVITT
ALLEN E. KAYE
ARLEEN D. GINGOLD

315 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

COUNSEL
LLOYD RICHARD FORSTER
WILLIAM P. VOLIN

MURRAY HILL 8-8555

October 21, 1969

Mr. John Lehmann
Immigration & Naturalization Service
119 "D" St. N.E.
Washington, D. C.

Re: Waiver Application of John Lennon

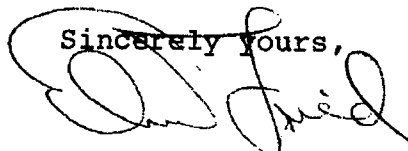
Dear Mr. Lehmann:

I assume that by now the London Embassy has responded to the inquiry of the Visa Office, and that that office has answered your questions. For some reason, it had not been made clear to me until very recently, that the Embassy's ability to answer the questions depended upon a renewal of Mr. Lennon's visa application, since I had assumed that the one made at Montreal was still subsisting.

However, with the renewal now made, and a current application in existence, you are able to pass upon the merits of the case. Apart from the material previously furnished by me, I would add only the current article from the New York Times, which indicates that the Administration has now decided that perhaps a first offense in dealing with drugs should be handled more flexibly than was formerly considered appropriate; and that the possession for use of marijuana, ought not to be considered in the same light with possession for sale; and that the attitude towards marijuana can properly be more temperate than that towards other drugs.

It may be, therefore, that this delay will have served a beneficial purpose, in bringing Mr. Lennon's case to you at a time when the Administration policy would seem to be less hostile to reformed marijuana users than had been the case previously. In a press conference on October 20th, the President said about the Senate, that it is a body in which time and discussion work on the side of fairness of judgment. I am certain he intended that remark to be equally applicable to his executive agencies.

Sincerely yours,



ELMER FRIED

EF/als
Enc.

10/21/69
JLK A17 597321

10/28/69
Mr. Lehmann spoke with
Mr. Fried (who called him)
No response required
JLF 39

Case J.F. Greene letter
of 8/14/69 to Direct. I.C., CO 212.24-C

IMM. & NATZ. SERVICE
TRAVEL CONTROL
OCT 24 9 22 AM '69

RECEIVED

04461

Administration Asks Softer Penalty for Drug Use

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 (AP)—The Nixon Administration will seek Congressional approval tomorrow for changes in its drug-control bill that would substantially reduce the penalties for first-time offenders possessing any narcotic for personal use.

This was confirmed by John E. Ingersoll, director of the Justice Department's Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs. He will appear tomorrow before the Senate's Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency.

The penalties for drug traffickers would be made higher than the penalties for users.

As a misdemeanor, for instance, the crime of marijuana possession would bring a first offender a maximum penalty of one year in jail or a \$5,000 fine or both.

The second offense would become a felony, with as much as two years in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

Under present laws, a first

ing marijuana can get a jail sentence of two to 10 years, with a second offense calling for a mandatory five to 20 years in jail.

LSD, considered more dangerous than marijuana, now entails only a maximum of one year in jail with no mandatory minimum.

A Special Regulation

Under the proposed changes in the drug-control legislation, a special first-offender regulation would allow drug users to escape without a criminal record if they got through a probation period.

Senator Charles McC. Mathias, Republican of Maryland, said that the proposed changes would provide the courts with "much-needed flexibility to deal with youthful offenders."

Under Attorney General John N. Mitchell's original proposal, marijuana would be classed with heroin and other hard drugs for which possession

prison term, a maximum \$20,000 fine or both.

Mr. Mitchell said in proposing the bill to Congress Sept. 15: "I personally believe in sentences which are reasonably calculated to be deterrents to crime and which also give judges sufficient flexibility to tailor the sentences to the requirements of the drug violator or narcotics addict."

Dr. Stanley F. Yolles, director of the National Institute of Mental Health, said two days later that he vigorously disagreed with the penalties set out for marijuana.

Sidney Cohen, director of the Division of Narcotic Addiction and Drug Abuse, told the subcommittee that more stringent laws and penalties for simple possession of marijuana have not been effective.

He described the proposed penalties for marijuana as excessively harsh.

Senator Mathias said in a

the Administration's new, softer penalties. He said that they were in keeping with the "overwhelming testimony of legal and medical experts before Congressional committees this year."

Greek Orthodox Leader Plans South America Parish Tour

Archbishop Iakovos, Primate of the Greek Orthodox Church of North and South America, will leave Kennedy Airport Friday night on the first leg of a month-long tour of Greek Orthodox parishes in South America. There are an estimated 100,000 Greek Orthodox communicants on that continent.

Last night, the prelate was guest of honor at a dinner in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel marking his name day as well as the 10th anniversary of his enthronement as spiritual leader of two million Greek Orthodox churchgoers in the

AUG 4 1969

CO 212.24-C

Mr. George H. Owen
Director, Visa Office
Department of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Mr. Owen:

I received your letter of July 29, 1969 concerning Mr. John W. Lennon. I have read with interest the attachments to your letter, copies of some of which we had already received. It is noted that Mr. Fried places much emphasis on the peaceful nature of Mr. Lennon and his views concerning wars in general. We are not aware that his political views have been a basis for his inadmissibility.


I believe you are aware however, that Mr. Lennon's request for a waiver was discussed by the Under Secretary of State with the Deputy Attorney General. Inasmuch as the latter indicated that this department would not authorize the waiver, this Service cannot act without further consultation with the Deputy Attorney General.

So that I might apprise him of the current situation, it is requested that you furnish answers to the following questions:

1. Does Mr. Lennon have an application for a nonimmigrant visa pending with the Embassy in London?
2. If he has indicated he desires to come to this country, what is the purpose of his visit?
3. What is his proposed itinerary?
4. For what period of time does he desire to come to this country?

We should also like to know whether your Department is recommending a waiver of inadmissibility in Mr. Lennon's case since apparently the purpose of his visit is not the same as it was when you made your earlier recommendation.

Sincerely,


James F. Greene
Associate Commissioner
Operations

CC: W/F John Lennon - A17 597 321

TC:JML:blh

qvr

8-4-69

*This letter cleared with Mr. Geo. Kiria and
Rep. A-S. Office.*



Referred to another gov't agency

Referred to another gov't agency

ELMER FRIED
ATTORNEY AT LAW

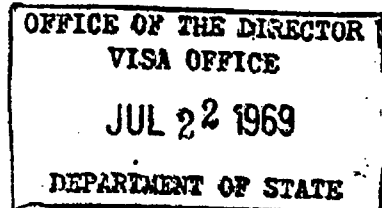
SANDRA G. LEVITT
ALLEN E. KAYE

COUNSEL
LLOYD RICHARD FORSTER
WILLIAM P. VOLIN

64
515 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

MURRAY HILL 8-8555

July 15, 1969.



George Owen, Esq.
Director, Visa Office,
Department of State.
515 22nd St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Re: Nonimmigrant Visa Application of
John Lennon

Dear Mr. Owen:

In a recent automobile accident, Mr. and Mrs. Lennon each suffered injuries sufficiently serious to hospitalize them briefly, and to require their being at home under medical care for an additional period of time, which of course made impossible a trip to the United States by July 9 even if your office had approved issuance of a visa. However, they are expected to be well enough to accept the early-September invitation of the National Institute of Mental Health.

Following our last conversation, Mr. Lennon's London representative, Peter Brown, visited the Embassy and spoke to Mr. Kiley, advising him of Mr. Lennon's definite wish, intention, hope and plan to come to the United States, and requesting that the visa application be considered as revived, renewed or whatever was necessary. Mr. Kiley apparently suggested to Peter Brown that for the time being it was not necessary that any new formal application be filed but that, since Mr. Lennon's attorney was in communication with the Visa Office, it was sufficient just to let matters develop on the American side of the Atlantic.

I think we are ready to approach the heart of this case, which is, whether or not the State Department will recommend, and whether or not the Justice Department will grant a waiver of the marijuana conviction. After all, Mr. Lennon is entitled to be able to set up an itinerary or schedule just as we all like to do, particularly

George Owen, Esq.

- 2 -

July 15, 1969.

since he would be travelling with his family and with at least a few of the entourage which seems to be part of the travel equipage of well-known people. It seems to me that if he is, for example, to be at NIMH on September 8th, he ought to know as long in advance as possible, whether or not he is going to be able to obtain a visa to be there.

I am adding to this letter two enclosures: (a) on the subject of his opposition to violence, and (b) on the subject of his rejection of any interest in marijuana. This material is recapitulative of material previously furnished, but sets it forth a little more concisely and, I hope, impressively. It is particularly important in the light of President Nixon's public declarations against violent disobedience to law, and his message to Congress on July 14, 1969 relating to drug abuse -- and particularly that portion relating to the need to educate young people with respect to drug abuse, so that they will not yield to the lure of drugs.

Concerning violence: I had sent you a copy of the words of the song "Revolution", which he wrote with Mr. McCartney. This song (words again enclosed for ready reference) criticizes revolutionists, and deplores destruction. It specifically, incidentally, refers to Chairman Mao with critical import. Now, you will see from the additional enclosed letter (dated July 9, 1969 from Official Beatles Fan Club) that there were six million one hundred and thirteen thousand three hundred (6,113,300) records sold which contained the song "Revolution". I had, incidentally, asked for separate statistics on the number of times "Revolution" was played publicly other than through the sale of records (on the air or at concerts or to audiences generally, for which a royalty fee is paid); I have been orally advised that that total exceeds 32,000 -- which of course means over 32,000 playings to large audiences.

Now, over 6 million people purchased the song "Revolution"; millions more heard the song as publicly played by others. Now, is anyone in any Government agency going to take the position that this man's anti-violence views have not been, or will not be, beneficial to the peace and security of the United States? Indeed, I hope you will not think it presumptuous of me to say, that John Lennon's singing or talking against "Revolution", or expressing his thoughts against campus violence, are far more influential with young people, than all the orations of college presidents or public officials.

Concerning the marijuana conviction: I enclose photostatic copies of the contemporary newspaper reports concerning his conviction; and you will see clearly set forth evidence of his contriteness, regret, and sincere disavowal of the use of marijuana.

George Owen, Esq.

- 3 -

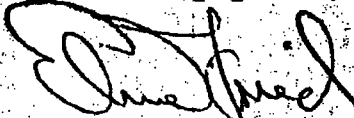
July 15, 1969.

You will find it of interest that someone with the American Psychologic Association called me on Monday, July 14, to ask whether Mr. Lennon could participate in a forum on Drug Abuse to be held by the Association in Washington, D.C. on September 3, 1969. Surely all these psychiatrists and psychologists cannot be entirely wrong in thinking that Mr. Lennon has something positive to contribute to this problem in America. Now, I am not Mr. Lennon's manager and have no idea how much of his time he would be willing to devote to free appearances, but I mention this to show that perfectly respectable behavioral scientists actively believe that he could be helpful in a problem that the President has declared is mushrooming alarmingly.

It seems to me that even if I were to look at it from the point of view of an adjudicator, I would find that the reasons for granting the waiver far outweigh any reasons for not granting it. I would feel that public policy is more served by granting the visa than by refusing it. I would see no chance of harm to the United States, and some benefit, from granting the visa, whereas I can see only a loss of dignity in the denial of this application under all the attendant circumstances.

Upon the whole, and in the present climate, Mr. Lennon's views, however odd they may seem to some of us old-timers, are certainly not revolutionary; and those of his views which are "acceptable" (or even, helpful) outweigh in importance those to which we might object. Add to this the fact that Mr. Lennon wants only to make a brief visit as a non-immigrant, and the pendulum ought to swing in his favor.

Sincerely yours,



ELMER FRIED

EF/el
Enc.

c.c. Mr. John Lehmann, Deputy Commissioner, INS

OFFICIAL BEATLES FAN CLUB

A Division of Apple Music Publishing Co. Inc.
1700 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

BEATLES FAN CLUB
OFFICIAL HEADQUARTERS

July 9, 1969

Elmer Fried, Esq.
515 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10022

Dear Mr. Fried:

In regard to your letter of July 2 and our telephone conversation of July 7, please be advised that the number of records sold concerning the song "Revolution" up until April 10, 1969 on a single 45 disc (#2276) is 3,802,100. The number of records sold up until June 12, 1969 on the LP entitled "The Beatles" (SWBO 101), and features "Revolution Number One" (which is the same song as the single "Revolution" but a slower version), has sold 2,311,200.

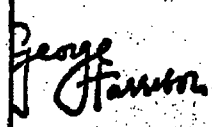
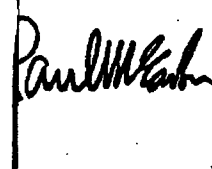
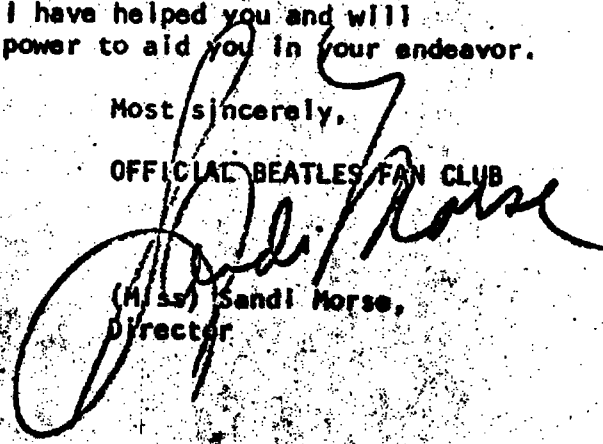
I have contacted Bob Casper of Macien Music Co., who is responsible for copyrighting all Lennon-McCartney material, regarding your inquiry of the separate statistics on the number of separate times "Revolution" was played publicly (be it through receipt of royalties, etc.), Mr. Casper has informed me that this information is confidential and will be back to me tomorrow morning with all possible information to aid you in procuring John Lennon's visa.

I most certainly hope that I have helped you and will continue to do everything in my power to aid you in your endeavor.

Most sincerely,

OFFICIAL BEATLES FAN CLUB

(Miss) Sandi Morse,
Director



OFFICIAL BEATLES FAN CLUB

A Division of Apple Music Publishing Co. Inc.
1700 BROADWAY, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10019

BEATLES FAN CLUB
OFFICIAL HEADQUARTERS

REVOLUTION

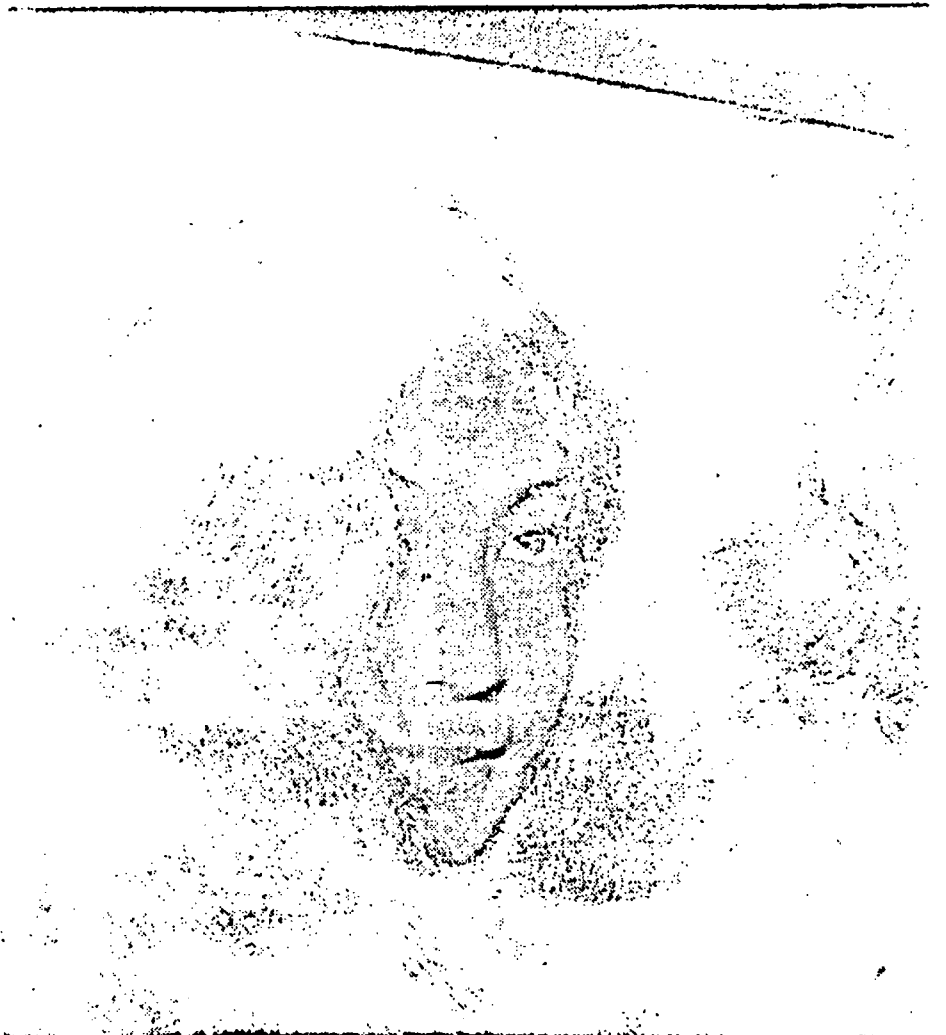
You say you want a revolution
Well, you know we all want to change the world
You tell me that it's evolution
Well, you know we all want to change the world
But when you talk about destruction,
Don't you know that you can count me out,
Don't you know it's going to be alright,
Alright, alright, alright.

You say you got a real solution
Well, you know we'd all love to see the plan
You ask me for a contribution,
Well, you know we're doing what we can
But if you want money for people with minds that hate
All I can tell you is brother you have to wait,
Don't you know it's going to be alright,
Alright, alright, alright.

You say you'll change a constitution
Well, you know we all want to change your head,
You tell me it's the institution,
Well, you know you better free your mind instead,
But if you go carrying pictures of Chairman Mao,
You ain't going to make it with anyone anyhow
Don't you know it's going to be alright,
Alright, alright.

Cannabis was 'not compatible with Ea

BEATLE LENNON HIMSELF OF TAKING DRUGS'



The hearing is over . . . Beatle John Lennon and his Japanese-born girl friend Yoko

tern philosophy'

'CLEANSED'

BEATLE John Lennon once resolved to "cleanse himself of drugs," a court heard yesterday.

He had become involved with Eastern philosophy. And it occurred to him that this and drugs were "not compatible."

He went through his belongings and tried to dispose of any drugs, his counsel said.

And on the day Scotland Yard drugs squad officers raided his flat he really believed he was "clean."

But the men found cannabis. It was said yesterday when Lennon and his girl friend Yoko Ono appeared in court at Marylebone, London.

Lennon, 28, pleaded guilty to possessing cannabis. He was fined £150, with £21 costs.

He said afterwards: "I'm very happy to be free again . . . it really is nice to be able to relax."

Japanese-born Yoko, 34, had also been charged with possessing the drug. Her "not guilty" plea was accepted and no evidence was offered against her.

Saby

The couple pleaded not guilty to obstructing police in the execution of a search warrant. The prosecution did not proceed on the charge.

Both Lennon and Yoko Ono held hands as they went into the dock for a hearing that was to touch on their friendship . . . the baby they lost . . . and Lennon's marital difficulties.

Early in the hearing, the court dealt with obstruction charges.

It concerned a delay of seven or eight minutes before the drugs squad were admitted to the flat, said Mr. Roger Frisby, prosecuting.

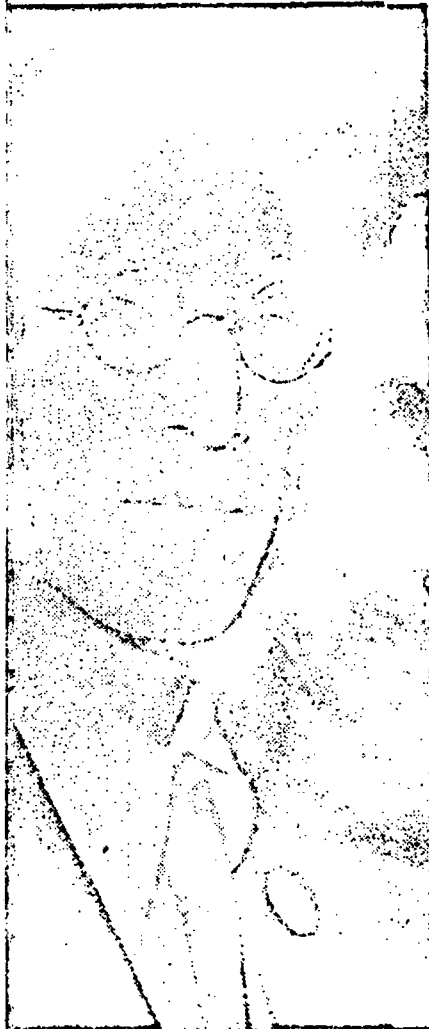
Later information, he added, indicated that there may have been a reason for the delay that was entirely unconnected with drugs.

At this point, Mr. Martin Polden, for the defence, asked if Yoko Ono could stay in the dock with Lennon. The magistrate refused and she left the dock.

Then Mr. Frisby told of the midday raid last October on Lennon's flat in Montagu-square, Marylebone.

When asked if he had any cannabis, Lennon shook his head.

His solicitor arrived. A search was made with the



to are driven away from the court.

32

Lennon's Verdict

The whole drug scene is over

By John Spicer

BEATLE John Lennon said yesterday after being fined £150 on a drugs charge: 'The whole drugs scene is over.'

He talked of the police raid on his flat in Montagu Square, Marylebone, and of the court hearing at which he stood in the dock with his 34-year-old Japanese girl friend, Yoko Ono.

Lennon, 28, said at the Savile Row offices of Apple, the Beatles-owned company: 'I suppose all this was to be expected. The police who raided our flat must have thought I was courting prosecution.'

All over'

'But all that is over. It was explained in court and I say it again now--the whole drugs scene is over. It was an experience, an experience that has now been left behind.'

'As far as I am concerned drugs are a thing of the past, forgotten; only the court case is now. I am very relieved it is over.'

Lennon and Yoko Ono faced two charges at Marylebone Court--having cannabis in the flat and obstructing Detective-Sergeant Norman Pilcher.

The charges against Miss Ono were dropped. The magistrate, Mr John Phipps, said here: 'There is no evidence on either of the charges against you.'

Yoko told:
You're cleared

Lennon and Yoko yesterday



Said to find drug traces, Mr Phipps said, first in a

After being fined \$200 for
having cannabis in his flat

g SCENE is



'A experience that has been left behind' 277

30

John Lennon fined £150 after 'personal experience' with drug

Beattie John Lennon was fined £150 at Marylebone, London, yesterday after admitting possessing the drug cannabis. His Japanese friend, Mrs Yoko Ono Cox, was cleared of two charges—of having cannabis and of obstructing the police—after the prosecution had offered no evidence against her.

A charge against Lennon, who is 28, of obstructing police in the execution of a search warrant, to which he pleaded not guilty, was dismissed after the prosecution had offered no evidence on this. Mrs Cox had pleaded not guilty to both charges.

Mr Roger Frisby, prosecuting, said that on October 18, when police went to a flat jointly occupied by Lennon and Mrs Cox at 34 Montague Square, Marylebone, Lennon had already telephoned his solicitors. When asked if he had any unauthorised drugs, Lennon shook his head.

Flat searched

After the solicitor had arrived, policemen with dogs searched the flat. They discovered a cigarette-rolling machine, later found to have traces of cannabis; a suitcase containing an envelope with 27.3 grains of cannabis; a cigarette case which had traces of the drug; and a binocular case inside which were 191.8 grains of cannabis, enough for about 40 cigarettes on the black market.

After caution, Lennon said that only he, not Mrs Cox, was involved in the matter, said Mr Frisby. Mr Martin Polden, defending, said Lennon and Mrs Cox had moved to the flat about three months before the police search after Mr Lennon's "matrimonial difficulties."

It was clear Lennon had cannabis, but it was a "personal experience." He had not tried to get other people to take them. "Early this year, when he became involved with Eastern philosophy, it occurred to him that that and drugs were not compatible," said Mr Polden. He went through his belongings trying to dispose of any drugs, and had no idea that cannabis was still in the articles in the flat.

On the day of the police raid, Lennon had just finished concentrated work on a record and he and Mrs Cox were then trying to start life afresh. "He is an artist of note and integrity. He has brought some pleasure to millions. He has stood by his views," said Mr Polden. "He is entitled to some compassion of the court."

The magistrate told Lennon that he could have imposed a fine of £250 and a sentence of 12 months, but he was not going to do so since it was Lennon's first offence. Twenty expenses costs were awarded against Lennon.

ing the blunt a sharp decli sters taking u

The drop smokers in th 49 million despite increases in the pupu... tion, according to Roy L. Davis, a spokes- man for the survey group.

Among 17-year-olds questioned during 1967-68, 25.6 percent of the boys said they smoked cigarettes and 15.7 percent of the girls said they are smokers.

A 1957 survey of the same age group reported 34.7 percent of the boys and 25.5 percent of the girls said they smoked.

by the National Clear- and Health was pre- ublic Health Service.

t of those queried an- ked: "Would you say to health?"

id no reasons for the g but, in an interview, ion programs about igarettes.

IRKING e 42

Chip Furniture Star

WASHINGTON, D. C. D. 318,026 SUR. 362,408

MAY 27 1969

Lennon Shifts From Marijuana

MONMOUTH (AP) — Beattie John Lennon, recently convicted of possessing marijuana, says he's through with the stuff because it "interferes with my mind."

"I don't regret anything I've done," he told newsmen. "It's just that I got my best high now on brown rice." Rice with the hulls on is brown.

Lennon and his wife, Yoko, were granted a 10-day stay in Canada by immigration officials yesterday and a hearing was begun in Toronto to weigh their request for a longer stay. The marijuana conviction was the issue.

Mr. and Mrs. Lennon plan a one-week "He-in" demon- station for peace while awaiting the verdict. They have

invited Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau to join them.