

# Grand Jury Probe Called in UW Blast

By PATRICIA SIMMS  
Of The State Journal Staff

Circuit Judge Norris Maloney Thursday ordered a Grand Jury investigation, apparently into the Aug. 24 Army Math Center-Sterling Hall bombing at the University of Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin State Journal two weeks ago learned that Dane County Dist. Atty. Gerald C. Nichol and the State Attorney General's office were planning a Grand Jury probe of the campus bombing within a month.

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"I HAVE, today, granted the petition and have ordered the jury commissioners and the clerk of court to prepare a Grand Jury panel," Maloney said Thursday.

Though neither Nichol nor Asst. Atty. Gen. David Mebane would reveal the purpose of the inquiry, a preliminary investigation of the blast which killed one person and extensively damaged several UW buildings has just recently been completed by Nichol, Mebane, and the Madison Police Dept.

Thursday, Nichol and Mebane asked Maloney to order the jury.

**FEDERAL WARRANTS** were

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issued for four men last September, charging them with sabotage, conspiracy to commit sabotage, and destruction of government property.

Charged were Karleton L. Armstrong, 24, and Dwight A. Armstrong, 19; his brother, both of Madison; David S. Fine, 18, of Wilmington, Del., and Leo F. Burt, 22, of Havertown, Pa.

All officials refused to comment Thursday on how long it would be before the jury actually convenes and begins to take testimony, but state law requires a minimum of 17 days delay from the date of petition, Mebane said.

**INFORMED** sources had said that there was no reason to expect that anyone but the four men, whose whereabouts are unknown, would be named in any state warrants produced by the jury.

At the time the federal warrants were issued against the four men, the then Dist. Atty. James Boll said that "state warrants involving murder" would be issued at a later date against the same four men.

**KILLED IN** the blast, which shook Madison during its early morning hours, shattering windows and damaging nearby buildings, was Dr. Robert E. Fassnacht, 33, a research physicist.

Nichol said recently that the Grand Jury was not used very often by state law enforcement agencies, although Federal Grand Juries are relatively common.

The jury will include 17 persons to whom Nichol will offer evidence. A judge will supervise the inquiry, but need not be present during the entire testimony.