

S. A. M. P.

4/11/1977

# 100 witnesses line up for big graft trial

Thirty-four serving and former police officers pleaded not guilty to conspiracy charges in Victoria District Court yesterday.

The case was adjourned by Judge Collier to a date to be fixed.

Crown Counsel Peter Cahill told the judge the trial is expected to take five months. There are 100 witnesses for the prosecution - 71 civilian and 29 ICAC officers.

The judge said he would suggest some time in April as the starting date for the trial, but it would be open to the parties concerned to make application as to the date if this did not suit them.

Mr Gerald To, who represents 30 of the defendants, said he hopes to retain Miss Maria Tam to appear as counsel for his clients.

Supt Marcus Nigel Webster Pelly (36), on behalf of the three European officers, said Mr Peter Duffy would appear for them, but since he is engaged in another corruption trial at the moment, they would do the groundwork of the case for their defence themselves.

The judge varied the terms of the bail from daily reporting to twice a week reporting for all the defendants after Mr To had made application for this on



Superintendents David Edwards (left), Marcus Pelly (centre) and Norman Humphreys on their way to Victoria District Court yesterday.

behalf of his clients.

The seven most senior officers are each on bail of \$10,000 cash and two sureties of the same amount. The other defendants are each on bail or \$5,000 cash and sureties of between \$5,000 and \$10,000.

The accused are: Superintendents David John Edwards (43), Norman Edward Humphreys (42), and Marcus Nigel Pelly (36).

Chief Inspectors Lam Ying (47), Mok Sau-tim (46),

Wong Kam-tai (37), Chan Fuk-hing (47), Tse Tung-yuen (34).

Senior Inspector Cheung Wah-yan (41).

Station Sergeants Lau Wai-man (43), Li Pak-ping (46), retired, Wong Yu-keung (43).

Sergeants Liu Kwong-hung (46), Tsui Man-fai (50), Li Chok-kam (44), Wong Kang-po (32), Fung Wing-kiok (32), retired, Yuen Tai-fu (53), Chi Wai (49), Cheung Fung-tin (43), Wong Tung-yan (49), Lung Fai, retired, Leung Yip (48), Wong Chit-hung (47), Chiu Chung (48), Kan Yiu-

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## In the courts

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poi (45), Pang Ho-ying, (38), Cheng Yau-cheung (31), So Siu-kuen (38), Yeung Ying-kit (32), Wong Wun-kuen (32), Li Yiu-kwan (31), Wong Pak-wang (30); constables Kong Kee-sang (39) and Mok Kwok-sui (49).

The defendants are alleged to have conspired with other policemen to pervert the course of justice and accepted advantages in connection with their duties.

Edwards, Humphreys, Pelly and 24 other defendants are charged with conspiracy between January 1, 1970 and November 30, last year, together with former Chief Superintendent Lin Hsing-chih, Superintendents Kong Fung-cheuk, Ernest Percival Hunt, Kwok Ling-ying and others, in not carrying out their responsibilities as members of the Mongkok Division Special Duty Squad and accepting advantages as inducements to, or rewards for, or otherwise on account of not performing their duties.

Lin, Kong, Hunt and Kwok have left Hongkong.

Other charges which concern only some of the defendants allege conspiracy between January 1, 1970 and November 30, 1975, in not carrying out their responsibilities as police officers in relation to hawker control and accepting advantages as inducements to or rewards for not performing their duties as members of the Nuisance Squad of the Mongkok Division.