

952 DRAFT FOES CONVICTED IN '67

Most Since World War II,
Attorney General Reports

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WASHINGTON, Jan. 12—The Government disclosed today that more young men were prosecuted and convicted last year for draft violations than in any year since World War II.

Moreover, judges meted out stiffer sentences against draft offenders in 1967 than they did the year before. Jailed draft violators contributed to an increase in the Federal prison population, which declined the previous five years.

This information was made public today in Attorney General Ramsey Clark's annual report on the activities of the Justice Department.

Simultaneously, George Christian, the Presidential press secretary, disclosed in a briefing in San Antonio, Tex., that Mr. Clark had told the President the Justice Department's intelligence apparatus might have to be revamped to cope with threatened "riot and rebellion" in the cities.

'Severe Strain' Reported

In a report that was given to President Johnson two weeks ago but not mentioned until Mr. Christian's briefing, Mr. Clark said that the Justice Department's intelligence staff was subjected to "severe strain" during last summer's riots, often working seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

He told the President that the Justice Department had set up a new intelligence unit that planned to use computers to uncover extremists who attempted to stir up riots and rebellion in urban ghettos.

In the department's annual report, Mr. Clark disclosed that 952 young men were convicted in 1967 for violating the Selective Service laws. This was an increase of 76 per cent from the 536 men who were convicted in 1966, and 250 per cent above the 272 who were convicted in 1965.

Last year 1,648 prosecutions were begun, compared with 1,015 in 1966 and 506 in 1965.

Comparable figures for the Korean war years show that far fewer prosecutions and convictions grew out of the draft.

World War Rates High

Far more prosecutions occurred during the two World Wars. In the fiscal year 1944, 4,609 men were convicted for draft offenses. In 1918, the peak World War I year, there were 8,422 convictions.

Mr. Clark reported that the average sentence for Selective Service violators rose to 32.1 months last year, compared with 25.4 months in 1966. The maximum prison term is five years.

No reason was given for this, but judges have broad discretion in sentencing, and where some judges previously gave suspended sentences in draft cases, a growing number have been saying that violators should serve at least as much time in prison as they would have spent in the Army as a two-year draftee.

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