

Daniel Ellsberg was arraigned today under his second indictment for passing out materials of the Pentagon Papers to the newspapers. He could wind up in prison. On sale now in bookstores in Washington and elsewhere is a book by Lyndon Johnson called The Vantage Point selling for \$15. It also makes public materials of the Pentagon Papers. A Roman Senator in the year 575 B.C. said, "Laws, like cobwebs, entangle the weak but are broken by the strong." What Ellsberg made available to the American people was theirs already since they paid for the writing of the Pentagon Papers, the salaries of the writers as well as buying even the typewriters and the papers. As for damaging the country by giving out secrets, the federal government's lawyers have been able to show no damage whatever. As for their being stamped secret in the first place, one of the Pentagon's own experts told Congress that 99½% of what is classified/^{secret} should not be. President Nixon himself, years ago when he was a Senator, said a lot of what was stamped secret ostensibly to protect the national security was/^{actually} stamped secret to protect the bureaucrats own security. So, what we have is this: papers in the Pentagon stamped secret, probably wrongly, owned by the American people who payed for them. Ellsberg passed them out free. Johnson took some of the same materials already owned by the American people, put it in his book to be sold back to the American people for \$15 a copy. Ellsberg is threatened with prison, Johnson is relaxing on his ranch, collecting royalties.