

2 of 4 Suspended Patrolmen Testify

By JOE ALBRIGHT

The grand jury began hearing testimony yesterday in the case of A. C. White, 46, of 383 Joseph Ave., whose arrest Jan. 26 led to the suspension Saturday of four city patrolmen on an allegation that excessive force was used to make the arrest.

Two of the four officers suspended without pay, Vito D'Ambrosio and Albert Bussendorfer, testified yesterday. Testimony centered on only one of the five charges against White, driving while intoxicated, a felony because of a previous conviction.

Pending in City Court are four other charges—third degree assault, resisting arrest, driving without an operator's license and no registration.

White, an \$88.40 a week molder at Anstice Foundry, remains in Strong Memorial Hospital, recovering from a fractured left wrist, broken

index finger on his right hand, head and finger cuts.

The other two patrolmen suspended are Louis M. Genovese and Gerald G. Gentile, who were in the paddy wagon that took White to Police Headquarters after his arrest at 4 p.m. Jan. 26 at 54 Buchan Park.

More than 100 city policemen protested Sunday the suspensions by Police Chief William M. Lombard and directed a Police Locust Club investigation because no charges were placed against the four officers.

In an interview with a reporter yesterday, White acknowledged he made the charge of unnecessary force through his attorney, Reuben Davis, former president of the Rochester chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

White said he pleaded "not guilty" to the charges when

City Court Judge Sidney Z. Davidson arraigned him in his hospital room last Thursday.

Charging the officers beat him, White said: "They stomped and kicked me" at Police Headquarters. He said his wrist was fractured when the officers "stomped and kicked" it.

After he was booked White said one grey-haired policeman at Police Headquarters said, "you better get him to the hospital. Better call the ambulance. He is bleeding a lot."

While semi-conscious on the floor, he heard an officer say, "that's enough. Let him alone."

White was admitted to the hospital at 2 a.m. Sunday, 10 hours after his arrest.

Denying he was drunk, White said he had "four or five cans of beer." Bussendorfer and D'Ambrosio in their report said an auto driven by White nearly

forced another off the street.

White said his wrist was broken and reset at the hospital when it failed to mend properly, and bone was grafted from his left hip in the operation. A metal plate was inserted in his left wrist.

The suspect, who has a record here of 12 arrests in 18 months, admitted he also was arrested on three traffic charges in Greece on Oct. 15, 1960.

His wife, Thelma, whom he married last August, is a cleaning woman for the Board of Education. He has four children by his divorced first wife in Chicago.

In the investigation ordered by Chief Lombard, Deputy Chief Clarence G. DePrez questioned White for 14 minutes yesterday "for background" in the case. White said he told DePrez what happened.