

The News Tribune, Woodbridge, N.J. - Mon., March 14, 1977

Pg. 3

## High court rejects stay on Friday court sessions

NEW BRUNSWICK — Attorneys for JoAnne Chesimard learned Saturday that U.S. Supreme Court Justice William Brennan Jr. rejected their application for a stay of a federal appeals court ruling that would permit Friday court sessions during her trial.

The U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals in Philadelphia last week upheld an earlier ruling by U.S. District Court Judge George Barlow which had refused to hear the defense appeal on procedural grounds. Judge Barlow said, and the federal appeals court agreed, that state remedies

### PTA meets tomorrow

FORDS — Dr. Carol Weinstein, assistant professor of education at Douglass College, will discuss the parental roll in education at Our Lady of Peace PTA's meeting at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the school cafeteria.

Report cards will be distributed to parents after the meeting.

had not been exhausted because the defense failed to make application to the N.J. Supreme Court.

Superior Court Judge Theodore Appleby, who is presiding at Mrs. Chesimard's murder trial, initially ruled that she was not entitled to Fridays off based on her Muslim religious beliefs because the jury hearing testimony in the case is sequestered.

Attorney William Kunstler had sought a stay of the federal appeals court decision from Justice Brennan pending an emergency hearing before the U.S. Supreme Court. Despite the federal appeals court ruling, Judge Appleby did not hold court last Friday and did instead hold a Saturday session.

He has not indicated if Justice Brennan's refusal to stay the appeals court ruling will result in a Friday trial session this week.

Mrs. Chesimard contends she is entitled to Friday recesses because of her Muslim religion. Friday is the Muslim sabbath.