

ALLEGED KLEAGLE GOES ON TRIAL

First Case For 12 Men

By ELLIOTT CHAZE

HATTIESBURG, Miss. — Selection of a jury for the murder trial of Cecil Victor Sessum, 31, of Ellisville, began shortly after 11 a.m. Monday in Forrest County Circuit Court after Judge Stanton Hall had overruled a new motion by the defense for continuance of the case.

The jury is being chosen from a special venire of 100 men. Some of these were not located, 15 were dismissed because they said they did not believe in capital punishment and several others were released because they said serving on the jury would serve a financial hardship.

The motion for continuance was filed by Attorney Percy Quinn of Laurel, who claimed he had not had time to look into all the facts of the case.

Sessum faces charges of both murder and arson in connection with the Jan. 10, 1966 fire-bomb death of Forrest County Negro Leader Vernon Dahmer. This trial will be on the murder charge only.

The state pointed out that the court-appointed Quinn on March 4 to represent Sessum and that the attorney also represents several other defendants in the case and has been associated with them for some time.

A film and sound track made at a Saturday night dinner in Laurel were shown after G. G. Boyd, WDAM-TV newscaster, was called by the state as a witness in the hearing on the motion for continuance. The film showed a speech by Quinn in which he said, among other things: "I have been in the case from the start." The dinner was a \$10 plate benefit affair held to raise funds to help pay for the defense of the 12 men who face trial in the Dahmer case.

The state also said Sessum had been in Forrest County jail since March 4 and had been available to Quinn 24 hours a day.

Quinn said that just Sunday night he received from Attorney Travis Buckley a portfolio containing information collected by

(Continued on Page Two)



SOLDIER ON AIR MATTRESS PADDLES HIS WAY TOWARDS SHELL CASING
... Which Ended Up In Bobo Canal When U. S. Air Strike Hit Enemy Convoy

(UPI Telephoto)

Committee Grills Rusk

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Secretary of State Dean Rusk today flatly rejected charges the administration had about some details of the 1964 Tonkin

High Winds Hit State

By United Press International

The U. S. Weather extended a tornado watch for central and south Mississippi until this evening after tornadoic winds blew the roof off a building

Says Fort Will Hold

DA NANG, Vietnam (UPI) — Marine Lt. Gen. Robertushman today said the battle for surrounded Khe Sanh is a "titanic firepower struggle" which he is convinced the Allies can win.

Reds Creep Nearer Base

SAIGON (UPI) — Communist guerrillas penetrated the barbed wire outer perimeter of Khe Sanh today and planted loudspeakers through which they

Vietnamese near Dong Ha th lost 109 men.

Little Damage

The Leathernecks in the deep bunkers at Khe Sanh a Dong Ha withstood the shells

MARKET QUOTATIONS

Street

FOREX (UPI)—Stocks moved in moderately rising today as investors needed to internationalize on to hold the price of its current level of... moved on higher throughout the morning takers did take of some of the gains called glum notes, mining issues dropped first but recovered mistake Mining fell e Mines 2% and South Africa 2... progress in the ke talks being held at House helped copper elps Dodge rose 1% before noon, the ss International stock dicator was up 0.89 ith 1,291 issues across There were 795 282 declines. The Dow ustrial average also substantial advance. cs were strong. IBM in a pickup of 5% and motors rose where changed. Cheere firm. Oils imith Mission Corp. Rails were mostly ston & Maine was a gaining 1%. Airlines gher. ill-Douglas advanced the mostly higher corp. rose 1 1/2 after sharply last week made a downward of earnings. United g & Foundry fell 1%. uply when Raybestos i terminated a tender United shares and them back. n the American Stock rose along a broad moderately active

NOON STOCK LIST

NEW YORK (UPI) — Midday	Price
Alabama Gas	18 1/4
American Can Co.	48 1/4
American Enka	43 1/4
American Motors	11 1/4
American Sugar	20 1/4
American T & T	50 1/4
American Tobacco	81 1/4
Anacosta Copper	43 1/4
Bendix Corp.	39
Borden Foods	28 1/4
Burlington Industries	41
Carolina Power & Light	38
Chesapeake and Ohio	61 1/4
Chrysler Corp.	54 1/4
Cities Service Oil	46
Coca-Cola Co.	130 1/4
Cone Mills	20 1/4
Curtiss Wright	23 1/4
Dow Chemical	74 1/4
Du Pont	153
Eastern Air Lines	32 1/4
Eastman Kodak	133 1/4
Ford Motor	50 1/4
General Electric	87 1/4
General Motors	76 1/4
General Telephone	39 1/4
Georgia Pacific Corp.	61 1/4
Goodyear Rubber	59 1/4
Goodyear Rubber	48 1/4
Great A & P	29 1/4
Gulf Oil	71 1/4
Illinois Central	50 1/4
Indian Head Mills	33 1/4
Intl. Business Machines	58 1/4
International Harvester	33 1/4
International Nickel	104 1/4
International Paper	26 1/4
International T & T	48
Johns Manville	57
Kennecott Copper	40 1/4
Koppers Co.	32 1/4
Kroger Co.	27 1/4
Liggett & Myers	73 1/4
Lockheed Aircraft	42 1/4
Lorillard Tobacco	48 1/4
Louisville & Nashville	73 1/4
Middle South Utilities	21 1/4
Minnesota Mining	82 1/4
Mobil Oil	44 1/4
Montgomery Ward	25 1/4
National Dairy	34 1/4
National Gypsum	48 1/4
Pan American	30 1/4
J. C. Penney	65 1/4
Penn Central	54 1/4
Pepsico	39 1/4
Phillip Morris	47
Phillips Petroleum	55 1/4
Radio Corp.	46 1/4
Republic Steel	40 1/4
Reynolds Metals	41 1/4
Reynolds Tobacco	42 1/4
Feaboard Coast Line	42
Sears Roebuck	59 1/4
Sinclair Refining	74 1/4
Southern Company	25

Wheat

go Grain

(UPI) — Wheat, rye and soybeans ionally lower at midoday on the Chicago Trade. 10:35 a.m.: March 1.48%, off 1/4; off 1/4; July 1.53%.

HOPEFULS

HOPEFULS

(Continued From Page One)

in the Tuesday runoff in the southwest. Mississippi... Evers led the first primary voting two weeks ago in a field of seven candidates and Griffin finished second.

Evers, 45, who took a leave of absence as state field director of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, called again Sunday for a debate after receiving no answer in his other challenges to his white conservative opponent.

"My opponent symbolizes the status quo here," Evers told a McComb audience Sunday. "On the other hand, I have campaigned on a platform of constructive change—change in our educational system, change in the present system of welfare, and changes in the housing and unemployment situations in the 3rd district."

Polls will open at 7 a.m. and close at 6 p.m. in the 12 counties of the district. The first primary drew about 114,000 voters, but observers predicted the runoff total would be lower.

Evers received 33,708 votes, mainly from Negroes, in the first primary and the six white candidates had a total of 81,166—70 per cent. Most of these were expected to go to Griffin in the runoff.

Griffin, 41, a graduate of Mississippi State University, stressed his experience as a congressional aide. He was sick with a virus during most of the two weeks between the initial voting and runoff and did little active campaigning.

SENATE

(Continued From Page One)

desks of the members today. Debate begins Tuesday and is expected to last all week.

Although it has been completed for some time, little is known about the proposed code. It has been kept under strict guard by the six-member committee.

The most controversial segment of the report was expected to be recommendations for partial public disclosure of a senator's finances.

Asked how far the recommendation went, one member said it

City Council

Names Wilson

The Laurel City Council Monday appointed William H. Wilson on the city election commission and made two appointments on the board of adjustments and appeals.

Walter Tillery will fill the unexpired term of the late Grady Bustin and C. H. Hinton was re-appointed for another term on the appeal board.

In other action Mayor Fern Buckley announced she will attend the legislative conference in Washington, D. C. April 7-9 held in connection with the National League of Cities.

Commissioner C. A. Massey, Fire Chief James Flowers and Capt. Carson Biglane will attend the annual firemen's convention in Memphis, Tenn. March 16-22. Tickets are being printed and announcement will be made at a later date in connection with the new parking ordinance governing downtown parking meters. This includes \$1 if fine is paid within 24 hours for overtime parking. It will be \$2 within 72 hours and after that time, the fine will be \$5.

Immediately following the council meeting, a zoning hearing was held in connection with the petition to change a lot at 24th St. and 5th Ave. to C-1 from Residential. The request will be turned over to the zoning board for recommendation.

Police Make 43 Arrests

The Laurel police department made 43 arrests over the week-end including 12 for speeding as radar continues in operation in the city to curtail traffic accidents.

Other arrests included: 16 for public drunkenness; one driving while intoxicated; one for burglary; four for gambling; two for assault; one public profanity; one petty larceny; two reckless driving; one running stop light; one no driver's license; and one improper tag.

Academy Chorus

ALLEGED

(Continued From Page One)

Buckley in the case that Mrs. Buckley had delivered it and he wanted time to review all of its contents.

Buckley was originally Sessum's attorney but presently is in Jackson County jail awaiting transfer to state hospital at Whitfield for psychiatric examination after being convicted at Pascagoula of kidnaping charges.

HATTIESBURG, Miss. (UPI)—A young father of three identified by the FBI as state Klingle of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan today becomes the first of 12 alleged Klan members to go on trial in the 1968 firebomb slaying of Negro leader Vernon Dahmer.

Mississippi brought state charges of murder and arson against eight white men last November. Five others were charged with arson in the Dahmer case. One of the defendants pleaded guilty Friday to murder and arson and may be a witness against the others.

Civil rights leader Charles Evers was ordered to appear in Circuit Court here today when Sessum's trial opened, but his attorneys obtained a delay until Wednesday. Jury selection and state evidence was expected to take up the first few days of the trial.

Evers, a candidate in a runoff Tuesday for a congressional vacancy, said he felt the subpoena was "harassment. I don't know what else it could be," he said.

"I don't know a thing about it (the murder)," he said. "I was in Jackson when it happened."

Evers reportedly was present when the first arrests were made in the case.

Defense attorneys also reported issued subpoenas for Roy Moore, FBI agent in charge of operations in Mississippi, and J. W. West, editor and publisher of the Laurel Leader-Call.

Evers is a candidate in Tuesday's runoff election for the 34d District congressional seat vacated by Gov. John Bell Williams.

State circuit Judge Stanton Hall called a 100-member prospective jury list for the opening trial today. The defendant, Cecil Victor Sessum, a 10th grade graduate from

