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Judge refuses to dismiss indictment in Little case

By D. J. Hill

WASHINGTON, N.C. (UPI) — A state court judge refused Wednesday to dismiss a murder indictment against a young black woman charged with slaying a white jailer she says was trying to rape her in her jail cell.

Superior Court Judge Henry A. McKinnon said he could not agree with the contention of lawyers for Joann Little that the grand jury which indicted her was selected by a process which discriminates against blacks, women and young people.

McKinnon, an 18-year veteran of the North Carolina Bench, said after studying seven sample jury lists he found room for "some improvement" in the procedure for choosing grand juries. But "no intentional discrimination was followed."

Miss Little, a 20-year-old construction worker, was not present when McKinnon announced his his decision. Her attorneys showed no emotion.

Miss Little is charged with murdering Clarence Alligood, 62, at the Beaufort County jail last August where she was lodged while appealing a breaking and entering conviction. Alligood's body, nude from the waist down except for his socks, was found in her cell.

Miss Little, who fled after the incident, surrendered eight days later, and said Alligood had tried to rape her.

About 50 blacks staged a five-minute demonstration outside the courtroom after McKinnon's decision was announced.

State Bureau of Investigation director Charles Dunn warned Gov. James E. Holshouser Jr. in a letter that demonstrations were likely if Miss Little is brought to trial.

"It is our opinion that demonstrations are probable and there is a potential for some violence," said Dunn in the letter made public Wednesday.

After McKinnon's ruling denying the dismissal motion, the defense immediately proceeded with another of the nearly 20 motions pending at the hearing.

In the motion, they asked that the indictment be dismissed on grounds of improper actions before the grand jury by Beaufort County District Attorney William Griffin.

If convicted of murder, Miss Little would be automatically sentenced to death. Murder and first degree rape carry mandatory death penalties in North Carolina. More than 70 persons are on the state's death row now, the largest number in the nation.

DRURY BASKERSVILLE, former Carrollton Elementary School teacher, has been denied an appeal of a conviction he received in 1974 of defrauding two banks of nearly $3,000. The Court of Special Appeals turned him down last month and he was confined to jail to serve a 2-year-term. The defraud case also involved the murder of o fellow teacher, John M. Kraynak, but Bakersville was acquitted of the charge Sept. 23, 1973 and freed on bail pending the decision of the appeals court.

Supt. Reid to retire June 30

James L. Reid will retire as assistant state superintendent in vocational-technical education effective June 30.

A search is now underway by the State Department of Education for a successor to Mr. Reid.

In the 14 years since he was appointed to direct the state's vocational education program, student enrollments have grown over seven-fold, from 32,000 to 224,000 and the number of area vocational schools have increased from eight to 83.

Dr. James A. Sensenbaugh, state superintendent of schools stated that Mr Reid has exemplified the best qualities of a conscientious public administrator.

Mr. Reid, a native of Indiana, joined the State Department of Education in 1946, serving 14 years in charge of planning and construction of public school buildings before his promotion to the vocational education post in 1961. He was named an assistant superintendent 1960.

He has received national citations for outstanding service from the American Vocational Association and the Boy Scouts of America.

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AFTER SUPRISE VISIT to Beaufort County Court house, Joanne Little leaves with her bodyguard, Russell McDonald at pretrial hearing. Judge Henry A. McKinnon refused to dismiss an indictmen charging Miss Little with stabbing to death a white jailer.

Mandel calls for crime conference

ANNAPOLIS (UPI) — Gov. Mandel has called a conference May 13 of top law enforcement and judicial officials to discuss the rising crime rate in Maryland.

"I've asked all chief judges of the Maryland court system, the heads of the police departments, the state's attorneys and the attorney general to get together to see what steps can be taken to alleviate the situation as far as the crime rate is concerned," Mandel said Tuesday.

Mandel said the conference will discuss, among other things, ways to bring about speedier trials for offenders in an attempt to curb the crimes committed by persons free on bail or awaiting court action for another offense.

As he signed the capital punishment bill which mandates a death sentence for eight specific crimes, Mandel said "no one signs this legislation with a great deal of relish. However, in the past few years, with the rising tide of crime in the country, people want the government to try in every way to stem that tide."

Coppin State's new building has dual towers, glass curtain wall

The new 7. million dollar Office-Classroom complex is under construction at Coppin State College, 2500 West North Ave.

The front tower will contain three levels above grade, and will face a future pedestrian plaza which will eventually be the center of Coppin's campus.

The two-story tower will sit directly behind the smaller structure, connected on five levels, and dramatically highlighted corridors on three of the five levels.

The exterior of the dual-tower building will be brick with a bronze/glass curtain wall, blending well with the Library addition.

The Office-Classroom building has three floors of classrooms, five floors of faculty offices, equipment rooms, labs, study areas and conference rooms. An instructional media center will feature TV and recording studios, photo dark rooms and a graphic production lab.

Community rooms and a 100-seat lecture room will be located in the first floor.

The offices, as well as the classrooms have movable wall systems to allow for future replanning of space.

The entire building will be air-conditioned with a fire sprinkler system throughout. It will contain a central heating and cooling system built to service two additional buildings coming soon — the Alninistration Building and the College Center.

COPPIN STATE COLLEGE new office-classroom building

24 police officers graduated

Twenty-four Baltimore probationary police officers along with three members of the Annapolis Police Department were graduated from the Department's Education and Training Division. The graduation exercises were held today (Friday) in the auditorium on the fifth floor of the Headquarters Building.

Commendation ceremonies were conducted at which 12 civilians and seven sworn personnel received awards for outstanding service to the community.

The guest speaker was Ralph G. Murdy, chief of Protective Security and Safety, Social Security Administration.

The graduates are: Kelly M. Allen, August A. Beyer III, William C. Boessell Jr., David A. Bugda, Neil A. Burke, Daniel E. Chapman, Glenn W. Cross, Jeremiah M. Daley Jr., James M. Eigner, George T. Faulkner, James W. Fell, Steven L. Glasser, Stephen J. F. Grenfell, Kathleen T. Hamilton.

Others are John P. Jenkins Andrew F. Leo, Edward J. Mackiewicz Jr., Gregory D. Meacham, Russell A. Merritt, Allen L. Muir, Floyd R. Myers, Louis T. Paris, Anthony J. Petralia Jr., John C. Poliks, Keith L. Smith, Jerry E. Waddell, Byron P. Williams.

60 citizens receive community awards at Edmondson area fete

Five hundred residents celebrated the recognition banquet held by the Carroll Edmondson Community.

Mayor Schaefer presented citizen citations to 60 leaders in the Baltimore-Hilton Street, Irvington and Edmondson Village Area.

These citizens have distinguished themselves by volunteering in activities such as the Camp Concern program, Community School, soft ball, basket ball, senior citizens, clean up projects, PTA, City Fair, chaperons and many other activities.

It has been through their efforts that the area is beginning to take on an improved look where blight had begun to spread.

The mayor was also cited by the community as a good neighbor and given a plaque for outstanding service to his neighborhood and dedication to the city.

* * *

Sponsors for the affair held recently at the Civic Center were the Edmondson Village Committee, Bob Paulen, president and the Edmondson-Hilton-Carroll Council, Edna Ruff, president.

Mayor Schaefer encouraged the recipients to continue these fine works for if the city is to continue moving forward, their help is needed.

He said, "I have been closely associated with some of you for many years, others of you in recent years. You are carrying on actively in the community that is absolutely necessary to keep us moving ahead.

"I love Baltimore, but Edmondson Village is dear to my heart since this is where I live.

"For a while the community looked as though it was going down, but I'm pleased to say that I see good things happening in the area, and the Edmondson Village area is on an upward course."

Those who received certificates are:

Eric Alexander, Charles L. Austin, William Brent, Ulysses Banks, Dorothy Barnes, Maurice J. Blackwell, Woodrow Brooks, Ronald L. Brown, Howard Brown;

Virginia Chin, Robert Cole, Evelyn Cox, Raleigh Cox, Arthur Creigler, Daisy L. Caldwell, Mildred Dean, Thomas De Shields, Mary Eastman, Georgine Edgerton;

Mary C. Ford, Florine Goodman, Virginia Green, Harrison L. Gross Jr., Peter Guthrie;

Marian W. Hayson, McLindsey Hawkins, Lorraine Hawkins, Katherine Heard, Ruth Heinz, Marie Henderson, Ruth Henderson, Kate Henshall, William Z. Hill, Otis B. Hooper;

Shirley Jackson, Shirley Jewett, Percy Jones, Owen Keys, Otis Lee, Penny Love, William Lewis, Nathaniel Lewis;

Albert F. Madden, Letitia Maddox, Hugh O. McClurkin, Thelma C. Middleton, Sheila Mullen, Mildred Page, Thelma Pinkney;

Calvin Quill, Dorothy Reddick, Edna Ruff, Regina Ann Ruth, Oscar Samuelson, Inez B. Scott, Eleanor Smallwood, Thelma Snader, Gloria Spain, Beauford Stokes, Arthur M. Streat;

Elaine Tallaferro, Richard Thornton, James Ward, Delano B. Williams, Eugenia Williams, Maude Williams, Thomas Wiliams, James Wilson Jr.

AWARDS WERE RECEIVED from Mayor Schaefer by members of the Carroll-Edmondson Community Group, Robert Paulen, Mrs. Katie Henshall, Harrison Gross Sr., Mrs. Thelma Snader, Mrs. Marie Henderson, Mrs. Virginia Chin, Harrison L. Gross Jr., Owen Keys, Otis Hooper, Mrs. Marguerite Campbell, Bryan Keys, age 9; William Z. Hill, Mrs. Dorothy Reddick, Nathaniel Keys, age 12; Mrs. Ruth Henderson, Arthur Creigler, Assistant Pen Warden McLindsay Hawkins, Mrs. Maude Williams, Mrs. Shirley Jackson, Aker Williams, Delano Williams and Mrs. Ardella Grant.

Bethlehem Steel employee was hit by car

"He was hit by a car walking across the street. He was dead on arrival at the hospital."

Mrs. Essie Mae Bell, wife of Thomas Bell, thus revealed in a statement to the AFRO how her husband's death occurred.

Mr. Bell, 52, died April 20 at Bon Secour Hospital following the accident.

Funeral services were held today (Friday) at Morton and Dyett Funeral Home. He is buried in King Memorial Park.

Mr. Bell, 1209 W. Lexington St., was hit by the car in the 1300 block Fayette St. For 23 years, he was employed at Bethlehem Steel Company.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three sons, Thomas, Jesse and Leroy Bell; one brother, David James Bell and seven grandchildren.

HONOREES receiving awards at the Carroll-Edmondson Community Banquet are from left Mrs. Eleanor Smallwood, Mrs. Edna Ruff, Mrs. Katherine Heard, Mrs. Dorothy Barnes, Mrs. Helen Jones and Mrs. Inez Scott.