

Dies to Aid Murder Suspect

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Promises to Go to New Orleans to Clear McCuiston

(See editorial page 4)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—Chairman Martin Dies of the House un-American Committee today promised personally to intervene in behalf of William C. McCuiston, murder suspect wanted by the New Orleans police.

Dies said that if need be he would go to New Orleans to ascertain the nature of the charge against his own star witness who had branded the National Maritime Union (CIO) as "Communistic."

While McCuiston, one-time seaman, was in custody of police authorities in connection with the murder charge hanging over his head, he was recalled to the committee's witness stand today, accompanied by Washington detectives.

CHARGE FILED

In the meantime, New Orleans Chief of Detectives John J. Brosch filed an affidavit in his home city formally charging McCuiston with murder in the slaying of Philip Carey, NMU official, Sept. 17.

An official NMU statement deemed it strange that New York police had found it impossible to locate McCuiston whereas the Dies Committee encountered no difficulty in finding him.

Rep. Jos. Starnes, Alabama member of the Dies Committee, was sharply reprimanded by New Orleans Chief of Detectives Grosch for charging that the arrest of McCuiston was "phony" and was aimed to harass him as a witness.

"Why, I've been corresponding on the subject with Houston, Galveston, Texas City and Mobile since Sept. 26," said Grosch. "I asked New York police to arrest McCuiston as early as Oct. 11. It's no phony. We want McCuiston."

MOTHER CALLED

The Dies Committee made it Mother's Day today by calling to the stand Mrs. Dollie M. Crawford, mother of McCuiston. Mrs. Crawford said that in a conversation she allegedly had with Joseph Curran, NMU president, in 1937, he obliged her by saying he was a member of the Communist Party. She also claimed Curran had informed her the Communists expected "to take charge overnight" of the United States government.

In New York, Curran branded Mrs. Crawford's testimony false. He said that when she visited him in 1937, the conversation centered around the whereabouts of McCuiston who had enlisted in the Spanish Loyalist Army, only to desert later on.

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