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PICAYUNE, NEW ORLEANS, LA., THURSDAY MORNING.

## Hijacker Gives Up on Try to Take Plane to Cuba

### Surrenders to Canadians at Montreal

MONTREAL (AP) — A hijacker from Texas surrendered to Canadian police Wednesday after holding two crewmen of an Air Canada Viscount plane at gunpoint for more than three hours and demanding that he be flown to Cuba.

The gunman, who staged the first hijack in Air Canada's 31-year history was identified by Royal Canadian Mounted police as Charles Lavern Beasley, 22, of Dallas. Police said he was a Negro, six feet tall, weighing about 195 pounds.

In Dallas the FBI said a man with the same name was wanted for robbery of a Texas bank.

Authorities said Beasley boarded the plane in Saint John, N.B., and drew a revolver soon after the four-engined turboprop took off for Toronto.

An airline spokesman said the gunman told the crew that the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency was after him. He demanded to be flown to Havana, but the pilot, Capt. Ronald Hollett, convinced him that they would have to land in Montreal to refuel.

The 17 passengers and two stewardesses were allowed to leave the plane at Montreal, but Beasley remained aboard with his gun trained on the pilot, and First Officer Robert Bromley.

The gunman finally walked off the plane after holding the two airmen at gunpoint for more than three hours.

Assistant police commissioner Raoul Carriere told newsmen at the airport he could not say whether any charges will be

filed. The case is in the hands of immigration authorities.

Carriere said he had spent 15 or 20 minutes talking with Beasley on the plane's radio, trying to persuade the hijacker to surrender.

He had promised the man asylum after getting approval from the justice department in Ottawa.

Asked about Beasley's claim that he is wanted by the CIA, the assistant commissioner said his department is not aware of it.

The gunman booked the flight in Halifax under the name of Garvey, drew his Colt shortly after takeoff for Toronto.

Authorities said that after he drew his colt he forced stewardess Beverly Atkinson of Vancouver ahead of him to the flight deck and demanded to be flown to Cuba.

"I told him 'yes sir'," Capt. Ronald Hollett of Toronto said later. "He had a wild look on his face at first, then he calmed down."

When the aircraft was ready to take off after refuelling the man demanded to see the Cuban consul-general in Montreal. He was escorted from the plane by the consul and a police sergeant.

The sergeant said Beasley had turned his loaded revolver over to Hollett before the police officer and consul reached the plane.

Robert Lefebvre, inspector in charge of the Canadian immigration office at the airport, said the hijacker will be held by immigration officials in Montreal until the department's investigation is completed.