

# Witness Asserts Stennis Suspect Went to Church After Shooting

10/5/73

By Timothy S. Robinson  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Tyrone Marshall attended a lecture at the Founding Church of Scientology on 19th Street NW about three hours after he allegedly shot and robbed Sen. John C. Stennis (D-Miss.), government witnesses said yesterday.

Marshall is on trial on eight charges connected with the Jan. 30 shooting, including armed robbery and attempting to kill a member of Congress.

One witness, Michael Ginyard, testified Wednesday that when Marshall later bragged

about his participation in the Stennis shooting, he also said that he went to a "rap" drug counseling house that same night. A "rap" facility is located about one-half block from the scientology church.

Other witnesses yesterday included a ballistics expert who testified that the bullets removed from Sen. Stennis were fired from a gun similar to the one the government contends that it has linked to Marshall.

Officials of the scientology church testified throughout most of the day to show how

Marshall and two other persons charged in the Stennis shooting were "body-routed" into the church that night.

That term, scientology member Carla Smith explained, means that the three persons were personally solicited on the street, informed about the church and agreed to attend a lecture there.

She said the three persons—Marshall, his brother, John S., and Derick Holloway—were in a car on 19th Street NW when she walked up to them and told them about the church.

They agreed to attend the church. Once inside, the three men signed at least three different forms—including one saying they would begin taking a "communications" course there—and John Marshall donated 55 cents to the organization, witnesses said.

Scientology members said their records and recollections indicate the three men were at the church at about 10:30 that night. Stennis was shot in front of his home at 3609 Cumberland St. NW at about 7:45 p.m.

Earlier yesterday, FBI agent Cortlandt Cunningham testified that he had conducted ballistics tests on the gun allegedly used in the shooting.

He said the bullets removed from the senator and the ones he test-fired from the gun had many of the same characteristics, but that it was impossible to say positively that the gun placed in evidence was the gun used in the shooting.