

Racial Murder Suspect Is Booked in Westwego

Accused Said to Have Nazi-Type Connections

A Westwego man, identified as a member of two Nazi-type white racist organizations, was in custody of Jefferson parish authorities Monday for the June 17 murder of a Negro Westwego man.

The suspect was identified by a spokesman for Sheriff Alwyn J. Cronvich as Norman Bryant Egan, 36, of 1218 Ave. ...

The spokesman also released an out-of-town address for Egan: 3023-14th st. N.W., Washington, D.C.

Egan was arrested early Saturday and was recognized as fitting the description of the suspect by Dets. Richard Rodrigue and August Calverio of the sheriff's homicide division.

The suspect had been sought for the fatal shooting the night of June 17 of Willie Dabney, 32, of 211 Puddle Lane, outside the Happy Hour Bar at 7501 Fourth St. in Marrero. Dabney died at West Jefferson General Hospital the next morning.

The Jefferson detectives were told by Washington, D.C., police that Egan was known to have attended meetings in that area of organizations said to be offshoots of the American Nazi Party; the National Socialist White People's Party and the National Socialist White Party.

Police said a search of Egan's possessions turned up two cards bearing swastikas and



NORMAN BRYANT EGAN

the name of the National Socialist White People's Party and the telephone number of a "White Power Message".

At the request of the sheriff's office, the Times-Picayune in June held back on publication of the news of Dabney's murder to aid in the investigation.

Monday a sheriff's spokesman recounted how the murder occurred, and incidents leading to Egan's arrest Saturday.

Just prior to 7:30 p.m. June 17, the time of the shooting, Dabney was using a public telephone on the outside wall of the Happy Hour Bar. An unidentified white man was waiting to use the telephone when a second white man, believed to have been Egan, came out of the bar,

paced up and down, then got in sheriff's spokesman said.

The man in the car called the first white man to him and asked if he was waiting to use the telephone. The man replied that he was, but that it "looks like I won't get to use it."

"You will, you will," said the man in the car, alleged to have been Egan.

After noticing an automatic pistol on the floor of the car, the first man told detectives, he turned around and walked into the bar. Once inside, he heard three shots. When he rushed outside he found Dabney shot in the stomach and left leg, and the man in the car was gone.

The third shot was found to have ricocheted off a car, the

booked him for carrying a concealed weapon at the West Bank lockup of the sheriff's office, where Egan caught the attention of detectives Rodrigue and Claverio. They booked him additionally with aggravated assault, and after further investigation, with murder.

Search warrants were obtained and a .22 caliber automatic pistol, believed to be the murder gun, were found at Egan's Westwego home. The party literature, and discharged .22 caliber shell casings were found in Egan's car, the sheriff's spokesman said.

The murder victim, the sheriff's spokesman said, was the father of seven children and was a 15-year employee of the H. C. Price Co., a Harvey pipeline firm.

At 6 a.m. Saturday, Westwego patrolmen Merlin Smith and Raymond Orgeron received a complaint that a man was pointing a pistol at patrons of the Fisherman's Paradise Inn at 375 Louisiana St. in Westwego.

At the bar, a dark complexioned white man told the two patrolmen that Egan had held a gun on him and told him to take off his hat.

Smith and Orgeron arrested Egan and took a .22-caliber revolver from his pocket. They