

# FBI Man Tells How He Posed as Vet, Met Thevis

**Suspect Is Accused of Supplying Smut**

An agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation testified Tuesday in Federal Court that he posed as a discharged Air Force veteran interested in opening an adult book store in order to make contact with an Atlanta man accused of being a major supplier of obscene books and movies.

The testimony was given by agent Harold B. Hughes, who began an investigation of adult book stores in New Orleans in January, 1970.

Being tried before a jury in Judge Herbert W. Christenberry's section of Federal District Court are:

Michael Thevis, Atlanta, Ga., alleged owner and operator of Peachtree National Distributors, Inc.; Peachtree News, Inc.; and Pendulum Books, Inc.

Robert Mitchum and Frederick Lund, allegedly operators of New Orleans Book Mart, 131 Rampart; the St. Peter Street Book Store, 730 St. Peter; and the Broad Street Book Mart, 205 S. Broad.

The New Orleans Book Mart, corporate defendant, they are caused with shipping causing the interstate shipment of obscene material.

**THREE CHARGES**  
Specifically involved in three separate indictments which have been consolidated for trial are eight magazines and one roll of film.

Hughes testified that his in-

vestigation began as the result of a complaint from a shipping company after a carton of the alleged obscene material was broken into while in shipment.

The investigation then led him to a large distributing company in Slidell, the Delta Distributing Company, where he saw Lund loading "nude movie machines" into a truck which he followed to the Broad Street

Book Mart and where they were unloaded.

Later, he testified, he met Lund and introduced himself as a discharged Air Force veteran interested in the adult book business.

Hughes told the court that Lund then told him that the movie machines were owned by Peachtree News and that he (Lund) was connected with a

"large outfit."

While this conversation was in progress, Hughes added, Thevis appeared on the scene and indicated to him that he was connected with Pendulum Books and could supply him with movie machines and books and that the financial split would be 50-50.

Hughes testified that Thevis told him that he owned book

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stores in the Gulfport-Biloxi, Miss., area and in Lauderdale Beach, Fla.

**'SMALLER FELLOWS'**  
The agent said that he arrested Thevis on April 17, 1970, after an indictment was returned and that while being transported in an FBI car Thevis said "I thought you would go after some of the smaller fellows. I didn't think the government would go after me because I put up such a big fight."

Later in the day two other agents, Dennis Paul Eric and

Christian Dauwalder, under questioning by Asst. U.S. Attys. Julian R. Murray and Michael Ellis, told of observing shipments being received by the New Orleans book stores from Peachtree News.

They also testified that they bought the books and the film cited in the indictment.

The defendants are being represented by Darryl Tschirn, Michael Silver and Robert E. Smith.

The trial is expected to take about a week.