

S-1 6-17-69

Suspect Placed In Slaying Area At Miss. Trial

LAUREL, Miss. (AP)—Two state witnesses testified today they saw Andre Hendry in the area where a special guard was shot to death during Masonite Corp. strike violence two years ago.

J. W. Windham, who was on strike at the time, and Dewey Lee, a Laurel policeman, both testified they saw Hendry in the vicinity of the union hall.

The hall, located just off the Masonite property, is about 100 yards from the spot on the plant property where the body of Robert Billiot, the special guard, was found Aug. 14, 1967.

BOTH WINDHAM and Lee said they heard what they thought were shotgun blasts in the area that night.

"We had reports of some shooting in the vicinity of the union hall," Lee said. "There had been shootings around the area all night. We saw a group of men walking around."

Lee said the group included Hendry, a Waynesboro man, who was out on strike at the time.

Late yesterday, H. T. Richardson, former chief of security for Masonite, testified he paid \$20,000 for a tape recording of a voice, identified as that of Hendry, saying he had killed Billiot.

RICHARDSON SAID the payment was made to Jesse White, one of the men called to testify later.