

Trial Starts ^{S-1} ₆₋₂₋₆₉ In Masonite Guard Killing

LAUREL, Miss. (AP)—Andre Hendry, 30-year-old Waynesboro man, faced trial today on charges of murder in the ambush killing of a guard during the 1967 Masonite Corp. strike here.

Hendry was one of two men indicted in the shotgun death of Robert Billiott, 23, 4025 Cottonwood dr., Marrero, a guard on patrol at the plant during the strike.

V. L. Lee, 44, of Laurel, was also indicted, but Dist. Atty. Harold Odom passed Lee's case to the files.

The state subpoenaed 49 witnesses and the defense 51 for the trial before Circuit Court Judge Lunsford Casey.

When a preliminary hearing was held for the two men before Justice of the Peace R. E. Parker at Laurel in 1967, a tape recording was heard. It was identified as a conversation between Henry and Jesse White of Laurel, who was linked with the Ku Klux Klan in earlier court cases.

In the recording, the voice identified as Hendry's admitted shooting Billiott and being part of a group that dynamited a Gulf, Mobile and Ohio railroad trestle in July.

The man identified as Henry said he was squatting behind a car and that Lee told him to shoot the guard in the leg but that he replied: "Hell, no. I'm going to shoot him in the brain."