

Georgia to Extradite Ex-Klansman Charged in Black Church Bombing

Special to The New York Times

ATLANTA, Dec. 2—Gov. George Busbee today signed an extradition warrant ordering J.B. Stoner, the head of the National States Rights Party, a Georgia-based white supremacist group, to stand trial in Alabama on a charge of bombing an unoccupied black church in Birmingham in 1958.

The Governor signed the extradition order, requested by Gov. George C. Wallace of Alabama, on the recommendation of his legal counsel after a hearing Wednesday.

At the hearing, Mr. Stoner offered no oral argument but relied instead on a written statement in which he contended that he was not the J.B. Stoner named in the indictment, that he was not in Alabama at the time of the bombing and that the extradition papers were not properly drawn.

Governor Rejects His Arguments

In signing the order, Governor Busbee rejected those arguments and the contentions of Mr. Stoner's lawyer, L.S. Cobb, that the Governor himself, rather than his counsel, should have presided at the hearing, and that Mr. Stoner should have been allowed to subpoena witnesses from Alabama.

The signing of the order is not the

last legal hurdle that must be cleared before Mr. Stoner goes on trial on the bombing charge, a capital crime in Alabama because the explosion occurred near occupied dwellings.

Mr. Stoner has already filed a habeas corpus petition in Cobb County, where he is a resident, and argument is to be heard Dec. 20, before Superior Court Judge Howell C. Ravan.

After a ruling there, Mr. Stoner will have the option of appealing to the Georgia Supreme Court.

Chambliss Convicted in Bombing

An Alabama jury has convicted Robert Chambliss, a 73-year-old former member of the Ku Klux Klan, in the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Baptist Church in Birmingham that killed four black teen-age girls. He was sentenced to life imprisonment.

In response to Governor Busbee's action, Mr. Cobb said that he had expected the extradition order to be signed and that he would continue to fight it. "Mr. Stoner plans to spend Christmas in Georgia this year," he said, "and next Christmas too."

After the hearing Wednesday, Mr. Stoner said that he planned to continue "going about my business of promoting white racism."