

TARRANTS JURY PICK CONTINUES

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Accused 'Must Die,' D.A.
Warner Says

By LEROY MORGANTI

MERIDIAN, Miss. (AP)—The selection of a jury continued into the night here Monday to hear the case of Thomas Albert Tarrants III, charged with trying to bomb the home of a Meridian Jewish businessman. Dist. Atty. George Warner told prospective jurors "the state of Mississippi says Tarrants must die."

The first day of the trial had seen a series of motions by the defense to void the list of prospective jurors and declare a mistrial following remarks by Warner and Circuit Judge Lester Williamson.

Defense attorney Thomas Haas of Mobile made his first motions after the statement by Warner saying that the state would seek the death penalty for
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JURY SELECTION BEGINS IN CASE

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the 23-year-old Mobile, Ala., man.

A remark by Judge Williamson during instructions to a prospective juror brought still other mistrial and venire change motions by Haas. The judge told the venireman "you do not expect a crazy man to unlawfully, willingly and feloniously do anything."

Williamson made the remark while instructing the prospective juror about how he would

react if the question of insanity was brought out in the case, and if in the juror's opinion, the state had not proved that the defendant was sane at the time of the alleged occurrence.

In the morning session, Haas had requested a change of trial site and that the venire list be voided because only 47 of 100 called showed up in the courtroom.

Judge Williamson denied all defense motions and said the

court would not adjourn until a jury was selected.

Tarrants entered a plea of innocent by virtue of insanity when arraigned last Monday on the attempted bombing charge, which can carry a death penalty. He also is charged with three counts of attempted murder resulting from the bomb attempt and a gunbattle with police after the effort was thwarted.

Tarrants was wounded and a companion, Mrs. Kathy Ainsworth of Jackson, was killed during the nighttime gun battle. Wounded were policeman J. M. Hatcher and bystander Robert E. Burton.

The bomb attempt occurred as 15 policemen were staked out at the home of Meyer Davidson, 51, who had led a drive to raise \$75,000 to be offered as a reward for information on the bombing of Temple Beth Israel in Meridian earlier in the year.

ORDERED TO STOP

Police said a man with a box of 29 dynamite sticks, with a timing device, had stopped his car and walked toward the Davidson home.

When ordered to stop, he drew a pistol and fled to his car. Police followed and forced the fleeing auto off the road. In the shootout which followed, Tarrants, Hatcher and Burton, who had just stepped out the front door of his home, suffered wounds.

Later police found 26-year-old Mrs. Ainsworth, a Jackson schoolteacher, dead on the floorboard of the car.

When Tarrants was arraigned, his lawyers sought to have the trial moved on grounds pretrial publicity had been prejudicial. Williamson overruled this motion.