

willingly."

LORE SCOTT 26

Klansman-Convict

Now a Christian

Thomas Albert Tarrants III, 21, white male. Ku Klux Klansman. Self-proclaimed guerrilla fighter. Tried to bomb home of Jewish merchant. Pleaded insanity. Sentenced to 30 years. Escaped. Recaptured.

Thomas Albert Tarrants III, 29. Accepted for college study at Rutgers, Earlham and Duke. Speaker to youth groups. Trusted prisoner. No visible mental disorders. Self-professed Christian.

"I realized in 1970 that I had never been saved. I was so deep in that Klan stuff that I had been brainwashed," Tarrants said in an interview at a Mississippi state prison.

The other side of Tarrants unfolded on June 30, 1968. He attempted to place a bomb at the home of Meyer Davidson, a prominent Jewish business leader in Meridian, Miss.

The attempt was preceded by terrorist bombings, threats and other incidents in the area. It was foiled by a police stakeout at the Davidson residence. Tarrants was apprehended after a gun battle. A young female companion was killed in the shooting. Three persons — Tarrants, a policeman and a bystander — were wounded.

Tarrants was sentenced to 30 years in prison and, after attempting escape in 1969, spent three years in maximum security.

*M. R. B. m.
Henry*