

THE STATES-ITEM

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10 Cent

EDWARDS?

Man Seized in B.R.

PLOT TO MURDER

Federal authorities are investigating a possible plot against Gov.-elect Edwin W. Edwards in connection with an armed man arrested yesterday in Baton Rouge.

U.S. Attorney Gerald Gallinghouse said his office is "very concerned" with the circumstances surrounding the arrest of Robert Harvey Blanton, 22, at Ryan Airport.

Gallinghouse said no direct threat to Edwards was involved but confirmed that Blanton was in possession of a card containing the names of Edwards and Delpit, a black city councilman in Baton Rouge.

THE CARD ALSO contained a reference to a car fitting the description of one used by Edwards, Gallinghouse said.

Blanton was being held under \$100,-

000 bond on alleged violations of the federal Gun Control Act.

Blanton, who told authorities he has resided in Baton Rouge off and on during the last 16 years, was arrested yesterday when he arrived at Ryan Airport with a bag containing a pistol, a scope and a silencer.

The case is under investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Attorney's office and the Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division of the Internal Revenue Service.

The \$100,000 bond was imposed on Blanton by U.S. Magistrate Leon Herbert at the request of the U.S. Attorney.

Federal officials said that Blanton was also found to be in possession of a large amount of stock certificates and bonds which have also been seized and are being checked. A federal offi-

cial said "other contraband material" also was found.

THE EAST Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office said it had not been notified of Blanton's arrest.

Edwards said he learned of the arrest today from a newsman and still has not been officially notified of the incident.

According to a federal official, Blanton first came to the attention of Ryan Airport security guards when he left a bag at the airport. In seeking to identify the owner of the bag, security guards discovered the pistol, scope and silencer. At that point, federal authorities were summoned.

No date for a further hearing in the case has been set. Blanton is currently being held in the custody of federal officials in Baton Rouge.

8 march 72

Pellet Hits Edwards' Window

CROWLEY, La. (AP) — A bullet-like projectile apparently from a pellet-rifle, was fired through the window of the building housing the law firm of Gov.-elect Edwin Edwards, sheriff's officers said today.

A hole was left in the window, investigators said, but the glass did not shatter. There were no injuries and no arrests.

Authorities were searching for a suspect.

The incident came two days after federal agents arrested a man in Baton Rouge in connection with an alleged plot to assassinate Edwards. However Sheriff Elton Arceneaux of Acadia Parish said there was no apparent connection between the two incidents.

Arceneaux said the projectile went through the front window of the building shortly before noon, shattered and fell on the floor.

Mrs. Penny Clements, a secretary in the office, was at the front office desk when she heard the impact, the sheriff said. She said she did not see anyone with a weapon nor did she hear gunfire.

The sheriff said fragments of the projectile were being sent to the FBI for identification.