

WXPost
4 Say Suspect Bragged
About Shooting Stennis

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Four of Tyrone Marshall's street-corner friends testified yesterday that the 19-year-old suspect in the shooting of Sen. John C. Stennis (D-Miss) bragged to them about his participation in the incident.

These confessions from Marshall came in such diverse locations as the Psychedelic Haven Record Shop and the Turkey Thicket playground near 12th and Monroe Streets NE, the witnesses said. Marshall lives nearby.

But whether Marshall prefaced his remarks with a warning that they should not be repeated, or uttered them as outright boasts, three of the four witnesses agreed that the defendant had told them that he had shot the senator. The fourth testified only that Marshall said the senator had been shot.

In the words of one, Michael Ginyard, 19, Marshall is reported to have said: "I shot the dude," a reference to Stennis.



SEN. JOHN C. STENNIS
... his shooting described

The admissions came at various times between the shooting on Jan. 30 and the arrest in the case on March 12, the witnesses said.

The testimony came on the second day of the trial of Marshall, who is charged with

See STENNIS, A7, Col. 1

STENNIS, From A1

eight offenses in the shooting of the 72-year-old senator.

The government put 10 witnesses on the stand, intermingling the testimony of Marshall's contemporaries with that of the doctor who examined Stennis on the night of the shooting and several persons called to show how the gun allegedly used in the shooting came from a federally licensed gun store in LaGrange, Ga., to Northeast Washington.

The jury also heard the testimony of John Thomas, a D.C. sanitation department employee who happened to overhear a sidewalk argument between the defendant and his wife. In that argument, the jury was told, Marshall was accused by his wife of shooting the senator.

Marshall did not deny the allegation at the time, Thomas said, but merely stepped back and told his wife: "You crazy. That (meaning Thomas) might be the police you tellin' that to."

The testimony was allowed by U.S. District Judge Joseph C. Waddy over the vigorous objections of defense attorney R. Kenneth Mundy, who contended that it was hearsay and violated the husband-wife privilege. Marshall's wife, Deborah, is not expected to testify for the latter reason.

The street acquaintances of Marshall who were brought to the stand by the government yesterday began with Emmett Howard, 18, of 1341 Kearney St. NE. He identified Tyrone Marshall as a "good friend."

He said that on the day after the shooting of Stennis, he was in the Psychedelic Haven, and Marshall was sitting on a soft drink dispensing machine there.

"He said the night before, him and J. B. (Marshall's brother John, who has pleaded guilty in the shooting) approached this man and asked him for his wallet and he started hollering and carrying on and he shot him," Howard said.

"Who shot him?" asked Assistant U.S. Attorney Steven W. Grafman.

"Tyrone," Howard replied.

Howard said further that Marshall described his victim as a senator and offered to show him the gold pocket watch the man had surrendered in the robbery. Stennis testified Tuesday that he had been robbed of a gold pocket watch, a Phi Beta Kappa key and 35c in change.

On cross-examination, Howard was asked why he had denied knowing anything about the incident when he was interviewed by FBI agents two days after Marshall's arrest.

"I didn't want to get involved," Howard said. He later testified before a grand jury investigating the shooting.

George Hutchinson, 19, of 1026 Otis St. NE, said he had an "all right" relationship with Marshall and knew him from various hangouts on 12th Street NE.

About a week after the Stennis shooting, he said he and Marshall were walking home from one of the hangouts through the Turkey Thicket playground when Marshall turned to him.

"He told me he was going to tell me something but he wanted me to promise not to tell nobody. He told me he had dealt with the senator who had got robbed and shot," Hutchinson said.

"What did he say when you asked him why he did it?" prosecutor Grafman asked.

"He just laughed," Hutchinson replied. Hutchinson also said Marshall offered to show him the watch taken in the robbery.

Ginyard, of 1624 Buchanan St. NE, said that Marshall told him about his participation in the shooting while they were in a car near 12th and Monroe Streets NE. Ginyard said he also kept the gun allegedly used in the robbery for a short period of time.

Otto Brocks, 19, of 3006 12th St. NE, also described Marshall as a "friend," and said he knew him from the 12th and Monroe Streets "social area." Brocks said Marshall told him on the street corner late one night about a week after the shooting that he, his brother and Derick (Holloway, also charged in the case) had "pulled a hustle." He later described that as being street language for robbing someone.

"Did he tell you what happened to the man at the time of the hustle?" Grafman asked.

"He said the man was shot," Brocks said. Brocks also said the gun allegedly used in the robbery, which he identified as the one the government had placed in evidence, was in his possession for a short time.

According to testimony yesterday, the gun was purchased in LaGrange, Ga., from a combination general store-gunshop. Its sale was traced through federal gun registration forms to Tommy Lewis Thornton, who lives in LaGrange.

Thornton testified that he bought the gun for his cousin, John Webster, of 5027 South Dakota Ave. NE, who was visiting him there.

Webster testified that he brought the gun to Washington last August and sold it to Holloway for \$40 in mid-January. Holloway lives at 5007 South Dakota Ave. NE.

Holloway, who was jailed Tuesday for refusing to testify as a government witness after being granted immunity, was formally indicted on criminal contempt of court charges yesterday.