

Youth Pleads Guilty In Stennis Shooting

Washington

A black youth on trial for shooting Senator John C. Stennis in a holdup pleaded guilty yesterday after learning an alleged accomplice was going to testify against him.

Government attorneys had said they could prove Tyrone I. Marshall, 19, shot Stennis (Dem-Miss.) twice with a borrowed gun.

Marshall, one of three black youths charged with critically wounding and robbing Stennis, then 71, at his home last January 30, told U.S. District Judge Joseph C. Waddy Jr. there was "too much evidence" against him.

Waddy, over government protests, allowed Marshall to plead guilty to the eight charges in an indictment without admitting he had actually committed the crimes. He was held for pre-sentence investigation.

Another defendant, Derick Holloway, also 19, had been jailed for contempt for refusing to testify last week despite an offer of limited immunity, meaning nothing he said in court could be used against him.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Steve Grafman said Holloway agreed to testify after this was changed to total immunity, meaning he cannot even be tried.

With Holloway's testimony, Grafman told the court, the government could prove Tyrone Marshall shot Stennis with Holloway's gun while Marshall's brother, John S. Marshall, beat him with a stick.

According to Grafman, Holloway said the three rode

throughout northwest Washington and into Bethesda, Md., looking for someone to hold up.

They turned in the quiet street Stennis lives on intending to hold up an elderly woman, but she entered her home too quickly, Grafman said. Then Stennis drove up.

"Let's get him." Tyrone Marshall was quoted as saying. Holloway, according to Grafman, said he drove on ahead and waited while the Marshalls got out.

Holloway said he heard two shots and the brothers ran up to the car saying, "Take off."

Tyrone Marshall then said, according to this account, "The old man was making too much noise and

I had to shoot him," and J. B. Marshall was quoted as saying, "Yeah, I had to hit him."

When Holloway, a sanitation worker, heard a radio report the next day that the victim had been Stennis he telephoned the Marshalls, Grafman said.

"You know you shot a senator?" Holloway said.

It was at this point that Tyrone Marshall allegedly said, "So what the ---, he's just a white man." Grafman also quoted Holloway as saying Marshall "just laughed."

John Marshall, 22, had pleaded guilty earlier, also without admitting a actual guilt, and is awaiting sentence.

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