Rockwell Killer's Conviction Is Upheld By Virginia Court

RICHMOND, Nov. 30 (UPI)— The Virginia Supreme Court upheld Monday the conviction

The Virginia Supreme Court upheld Monday the conviction and 20-year prison sentence of John Patler for the slaying in 1967 of George Lincoln Rockwell, the American Nazi party leader.

Rockwell was shot Aug. 25, 1967, from a rooftop as he got into his car at an Arlington shopping center. He lurched out of the car, pointed at the roofline and then died on the right rear fender of his automobile.

Patler was arrested nearby a short time later. A 12-inch Mauser pistol was found in a creek the next day between the shopping center and the site of the arrest.

Patler had been a member of the Nazi party since 1960 but argued frequently with Rockwell. Patler was ousted by Rockwell on March 30, 1967, as editor of the party newspaper and on April 4 was ousted from the party.