

A Hijacker Who Cited Insanity Admits Having Used 10 Aliases

By ROBERT LINDSEY

The man who says he hijacked a trans World Airlines jet last Jan. 29 because he has a Jekyll-Hyde split personality admitted on the witness stand yesterday that he had used 10 different aliases during his life.

The defendant, 34-year-old Garrett Brock Trapnell, is being tried for hijacking before Federal District Judge George Rosling in Brooklyn. He has admitted the crime—during which he sought unsuccessfully to extort \$306,800 from the airline but pleaded ot guilty by reason of insanity.

Names From Background File

His lawyers, through testimony from a number of psychiatrists and Trapnell, have sought to prove that he has paranoid schizophrenia. He claims that his mind was overtaken during the hijacking by a person called "Gregg Ross," and that it was "Ross," not himself, who was consciously responsible for the crime.

During testimony on Monday, Dr. David Abrahamsen, a Manhattan psychiatrist who testified for the Government, said he believed that Trapnell had learned how to mimic the symptoms of such a disorder and had successfully evaded prison after many arrests by talking himself into mental institutions.

In yesterday's proceeding, Peter R. Schlam, an assistant United States attorney, called Trapnell to the stand and, reading from a thick file of back-

ground material on the defendant, recited 10 names and asked whether he had ever used them. His apparent purpose was to discredit Trapnell's contention that he was haunted by a single "other" personality.

Trapnell admitted that he had taken out driver's licenses in California under two names—James Brock Garreti and James W. Stuart—and had used a number of other aliases, including Gregg Ross. Mr. Schlam implied that some of the aliases had been used in the commission of other crimes, but he did not explicitly mention how and why Trapnell had used them.

Trapnell was asked by Judge Rosling whether, when he used such names, he thought he had "another personality," or whether they were assumed for a "specific purpose." He replied: "The doctors explained to me later . . ." The judge interrupted him, saying that he wanted to know Trapnell's reason, and the defendant paused and said finally: "I don't know."

Lawyers in the case are scheduled to begin their final arguments this morning. The case is now in its fifth week according to one Justice Department source, the trial has already cost the Government "well over \$100,000." The Government is paying for Trapnell's defense. Judge Rosling said he expected the case to go to the jury Thursday.