

**Jury Clears a Klan Leader  
Of Submachinegun Charge**

COLLINS, Miss., Jan. 18 (AP) —Samuel Holloway Bowers Jr. of Laurel, Miss., imperial wizard of the White Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, was cleared last night by a biracial jury of a charge of illegally possessing a submachine gun.

Buster Lott, a night marshal, arrested Bowers Dec. 21 after stopping a car, in which he was a passenger, for reckless driving.

Mr. Lott testified that a loaded submachinegun was covered with a sweater and Bowers was

sitting on top of it. Bowers told the court he did not know the weapon was in the car.

Bowers was recently sentenced to 10 years in prison following his conviction in Federal court on conspiracy linked to the slaying of three civil rights workers at Philadelphia, Miss. He is awaiting trial on a Federal conspiracy charge stemming from the firebombing death of a Negro leader at Hattiesburg.