

Klansman's Sentence Cut

JACKSON, Miss., Oct. 6 (AP) —The Governor of Mississippi has reduced the prison term of a self-acknowledged Ku Klux Klansman who was sentenced to 10 years in connection with the 1966 firebomb death of a Negro civil rights leader. Gov. John Bell Williams said yesterday he had reduced the 10-year arson term to five years to make Lawrence Byrd of Laurel eligible for parole.

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Jailed Klansman Is Paroled**Jackson, Miss.**

A self-acknowledged Ku Klux Klansman sentenced to ten years in prison for arson in the 1966 firebomb death of a Negro civil rights leader has been paroled after Governor John Bell Williams reduced his prison term to five years

to make him eligible for parole.

A spokesman for Williams said Tuesday the governor reduced the sentence of Lawrence Byrd of Laurel, Miss., at the request of the State Probation and Parole Board, which approved Byrd's parole September 28.

He was freed the next day.

The executive officer of the parole board said yesterday he does not sit in on the board's deliberations and did not know the basis for the parole. The board chairman was not immediately available for comment.

Associated Press