

# Prison Doctors Check Marcello

By CHARLES ZEWE

Carlos Marcello was given a medical examination today in a federal prison at the start of a six-month jail term which may be cut short.

Staff physicians at the Springfield, Mo., federal medical center gave the 60-year-old racketeer a once-over to determine if he should be kept at the hospital facility or moved to a more "regular" prison.

Marcello reportedly was being confined in one of the facility's hospital wards and was examined by doctors early today. All prisoners are given similar examinations.

**HE ARRIVED AT** the sprawling center, located about 200 miles southeast of Kansas City, shortly before midnight to begin serving a six-month sentence for trying to punch an FBI agent. The high security center houses about 850 federal prisoners with medical and mental problems.

Charles Campbell, acting center director, said findings of the examinations on Marcello will not be disclosed, but it was possible he could be transferred from the hospital to another prison.

It's very possible, but not probable, he (Marcello) might be moved from Springfield if the examination finds him physically able to undergo prison

life," Campbell said, "but that's not likely because of the relatively short nature of his sentence."

Campbell said Marcello was processed quickly on arrival last night and is being given "altogether routine" treatment by prison officials.

**"WE'RE TREATING HIM** just like any other inmate," Campbell said.

Confined at the center are prisoners with sentences varying from several months to life imprisonment who were convicted for a wide variety of federal crimes. Campbell said prisoners such as Marcello who have short times to serve are segregated from prisoners with longer terms.

When Marcello stepped behind bars last night it was the first time he has gone to jail in more than 32 years.

Even as he spent his first full day in jail since 1938, when he was locked up for selling marijuana, Marcello's attorneys were pushing to get him out before his six-month term ends.

**SIX MOTIONS**, including one for a new trial, are pending before the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals. A set of similar motions were denied earlier by Houston federal district Judge John V. Singleton, the same judge who sentenced Marcello to jail, prompting appeal of the denial to the 5th Circuit. A favorable ruling on any one of the mo-

tions will spring Marcello from jail early.

A clerk in the appeals court offices said today the government must file an answer brief to the motions before a possible hearing date can be set.

Meanwhile, Marcello attorney Cecil M. Burglass Jr. said he expects the circuit court to hear arguments on the motions within three weeks and he feels confident the court will overturn the conviction.

"We'd like to have him home by Thanksgiving," said Burglass.

**MARCELLO'S IMPRISONMENT** yesterday ended four years of legal wranglings to keep him out of jail after he took a poke at FBI agent Patrick J. Collins Jr. at New Orleans International Airport in 1966.

He was convicted in 1968 of "intimidating" an FBI agent and sentenced to two years in jail. Last week Judge Singleton reduced the sentence to six months for a variety of reasons.

Marcello surrendered to U.S. Marshal O. L. Canion in New Orleans yesterday morning after the Supreme Court denied pleas to keep him free on bail until the 5th Circuit rules on his appeals.

He was kept confined at the marshal's office for the entire day until three deputies led him handcuffed onto a 6:30 p.m. Delta airlines flight for Springfield and imprisonment.