

'Just a Goon' For Partin --McClanahan

ATLANTA, Ga. (AP) — A witness testified today that he handled problems for Teamster boss Edward Partin with "whippings and shootings—or whatever was necessary."

"I was just one of the goons," testified former Teamster Wade McClanahan, who is being held in federal protective custody.

Partin, 46, business agent of Teamsters Local 5 in Baton Rouge, is accused of using physical violence, sabotage and labor trouble to harass competitors of a cement producer.

THE GOVERNMENT charges that the producer, Ted Dunham of Baton Rouge, paid Partin kickbacks. Partin is being tried on three counts of conspiracy to violate federal antitrust laws and two counts of extortion.

McClanahan was the government's 36th witness in the two-week-old trial.

He testified that he went to work for Partin in 1966 and his job consisted of "anything he asked me to do."

"I'd take care of problems and if somebody got out of line I'd take care of it with whippings, shootings or whatever was necessary," the heavy set six-footer testified.

"IF SOMEBODY wasn't doing just like we wanted them to do out there, I went right out to straighten this out," he said.

Partin, testified the witness, "knew I could take care of myself and didn't take no lip from no one."

He testified to breaking up a large amount of concrete pipe on orders from Partin. The pipe had been delivered to a construction job by one of Dunham's competitors, he said.

He described gathering up a group of Teamsters in 1968 and attacking a construction crew working on a project at Plaquemine, La. He said Partin told him to go to Plaquemine because the contractor on the job was using material supplied by a Dunham rival.

"**WE CHARGED** across this field and went to laying some whipping on them," McClanahan testified.

He said he was armed with a shotgun and "the first shot I fired, I was shooting at W. O. Bergeron."

Bergeron was the contractor on the job.

"A colored man got in the way and he lost his thumb. W. O. had a pistol and he was fixing to shoot ... but I hit him with a load of birdshot."

Meanwhile, he said, his Teamsters were "whipping up on a number of other people they had knocked into a ditch."

He said on the way back to Baton Rouge he was arrested and hauled to the sheriff's office where Bergeron identified him as the man who led the attack. He said he later was sentenced to two years in prison.