

Police Agent Jailed in Hobart Inquiry

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CANANDAIGUA, N. Y., July 24—Tommy the Traveler, an undercover agent for the Ontario County sheriff's office, is being held in jail in Canandaigua at the request of two special state prosecutors investigating student disorders on the Hobart College campus in Geneva.

Leon N. Armer, one of the prosecutors, said yesterday that he had requested the detainment of Tommy, whose name is M. L. Singkata Thomas Tongyai, because he was to be a key witness before a special grand jury and "he's been applying for jobs out of the state and we want him here."

Last month, Governor Rockefeller ordered a special inquiry into the tangle of charges, countercharges and litigation surrounding the campus disorders at Hobart in June.

Role as Agitator Charges

Some of the charges are that Mr. Tongyai, posing as an organizer for Students for a Democratic Society, incited campus violence by offering students bombs, guns and lessons in guerrilla tactics.

Besides Mr. Armer, the Governor named E. Garrett Cleary to direct the investigation, which also involves the convening of a special grand jury and an extraordinary term of State Supreme Court. Both men are former assistant district attorneys in Monroe County.

Supreme Court Justice T. Paul Kane, presiding over the special investigation, has set next Tuesday for drawing 36



Associated Press

M. L. Singkata Thomas Tongyai, known as "Tommy the Traveler," agent.

names to report on Aug. 13 for grand jury selection.

Yesterday, he acceded to Mr. Armer's and Mr. Cleary's request to have Mr. Tongyai detained in the county jail in the custody of Sheriff Ray Morrow, the man who hired him as a campus undercover agent.

Not Held in Cell

L. Edward Monaghan, an attorney for Mr. Tongyai, said that his client was a civil prisoner and was not confined to a cell.

He called Mr. Tongyai's detainment "unjust, unrealistic, and unconstitutional."

He added that if the \$7,500 bond set by Judge Kane could not be raised the judge's order would be appealed.

In addition to the charges that Mr. Tongyai fomented violence, the Governor's inquiry is expected to cover the following:

¶The precise terms of Mr. Tongyai's employment by Sheriff Morrow and clarification of a comment the Sheriff made that Mr. Tongyai had "come highly recommended."

¶Activities on the Hobart campus on the weekend of June 5-7 during which a narcotics raid grew into a confrontation between 50 policemen and 500 students when they learned of Mr. Tongyai's identity.

¶Charges that Mr. Tongyai had agitated on other campuses in the area.

¶Reports of damages to three police cars and reports that policemen were kept hostage in them by students.

¶Charges by townspeople of promiscuity and permissiveness on campus.

¶The propriety of the police in releasing five students arrested during the drug raid in an attempt to mollify the demonstrators.

¶The arrests after the drug raid of four students on rioting charges, including Rafael Martinez, a 37-year-old senior who has been involved in numerous demonstrations in New York City.

¶Whether haircuts and shaves given by the Sheriff's staff to three of the students arrested were harassment or a valid sanitary measure.