



UPI Telephoto

A laughing Marcus Chenault was led out of court after being sentenced

## Death Penalty Imposed On Mrs. King's Slayer

### Atlanta

Marcus Wayne Chenault was convicted yesterday and sentenced to die in the electric chair for the murder of Mrs. Martin Luther King Sr. and a church deacon last June.

Judge Luther Alverson set November 8 as the execution date for the 23-year-old black college student from Dayton, Ohio.

As the prosecutor read the death sentence to the court,

Chenault blew kisses at him.

Chenault was given the death sentence for Alberta King's death, another for Deacon Edward Boykin and ten years in prison for wounding a member of the congregation during services at Ebenezer Baptist Church here.

The jury found Chenault guilty after little more than an hour of deliberations. It decided on the death sentence in a later session.

Chenault's attorney said the sentences will be appealed.

After the judge pronounced sentence, Chenault addressed the court.

"My name is Servant Jacob. I was ordered here by my God, my father and my master," he said, grinning.

Under Georgia law the death penalty is automatically reviewed by the Georgia Supreme Court.

Earlier, when the jury convicted him, Chenault clapped his hands and threw kisses.

Chenault contended he was not guilty by reason of insanity.

His court-appointed attorneys claimed that he was "obsessed with hatred — hatred of black leaders, white people" and felt he was "ordained by God to commit these acts."

District Attorney Lewis Slaton said Chenault was not insane, but cunning.

"He's putting on an act," the prosecutor said of the continual courtroom antics that Chenault displayed during his four-day trial.

Associated Press