

2 Named in Jet Hijacking Are Detroit Rape Suspects

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DETROIT, Nov. 12—Two of the three men who have been identified as the hijackers of a Southern Airways jet to Cuba are suspected rapists who once sued the City of Detroit for \$4-million for alleged police brutality.

The two, Henry D. Jackson, 25 years old, and Lewis D. Moore, 27, also allegedly threatened Mayor Roman Gribbs and a newsman who interviewed them.

The third man, Melvin C. Cale, 21, who is a half-brother of Moore, is an escapee from a vocational release program at the Tennessee State Penitentiary in Nashville, where he was serving a five-year sentence for grand larceny.

Policemen, relatives, newsmen and lawyers here described Jackson and Moore as intelligent but highly disturbed.

Angered at Offer

Robert M. Cohn, a lawyer who once represented the two, said they had become angry when the city offered to settle their \$4-million suit for \$25.

"I argued with them at the time that we had no proof of any injuries and it was their word against the police," Mr. Cohn said. "But they said it was a matter of race, and they wanted the \$4-million, if not for themselves, then to be applied to improving the police so racism would end." All three of the accused men are black. "I believe they thought the law was too slow and hijacking was a faster way to get what they thought they deserved," Mr. Cohn said.

Jackson and Moore were arrested twice last month for assault with intent to rape and released both times on \$500 bond. At the time of the hijacking, they were being sought by the police for failing to show up at hearings on the charges.

Joanetta Greer, a Detroit policewoman who is familiar with the case, said the two men had "traveled as a team," dressed alike and even pretending to think alike. She said they were intelligent but made it clear that she considered them dangerous. Both were married and had no record of serious convictions, she said.

Threat to Mayor

Their frustration over their charge that the police had beaten them led Jackson to telephone The Detroit Free Press and announce that he was going to City Hall with a gun to deal with Mayor Gribbs on the matter.

Security officers talked Jackson into leaving City Hall, but a Free Press reporter who interviewed Jackson and Moore later quoted Jackson as saying: "If you don't believe me, I might as well kill you." The reporter quickly ended the interview.

In Knoxville, Tenn., William

V. Curd, 47 years old, a construction foreman who is the father of Cale and the stepfather of Moore, said the two were good boys who had gone wrong in the big city.

"The boys' mother and I were divorced in 1966, and she took them and went to Detroit," he said, adding that his son had adopted the mother's maiden name of Cale.

"They didn't give me a lot of trouble when they were growing up," Mr. Curd said. "I think they really went wrong when they hit the big city of Detroit."

'Didn't Want to Work'

"Melvin was once picked up and accused of stealing some sardines at a food market," he went on. "I later heard he was shot in a robbery in Detroit. He returned to Knoxville in 1968. He didn't want to work, so I told him to hit the road. He went into the Job Corps but didn't stay long. Then he volunteered for the Army, but his record was bad in there."

"Melvin was doing good on the work release project. I never figured he'd do a thing like this."

Mr. Curd said he had last seen Moore six or seven months ago when Moore visited Knoxville with a man known as Mr. Cool, who Mr. Curd believes was Jackson.

"The third man is the brains behind all this," Mr. Curd said.

Cale was convicted of grand larceny in Oliver Springs, Tenn., for the theft of \$400 from a department store cash register in December, 1970, according to a prison spokesman.

Robert Morford, deputy warden at the prison in Nashville, said Cale had been in the Army six months before receiving a medical discharge because of an old gunshot wound. A prison spokesman said Cale had served 13 months and 9 days of his five-year sentence and was attending classes at Tennessee State University on the work release program when he disappeared Oct. 29.

Cale's last address was listed as Oak Ridge, site of the atomic installation where the hijackers threatened yesterday to crash the plane. His wife, Betty, was at the airport at Knoxville during the tense moments when the plane was circling over the area.

"He's mental," she told a reporter there. She said she knew "why he did it" but would not elaborate.

Record Blue Marlin Caught

ROAD TOWN, Tortola, B.V.I. (UPI)—Elliott Fishman a visiting angler to the British Virgin Islands, recently caught a record-breaking 848-pound blue marlin. It took him 3 hours, 37 minutes to land his catch.