

Singer's 'Threat To LBJ'



—Associated Press Wirephoto.

PAUL M. BACK
"Even if I die"

MIAMI — (UPI) — Part-time folksinger Paul M. Back was ordered held for grand jury action yesterday on a charge of threatening to kill President Johnson.

Back's friend and fellow student, Reed Dennis Trencher, told U. S. Commissioner Roger E. Davis that Back told him about Oct. 12 that if Johnson "ever came to Miami, I would kill him for the good of the country, even if I had to give my life."

Davis ordered the 26 year old Back held for action by a Federal Grand Jury and continued his bond at \$25,000.

Back, a junior college student who plays the guitar and sings folk songs in coffeehouses on weekends, was arrested Saturday night on the eve of President Johnson's visit to downtown Miami.

Back sat through the hearing silently, wearing an open shirt and jacket.

Back's attorney, Kenneth Dinnerstein, argued that if the government plans an arrest on the basis of "every crank report, the jails aren't big enough."

Assistant U. S. Atty. Aaron Foosaner referred several times to the assassination of President Kennedy and said the federal government "has learned from its mistakes."

He indicated the government planned to seek a psychiatric examination for Back.

Trencher said Back's remark came during a calm discussion of politics and "I thought he was serious."

Trencher said that when he heard President Johnson was coming to Miami, he went to the FBI because Back "is, not was, my friend. We are still friends."