

Testimony Nearing End In Carter-Artis Trial

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PATERSON — Testimony in the first degree murder trial of Rubin (Hurricane) Carter and John Artis is expected to end today, the 29th day of their trial. As court ended yesterday codefense attorney Raymond A. Brown of Jersey City for Carter, ranking middleweight title contender, and Arnold M. Stein for Artis, former high school track star, said they had several more witnesses to call before ending their case.

Assistant Prosecutor Vincent E. Hull Jr., who ended the state's case Friday, said he

would have about four rebuttal witnesses afterwards.

Superior Court Judge Samuel A. Larner indicated summations would be tomorrow with his charge to the jury to follow.

Carter, 30, of 498 20th Ave., and Artis, 21, of 5 Tyler St., both of Paterson, are charged with shooting up the Lafayette Grill, 428 E. 18th St., Paterson, last June 17, killing two men instantly and causing the death of a woman as a result of the shooting.

Killed instantly were James Oliver, 52, who lived above the tavern where he was part owner

and bartender, and Fred Nauvoks, 66, of 89 Pompton Ave., Cedar Grove. Mrs. Hazel Tanis, 51, of 176 Lafayette Ave., Hawthorne, died on July 14. A fourth victim, William Marins, 43, of 225 Keen St., survived.

Artis Takes Stand

Yesterday Artis took the stand denying the charge. "I never shot anybody in my life," he said in a loud, clear voice. Dressed in a greenish-blue suit, with dark tie, Artis said he never owned a shotgun or pistol never had one in his possession and never was in the Lafayette Grill.

Artis, who will be 22 on Oct. 15, said he didn't know where the tavern was. During his direct testimony, Artis said he was at the Nite Spot, at E. 18th and Governor Streets about 2 a.m. when Carter called

wheel and John (Bucks) Royster, 27 1/2 Hamilton Ave., got in on the front passenger side.

Artis testified he was driving to Carter's home and was stopped by police on E. 28th Street, near 14th Avenue, where his license and registration were checked. He continued to Carter's home, where they remained briefly, then returned to the Nite Spot, Artis said.

Identifies Clothes

Artis identified a light blue, long-sleeved, knit shirt and a darker blue pair of trousers as the clothing he was wearing on June 17.

Hull questioned Artis about discrepancies in his testimony and the discrepancies were about time. Artis said he guessed at the times involved previously because he didn't have a watch with him that night.

He denied telling County Detective Lieutenant Vincent De Simone he was at the Nite Spot all night and contended he was questioned constantly by police on June 17.

Others testifying were: Merritt A. Wimberley Jr., 32, of 752 E. 27th St., Paterson, who corroborated Carter's previous testimony about being with him until approximately 2:30 a.m. on June 17.

Welton Deary, 338 Hamilton Ave., said he saw Carter in the Nite Spot at various times. Both Wimberley and Deary said they recalled seeing Carter in the tavern at 2 a.m. and 2:0 a.m.

The state contends the shooting occurred approximately 2:30

Also testifying was Joseph Peter Rush of Chatham, a U.S. Secret Service agent, who lives near Ehsan's Training Camp where Carter trains for his fights.

Rush said Carter's reputation, to his knowledge was good Chatham residents who know think highly of Carter.

During cross examination, Hull

a copy of the Saturday Evening Post from Oct. 24, 1964, in which Carter was alleged to have made comments about the Harlem and Paterson riots that August and getting guns and shooting policemen.

Judge Larner ruled the magazine article did not pertain to the case and ruled against its introduction.

Also testifying were Edward (Big Ed) Allen, 247 Governor St., Paterson, night bartender at the Nite Spot, who said he saw Carter about 2:15 a.m. or shortly thereafter at the tavern; Ehsan Karadag, 76, of Chatham, who operates the camp where Carter trains, saying Carter was well thought of.

Anthony Petronella, National Boxing Association president and chief of the World Boxing Association's ratings committee, said he only knew of Carter as having a good reputation. He appeared surprised when Hull asked him about knowing that Carter in 1957 was sentenced to 2 to 3 years in prison for robbery.

Others Testify

Also testifying about Carter's reputation was Mrs. Carmine (Nettie) Tedeschi, of Saddle Brook, wife of Carter's manager.

Gwendolyn High, 248 Autumn St., Passaic, corroborated Artis' statements about being with her until 11:30 p.m. on June 16 and William Hardy Jr. of Paterson testified he gave Artis and Miss High a ride to her home on June 16 about 9 p.m.

Nathan Sermond Jr., co-owner of the La Petite Club, Bridge Street, Paterson, who described himself as an advisor to Carter said he spoke with him about a pending fight in Argentina fought in Argentina.

Sam Skelly, Paterson Ten Owners Association president testified about his organization posting a \$500 reward for the rest and conviction of the ers.

Howard L. Bristow, clerk of the Paterson Board of Finance testified about a \$10,000 reward the city posted also. Both said the rewards are as yet claimed.