

Carter And Artis Get Life Terms

Murder Sentence Means Boxer Must Serve 30 Years

Middleweight boxer Rubin (Hurricane) Carter and John Artis, a former Paterson High School track star, were sentenced to life in prison this morning in Paterson by Superior Court Judge Samuel A. Lerner for murder.

They were convicted by an eight man-four woman jury on May 26 of the barroom slaying of two men and a woman last June 17.

Carter, 30, of 498 20th Ave., Paterson, was sentenced to two life terms and one concurrent term. It means he will be eligible for parole after serving at least 30 years in prison.

Artis, 31, of 5 Tyler St., Paterson, was sentenced to three concurrent life prison terms which means he will be eligible for parole after 14½ years in prison.

They were charged with slaying James Oliver, 52, who lived above the Lafayette Grill, 418 E. 18th St., Paterson, where the shooting occurred; Fred Nauyoks, 60, of 89 Pompton Ave. Cedar Grove, and Mrs. Haze Tanis, 51, of 176 Lafayette Ave. Hawthorne, patrons in the place

Verdict "Compromise"

Carter's attorney, Raymond A. Brown of Jersey City, argued for consideration by the court. He said to give Carter three consecutive life terms would "bury him for life." He said the jury in announcing its verdict did not indicate anything else but a single verdict. He called the verdict a "compromise."

Carter, his head shaved and his Van Dyke beard trimmed, was dressed in an olive green suit. He had nothing to say when asked by the court.

Arnold M. Stein, Artis' lawyer, pleaded for leniency by the court for his client, citing the lack of a previous record, good character and reputation in the community.

Artis was dressed in a bluish-green suit. He also remained silent.

"Fully Warranted"

Judge Lerner called the murder "cold-blooded" and said from his analysis the verdict was "fully warranted." He referred to Carter's prior convictions and said there was evidence of "clear-cut intent to kill every person in the tavern at the time."

Commenting on Artis, the judge called him a follower who had one character failing, fighting with those who opposed him. He told Artis if it had not been for Carter he would not have been involved.

No Demonstration

The courthouse area was filled with police and detectives to insure peace. There were persistent rumors of a possible demonstration. Of the 43 persons in the courtroom, there were 13 court employes, 16 court attendants, 10 members of the public including members of the defendant's families, and newsmen.

There was no trouble reported by police after the pair was taken to the county jail to be transferred later to state prison in Trenton.