

# Carter, Artis Are Denied <sup>3/4/70</sup> New Hearing <sub>NEWS</sub>

The U.S. Supreme Court has turned down petitions by two Paterson men to review their first degree murder convictions in connection with the killing of three persons in a Paterson tavern nearly four years ago.

The petitions for a new hearing were filed by Rubin Carter, former middleweight crown contender, and John Artis, former high school track star, both of Paterson.

Both were convicted by a Passaic County Court jury in 1967 after deliberations of nearly five hours. They were found guilty of shooting four persons at the Lafayette Grill, 425 E. 18th St., on June 17, 1966.

Murdered were George Oliver, 52, part owner and bartender who resided above the tavern; and two patrons, Mrs. Hazel Tanis, 51, of 176 Lafayette Ave., Hawthorne, and Fred Nauyoks, 60, of 89 Pompton Ave., Cedar Grove. A fourth victim, William Marins, was wounded.

The pair denied the charges but were found guilty. On June 29, 1967, they were sentenced by Superior Court Judge Samuel A. Larner to serve life terms in State Prison.

According to Assistant Passaic County Prosecutor Archibald S. Kreiger who opposed the applications, the court ruled it could find nothing in the records to warrant a review of the case. The defendants contended the evidence at the trial did not warrant convictions and two prosecution witnesses lied to win favor from the state because they were burglarizing a factory near the tavern when the fatal shooting occurred. They pointed out the two witnesses were not indicted for the attempted burglary.

Judge Larner sentenced Carter to two life terms and Artis to one life term.

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3-4-70**