

2 Testify Boy Slain by Police Was Fleeing

Didn't See Victim
Brandish Knife,
Sergeants Say

Two Capitol Hill police sergeants testified today that a 16-year-old boy was running away when he was shot to death by another member of the force.

The two also said at an inquest into the death of Henry Allen Tucker, that they did not see the boy brandish a knife with which Pvt. Gregory M. LaCoss said he was threatened before he fired.

Young Tucker was shot in the back of the head from a distance of about 20 feet in a park across from the Senate Office Building early today. Pvt. LaCoss said the boy was clutching a pocket knife with a 4-inch blade.

Viewed From Squad Car

Sergt. Edward Palamara, who was sitting in a squad car which responded to a report that a boy was molesting a girl in the park, said he saw Pvt. LaCoss run, and did not see the knife until Pvt. LaCoss told him he had found it near the body.

Sergt. Harley Hylton, who first had seen the disturbance and called for help, said he also saw the victim running when he was shot. Sergt. Hylton was on duty in front of the Senate Office Building.

Pvt. LaCoss, 30, of Fairfax, Va., was suspended pending outcome of the inquest.

Officials Describe Incident

Earlier, Capt. Lawrence Hartnett, head of the District police homicide squad, and Capitol Police Chief Robert C. Pearce gave this account of the shooting:

About 12:30 a.m., Hylton observed a disturbance among a group of people in the park. A male appeared to be forcing a girl to accompany him.

He notified Capitol Police headquarters, and a squad car with Pvt. LaCoss, Pvt. Harry Myers and Sergt. Palamara arrived shortly afterward.

Pvt. LaCoss got out of the car, and as he approached the struggling couple, the boy released the girl and began to run away.

Ordered to Halt

Pvt. LaCoss ordered him to halt. He did. When he turned around he had an object in his hand, and he made a threatening gesture toward the policeman, the police officials said.

The officer fired one shot, they said, and just as he fired, the boy turned around, so that the bullet struck him in the back of his head.

He fell on the edge of the sidewalk, across from the Plaza



SUSPENDED IN SHOOTING—Pvt. Gregory M. LaCoss of the Capitol police, who was suspended today in the shooting of 16-year-old Henry Allen Tucker.—Star Staff Photo.



HENRY ALLEN TUCKER
Slain by Policeman

Hall Quits Race For Governor

Rockefeller Seen
As G. O. P. Choice

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 18
(AP)—With Leonard W. Hall out, Nelson A. Rockefeller appeared certain today to be the Republican candidate for Governor of New York. Some G. O. P. leaders moved to persuade Mr. Hall to run for the Senate.

However, one close associate expressed doubt that he would Mr. Hall, describing himself