

Chessman Pushes Legal Struggle To Avoid Death

Los Angeles — (AP) — Caryl Chessman, condemned red light bandit who has spent nearly 10 years in death row, returns to court today to carry on his legal struggle to avoid the gas chamber.

The 36-year-old convict-author, condemned to death in 1949 on charges of kidnapping and raping two young women, tangled in court Wednesday with the prosecutor who helped convict him, Deputy District Attorney J. Miller Leavy. **Seeks To Show Bias**

In an angry session with Leavy on the witness stand, Chessman—acting as his own attorney—framed question after question in an apparent attempt to show that the prosecutor had been too "biased and prejudiced" to handle the case objectively.

Leavy charged that he had not used all the evidence at the prosecution's disposal in the first trial and under Chessman's challenge to "tell everything" told of a girl named "Sylvia."

The prosecutor said officers had advised him that "Sylvia," whose last name he did not know, had been attacked by Chessman in some isolated spot. He said use of the woman's testimony would have further shown Chessman's guilt.

Could Prove Innocence
Chessman implied that "Sylvia," who he indicated was a prostitute, could have proved that he was not the red light bandit who preyed on lover's lanes in the guise of an official.

The dark-haired convict charged that Leavy had "repeatedly relied on representations of other persons" and "had a fixed opinion in the case."

Leavy said he felt the defendant was guilty because the evidence indicated he was and that was the reason he asked for the death penalty. However, he added:

"I have not personal animosity against you (Chessman)."

Chessman, who has been in death row longer than any other person in U.S. history, won a hearing last June on the transcript of his 1948 trial.

Pilots Threaten Strike Deadline

Chicago — (AP) — The Air Line Pilots association (AFL-CIO) has threatened to set a strike deadline in its dispute with Western Airlines.

President Clarence N. Sayen of the ALPA said Wednesday night failure to reach an agreement may mean a strike after the Jan. 16 expiration of a 30-day "cooling off" period. "A definite deadline would be set in the near future," Sayen said.

The airline employs 263 pilots. Its headquarters are in Los Angeles, and the line operates in about 50 cities, including Mexico City, and Calgary, Lethbridge and Edmonton in Canada.

Sayen said the pilots' old contract with WAL expired in July, 1957, and "every effort" since then to reach a new pact has failed. He accused the company of failure "to negotiate on the basis of current criteria applicable to air line pilots' rates of pay and working conditions."

Alaska Snowplow Kills Two Children

Ft. Richardson, Alaska — (AP) — Two children were killed by a snowplow while playing in a homemade tunnel here Wednesday.

The Army identified the victims as Ross A. Kramer, 3, son of Capt. and Mrs. R. A. Kramer Jr. of Trevorton, Pa., and Maxwell E. Dicks Jr., 2, son of Capt. and Mrs. M. E. Dicks of Minneapolis. Both families had three children.

The accident occurred during normal snow removal operations in the parking lot behind Ft. Richardson's family quarters. The children had built a tunnel in the snow and were hiding in it when the plow approached.

The driver of the plow, an Army civilian employee, was treated for shock at the scene.

Sterling Hayden Asks Name Be Restored

Hollywood — (AP) — Actor Sterling Hayden, who changed his name to John Hamilton during World War II to escape unwanted publicity when he enlisted in the Marine Corps, today asked the court's permission to restore his movie name.

St. Louis (AP) — Bruce R. John, son of Scappoose, Ore., showed the grand champion in the junior division at the national dressed turkey show here.

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