

LeRoi Jones Seized in Newark After Suffering a Head Wound

Playwright Is Hit by Bottle— Later Halted on Charge of Carrying Weapons

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NEWARK, July 14—LeRoi Jones, the 32-year old playwright, poet and jazz critic, suffered a head wound and was arrested today on charges of carrying weapons in a riot-torn section of Newark.

The police said that Mr. Jones, who lives in Newark, his native city, had been hit on the head by a bottle. There was no indication of who had thrown it.

He was treated at City Hospital and later picked up and charged with carrying weapons. Policemen said Mr. Jones had in his possession two loaded .32 caliber pistols.

The bearded writer who frequently has expressed violently antiwhite views was taken to Essex County Jail in \$25,000 bond for a hearing on July 27. He was not charged with having fired the guns.

According to the police account, Mr. Jones was stopped with two other men in a green Volkswagen station wagon at South Orange Avenue and Seventh Street in the riot area. The police said that an alarm had been issued for three men in such a vehicle who had been seen firing guns in the area.

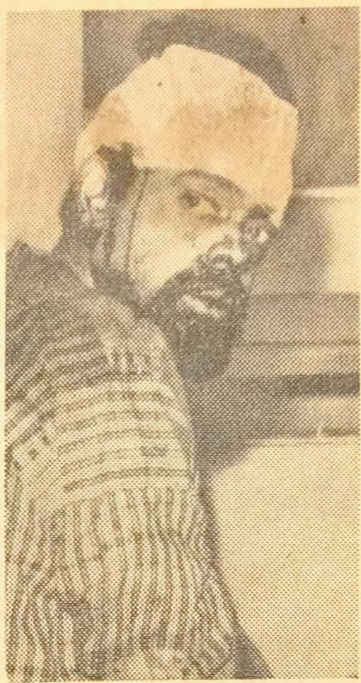
Calls Himself a Laborer

Mr. Jones was arraigned before Chief Magistrate James Del Mauro. He gave his name as Everett Jones, a laborer, of Broad Street, Newark. He refused to give any further information about himself, according to the police. Everett is his first name, he no longer uses it in his public life, preferring his middle name, LeRoi. In an interview three years ago, Mr. Jones said, "I love America. I hate the system. I would destroy the system tonight if I could."

In 1965, he founded the Black Arts Theater in Harlem which had \$40,000 in Federal antipoverty grants. The project was criticized in Washington and in New York on grounds that it fostered anti-white sentiment among Negroes.

Mr. Jones said that the aim was "to re-educate half a million Harlem Negroes to find a new pride in their color."

In March, 1966, policemen found an arms cache and a rifle



Associated Press

LeRoi Jones

range on the theater premises. Mr. Jones, who reportedly had broken with militants earlier, was not implicated.

Doubts Races Can Mix

The slender outspoken poet has written several plays for Off Broadway. Among them is "Dutchman," a controversial story of a Negro boy who is tempted and taunted by a white girl on a subway, who shouts:

"What right have you to wear a tie and a three-button suit? Your grandfather was a slave."

Mr. Jones later commented, "She represents the spirit of America."

Other plays have been "The Slave" and "The Toilet," each of them saying that Negro-white relationships are impossible. The author is separated from his white wife, the former Hettie Cohen. They have two daughters.

Mr. Jones was born in 1934 in Newark, where his father was a postman. He attended Howard University and later received a master's degree in comparative literature at Columbia University, where he taught creative writing two years ago. He has also been an instructor in creative writing at the New School for Social Research.

In a lecture last year, he referred to whites and advised Negroes to "smash their jelly white faces."