

POLICE HUNT SLAYERS OF ' 70S NEMESIS

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Police were looking for accomplices Thursday in the shooting death **of** Hayward Brown, the often arrested but rarely convicted **nemesis of** Detroit **police** during the 1970s.

Meanwhile, it was learned that John Harris, 52, who was shot and wounded with Brown Wednesday in a Detroit apartment house, has a long **police** record that includes armed robbery and several drug arrests.

The apartment house where the shootings occurred also is known to neighborhood residents for drug trafficking.

Brown, 30, was the target **of** one **of** the most intensive **police** searches in Detroit history in late 1972 and early 1973 in the shooting **of** six **police** officers, one **of** whom died. The policemen were downed in two separate shoot-outs three weeks apart in December 1972, and Brown was arrested Jan. 12, 1973, after the firebombing **of** a Detroit Planned Parenthood clinic.

He was not convicted in either shoot-out, and his conviction in the firebombing was overturned by a federal appeals court.

POLICE OPENLY rejoiced Wednesday at news **of** his death, and former Detroit **Police** Commissioner John Nichols, who had called him a "mad dog killer," said, "Ultimately, justice does prevail."

Police said they still did not know who shot whom Wednesday in the run-down apartment house at Holbrook and Brush. Harris said that Brown and another man tried to rob him **of** his jewelry and that, when he grabbed Brown to shield himself, the other man shot them both.

Dr. Werner Spitz, Wayne County medical examiner, said the post-mortem examination **of** Brown showed he suffered two gunshot wounds, to the middle **of** the forehead and to the neck, and that the gun was fired from "within inches from the body."

"He was shot point blank," Spitz said. "In fact, the one in the neck was closer than the one in the forehead. One slug came out, and one slug was in the body. It looks like a large caliber, maybe a .38."

A .38-caliber hand gun was found on the bedroom floor in Apartment 306. **Police** found Brown's body in that apartment, lying in a pool **of** blood.

They also found Harris, who was taken to Henry Ford Hospital in Detroit. Harris' condition had improved from critical Wednesday night to serious Thursday, **police** said. The hospital referred inquiries to **police** .

Harris' troubles with authority go back to 1949, including several absences without leave in his Army days.

He also had been arrested for breaking and entering, assault and battery, aggravated assault, felonious assault and armed robbery. Narcotics convictions sent him to the State Prison **of** Southern Michigan at Jackson in 1958 and 1959. He returned to prison for parole violations in 1963 and 1965.

Harris got a 10-year prison sentence on a federal narcotics conviction in 1974.

On Nov. 4, 1982, he was convicted in Detroit Recorder' Court **of** delivering drugs. His record shows that he also was convicted **of** a felony firearms violation at that time. A felony firearms conviction carries an automatic two-year sentence; it was not known why he was free at the time **of** the shootings Wednesday.

One **of** Harris' neighbors Thursday in the 2200 block **of** Ferry, asked to describe Harris, said, "Put it this way: There's not too much a person could say about him. He came alone, and he left alone. . . . On this street, the less you know, the better off you are."

AT **POLICE** headquarters Thursday, investigators were questioning people in the case.

Lt. Fred Williams **of** the **police** public-information office said detectives had "no new information they want to give out. They still haven't pieced together what's going on. They are looking for other accomplices."

He said investigators "are not certain whether it was a holdup or what. They've probably got to talk to Harris some more."

Police said they were looking for three men, including the gunman who fled from Apartment 306 and two men seen leaving in a brown Chevrolet Monte Carlo.

POLICE HEADQUARTERS was flooded with telephone calls from **police** officers, including some from officers vacationing in northern Michigan, asking if it were true that Brown was dead.

"As long as it had to be somebody, he'd probably be the policemen's choice," one officer at headquarters told a reporter.

Also calling in, **police** said, was Kenneth Cockrel, who defended Brown in the **police** shooting case and got the murder case dismissed by depicting him as a Robin Hood figure, robbing dope dens and destroying the heroin to clean up the city.

Four plainclothes officers were shot and wounded by three men they stopped in a Volkswagen on Dec. 4, 1972. The men got away.

On Dec. 27, 1972, in another shoot-out, Officer Robert Bradford died and his partner, Robert Dooley, was critically wounded, lost an eye and was left paralyzed. Two gunmen escaped that time.

Boyd and Bethune fled to Atlanta. There, on Feb. 23, 1973, Boyd died in a shoot-out with an Atlanta policeman. His half- brother, Owen Winfield, also was killed.

Four days later, Bethune was wounded by an Atlanta policeman and killed himself on a dormitory roof **of** Morris Brown College as officers and a **police** helicopter closed in.

The .357 magnum that killed Bethune also killed Boyd and Winfield, ballistics tests later showed, leading to speculation that Bethune fired the fatal shots before fleeing from the first Atlanta shoot-out.

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