

# Interview Mrs. Chesimard in Confinement Suit

By FRANK McKEOWN

Defense attorneys for accused murderer Joanne Chesimard, who have filed suit to protest her solitary confinement in Middlesex County jail in New Brunswick, had the woman interviewed yesterday by a psychiatrist and an expert in penology.

In the federal suit, the attorneys alleged that Mrs. Chesimard's civil rights were being violated because she is being kept prisoner in the jail without the privileges accorded other females awaiting trial.

The 28-year-old alleged Black Liberation Army member also contended that her incarceration in a basement cell in the jail has been grossly abusive, both psychologically and physically,

and she has asked for \$250,000 in damages.

#### Cite Vermin

Federal Court Judge George Barlow, who sits in Trenton, will travel to New Brunswick Thursday to conduct a hearing on her suit and to conduct an on-spot examination of her quarters.

The suit alleges that the cell is dark, poorly ventilated and infested with vermin.

Her rights to receive uncensored mail, make phone calls and see visitors are restricted, she contended, and, because of the heavy security guard surrounding her, she is denied the fresh air and recreation afforded other female prisoners awaiting trial.

#### Trial Monday

Chesimard is expected to go on trial Monday for the shooting death of a state trooper in a gun

battle on the New Jersey Turnpike in East Brunswick May 2, 1973.

Trooper Werner Foerster was killed in the shootout, as was James Coston, another alleged BLA member, who was riding in a car with Chesimard and Clark Squire.

Foerster, backed up by Trooper James Harper, was questioning the driver of the car, Squire, after stopping it for a traffic violation when the battle began.

In the battle, Harper and Chesimard were both wounded. Squire escaped but was later

captured, tried and convicted of murder.

He is serving a life sentence for the murder in Trenton State Prison.

Chestmard was to have stood trial with Squire but her case was severed from his when she became pregnant while on trial in Federal Court in Manhattan on another charge.

The defense interviews yesterday were conducted by Dr. Michael Smith of Lincoln Hospital in New York and Dr. John Boone, an expert in penal care from Massachusetts.