

Joanne Jury Told of Gore

The bloody body of Trooper Werner Foerster was brought into Middlesex General Hospital as medical personnel treated the woman who is charged in his murder, a state police detective testified yesterday at the Joanne Chesimard murder trial in New Brunswick.

Detective James Challender said the front of Foerster's body was splattered with blood. "His face was covered with blood, the entire right side of his body was saturated and blood was matted in his hair.

"He had a protrusion on the top of his head. There was a hole on the side of his neck," Challender said.

The detective was recalled as a witness by Assistant Middlesex County Prosecutor Edward Barone as the trial entered its seventh week.

Mrs. Chesimard, 29, is accused of killing Foerster and wounding Trooper James Harper during a May 1973 shootout on the New Jersey Turnpike.

One Already Convicted

A co-defendant in the case, Clark Squire, was convicted of the murder in 1974 and is serving a life term in Trenton State Prison. Mrs. Chesimard's trial was severed then because she was pregnant.

Challender said he removed the "paraphernalia" that was attached to Foerster's uniform to ensure it would be preserved as evidence. He said he then took Foerster's wife and a priest into the emergency room to view the body.

Challender said Harper was in the emergency room when he arrived at the hospital.

"He was pale and appeared to be somewhat traumatized or in shock," Challender testified. "He was staring into space, he would close his eyes, turn his head and he would grimace," the detective said.

Challender said he later learned Mrs. Chesimard was in the bed next to Harper, separated by a curtain.

Challender said Mrs. Chesimard's clothing was taken from her as evidence. "As the clothing was removed, each article was wrapped in white sanitary paper to preserve the integrity of the specific piece of evidence," he said.

He said Mrs. Chesimard's red shirt, shoes and socks were stained with "what appeared to be blood."

Under cross-examination by chief defense counsel William M. Kunstler, Challender said the wounded Mrs. Chesimard looked "the way she looked the way she looked today. With the exception of the blood, her face is the same.

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"She had her eyes open and she just stared at me," the detective said.

Kunstler concentrated his cross-examination on Challender's notes on the shootout, trying to bring out inconsistencies in what Challender said Harper told him and Harper's testimony during the trial.

Under cross-examination, Challender admitted that Harper, during an interview at the hospital, made no mention of Mrs. Chesimard's taking a pistol from her purse.

During a later interview, Harper said the shootout began when the defendant pulled a pistol from her pocketbook. However, Harper testified that he was wrong about the purse.