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"Defeat the dictators. If you falter now, 19 months of tyranny shall become 19 years of terror."—Jaya Prakash Narayan, a leader of the opposition in India's election referring to the Government's emergency rule. [A1:5.]

"If there were excesses, we will punish the responsible officials. But the emergency has given India stability, and made our beloved land a stronger country."—Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, during a campaign tour. [A8:3.]

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CORRECTIONS

An obituary of Eugene L. Bondy published yesterday incorrectly stated that he was survived by his wife, the former Irene Kramer. His wife died in 1952.

David Ignatow will give a poetry reading today at 7:30 P.M. at the Queens College Union, Long Island Expressway at Kissena Boulevard. The Arts and Leisure Guide in The Times on Sunday gave the date incorrectly.

Mrs. Chesimard, on Stand, Denies Having Weapon in Turnpike Shooting

By JOSEPH F. SULLIVAN
Special to The New York Times

NEW BRUNSWICK, March 15—Joanne Chesimard, speaking in a low but firm voice, denied today that she shot any member of the state police or even handled a weapon during a gunfight on the New Jersey Turnpike on May 2, 1973, in which two persons were killed.

Mrs. Chesimard, a leading figure in the so-called Black Liberation Army, was the first witness called as her defense began in her trial on charges of murder and assault. She testified that she was shot in the right arm and left shoulder as the gunfight between her two companions and two state troopers began. She fell on the roadway beside her car and listened as what "sounded like a war movie" erupted around her.

Mrs. Chesimard took less than 40 minutes to tell her version of the incident under questioning by Stuart Ball, one of her four defense attorneys. Edward Barone, the first assistant Middlesex County prosecutor, cross-examined her for less than two hours.

The surprisingly rapid appearance by the chief figure in the trial gave rise to speculation that the case may go to the jury by the end of the week or early next week.

Mrs. Chesimard is charged with murder in connection with the deaths of Trooper Werner Foerster and Zayd Malik Shakur, also known as James Costan, who was her companion and former brother-in-law. She also is charged with assault in connection with the wounding of Trooper James Harper.

Clark E. Squire, another of Mrs. Chesimard's companions, was convicted of murder in 1974 in connection with the incident and is serving a life sentence at Trenton State Prison. He is appealing that conviction. Mrs. Chesimard's case was severed from the earlier trial when she became pregnant.

Her testimony ended suddenly today when Mr. Ball asked her, "On that night of May 2d, did you shoot, kill, execute or have anything to do with the death of Trooper Werner Foerster?"

"No," she replied, shaking her head. "Did you shoot or assault Trooper James Harper?"

"No."
The state's case against Mrs. Chesimard, presented over eight weeks through a number of witnesses including Trooper Harper, tells how the trooper stopped a white Pontiac bearing Vermont license plates because it had a faulty tail light at about 12:30 A.M. on May 2, 1973.

Radioed for Assistance

Trooper Harper radioed for back-up support and Trooper Foerster arrived as Mr. Harper began to question the occupants of the car. Mr. Squire, who was driving, went to the back of the car with Mr. Foerster and soon began scuffling with the trooper.

Mr. Harper testified that Mrs. Chesimard reached down toward the floor of the car and the next thing he knew he was shot through the left shoulder. He testified that he had exchanged shots with both occupants of the car and made his way on foot back to the turnpike headquarters nearby. Trooper Foerster's body was found about an hour later.

Mr. Squire drove Mr. Costan and Mrs. Chesimard five miles south on the toll road, carried them from the car to a grassy spot off the road shoulder and fled when additional state troopers arrived. He was captured the following day. Mrs. Chesimard was wounded and Mr. Costan was dead when the police arrived.

Mrs. Chesimard testified today that she had been on her way to Baltimore for a job as a bar waitress that had been arranged by Mr. Costan when the incident began. She said she and her companions had stopped for supper at a Howard Johnson's restaurant on the turnpike shortly before the shootings, and she had noticed a gun butt sticking out of Mr. Squire's trousers.

She said she had not known until then that he was armed and she said Mr. Costan had told Mr. Squire, "You can't go in there like that," and had persuaded Mr. Squire to allow Mr. Costan to put the gun on the floor of the car near the rear seat.

Mrs. Chesimard also testified that she had given Mr. Squire her billfold containing \$500 so he could buy gas before they left the service area. She forgot to get the billfold back, she said, and had no identification when Trooper Harper asked for it a few minutes later.

She testified she had heard a "shout, or a noise like a shout" come from the rear of the car where Mr. Squire was standing with Trooper Foerster and then had seen Trooper Harper draw his revolver and tell her and Mr. Costan, who was sitting in the rear seat, to "put your hands where I can see them."

Mrs. Chesimard, who was wearing a two-piece floor-length African print

dress, demonstrated for the jury how she had held her arms outstretched toward the trooper.

"Zayd pushed my seat forward," she said, "and at that moment I was shot under the right arm; I turned to get out of the car and was shot again in the left shoulder. I was knocked out of the car onto the ground."

"How did you feel or what was your condition at that time?" Mr. Ball asked.

"Scared," she replied.
Mrs. Chesimard testified that she had managed to crawl into the back seat of the car a few moments later and heard Mr. Squire and Mr. Costan get in the front and felt the car drive off down the road. She was unable to respond when Mr. Squire stopped a few minutes later and ordered her out of the car and to "run." He had to carry her over his shoulder to the grassy spot, she said.

No Explanation Offered

Under cross-examination by Mr. Barone, Mrs. Chesimard was unable to explain how three clips of ammunition and an eyeglass containing 16 live shells had got into her shoulder bag. She also admitted knowing that Mr. Costan carried a gun at times.

"You knew that two persons you were with in that car carried guns and it didn't shock you?" Mr. Barone asked.

"No," she answered, "I had seen other people with guns."

Mr. Barone got Mrs. Chesimard to admit that the only identification in her billfold the night of the shooting was that of "Justine Henderson," but she denied using any of a long list of aliases read by Mr. Barone.