Prot 8/1/48 Killing of Sailor Studied in Inquiry 9n Communists

By the Associated Press

Los Angeles, Aug. 6.—A grand ury investigation of Communist ctivities in Los Angeles County ocused its first attention today on a -year-old waterfront slaying—the big name" phase of the inquiry hunted temporarily to the background.

District Attorney Buron Fitts has promised to present to the jury evidence of a Communist objective to overthrow the Government and ascassinate leading industrialists who refused to "play ball."

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Two witnesses, one a former Communist Party official, were heard tobey as the jurors opened their study of the fatal beating of John Riley, a member of the A. F. of L. sailors' mon. Fitts told the jury Riley's ring 'was prompted by the efforts the Communists and their spies to destroy legitimate unionism by their ibfiltration process."

He added the waterfront killing would constitute one phase of the investigation, with the second phase to be devoted to the Communist Party's affairs in general, Fitts said witnesses to be called

would include some "big names in Hollywood."

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