

At First, Russo Wasn't Quite Sure...

Leon & Lee Oswald - The Same?

NEW ORLEANS, March 16 — Perry Raymond Russo, endlessly cross-examined yesterday about an alleged plot to assassinate President Kennedy, faced more interrogation today by defense attorneys for a businessman he implicated.

Mr. Russo, 25, a Baton Rouge insurance salesman, is thought to be the "confidential informant" referred to by Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison in his probe of the assassination.

Mr. Garrison charges that businessman Clay L. Shaw conspired to kill Mr. Kennedy. Mr. Russo was on the witness stand for nearly eight hours on the first two days of a hearing to determine if Mr. Garrison has enough evidence to hold Mr. Shaw for trial.

Mr. Russo said Mr. Shaw, whom he said he knew as Clem Bertrand; David Ferrie, a former airline pilot who died in the middle of Mr. Garrison's probe, and assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, known to Russo as "Leon Oswald," conspired to kill Mr. Kennedy. The plot was discussed at a meeting in Ferrie's New Orleans apartment in the fall of 1963, Mr. Russo alleged.

Mr. Russo testified he had said nothing about the alleged plot for the more than three years since Mr. Kennedy's death because he was "confused" about whether Lee Harvey Oswald and Leon Oswald were the same.

Mr. Shaw's chief counsel, F. Irvin Dymond, asked Mr. Russo if he had seen the accused assassin on TV following the assassination. Mr. Russo had.

"Did you recognize him as the man you knew as Leon Oswald?"

"I was not definite," Mr. Russo answered. "It was probably the same man. It crossed my mind they were one and the same, but I could not be definite."

Mr. Dymond asked him about an interview with a New Orleans TV station in the interview. He did not know Oswald.

Mr. Russo testified that he was still confused at the time of

- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen 6 _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

Russo

Assassination of President John

Lee Harvey Kennedy

11/22/63

Dallas, Texas

- The Washington Post _____
- Times Herald _____
- The Washington Daily News 127 _____
- The Evening Star (Washington) _____
- The Sunday Star (Washington) _____

the interview. He said he to make him look like the unshaven "Leon" Oswald Mr. Russo knew. concluded it was the same man after Mr. Garrison's staff drew whiskers on a picture of Oswald Tuesday. Mr. Garrison

showed Mr. Russo pictures of Lee Harvey Oswald and Mr. Russo identified the man in the pictures as Leon Oswald.

- World Journal Tribune _____
- (New York) _____
- The Sun (Baltimore) _____
- The Worker _____
- The New Leader _____
- The Wall Street Journal _____
- The National Observer _____
- People's World _____
- Date 2/18/67 _____

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