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# Witness Says He Heard Shaw, Oswald Plotting

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Per-  
 ry Raymond Russo testified at  
 Clay Shaw's trial today that he  
 overheard Shaw, Lee Harvey  
 Oswald and David W. Ferrie  
 conspire to kill President John  
 F. Kennedy.

Russo, 27, a witness with a  
 "hypnotically refreshed" memo-  
 ry, told roughly the same story  
 he gave at Shaw's 1967 prelimi-  
 nary hearing—but with one  
 change.

At the preliminary hearing,  
 Russo testified he overheard the  
 plotting during a party at Fer-  
 rie's apartment in September  
 1963. He said he had taken a girl  
 named Sandra Mottelt with him  
 to the party.

Today, Asst. Dist. Atty. James  
 A. Alcock asked if anyone had  
 accompanied him, and Russo, a  
 New Orleans salesman, replied:  
 "I am testifying I don't know  
 if anyone accompanied me on  
 that occasion."

**Denied Attending**  
 Sandra Mottelt, now Mrs. Har-  
 old McMathes of Des Moines,  
 Iowa, has said she never attend-  
 ed such a party. The defense  
 wanted her as a witness, but  
 said she went into hiding to  
 avoid their subpoena because  
 she was afraid of Dist. Atty. Jim  
 Garrison.

Russo pointed out Shaw, a  
 55-year-old bachelor, as the man  
 introduced to him at Ferrie's  
 party as "Clem Bertrand."

He said Oswald had been in-  
 troduced to him earlier as "Leon  
 Oswald," and was Ferrie's  
 apartment mate. He has identi-  
 fied "Leon" as Lee Harvey Os-  
 wald from photographs.

Shaw is charged with conspi-  
 ring to kill Kennedy. Oswald and  
 Ferrie are dead.

Russo said Oswald, Shaw and  
 Ferrie discussed the assassina-  
 tion at length, including plans  
 for triangulation of fire and  
 flying the gunners to safety.

**Asked for Identities**  
 After testifying that he had  
 gone to Ferrie's apartment on  
 Louisiana Parkway in the up-  
 town area in mid-September,  
 1963, Russo was asked by Al-  
 cock:

"Was anyone else present?  
 Who were they?"

A. David Ferrie and a man  
 introduced as his roommate.

Q. On this occasion, how long  
 were you in the presence of the  
 man introduced as the room-  
 mate (Oswald)?

A. Not very long.

Q. What was he doing when  
 you entered the apartment?

A. He was cleaning a rifle or  
 polishing it."

Russo then identified various  
 pictures of Ferrie's apartment,  
 and said he visited it 20 to 30  
 times from 1961 to 1963. He was  
 asked who else was present at  
 the mid-September gathering.

A. There were three or four  
 Latin or Cuban, a couple of  
 young guys and one well-dressed  
 man.

Q. Can you describe the  
 well-dressed man.

**Unsure of Pants**  
 A. He wore a deep maroon  
 jacket, white shirt, but I'm not  
 sure of the pants.

Q. Can you describe this man?

A. He was big, 6 foot 4 or 5  
 foot 5, broad shoulders and dis-  
 tinguished looking . . .

Q. Do you see him now?

A. I do (pointing to Shaw).

Q. Were you introduced to the  
 distinguished looking man.

A. Yes.

Q. What was his name?

A. Bertrand.

Q. What first name did he  
 give?

A. Clem.

Q. At the apartment, what  
 conversations were there in your  
 presence with the defendant?

A. Ferrie pretty much moni-  
 tored the conversation talking  
 about the Cuban thing, just talk-  
 ing.

Q. Did you remember any-  
 thing specific?

A. Ferrie said "We'll kill  
 the president," but he said that  
 before.

Q. How many times before?

A. Many times he had been  
 obsessed with this Kennedy and  
 Cuba thing.

Q. What did Ferrie say?

A. Ferrie walked up and down  
 telling about the projected as-  
 sassination and how there could  
 be triangulation of crossfire. He  
 talked about three firing in-  
 ter in June 1963 where he  
 would have to be a scapegoat.  
 We could either have one diver-  
 sionary shot or we could have all  
 three shoot at one time.

Q. What else did he say?

A. No Escape by Air

A. There would be no way to  
 escape except by flight. And  
 they discussed Brazil and Cuba,  
 but to go to Brazil would mean  
 stopping to refuel. He then men-  
 tioned Mexico.

Q. Did the defendant say any-  
 thing?

A. He said that was not possi-  
 ble. There would have to be a  
 stop for refueling and it would  
 have to be some friend to give  
 them assistance to fly out and  
 the police would be everywhere.

Russo had told the prelimi-  
 nary hearing he didn't recall  
 tails of the party until a hy-  
 potestis provided by Garrison  
 asked him to relive the occa-  
 sion.

The issue of hypnotism po-  
 up at the trial during de-  
 attorney F. Irvin Dymally  
 cross examination Saturday  
 prosecution witness Char-  
 Spiesel, 50, a New Orleans  
 accountant.

Spiesel claimed Ferrie  
 one-time airlines pilot, took  
 to a party near the French C-  
 lar in June 1963 where he  
 Shaw, Ferrie and others dis-  
 how to kill the President.

Spiesel, at the defense's  
 quest, took the jury on a four-  
 Saturday to the French Qu-  
 in search of the apartment  
 testified he visited in June  
 "There, he testified, he  
 about 10 men, including  
 and Ferrie, discussing wa-  
 kill Kennedy.

At the corner of Dauphine  
 Esplanade streets, Spiesel  
 into two buildings and said  
 in court that "the second is  
 lar if not the building"  
 which he went to  
 midnight and heard  
 One of Shaw's attorneys,  
 ward Wegmann, said  
 owned the building Spiesel  
 ed out from 1950 to "ar-

*Assassination of Pres. John F. Kennedy*

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**NOT RECORDED**

The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_  
 The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_  
 People's World \_\_\_\_\_  
 Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date 5/10/69

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