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He Says Shaw Met Oswald

New Orleans, Feb. 10 (AP)—Prosecution witness Perry Raymond Russo, a book salesman with a political science degree, testified today that he heard Clay Shaw, Lee Harvey Oswald and another man talk in 1963 about killing President Kennedy by cross-fire after a first diversionary shot.

"The escape was to be by air flight," Russo told the 12-man jury trying Shaw, 56, on a charge of conspiring to assassinate Kennedy.

Russo, 27, a dark-haired six-footer who weighs 170, told of a night meeting in September 1963 between Shaw, Oswald and David W. Ferrie, a former airline pilot. The indictment against Shaw charges that he conspired with the two, now dead, to kill the President. Shaw's lawyer says the defendant never knew Oswald or Ferrie. Russo, repeating testimony he gave at a 1967 hearing after hypnosis "refreshed" his memory, said Shaw was using the name "Clem Bertrand." In the courtroom, Russo pointed to Shaw as the man called Bertrand.

The meeting, Russo said, took place in Ferrie's New Orleans apartment some three months before Kennedy was shot to death Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas. The Warren Commission in its official investigation concluded that Oswald alone was the assassin.

Assistant District Attorney James Alcock asked Russo about the conversation of the three men.

"Well, Ferrie carried around a bunch of clippings with him . . . I could see Kennedy's name on them . . . He paced back and forth on the floor. He carried the clippings . . . There was some kind of Latin, or Spanish, recording playing . . . He was walking up and down and telling how this projected assassination team would carry out the assassination of Kennedy. He told them about triangulation of crossfire."

Russo demonstrated, holding up three fingers.

"He—Ferrie—said perhaps there would be a diversionary shot . . . and the other two would shoot for the kill or the direct hit," Russo said.

"He said the diversionary shot, if fired, would be fired to attract attention," Russo said. He also said the last two shots were to be fired simultaneously.

Russo also testified that Ferrie suggested escaping to Brazil by way of Mexico but that Shaw objected to that, saying it wouldn't be possible to fly out of the area.



Associated Press Wirephoto
Perry Russo as he arrived to testify in Clay Shaw trial.

Pres. John F. Kennedy

- The Washington Post Times Herald _____
- The Washington Daily News _____
- The Evening Star (Washington) _____
- The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
- Daily News (New York) CS
- Sunday News (New York) _____
- New York Post _____
- The New York Times _____
- The Sun (Baltimore) _____
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- The New Leader _____
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