

Shaw Denies Plotting Kennedy Slaying

ORLEANS (AP)—The rested its case today after L. Shaw took the stand before the jury he never knew of Oswald or David W. and certainly never conspired with them to murder John F. Kennedy.

Examination by Asst. Atty. Gen. James L. Alcock lasted an hour, and the state would present rebuttal evidence this afternoon.

Shaw with conspiring to assassinate Kennedy in 1963, in the courtroom during the trial today. He has made only rare appearances at the 10-month-old trial.

Shaw, 55, a 6-foot-4, white-haired retired businessman, stepped up in the climax of the case to deny the charge that he plotted to kill Kennedy. He relaxed in the witness



CLAY SHAW

chair, looking at the jury, speaking in a smooth bass tone.

With defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond putting the questions, Shaw

denied step-by-step every bit of testimony against him in Garrison's conspiracy case.

Q. Did you ever see Lee Harvey Oswald?

A. I never have.

Q. Did you ever see David W. Ferrie?

A. I never did.

Q. Did you ever know Perry Raymond Russo?

A. No.

Q. Have you ever attended a party such as described by Perry Raymond Russo?

A. No, I did not.

Q. Have you ever been to the town of Clinton, La.? (A prosecution witness testified he saw Shaw with Oswald and Ferrie in Clinton.)

A. I have never been to Clinton.

Q. Were you an enemy of President Kennedy?

A. Certainly not.

Q. Were you a supporter of President Kennedy?

A. I was. I believed in him.

Asked if he ever signed the guest book at the New Orleans International Airport's VIP Room as Clay Bertrand, Shaw replied:

"No, I didn't know that room existed until this trial."

Bertrand is the name that Garrison contends Shaw used as an alias during the alleged conspiracy.

Shaw testified that he had never been known as Clay Bertrand or Clem Bertrand.

Asked if he had ever used any name other than Clay Shaw, he replied: "No, with the exception of a play I wrote in the 1950s in which I used the pen name Allen White. That was the maiden names of my two grandmothers."

Q. Did you conspire with Lee Harvey Oswald and David W. Ferrie to assassinate President of the United State

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A. No. I did not.

Yesterday, a New Orleans police officer testified that the state's star witness in a June 17, 1967, interview Shaw was not the man at the party where the assassination was hatched.

Lt. Edward O'Donnell testified that when Garrison called Russo two days later police report on the interview Russo "did a retake. He was afraid Garrison would charge him with perjury."

O'Donnell was the senior witness to depict Russo as beset by uncertainty.

"He kept agonizing," James R. Phelan, a writer from Long Beach, said. "He repeatedly said he was sorry he had come forward as a witness, that he felt and that if he tried to tell his story now, Garrison would charge him with something."

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49 MAR 7 1969
56 MAR 10 1969

- The Washington Post _____
- Times Herald _____
- The Washington Daily News _____
- The Evening Star (Washington) A-1
- The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
- Daily News (New York) _____
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