

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Arrested Arcacha Blasts DA's Probe

A Cuban expatriate arrested in Dallas on a warrant issued by Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison has told Texas officers: "Garrison has n't got anything."

The former New Orleans anti-Castro leader, Sergio Vincente Arcacha Smith, 44, was released on \$1,500 bond on charges he conspired with two figures in Garrison's Kennedy assassination plot investigation to burglarize a Houma munitions dump in 1961.

MEANWHILE, fugitive witness Gordon Novel, 29, will attempt to make \$10,000 bond at Columbus, Ohio, today following his arrest on the same charge.

Garrison has charged that Novel, Arcacha and the late David W. Ferrie conspired to burglarize a Schlumberger Wells Service munitions depot at Houma in 1961.

Novel, who has eluded arrest on an earlier material witness warrant in the Kennedy death plot inquiry, was picked up by suburban Gahanna, Ohio, police Saturday.

He said he will fight extradition "all the way to the Supreme Court."

ARCACHA WAS taken into custody by Dallas police at his home yesterday, booked, fingerprinted and released on bail.

New Orleans Criminal Dist. Court Judge Thomas Brahney set bond for both men at \$5,000. A Dallas justice of the peace reduced Arcacha's bail to \$1,500, but Novel's bond was boosted to \$10,000 by Ohio authorities.

Novel, Arcacha and Ferrie—who died here recently of what the Orleans Parish coroner called natural causes—all figure in the DA's presidential assassination plot investigation.

Garrison has charged Ferrie, Lee Harvey Oswald and retired New Orleans businessman Clay L. Shaw conspired here to kill Kennedy in 1963. Shaw will be arraigned on the charge before Criminal Dist. Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. at 10:30 a. m. tomorrow.

ARCACHA, who has lived at Dallas since 1963 and works for the export division of an air-conditioning firm, claims he knows nothing about the plot.

A father of five, Arcacha left Cuba shortly after Fidel Castro came to power. He first settled in Miami, later at New Orleans, then Miami again, Houston and Dallas.

He was chief of anti-Castro Cuban revolutionary activities in New Orleans before the abortive Bay of Pigs Invasion in 1961, when Garrison says

the Houma munitions depot raid was planned.

BEFORE leaving New Orleans, Novel told reporters Garrison wanted to talk with him about "activities in 1961 which are connected with Mr. Sergio Archacha Smith."

As he sought to conduct his own appeal before a Columbus court yesterday, Novel was silenced twice—first by the judge, later by a tardy defense lawyer.

At one point, Novel asserted: "I used to do work for Garrison. In fact, I did some of the investigating in this so-called plot. I've got a lot of charges of my own to make about him."

His attorney, Jerry Weiner, was entering the courtroom as Novel declared he did not intend to return voluntarily to New Orleans "because of this Cuban . . ."

WEINER silenced Novel, explaining later: "I never want a client to make a statement that I don't know in advance what he is going to say."

At New Orleans, all principals in the case were put on notice by Judge Haggerty to keep mum about evidence or the guilt or innocence of accused conspirator Clay Shaw.

Haggerty warned that his court has the power to "punish for contempt" anyone who violates the order. He specifically included "attorneys, police, investigators, and any public employe officially connected with the processes of this court."

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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New Orleans
States-Item

Date: 4-4-67

Edition: Red Comet

Author:

Editor:

Title: ASSASSINATION OF
PRESIDENT JOHN F.
KENNEDY 11-22-63

Character:

or

Classification: 89-

Submitting Office: N.O.

Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

5010