

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

TWO THUGS 'ROUGH UP' WITNESS IN DA PROBE

Assaulted At Hotel, Police Say

Police said today that a witness in the District Attorney Jim Garrison presidential assassination plot, scheduled to appear today before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury, was "roughed up" and thrown through a glass door at a mid-city hotel about 1:35 a. m. today.

Ptn. Louis Munsch Jr. and Thomas Raine identified the man as James Hicks, 29, of Enid, Okla. The officers said Hicks was attacked by two unidentified Negroes at the Fontainebleau Motor Hotel.

Assistant DA Richard V. Burnes has identified Hicks as a civil service employe at Vance Air Force Base who witnessed the slaying at Dallas Nov. 22, 1963, of President

Kennedy "and may have pertinent information about the planning and execution of the assassination or of persons involved in the conspiracy."

HICKS TOLD Ptn. Munsch and Raine that he was asleep in his room at the motel early today and was awakened by the two Negro intruders.

He said the pair grabbed him and threw him through a plate glass door leading to a balcony.

Police said they found the glass doors of Hicks room shattered when they were called to investigate.

SECURITY OFFICER Freddie Rawles told the officers he received a call from the front office of the motel shortly after 1 a. m. to investigate "a disturbance in room 650."

Rawles said he met two Negroes coming out of an elevator leading to Hicks' floor.

Rawles said he questioned the men and they told him they had "been to see a party in room 650."

The security officer said both men produced identification cards but he failed to make a note of the identifications.

Ptn. Munsch and Raine said

they reported the incident Sgt. Louis Ivon, chief investigator for Jim Garrison's office, and Ivon was investigating the assault.



JAMES HICKS

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

PAGE 1

STATES-ITEM

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11-22-63

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Being Investigated