

# Witness Says He Heard Shaw, Oswald Plotting

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Perry 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" memory, told roughly the same story he gave at Shaw's 1967 preliminary hearing—but with one change.

At the preliminary hearing, Russo testified he overheard the plotting during a party at Ferrie's apartment in September 1963. He said he had taken a girl named Sandra Moffett 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 Moffett, now Mrs. Harold McMaines of Des Moines, Iowa, has said she never attended 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

35-year-old bachelor, as the man introduced to him at Ferrie's party as "Clem Bertrand."

He said Oswald had been introduced to him earlier as "Leon Oswald," and was Ferrie's apartment mate. He has identified "Leon" as Lee Harvey Oswald from photographs.

Shaw is charged with conspiring to kill Kennedy. Oswald and Ferrie are dead.

Russo said Oswald, Shaw and Ferrie discussed the assassination 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 uptown area in mid-September, 1963, Russo was asked by Alcock:

"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 roommate (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 Latins or Cubans, 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 6 foot 5, broad shoulders and distinguished 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 monopolized the conversation talking about the Cuban thing, just talking.

- Wilson \_\_\_\_\_
- DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_
- Mohr \_\_\_\_\_
- Bishop \_\_\_\_\_
- Casper \_\_\_\_\_
- Callahan \_\_\_\_\_
- Conrad \_\_\_\_\_
- Felt \_\_\_\_\_
- Gale \_\_\_\_\_
- Rosen
- Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_
- Tavel \_\_\_\_\_
- Trotter \_\_\_\_\_
- Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_
- Holmes \_\_\_\_\_
- Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Russo*

- The Washington Post \_\_\_\_\_
- Times Herald \_\_\_\_\_
- The Washington Daily News \_\_\_\_\_
- The Evening Star (Washington) 23
- The Sunday Star (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_
- Daily News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_
- Sunday News (New York) \_\_\_\_\_
- New York Post \_\_\_\_\_
- The New York Times \_\_\_\_\_
- The Sun (Baltimore) \_\_\_\_\_
- The Daily World \_\_\_\_\_
- The New Leader \_\_\_\_\_
- The Wall Street Journal \_\_\_\_\_
- The National Observer \_\_\_\_\_
- People's World \_\_\_\_\_
- Examiner (Washington) \_\_\_\_\_

Date 2/10/69

*Assassination of Pres. John F. Kennedy*

TOP  
DATE 2-10-69  
FILE Wash. News  
MAILED FILE

62-109060-A  
NOT RECORDED

46 FEB 14 1969

61 FEB 14 1969

Q. Did you remember anything 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 assassination and how there could be triangulation of crossfire. He talked about three firing in crossfire. He said one of these would have to be a scapegoat. We could either have one diversionary shot or we could have all three shoot at one time.

Q. What else did he say?

#### 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 mentioned Mexico.

Q. Did the defendant say anything?

A. He said that was not possible. 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 details of the party until a hypnotist provided by Garrison enabled him to relive the occasion.

The issue of hypnotism popped up at the trial during defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond's cross examination Saturday of prosecution witness Charles I. Spiesel, 50, a New York City accountant.

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

Spiesel, at the defense's request, took the jury on a journey Saturday to the French Quarter in search of the apartment he testified he visited in June 1963.

There, he testified, he heard about 10 men, including Shaw and Ferrie, discussing ways to kill Kennedy.

At the corner of Dauphine and Esplanade streets, Spiesel went into two buildings and said later in court that "the second is similar if not the building" into which he went shortly before midnight and heard the talk.

One of Shaw's attorneys, Edward Wegmann, said Shaw owned the building Spiesel pointed out from 1950 to "around 1954."

# Witness Says He Heard Shaw, Oswald Plotting

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Perry 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" memory, told roughly the same story he gave at Shaw's 1967 preliminary hearing—but with one change.

At the primary hearing, Russo testified he overheard the plotting during a party at Ferrie's apartment in September 1963. He said he had taken a girl named Sandra Moffett 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 Moffett, now Mrs. Harold McMaines of Des Moines, Iowa, has said she never attended 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 introduced to him earlier as "Leon Oswald," and was Ferrie's apartment mate. He has identified "Leon" as Lee Harvey Oswald from photographs.

Shaw is charged with conspiring to kill Kennedy. Oswald and Ferrie are dead.

Russo said Oswald, Shaw and Ferrie discussed the assassination 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 uptown area in mid-September, 1963, Russo was asked by Alcock:

"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 roommate (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 Latins or Cubans, 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 6 foot 5, broad shoulders and distinguished 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 monopolized the conversation talking about the Cuban thing, just talking.

O Assassination of John F. Kennedy

- DeLoach
- Mohr
- Bishop
- Casper
- Callahan
- Conrad
- Felt
- Gale
- Rosen
- Sullivan
- Tavel
- Trotter
- Tele. Room
- Holmes
- Gandy

*Handwritten notes:*  
Rosen  
Gale  
Tavel  
5-  
A-1002

- The Washington Post
- Times Herald
- The Washington Daily News
- The Evening Star (Washington)
- The Sunday Star (Washington)
- Daily News (New York)
- Sunday News (New York)
- New York Post
- The New York Times
- The Sun (Baltimore)
- The Daily World
- The New Leader
- The Wall Street Journal
- The National Observer
- People's World
- Examiner (Washington)

FEB 10 1969

Date

62-109060-A

NOT RECORDED

46 FEB 14 1969

62-109060

61 FEB 14 1969

Q. Did you remember anything?

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 assassination and how there could be triangulation of crossfire. He talked about three firing in crossfire. He said one of these would have to be a scapegoat. We could either have one diversionary shot or we could have all three shoot at one time.

Q. What else did he say?

#### 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 mentioned Mexico.

Q. Did the defendant say anything?

A. He said that was not possible. 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.

Russe had told the prelimi-

nary hearing he didn't recall tails of the party and a hypnotist provided by Garrison enabled him to relive the occasion.

The issue of hypnotism popped up at the trial during defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond's cross examination Saturday of prosecution witness Charles I. Spiesel, 50, a New York City accountant.

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

Spiesel, at the defense's request, took the jury on a journey Saturday to the French Quarter in search of the apartment he testified he visited in June 1963.

There, he testified, he heard about 10 men, including Shaw and Ferrie, discussing ways to kill Kennedy.

At the corner of Dauphine and Esplanade streets, Spiesel went into two buildings and said later in court that "the second is similar if not the building" into which he went shortly before midnight and heard the talk.

One of Shaw's attorneys, Edward Wegmann, said Shaw owned the building Spiesel pointed out from 1950 to "around 1954."