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A - ... of Pres J. Lee Kennedy ...

UPI-27

(SHAW)

NEW ORLEANS--CRIMINAL DISTRICT JUDGE HAGGERTY DECLINED TODAY TO DIRECT THE 12-MAN JURY HEARING THE CLAY L. SHAW ASSASSINATION CONSPIRACY CASE TO ACQUIT THE SILVER-HAIRED DEFENDANT. THE DEFENSE WAS TO BEGIN ITS CASE IMMEDIATELY WITH TESTIMONY FROM MARINA OSWALD PORTER, WIDOW OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSIN.

HAGGERTY MADE THE DECISION OUT OF THE PRESENCE OF THE JURY TO CONTINUE THE TRIAL.

HE GAVE NO EXPLANATION, BUT IT MEANT HE THOUGHT THE STATE HAD ESTABLISHED ALL ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS TO PROVE THAT SHAW, 55, A RETIRED BUSINESSMAN, CONSPIRED WITH LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND DAVID W. FERRIE, TO MURDER KENNEDY.

OSWALD'S WIDOW SAT ON A BENCH IN A CORRIDOR WITH HER NEW HUSBAND, KENNETH PORTER WHILE THE JUDGE MADE HIS RULING.

THE COURTROOM WAS PACKED. THE DEFENSE SAID ITS WITNESSES WOULD BE RUN THROUGH IN RAPID ORDER. THE CASE WAS EXPECTED TO GO TO THE JURY NEXT WEEK.

2/21--DP1034A

NOT RECORDED

46 FEB 27 1969

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