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OSWALD, SHAW, FERRIE IN PLOT, DA TELLS COURT

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ENCLOSURE

Charges JFK Death Planned at '63 Meetings Here

The district attorney's office charged in an official court document released today that Clay Shaw, Lee Harvey Oswald, David William Ferrie and others plotted the death of John F. Kennedy in meetings here in September of 1963.

In Washington, U.S. Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark said this morning the FBI has investigated Shaw, former managing director of the International Trade Mart in New Orleans, and cleared him of any part in the assassination.

President Lyndon B. Johnson said in a news conference

that he sees no reason to reopen the Warren Commission's investigation of the slaying on the basis of Garrison's probe.

The attorney general said Shaw was investigated in November and December of 1963 and "we have the evidence and we can assume what their conclusions are," Clark said.

In an application for a search warrant allowing them to enter Shaw's home last night, investigators for Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison told Criminal District Judge Matthew S. Braniff

the meetings were held at Ferrie's apartment at 3330 Louisiana ave. pkwy.

Shaw was arrested yesterday and booked with "conspiracy to commit murder" in Garrison's probe of the President's assassination in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

At the request of the DA's office, a preliminary hearing for Shaw was set for March 14 before Criminal District Judge Bernard J. Bagert.

JUDGE BRANIFF ISSUED THE SEARCH WARRANT based on an application filed by Louis Ivon of the DA's staff. Braniff made the application public today after Shaw's attorney, Guy Johnson, demanded that he do so.

The application says:

"The reasons and facts for issuing this warrant are:

"Affiant has evidence that meetings were held in the apartment of David W. Ferrie at 3330 Louisiana Ave. Parkway and the people present were David W. Ferrie, Clay Shaw (alias Clay Bertrand), Lee Harvey Oswald, an informant and other persons. The meetings were held in September, 1963, and the above individuals were discussing how they would kill John F. Kennedy, president of the United States"

(Clay Bertrand was mentioned in the Warren Commission report as a man who had contacted New Orleans attorney Dean Andrews after the assassination asking him to defend Oswald. The commission reported that it was unable to locate Bertrand).

The application continues:

"At these meetings there

was an agreement and combination between Clay Shaw (alias Clay Bertrand), Oswald, Ferrie and others to kill John F. Kennedy. At these meetings there was discussion and agreement to carry out this plan.

"One of the sources of information of this affidavit is a confidential informant present at the meetings, who saw the conspirators and heard their plans. This confidential informant saw Ferrie and Shaw and Oswald and the others and heard them agree to kill John F. Kennedy, and heard them discuss means and manner of carrying out the agreement.

"The said confidential informant, after giving his statement to affiant, voluntarily submitted to sodium pentathol, a drug known as truth serum, which was administered under the care, control and supervision of the coroner of the parish of Orleans, a licensed physician. The confidential

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"I don't know what the hell they're doing," he said. He said the move would not hurt his client, and that he had never seen this done before by the DA's office.

Clark made his statement to newsmen moments after the Senate Judiciary Committee approved his nomination to become attorney general in the cabinet of President Johnson.

CLARK SAID THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT knows what Garrison's case involves, and does not consider it valid. A Justice Department source told the States-Item this statement, made before the search warrant application was made public, applied to the investigation of Shaw and other aspects of the probe which had been made public up to that point.

"On the evidence that the FBI has, there was no connection found" between Shaw and the assassination of the President in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, Clark said.

"HE WAS CHECKED out and found clear?" Clark was asked.

"That's right," Clark replied.

At President Johnson's news conference, he said that all he knows about Garrison's investigation has been gleaned from the newspapers.

The President referred to his past statement that he saw no reason to reopen the Warren Commission investigation, and said he knows of "no reason to change anything I have said."

AT THE March 14 hearing, Garrison will have to show cause why the charge against Shaw should stand. If he fails to show sufficient cause, the charge will be dropped.

JOHNSON MAINTAINS the search warrant was illegally issued because Shaw was already under arrest. If this view is upheld, it would make all evidence gathered on the basis of the search inadmissible in court.

Earlier, Garrison's investigators said more arrests are due in the probe, but no specific time was set.

The arrest yesterday of Shaw, a leading citizen, shocked the city.

Offers of assistance for Shaw have poured in from around the world, his attorney told the States-Item today.

EDWARD F. WEGMANN, the attorney, said Shaw has many friends in many countries around the world and telephone calls expressing "shock and indignation" have been coming in constantly since the arrest.

"THERE WILL be more arrests, a considerable number of them," said Garrison, who has been probing the assassination for the past five months.

Shaw, 54, a decorated Army major in World War II, was released on \$10,000 bond last night. His luxurious French Quarter home was searched for nearly three hours by Garrison's agents.

SHAW, A RUGGEDLY handsome, silver-haired man, rushed past newsmen without a word when he was released from the Central Lockup after being booked, fingerprinted and mugged.

He was arrested in Garrison's office, where he had appeared for questioning in response to a subpoena.

It was the first arrest in Garrison's probe, which has stirred world-wide interest since it was revealed by The States-Item Feb. 17.

Garrison had recommended a bond of \$25,000, but Criminal District Judge Thomas M. Brahney reduced it to \$10,000.

The bond was posted by the Summit Fidelity Surety Company, records showed. Bernard Pettingill, a representative of General Bonding Agency Inc., also signed the release order.

Pettingill said the only words uttered by Shaw when he was being driven from the Central Lockup to his lawyer's car were these:

"It's like a big nightmare—a dream. I keep hoping I will wake up soon and it will all be over."

SHAW'S ARREST was announced nearly six hours after he appeared alone at Garrison's office after having been subpoenaed for questioning. His attorney appeared later. The announcement of Shaw's arrest said:

"The first arrest has been made in the investigation of the New Orleans district attorney's office into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

"Arrested this evening in the district attorney's office was Clay Shaw, age 54, of 1313 Dauphine st., New Orleans, La.

"Mr. Shaw will be charged with participation in a conspiracy to murder John F. Kennedy.

"It should be pointed out, however, that the nature of this case is not conducive to an immediate succession of arrests at this time. However, other arrests will be made at a later date."

IN NEW YORK, the commission's former chief counsel, J. Lee Rankin, said, "It is true that as far as I know we've never heard of this person."

Rankin, now New York City's corporation counsel, added, "I'm sorry, I just can't tell you anything about it."

Pat Riley, press secretary for U.S. Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, D-N. Y., brother of the late President, said the senator had no comment whatsoever.

In Cincinnati, the mother of Lee Harvey Oswald, the former New Orleans resident who the Warren Commission says killed Kennedy single-handedly, said of Shaw's arrest:

"This is the first break for us, because this is what we've been hoping for."

Mrs. Marguerite Oswald told a news conference last night she expects the investigation to lead to the "complete exoneration of my son."

Also questioned by the DA's office yesterday before Shaw's arrest were Perry R. Russo, 25, of Baton Rouge, and James R. Lewallen, 38, of 4406 Paris ave.

RUSSO SAYS the late David William Ferrie, found dead here last week, talked to him

about the Kennedy assassination.

Lewallen said he roomed with Ferrie several years ago in Kenner.

Other developments yesterday included the information that the DA's staff has been questioning patrons of a former French Quarter coffee shop which was frequented by Oswald before the assassination.

THE SHOP, THE Ryder Coffee House, was located at 910 N. Rampart before the building there was demolished.

It was also learned yesterday that federal police in Mexico City are questioning 14 people who met Oswald during his trip there in the fall of 1963.

This news was published by Novedades, a Mexico City daily newspaper.



ATTY. GEN. RAMSEY CLARK
Says Shaw cleared by FBI



CLAY L. SHAW
Accused in plot by DA.