

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Orleans Hearing Apparently Will Be Ended Tonight

States Russo Given Drug Three Times

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Staff Representative

NEW ORLEANS — The four-day district court hearing here into whether retired New Orleans businessman Clay Shaw should be held for trial as part of a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy in 1963 appeared headed for a conclusion, perhaps late tonight.

Chief Judge Bernard Bagert said during the noon recess he hopes testimony will be concluded late today. However, he said if it is not, he will order a night session to try to bring to a close the sensational hearings which have featured testimony by Baton Rouge insurance salesman Perry R. Russo that he overheard Shaw; accused Kennedy murderer Lee Harvey Oswald, and the late David Ferrie formulating an assassination plot here in September, 1963.

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

Page 1

State Times
Baton Rouge, La.

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Being Investigated

Testimony this morning centered around the descriptions by Orleans Parish Coroner Nicholas Chetta and Dr. Esmond Fatter, a New Orleans general practitioner, of procedures used in administering Sodium Pentothal (commonly and erroneously termed "truth serum") to Russo and placing him under hypnosis three times during questioning by the office of Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison between Feb. 27 and March 13.

Dr. Chetta, both on cross examination and re-examination this morning, reiterated statements made yesterday under oath that Russo, while under the influence of sodium pentothal relived past experiences.

However, neither he nor Dr. Fatter were permitted to testify as to what Russo told the district attorney's office while under the influence of the drug and while under hypnosis.

Immigration Records

This morning, C. W. Johnson, district director of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service here, appeared in court with the records of two men named Garcia Gonzales and defense attorneys filed with the court the duplicate copies of the records. Johnson told the court he was unable to find any record of a Julio Busnaro, whose records were also sought by attorneys for Shaw.

He said the records showed that one Garcia Gonzales is a Cuban refugee who renewed his alien registration in 1965. He said the other Garcia Gonzales came to the United States on a temporary business visa which has since been extended.

The information furnished by Johnson has not yet been utilized by either side in the hearing.

Alvin Oser, an assistant to Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison, began questioning Chetta about details of Russo's comments while under hypnosis. The defense objected.

"Your honor, he's getting out of the realm of sanity of this witness and is trying to bolster the credibility of the witness and I object," said F. Irvin Dymond.

Chetta testified that a person will sometimes recall an important event or persons as much as two weeks to a month after coming out from under hypnosis.

"He may suddenly have a refreshing of memory," said Chetta.

Q. Why is this?

A. I can't give a scientific reason, but sometimes it takes time to remove a psychological block.

Q. Is it possible not to recall what went on while under hypnosis.

A. Yes.

Q. Why?

A. You have a person in a semi-conscious state and he remembers only certain sketches of things about what happened while he was under hypnosis.

The preliminary hearing was called by Garrison to determine if sufficient evidence exists to take Shaw, a 54-year-old retired executive to trial.

Garrison has stated he will prove that an assassination conspiracy was hatched in New Orleans and culminated in the death of Kennedy.

Today is Shaw's 54th birthday. The tall, distinguished-looking former director of New Orleans International Trade Mart arrived for the fourth day of the hearing apparently in good spirits.

"Good morning," Shaw said to one of the deputy sheriffs guarding the crowded courtroom, and shook hands.

Shaw then conferred with Dymond, smiling at times.

His cheerful demeanor contrasted sharply with his somber mood of yesterday, when his bloodshot eyes betrayed fatigue.

'Bomb in A Small Bag'

While Garrison was in the grand jury room yesterday, swarms of deputy sheriffs were tightening security precautions and searching Judge Bagert's courtroom for a "bomb in a small bag," reported by an anonymous caller to have been planted in the hearing chamber.

Deputies said they could not locate a bomb of any kind, but continued tight security throughout the day, with each person being searched thoroughly as he left or entered the courtroom.

Added to security precautions yesterday was the placing of a stamp on each person's left hand in invisible ink, which showed up as a bright purple blotch when placed under portable infra-red lights.

In cross-examination yesterday, these points were brought out:

—Russo, who seemed at one point on the verge of collapsing, denied he had ever contemplated suicide, but did admit to being under psychiatric care in 1960 and 1961.

—Russo admitted he was hypnotized three times by Dr. Esmond Fatter, a private New Orleans physician, during the Feb. 27 to March period in which he was questioned by Garrison's staff.

—Russo denied he played any part in plotting the assassination of President Kennedy and said he did not know if the trio he heard planning the murder went through the scheme or if they were serious about it.

—Russo said he did not discuss the plot with Ferrie after the assassination. Ferrie died a week after Garrison announced he planned arrests soon. Russo said Ferrie had a way of "discouraging conversation" he did not like.

'Too Busy in College'

—Russo said he did not report what he heard to the Warren Commission because he was too busy with trying to complete college, and he did not go to the FBI with his story because "every screwball on the streets was doing that at the time." Russo said when the Warren Commission pinned the blame on Oswald he dropped the entire matter until he read of Ferrie's death and called the State Times in Baton Rouge to make a statement on Ferrie's part in the plot.

—Russo contended he did not know Lee Harvey Oswald was the person he knew in New Orleans as "Leon Oswald" until he was shown a picture of Oswald with a three to four-day growth of beard and unruly hair. But yesterday he said he saw Oswald early in October as he prepared to leave for Houston and that he was clean shaven and neat in his appearance.

In afternoon testimony, Orleans Coroner Nicholas Chetta testified Russo submitted voluntarily to narco-analysis, accomplished through injection of sodium pentothal, commonly known as "truth serum," into a vein into the right arm over a 40-minute period on Feb. 27.

Dr. Chetta Testified

Dr. Chetta testified:

—Russo is sane and has all the requirements for legal sanity. He said Russo had the same reaction and requirements in February when he first began talking to the district attorney, and also at the time the tests were made.

—During the narco-analysis and since that time he has observed Russo to be well oriented, intelligent in his statements and without hallucinations.

Asked if Russo could have been faking during the truth serum tests, the coroner said he definitely was not faking.

The coroner said when he revived Russo the young Baton Rougean told members of Garrison's staff he had forgotten to tell them of one happening, and then proceeded to repeat what he had already told them while under the influence of the drug.

Dr. Chetta has testified that a person under the influence of sodium penothal could not possibly dream up specific facts, figures and dates. He said "a person has to live through an experience to be able to relive it in such detail."

More than 100 members of the press from throughout the world have crowded into the small courtroom since Tuesday to strain their ears to hear testimony in the hearing, which challenges the validity of the Warren Report that put full blame on Oswald alone for the death of the President at Dallas, shortly after noon on Nov. 22, 1963.

Wednesday, attorneys for Shaw attempted to place in evidence the entire 26 volumes of the Warren Report, but Judge Bagert angrily denied permission. Shaw's attorneys were attempting to prove Oswald was not in New Orleans at the time Russo said he sat with him, Shaw and Ferrje and discussed assassination plans.



CARDINAL DISCUSSES KENNEDY ASSASSINATION—Richard Cardinal Cushing of Boston banter with newsmen then turns serious, right, as he said "I never believed" that the assassination of President John F. Kennedy "was the work of one man." Cardi-

nal Cushing yesterday blessed the new grave site for Kennedy in Washington. He met newsmen to announce a fund drive for the Boston Catholic Archdiocese in advance of his 75th birthday in 1970. His comment followed a question on the New Orleans probe.