

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# SHAW INDICTED ON COUNT OF PLOTTING TO SLAY JFK

## Grand Jury Returns True Bill in Garrison Probe

The Orleans Parish Grand Jury returned an indictment against Clay L. Shaw Wednesday afternoon, relieving District Attorney Jim Garrison of having to file a bill of information against Shaw, whom Garrison has accused of conspiring to murder President John F. Kennedy.

The jury returned the true bill at 4:55 p. m. before Criminal District Court Judge Matthew S. Braniff, charging that Shaw, 54-year-old former International Trade Mart managing director, "did wilfully and unlawfully conspire" to murder Kennedy.

Earlier Wednesday, Perry Raymond Russo, a 25-year-old Baton Rouge insurance salesman who was Garrison's star witness in a four-day preliminary hearing for Shaw last week, also testified before the grand jury in a surprise appearance.

Albert V. LaBiche, grand jury foreman, said after the session that Russo was the only witness the grand jury heard Wednesday in relation to the assassination investigation. Russo spent one hour and 50 minutes with the jury.

At the hearing, Russo claimed that he was present in September, 1963, when Shaw, Lee Harvey Oswald and David W. Ferrie allegedly plotted the presidential assassination.

### TEXT IS GIVEN

The text of the indictment returned against Shaw follows:

"The grand jury of the State of Louisiana, duly impaneled and sworn in and for the body of the Parish of Orleans, in

the name and by the authority of the said state upon their oath, presents that one Clay L. Shaw, late of the Parish of Orleans, between the first day of September and the tenth day of October, in the year of Our Lord 1963, with force and arms in the Parish of Orleans aforesaid, and within the jurisdiction of the Criminal District Court for the Parish

of Orleans, did wilfully and unlawfully conspire with David W. Ferrie, herein named but not charged, and Lee Harvey Oswald, herein named but not charged, and others, not herein named, to murder John F. Kennedy."

The indictment was signed by assistant DA Alvin Oser.

Oswald was named by the Warren Commission as President Kennedy's lone assassin, and was murdered two days after the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination by the late Jack Ruby.

Ferrie, a free-lance pilot, died Feb. 22 in his Louisiana ave. pkwy. apartment.

### RELEASED ON BOND

Judge Braniff, one of the three judges who presided at Shaw's hearing, explained that Garrison could have either filed a bill of information or presented the case to the grand jury, as he did. Had the jury returned a no-true-bill decision, the judge added, the DA could have still brought Shaw's case to trial with a bill of information.

Asked if he knew why Garrison gave the case to the grand jury instead of filing a bill of information, Judge Braniff replied:

"Gee, I don't know; perhaps because of the seriousness of the situation. It's a public affair. The President of the United States is involved."

Although Garrison would not comment on the subject, Oser told newsmen that "this is the way Mr. Garrison wanted it."

Conviction in Louisiana on a murder conspiracy charge carries a maximum sentence of 20 years.

After the indictment was read, Braniff released Shaw on his present \$10,000 bond, but suggested that Shaw's attorneys be contacted so that the defendant may appear Thursday morning for a technical resigning of the bond.

Shaw, released Wednesday from Southern Baptist Hospi-

tal, where he underwent an annual checkup and treatment for a back ailment, had earlier received approval to spend Thursday through Monday on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Following Russo's appearance before the grand jury Wednesday, he was taken to Garrison's second-floor office in the Criminal Courts Building, apparently for further questioning on his knowledge of the alleged conspiracy. Russo refused comment to newsmen.

### NOVEL OUT OF TOWN

Steven R. Plotkin, attorney for Gordon Novel, for whom a subpoena to appear Wednesday had been issued, said his client was in Washington, D.C.

Criminal sheriff's deputies were unsuccessful Tuesday night in trying to serve the subpoena on Novel at the Jamaican Village, 800 N. Rampart. Deputies were told there that Novel had sold the bar Sunday, three days after his first appearance before the grand jury.

However, a reporter for the Columbus, Ohio, Citizen-Journal told The Times-Picayune Wednesday that Novel has been in Columbus since Monday night. The reporter quoted

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

Page 1

The Times-Picayune  
New Orleans, La.

Date: 3-23-67  
Edition:  
Author:  
Editor:  
Title: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY 11-22-63  
Character:  
or 89-  
Classification: N.O.  
Submitting Office:  
 Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

Novel as saying he's not going back to New Orleans until he knows what "Garrison's plans for me are."  
 Asked how long he intends to stay in Columbus, Novel is reported to have said it de-

ended on his attorney. Novel went on to say, the interviewer reported, that Garrison had offered him immunity from prosecution, but had later gone back on the pledge. Garrison asked Novel to submit to questioning under sodium pentothal and hypnosis, the latter is quoted as saying. Novel said he would do it if Garrison would let him select recognized experts who would administer the drug or hypnotize him, and to the questioning.

**'PERSONAL REASONS'**

Concerning Novel's absence when deputies attempted to serve the subpoena, Plotkin said that his client had not left town to avoid the subpoena, but for "personal reasons."

"It should be noted," Plotkin added, "that this scheduled meeting of the grand jury is unusual in that it was called for Wednesday rather than the usual Thursday meeting. It was Mr. Novel's and my impression when we appeared last Thursday . . . that he would be recalled the following Thursday."

Plotkin would not comment on

whether Novel would be present for a grand jury meeting Thursday.

Before his testimony to the jury last week, Novel, 29, stated that he believed Garrison wanted to ask him about events concerning former Cuban exile leader Sergio Arcacha Smith in 1961.

**WEEKEND IN MISS.**

Arcacha, who led an organization called the Cuban Democratic Revolutionary Front, lived here in 1961, during which time he trained men for a planned invasion of Cuba. He left New Orleans for Houston, Tex., in 1962, where he was at the time of the 1963 murder of Kennedy. He has lived in Dallas

for the past three years.

The approval for Shaw to spend the weekend in Mississippi followed a motion to that effect filed by one of his attorneys, F. Irvin Dymond. Judge Braniff and Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara approved the motion, which allows Shaw to leave the court's jurisdiction until Monday.

Charles R. Ward, first assistant district attorney, did not oppose the motion, Judge O'Hara said.

The motion requesting permission for Shaw to leave the court's jurisdiction said:

—That Shaw is booked in these proceedings with the crime of conspiracy to commit murder and is presently free on \$10,000 bail.

—That Shaw, desirous to go to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, which is beyond the Criminal District Court's jurisdiction, will leave New Orleans Thursday and will return here Monday.

—That Shaw will furnish his attorneys with his precise Gulf Coast telephone number and address, and if required to return prior to Monday, will do so upon approximately three hours notice from his attorneys.

—That the surety on the bail bond joins in the motion for permission to leave the jurisdiction for the purpose of indicating his consent to the granting authority.

Bernard F. Pettingill, representing the Summit Fidelity and Surety Co., and Edward F. and William J. Wegmann, also attorneys for Shaw, joined Dymond in making the motion.



**GORDON NOVEL**  
 Witness in Ohio

**Surprise Appearance at Grand Jury Session**



LEAVING THE ORLEANS PARISH Grand Jury room Wednesday with assistant district attorney Andrew Sciambra (right) is Perry Raymond Russo, star witness in District Attorney Jim Garrison's presidential assassination probe. Russo made an unexpected appearance at the session. He testi-

fied at a hearing last week that he heard Clay L. Shaw plotting to kill President John F. Kennedy in the company of Lee Harvey Oswald and David W. Ferrie. The grand jury indicted Shaw Wednesday on a conspiracy charge shortly after Russo appeared.

—AP WIREPHOTO.