

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Gurvich Due To Testify DA Probe Is 'Hoax'

William Gurvich, former aide in Dist. Attorney Jim Garrison's Kennedy assassination plot probe, goes before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury today prepared to testify that the investigation is a hoax. Gurvich, a 42-year-old private detective, said he underwent private lie detector tests yesterday in Chicago to back up his charges that Garrison's probe has no substance.

HE SAID he went to Chicago to have the tests performed by John E. Reid, head of John E. Reid and Associates, whom Gurvich calls the top man in the polygraph field.

The firm announced that Gurvich passed the test.

The tests will "prove I'm telling the truth when I say Garrison's investigation is a hoax," Gurvich said, charging that Garrison can "produce as many witnesses as he wants who will lie under oath."

The investigator defected from Garrison's office June 26 after a lengthy absence from the public eye, charging that the probe should be halted.

Gurvich said he would supply members of the grand jury with copies of the lie detector results.

ALSO TODAY attorneys for Clay L. Shaw, charged by Garrison with conspiracy to murder the President, are expected to take legal action to prevent Garrison from appearing on a nationwide television broadcast Saturday night.

The defense attorneys contend that Garrison's appear-

ance would be a transgression of the guidelines set down by trial Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr.

Shaw, former managing director of the International Trade Mart, has been charged by Garrison with conspiring with Lee Harvey Oswald, David Ferrie and Jack Ruby to murder the President in Dallas Nov. 22.

Oswald was the man the Warren Commission labeled as the lone assassin; Ruby, a Dallas nightclub operator, shot Oswald two days after the assassination; Ferrie was a one-time airline pilot. All three men are dead.

YESTERDAY Shaw's attorneys, F. Irvin Dymond and William Wegmann, said they had arranged a 3 p. m. meeting with Judge Haggerty for the purpose of attempting to block Garrison's television appearance.

However, Judge Haggerty, vacationing in Biloxi, did not show up and by 5:30 Wegmann and Dymond left the Criminal Courts Building. Asst. Dist. Attys. Richard V. Burnes and James L. Alcock, who had been asked to attend the meeting, also gave up and went home.

The defense attorneys said they would try again today to get an injunction from Haggerty, who, they said, is expected back in his courtroom today.

Garrison's planned television appearance Saturday came as a result of an offer by the National Broadcasting Co. to give the district attorney "equal time" after an NBC show June 19 blasted Garrison's investigation.

THE NETWORK offered Garrison a half-hour "live" network appearance to be broadcast from WDSU-TV, the NBC affiliate in New Orleans.

Garrison yesterday charged WDSU reporter Richard Townley with public bribery and intimidation of two of the state's witnesses as a result of the NBC program.

Townley, who has worked full-time on the probe investigation for several months, showed up at the Clerk of Court's office yesterday to post a \$7,500 bond.

Townley's arrest warrant was the second issued in the space of a week by Garrison's office in the probe.

Last Friday, Walter Sheridan, news investigator for NBC and a former Justice Department investigator, was ordered arrested on similar charges.

Sheridan, one of the producers of the NBC show, was last seen by New Orleans newsmen on June 28, during the last meeting of the grand jury.

SHERIDAN, reportedly in Washington, is expected to arrive in New Orleans some time this week to post his \$5,000 bond.

Townley was charged in three bills of information yesterday with attempting to bribe and intimidate Perry Raymond Russo, so far the DA's star witness in the Shaw case, and with intimidating another state witness, Marlene Mancuso.

Miss Mancuso, a one-time beauty queen, is the former wife of Gordon Novel, a fugitive from Louisiana, charged by Garrison with conspiracy to commit burglary. He is also believed wanted by the district attorney for questioning in the assassination probe.

On June 21, Garrison released a sworn statement from Miss Mancuso in which she was quoted as saying Townley told her Garrison would be destroyed by NBC

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

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STATES-ITEM  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Date: 7-12-67  
Edition: RED COMET  
Author:  
Editor:  
Title: ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEX.  
Character: 11-22-63 AFO  
Classification: 89-  
Submitting Office: N.O., LA.  
 Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

and that her reputation would not be damaged if she would cooperate.

The day before, Russo held a press conference in Alcock's office and charged that he had been bribed and intimidated by both Townley and Sheridan.

He said he had been offered a house and a job in California, as well as a number of other benefits, if he would recant his testimony against Shaw and join the defense in destroying Garrison's case.

TOWNLEY yesterday called the charges against him "completely false" and "absurd." In a statement to newsmen after he posted his bond, Townley said:

"Mr. Garrison's accusations against me, like those against my colleague from NBC, Walter Sheridan, are completely false. I am honored to find myself in the distinguished company of a man like Mr. Sheridan, who has established a national reputation for in-

tegrity as an investigator for the McClellan Rackets Committee, the Justice Department and now NBC news.

"This would be a minor—even a joking—matter if only the freedom of myself or Mr. Sheridan were involved. The stakes, however, are much higher than that.

"The charges against Mr. Sheridan last week and the charges against me here today are obviously part of the campaign to intimidate reporters everywhere who dare to question the methods of Mr. Garrison, his assistants and his investigators.

"The use of this high office for such low purposes makes a mockery of the justice he is supposed to uphold. Our society has survived other attempts by politicians to silence criticism in the news media.

"UNFORTUNATELY, there is a lengthy tradition of that kind in Louisiana politics. I am confident that those who

bear the heavy burden of reporting the truth—even if that truth hurts—will not be intimidated by this obvious attempt to silence criticisms.

"I am equally confident that these absurd charges will be proven groundless in any fair, impartial trial."

One of the star "informants" on NBC's show last month, John "The Baptist" Cancler, is also scheduled to appear before the grand jury today.

Cancler, a convicted burglar awaiting a hearing on a motion for a new trial, told NBC reporters in a Parish Prison interview that two of Garrison's investigators had asked him to break into the French Quarter home of Clay Shaw and "put something there."

Asst. Dist. Atty. Burnes said that both Cancler and Gurvich had been subpoenaed before the jury—Gurvich for the second time—to give them the opportunity to "put up or shut up."