

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

# Shaw Maneuver Balked by Court

Attorneys for Clay L. Shaw, retired businessman, charged with conspiring to murder President Kennedy, today lost their fight to have testimony taken from Mrs. Lillie Mae McMaines by deposition.

Mrs. McMaines, who was known in New Orleans as Sandra Moffett, is a former girl friend of the state's star witness in the Shaw case, Perry Raymond Russo. She is now living in Iowa, a state which does not honor an interstate legal compact requiring the return of material witnesses.

SHE HAS refused to return to New Orleans, and efforts by the district attorney's office to have her returned as a witness for the prosecution failed.

Today, Criminal District Judge Edward A. Haggerty denied Shaw's attorney F. Irvin Dymond's motion, which sought the court's approval to take Mrs. McMaines' testimony by deposition in Des Moines.

Judge Haggerty told Dymond that he was not filing a written answer to the motion and that the only way he could protest the ruling would be by filing a bill of exceptions, which Dymond did.

Dymond argued the ruling, saying that both the state and the defense were interested in the testimony of Mrs. McMaines and that she had volunteered to be available to give sworn testimony in Iowa. Dymond had proposed that representatives of the prosecution and the defense go to Iowa to take the deposition.

JUDGE HAGGERTY said that he did not care whether the state and defense agreed or not, that he was not going to allow them to break the law. He said the criminal law makes no provision for taking such depositions.

Dymond also filed with the court today a supplemental motion to quash the indictment against Shaw.

Shaw, who was originally arrested March 1 and charged by DA Jim Garrison with plotting to kill the President, was indicted on the charge by the Orleans Parish Grand Jury. Garrison claims that Shaw met with the late freelance pilot David W. Ferrie, a man named Leon Oswald and others at Ferrie's apartment in mid-September, 1963, to plot the assassination.

Russo, at a preliminary hearing for Shaw in March, testified that Leon Oswald was Lee Harvey Oswald, the man named as assassin by the Warren Commission. He also said he saw Shaw there and overheard the three conspiring.

In the supplemental motion to quash, Dymond claims that Mrs. McMaines' testimony is vital to the defense of Shaw. Mrs. McMaines has said publicly that she knew Ferrie but not until after the assassination. Russo testified that she attended the party in 1963.

Dymond also charges that the defendant has been informed that one or more members of the grand jury which indicted Shaw are members of a corporation which has contributed to Truth and Consequences of New Orleans, Inc., the group of businessmen bankrolling the DA's investigation.

THE MOTION also charges that actions of the grand jury have deprived Shaw of his constitutional rights of due process and that actions by Garrison have made it impossible for Shaw to receive a fair trial.

The defense charges that public statements, including an open letter by Garrison to the Federal Communications Commission, have created a climate unfavorable to fair trial.

Too, the DA has not furnished Shaw with information sufficient for him to properly defend himself, the motion states.

The motion says that incidents known to the state—particularly incidents involving Russo and state witness Vernon Bundy — which cast doubt on the veracity of witnesses for the prosecution. A fellow inmate of Vernon Bundy, convicted narcotics offender, has stated publicly that Bundy lied when he said he saw Lee Oswald and Shaw together during the summer of 1963.

Finally, the motion charges that Garrison has given information to Life Magazine about the case, information which the state has refused to furnish Shaw's attorneys.

The motion charges that the DA allowed a Life photographer to photograph Shaw surreptitiously through a fake mirror while he was being questioned in the DA's office. The defense also charges that the DA's office has evidence which would prove Shaw's innocence and is suppressing it.

On another front of Garrison's investigation, attorney Milton Brener filed three motions on behalf of television newsman Walter Sheridan, who is charged by Garrison with public bribery.

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STATES-ITEM

NEW ORLEANS, LA.

Date: 8-31-67

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Author:

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Sheridan was charged following a television special which was produced by the National Broadcasting Co., Sheridan's employer, and which was critical of the Garrison investigation.

THE NBC reporter has accused Garrison of filing the charge against him out of personal animosity.

A federal court has ruled that Sheridan will not have to go before the parish grand jury, as desired by the DA's office.

Today, Brenner filed a motion to quash the charge against him and a second motion seeking the recusal of Garrison as prosecutor in the case. The third motion asks for a preliminary examination.

Brenner in his motion to quash, stated that the offense with which his client is charged is not punishable under a valid statute. He said the state law—Louisiana Revised Statute 14-118—is "violative of the due process clause of Fifth and 14th Amendments of the U.S. Constitution and of the Louisiana Constitution."

Brenner said the law, being vague and indefinite fails to meet the requirements of "certainty in criminal statutes" and he therefore asked that the charge against Sheridan be quashed and the defendant discharged.

IN HIS motion to recuse Garrison, Brenner charges the latter has "a personal interest in conflict with fair impartial administration of justice" and has exhibited "personal animosity" toward Sheridan.

He said Garrison has "a keen personal interest in discrediting" Sheridan because his client disclosed evidence of bribery, intimidation and improper practices by the DA's staff and broadcast this information.

The motion charges that Garrison has made numerous public and private statements exhibiting personal animosity toward the reporter.

Garrison, he said, has referred to Sheridan as a "snake" and has vowed "to get" Sheridan. Garrison is also charged by Brenner with receiving funds donated by private groups and individuals for which he is not required to account and has "additionally received funds from various newspapers, magazines and other publications for material furnished by the district attorney."

THE MOTION for the preliminary examination, a hearing to determine whether a defendant should go to trial, charges that there is "no creditable evidence of his (Sheridan's) guilt" and therefore, under provisions of state law, the court should conduct such a hearing.