

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# Hearing Set On Thornley Perjury Charge

Criminal District Court Judge Oliver P. Schulingkamp today set a hearing March 18 on a case involving an Atlanta man being charged with perjury by District Attorney Jim Garrison in the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy.

Kerry Thornley, 31, who says he knew Lee Harvey Oswald for only three months in 1959 when both were stationed at El Toro Marine Air Base in California, is charged with perjury in denying to a 1967 Orleans Parish grand jury he had seen Oswald during the summer of 1963. The date when Garrison charges Thornley saw Oswald is several months before President Kennedy was shot. The Warren Commission reported Oswald was the assassin.

Judge Schulingkamp took under advisement two motions by Edward Baldwin, Thornley's attorney. Baldwin holds Thornley's testimony was not relevant to the investigation of the Kennedy assassination and Thornley was denied his right to counsel during the grand jury hearing.

Thornley said earlier this year that although he lived in New Orleans when Kennedy was assassinated, "I never saw Oswald while I lived there. My main crime is telling Jim Garrison to 'go to hell' when he tried to recruit me as a prosecution witness."

Thornley has also said he knew Oswald as a "quiet, somewhat emotionally disturbed person who gave me the impression he was turned off by violence."

Assistant DA William Alford said he will file replies to Baldwin's motions with the court prior to the March 18 hearing.

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PAGE 38

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