

POLICE REPORT

# DA's Hole Cards Topic of Guesses

By JACK DEMPSEY

The stage was set last week for one of the most dramatic legal battles in the history of the Criminal District Courts in New Orleans.

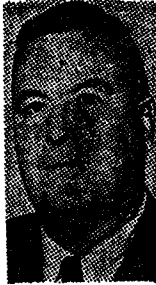
The celebrated "conspiracy to assassinate a President" case has been docketed in Section "C"—Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr.'s section of court—and immediately veteran court attaches began adding up a list of "coincidences."

They point out, for example, that Albert V. LaBiche, foreman of the grand jury which indicted Clay L. Shaw this past week, also served as foreman of the grand jury which investigated the famed Diddie Cooper murder case.

Judge Haggerty, then an assistant district attorney, coincidentally, served as prosecutor in the Cooper trial.

Judge Haggerty occupies the same courtroom which the late Judge Fred W. Oser presided over for many years. Judge Oser's son, Asst. Dist. Atty. Alvin V. Oser, is one of the leading prosecutors who is scheduled to represent the state in the Shaw case.

Attorney F. Irvin Dymond, one of Shaw's co-counsel, gained prominence in the Ginger Baumann case when he won an acquittal for the comely young woman charged with slaying her husband. The case was fought in the same courtroom—Section "C," then presided over by Judge Oser.



JACK DEMPSEY

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**THE BIG QUESTION BEING RAISED** these days is: "How much more evidence does Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison have than was exposed at the recent three-judge preliminary hearing?"

Many observers were surprised that Perry Russo was the only witness apparently called by the grand jury before it returned an indictment in the case.

Courthouse lawyers point out that the words "and others" in the conspiracy indictment may prove to be most significant in the days to come.

An authoritative source says there will be at least 22 witnesses called by the state when the Shaw case comes to trial. Another reliable source predicts that at least two more persons, as yet unnamed, will be indicted in the alleged conspiracy.

The preliminary hearing attracted newsmen from abroad, and it's a safe bet that the trial will bring the same group back—along with many others.

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**SHAW IS THE FIRST PERSON** to be actually brought to trial in connection with the Kennedy assassination, and the spotlight will once again be focused on New Orleans at trial time.

Several public opinion polls indicate that more than 60 per cent of the public believe or want to believe that there were more persons involved than Lee Harvey Oswald in the assassination.

Many believe there was a conspiracy involved, and thus Garrison has a legion of backers and well-wishers on his side.

Close followers, including many "doubting Thomases," are disturbed by the fact that Garrison announced that he had his case "solved" before Russo came onto the scene. But then—is Russo his real "star witness" or does he have

several more in reserve?

Look for Criminal Sheriff Louis A. Heyd Jr. to revamp his security setup when the trial date is finally announced. Although his office received plaudits for the manner in which the security of the courtroom and the entire building was effected, Sheriff Heyd plans to make some changes pending the approval of Judge Haggerty.

Foremost among these revisions will be the press clearance. For the hearing, Heyd's office kept file cards on the members of the news media covering the hearing and issued small business-type cards with their names and numbers.

These cards were surrendered by the press members as they filed into court and were retrieved as they left. This caused a bottle-neck at the court entrance and will be junked for the trial.

Heyd plans to issue larger cards containing a small photo of the news representative on the reverse side. These cards will be laminated and will remain in the possession of the newsmen to be used to enter and leave court.

Ptn. Louis Ivon, chief investigator for the district attorney's office, who succeeded ex-FBI agent Ray Beck when the latter resigned several months ago, came through with flying colors at a crucial time in the conduct of the probe.

Ptn. Ivon is calling the shots on the investigation procedures and is being assisted by William Gurchich, an outside investigator hired by Garrison.

With hundreds of leads to be run out and scores of witnesses to be interrogated, the job of ramrodding the investigation calls for a cool head and efficient leadership.

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**HOLIDAY POSTSCRIPTS:** Ptn. Charles Kelly showed up at police headquarters on St. Patrick's Day attired in a natty outfit featuring a Kelly-green vest and bright green tie. Kelly's father-in-law, Sam Moran, investigator for the coroner's office, was in the front line of the big Irish Channel parade. And the queen herself was the daughter of a policeman; The beauteous lass, Kathy Lampard, is the daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Robert Lampard. Veteran deputy criminal Sheriff Joe Segretto, along with his wife Grace, and sister-in-law Mrs. Elizabeth Mangiaricina, created a beautiful St. Joseph's altar at Sheriff Segretto's residence, 4471 Arts. And Ptn. Charles Trapani remembered all his friends on the big day, passing out "lucky beans," the traditional goodluck piece from an altar.

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**BADGES OF THE WEEK:** Radio dispatchers John Coglaiti and Henry Jochum teamed up with Ptn. Robert Moore and Ptn. James Kyle in effecting the arrest of a 25-year-old Negro armed robbery suspect who was captured after a shoot-out in the vicinity of the Magnolia Housing project following a hold-up at a finance company in the 1300 block of Tulane. And Det. Val Edler of the auto theft bureau nabbed another armed robbery suspect within a few minutes after he allegedly held up a bus driver Tuesday afternoon. Shortly after the description had been broadcast, Det. Edler saw the suspect running in the 2000 block of LaHarpe. He disarmed the 18-year-old Negro and placed him under arrest. The youth was subsequently identified by the bus driver as the one who had robbed him. **END**

LIKE RAT CAUGHT IN MAZE

# Last Orleans Summer Frustrating for Oswald

With the developing investigation of the Kennedy assassination by District Attorney Jim Garrison, the life and activities of Lee Harvey Oswald in New Orleans have taken on new significance. While the story of Oswald's stay here has been told before, The States-Item felt its readers would find renewed interest in the facts surrounding his time in the city. This is the first of five articles on Oswald in New Orleans taken from information contained in The Warren Report.

By NEIL SANDERS

Lee Harvey Oswald spent the last summer of his life in New Orleans, the city of his birth.

It was a summer filled with frustration and unhappiness for the accused assassin of President John F. Kennedy. He was like a rat caught in a maze from which there was no hope of escape.

His marriage, never very stable, was on the verge of breaking up.

His wife was pregnant with their second child and Oswald at first had no job.

He was bitterly disillusioned with the governments of both Russia and the United States.

His efforts to attract support for the self-conceived Fair Play for Cuba Committee had failed dismally.

The Marine Corps had refused to retract the dishonorable discharge he received in 1962.

Little wonder, then, that his wife, Marina, was to later tell the Warren Commission that Oswald became very depressed in New Orleans and that she once found him alone in the dark crying.

**THOUGH IT GREW PROGRESSIVELY DARKER**, the outlook during the first part of Oswald's five-month stay here seemed almost bright.

It was a warm spring day in late April, 1963, when Oswald returned to the city where he was born and had attended Beauregard and Warren Easton schools.

He came here by bus, leaving his Russian wife and 14-month-old daughter with a friend, Mrs. Ruth Paine, in Irving, Tex.

From the bus station, he dialed his mother's sister, Mrs. Lillian Murret, and asked if he could stay with her until he found a job. The call took Mrs. Murret by surprise. She didn't know her nephew had returned from a three-year stay in Russia.

Mrs. Murret agreed to put up Oswald at her home on French st., a tree-lined, upper middle-class area near City Park.

The next day Oswald began looking for a job. Mrs. Murret told the Warren Commission he would spend the day job-hunting, return to her home for supper, watch television, and go to bed.

**DURING HIS FIRST FEW DAYS HERE**, Oswald showed

great interest in finding out what had happened to relatives of his father, who died two months before Lee Harvey was born.

"He visited the cemetery where his father was buried, and called all the Oswalds in the telephone book," the Warren Report states. "By this method he located one relative, Mrs. Hazel Oswald of Metairie, the widow of William Stout Oswald, his father's brother."

Lee visited Mrs. Oswald and chatted at length with her. She gave him a picture of his father and told him the rest of the family was dead.

Oswald began work May 10 as an oiler at William B. Reily Co., a coffee firm at 640 Magazine. Salary: \$1.50 an hour.

He was elated to find work. "... He came home waving the newspaper and he grabbed me around the neck, and he even kissed me, and he said, 'I got it; I got it,'" Mrs. Murret recalled.

Even so, Oswald apparently felt the job was beneath him. He later told his wife and Mrs. Paine that he was working in commercial photography.

Also employed by the coffee firm at that time was Dante Marachini, one of the men subpoenaed by District Attorney Jim Garrison in his new probe of the Kennedy assassination. Nothing can be found in the Warren Report to indicate Marachini knew Oswald. He has refused to talk to newsmen.

(Continued tomorrow.)

END

# Novel Calls Probe Fraud Take Lie Test

## DA Challenged

Gordon Novel, a material witness in District Attorney Jim Garrison's assassination probe, today called the investigation an "enormous fraud" and challenged the DA to take a lie detector test.

By mid-afternoon, Garrison's office had responded by telling federal authorities it will request a U.S. warrant charging Novel with unlawful flight to avoid testimony.

"I think it's odd that he can be found by newspaper and television media and not by the people who are trying to arrest him," Asst. DA James Alcock declared.

ALCOCK SAID he sent a letter to federal district attorney Louis LaCour, advising him Garrison's office will seek the unlawful flight charge, which will bring federal officers into the search.

The 29-year-old Novel underwent a lie test over the weekend at McLean, Va. The test was administered by Lloyd B. Furr, a private investigator.

Novel called a States-Item reporter and challenged Garrison to take the same type of lie detector test that he himself underwent.

SUCH A TEST, said Novel, would prove that Garrison's investigation is "one big fraud."

"It's the most enormous fraud ever perpetrated in the annals of the legal history of the state of Louisiana," said Novel.

Bond has been set at \$50,000 for Novel, an ex-French Quarter bar owner, and a warrant has been issued for his arrest.

Novel's attorney, Steve Plot-



—AP WIREPHOTO.  
GORDON NOVEL

### Probe--

Continued from Front Page

kin, said today he will ask that the bond be reduced.

PLOTKIN SAID the bond would cost his client \$5,000 and "he hasn't got that kind of money."

Plotkin appeared today before Criminal District Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. to ask that the material witness charge against Novel be trans-

ferred to Haggerty's court.

It was allotted last week to Judge Rudolph Becker Jr. Plotkin argued that Haggerty should hear the case because he is handling the main phase of the assassination probe, the trial on criminal conspiracy charges of Clay L. Shaw.

Haggerty agreed, and Judge Becker approved.

JUDGE HAGGERTY, meanwhile, postponed a hearing on Plotkin's motion to drop the material witness warrant against Novel until 1 p.m. Wednesday to give the DA's office an opportunity to study the appeal.

In filing his motion today, Plotkin requested an immediate hearing because he said Novel's "freedom and safety are in danger."

Asst. DA William Alford wanted the hearing delayed until next Wednesday, but Judge Haggerty said a hearing Wednesday would give the DA's men plenty of time to review the motion.

AS HE LEFT the courtroom, Plotkin refused to say what further advice he might give his client.

"Since Mr. Novel has not been arrested at this time," the attorney added, "I'm hoping he can continue to elude arrest until the hearing Wednesday."

Shaw, former director of the International Trade Mart, has been indicted for conspiracy in connection with the 1963 assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

SHAW WAS DUE back in New Orleans today after spending the Easter weekend on the Mississippi Gulf coast. He left the city Friday for a

rest.

Novel declined to tell the States-Item where he is staying, but said he is in "international jurisdiction."

"If Garrison wants me, he will have to go through the World Court." The reference here was apparently to a court set up by the United Nations.

"YOU CAN TELL everyone in New Orleans I'm definitely coming back, but not until Mr. Garrison's investigation has blown up sky high."

"I want my creditors to know, as well as the Truth and Consequences Committee (a private group set up to finance the Garrison investigation), that I will be back and it will be soon."

Novel said he planned to sue members of the committee and the district attorney as well.

BY THE TIME members of the committee have answered his law suits, said Novel, "I'll have half of the fortunes of the city in my back pocket."

Asked if he had an attorney present when he took the lie test in Virginia, Novel replied, "The word is attorneys—plural."

Novel also described the questions asked in the lie test.

The witness said he replied "yes" to a number of questions including:

—Did he meet with Jim Garrison on the day before Ferrie died?

—Did he go with Garrison to the Roosevelt Hotel?

—Was the meeting at the request of Willard Robertson (a member of Truth or Consequences)?

—Did Robertson promise that he (Novel) would not get involved if he cooperated?

—Was this a highly secret meeting?

—Did he confer with Garrison about involvement of David Ferrie in a conspiracy to kill Kennedy?

—Did Garrison tell him that Ferrie took a lie test and

according to the test, was not involved.

—Did Garrison tell him Layton Martens (subpenaed to appear before the Grand Jury) took a lie test which showed he was not involved in the conspiracy?

—Did he (Novel) consider the investigation to be a fraud?

Novel said he answered "no" to questions as to whether Jefferson Parish attorney Dean A. Andrews Jr. was involved and whether he had knowledge of a "genuine" conspiracy to kill Kennedy.

Novel also elaborated on what he said was a "bizarre plan" to extract a confession from Ferrie.

Ferrie, according to the district attorney, plotted with Shaw and Lee Harvey Oswald to kill the President. The plot was allegedly hatched in Ferrie's apartment.

The bizarre plan, according to a question in the lie test, consisted of shooting Ferrie with a drug, taking him to a "secret place, forcing the administration of sodium pen-

tothal until he confessed," said Novel.

Novel said he also answered in the affirmative to a question as to whether the district attorney's chief investigator, William Gurvich, threatened or intimidated him.

NOVEL SAID he answered in the negative to questions as to whether he knew that Shaw was involved in any conspiracy and as to whether he ever met Oswald.

Oswald has been named by the Warren Commission, set up to investigate the President's assassination, as having acted alone.

Novel said the lie test was signed by a Ruth Charters, a notary public.

"I'M COMING BACK, but I'm not coming back now to be browbeaten by Garrison or any of his people," said Novel. "Nor am I coming back to lie for Garrison."

Novel said he had his own "30 questions" for Garrison to answer.

"Garrison is power mad," said Novel. "His mad ambitions have run away with him." **END**