

# Subpenaed in Partin Case

# U.S. Jury Calls Strate, 3 More

9-21-67

State's I Item

Subpenas were issued today for Zachary "Red" Strate and three other New Orleans men to appear before a federal grand jury here Tuesday.

Strate, a New Orleans builder, was convicted of conspiracy and fraud along with Teamster Union President James R. Hoffa in 1964.

The federal grand jury has been investigating charges of a conspiracy to get Baton Rouge Teamster official Edward Grady Partin to change his testimony, given as a government witness, which helped to convict Hoffa of jury-tampering.

**THE OTHER** three subpenaed are:

—Julian M. Levy, court reporter for Criminal District Court Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara. At a recent Chicago federal court hearing on a motion to set aside the Hoffa conviction, Judge O'Hara testified that he had been the "messenger" in an attempt to get Partin to sign an affidavit stating that illegal wire-tapping evidence had been used to convict Hoffa. The judge said during the Chicago hearing that the affidavit was dictated to Levy.

—Edward M. Baldwin, New Orleans attorney who was Judge O'Hara's campaign manager in 1965 when the judge ran unsuccessfully for district attorney against incumbent Jim Garrison. During the Chicago hearing, Judge O'Hara testified that on June 5, 1967, Baldwin called him and told him that Walter Sheridan, a former U.S. Department investigator, was doing a "White Paper" for the National Broadcasting Co. on Garrison's probe of the Kennedy assassination. Judge

O'Hara said that Baldwin initiated plans for setting up a meeting between Strate and Sheridan. Strate testified that Sheridan offered help in Chicago if he, Strate, would help discredit the Garrison investigation. Baldwin was subpenaed for the hearing, but was not called.

—PERSHING GERVAIS, one-time chief investigator for Garrison, who is now in business with Strate. Gervais also was subpenaed for the Chicago hearing but was not called to testify.

The Chicago hearing was ordered by the U.S. Supreme Court to determine if wiretap evidence had been used. The Hoffa appeal failed, however. Federal Judge Richard B. Austin said the union boss was not entitled to a retrial on fraud and conspiracy charges.

Judge O'Hara also testified during the hearing that he had been the expense-paid traveling companion and intimate friend of Strate.

**SHERIDAN, WHO** was a top aide to former U.S. Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, was not called. Sheridan headed a team of lawyers and investigators that gathered the evidence used to convict Hoffa.

Following the broadcast of the NBC show, which was Sheridan was indicted by the Orleans Parish Grand Jury for public bribery in connection with the assassination probe.

Since the hearing, the Metropolitan Crime Commission has called for the removal of O'Hara as a judge and the New Orleans Bar Association has asked Atty. Gen. Jack P. F. Gremillion to investigate O'Hara.

## Garrison Says Some Policemen In Dallas Aided Kennedy Plot

By ROBERT E. DALLOS

District Attorney Jim Garrison of New Orleans said yesterday that a small number of Dallas policemen who were also members of the ultra-right-wing Minutemen took part in a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy.

Mr. Garrison is in New York City for two days for radio and television interviews to publicize a 21-page article, based on an interview with him, in the October issue of Playboy magazine, now on the newsstands.

"Elements of the Dallas police force were deeply and probably involved," Mr. Garrison said. "Individuals on the Dallas police force helped kill President Kennedy. The great majority of the force is honest and capable, but it is clear that individuals were involved in the assassination and the protection of the assassins."

"I know absolutely nothing about this," said District Attorney Henry M. Wade of Dallas in a telephone interview yesterday. He added that some writers, including Mark Lane, the author of "Rush to Judgment," had made similar assertions.

### Curry Comments

Jesse E. Curry, who was chief of the Dallas police force on Nov. 22, 1963, the day of the assassination, said:

"I don't know what he is talking about. All of the other investigations—the Warren Commission's and all others except Jim Garrison's—failed to show up something like this. I don't care to be involved in his investigation. But I don't know where he got the idea that anyone in the Dallas Police Department contributed in any way in the assassination."

Mr. Garrison said that his new accusations were not made

public earlier because he had had an investigator in Dallas until 10 days ago and he had wanted to get the investigator "out with his head on his shoulders."

He said the investigation had taken many months and that the investigator, whom he declined to identify, had worked alone most of the time but at times had been joined by others, including Mr. Garrison.

### Conversations Monitored

Mr. Garrison charged that during the Dallas investigation the motel rooms next door to those of his investigators were always "empty" and that all conversations were "monitored."

Marshall W. Stevenson, assistant Dallas police chief, declined in a telephone interview yesterday to comment on whether the department was aware of the Garrison investigation.

Mr. Garrison said that the assassins were "big business, Texas style—a handful of tremendously oil rich psychotic individuals." He said the Dallas policemen involved had among these businessmen, Jack acted as "connecting links" to adventurers and New Orleans. The police did not fire any shots, he said.

Mr. Shaw, a retired New Orleans businessman, has been charged with conspiring with Lee Harvey Oswald and others to murder President Kennedy. He is currently awaiting trial in New Orleans. **END**

New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison said in a New York interview that Sen. Robert F. Kennedy's investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. "It is quite apparent to me that for one reason or another he does not want the truth to be brought out," he said. "I have to conclude that he feels the development of the truth about the assassination would interfere with his political career."

## 5 Subpoenaed in Hoffa Trial Bribery Probe

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)

—Five more men have been subpoenaed to appear Tuesday at a federal grand jury investigation into alleged attempts to bribe one of the government's chief witnesses against imprisoned Teamster Union President James R. Hoffa.

Zachary Strate, a New Orleans builder convicted of conspiracy and fraud along with Hoffa in 1964; Julian M. Levy, a criminal district court reporter; Edward M. Baldwin, a New Orleans attorney; Pershing Gervais, onetime chief investigator for Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison, and TV reporter Walter Sheridan were issued subpoenas Thursday and Friday.

Justice Department charges that there was a conspiracy to get Baton Rouge, La., Teamster official Edward Partin to change his testimony against Hoffa launched the investigation.

Partin allegedly was offered \$1 million to sign a statement that illegal wiretapping evidence was used to convict Hoffa.

Testimony at a recent Chicago court hearing on Hoffa's new trial motion revealed that Sheridan, an investigative reporter for National Broadcasting Co., was offered information last summer allegedly damaging to Garrison if he would assist in the effort to show wiretapping material was used against Hoffa.

*Partin is attorney*  
*revels in situation*  
*mb*

By ROSEMARY JAMES

Gov. John J. McKeithen said here today that the Metropolitan Crime Commission will file a petition instituting a suit for the removal of Criminal District Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara.

E. C. Upton Jr., president of the crime commission, confirmed the governor's statement and said the MCC will file the petition with the state attorney general's office as early as possible this week.

State law provides that action to remove a judge or other state officer must be taken by the attorney general on receipt of a petition signed by 25 "citizens and taxpayers."

GROUNDS FOR impeachment under state law include "high crimes and misdemeanors in office, incompetency, corruption, favoritism, extortion, and other offenses in office."

The conduct of the judge became a source of criticism and controversy after he testified in a Chicago federal court hearing last month that he was the expense-paid traveling companion of New Orleans builder Zachary A. "Red" Strate, who was convicted along with Teamster Union president James R. Hoffa in 1964 on charges of fraud and conspiracy.

The judge further testified during the hearing that he acted as a messenger in an attempt to get Baton Rouge Teamster official Edward Grady Partin, whose testimony was instrumental in convicting Hoffa of an earlier jury-tampering charge at Chattanooga, to sign an affidavit that Hoffa was convicted on the basis of illegal wire-tap information.

EARLIER, THE MCC had asked the governor to take action in the matter. The law also provides that removal suits may be instituted on the request of the governor.

The governor told the commission that all local remedies should be taken before he stepped into such a mat-

ter.

Friday, it was learned that a unit of the Greater New Orleans Federation of Churches had called upon Gov. McKeithen to seek a Louisiana Supreme Court hearing to determine whether

the judge should be removed.

Asked today what action he plans to take on the church group's request, the governor said, "None. The Metropolitan Crime Commission has advised me that they will file the petition."

ON ANOTHER MATTER, Gov. McKeithen appeared surprised by the news that Life Magazine is publishing new

allegations of organized crime influences in the state in this week's issue.

The magazine charges that on many occasions between June 1966 and March 1967, Carlos Marcello called Aubrey Young, former aide to the governor, on Young's direct line in the governor's office.

Earlier articles in the magazine charged that Young arranged a meeting between Partin and a public relations man who brought up the name of Hoffa.

Young admitted that he arranged the meeting, but said he did not know that the purpose of the meeting was to try to get Partin to change his testimony.

The magazine states that Young passed out \$100 bills to Las Vegas chorus girls while the guest of Mario Marino at the Sands Hotel. Marino is described as a friend of Marcello.

ASKED TO COMMENT on the matter, Gov. McKeithen said, "Aubrey Young is presently in our institution at Mandeville. He has vehemently denied to me having talked or met with Carlos Marcello. His trips to Las Vegas were one reason I told him he couldn't work for me anymore. I understand he was intoxicated the whole time he was in Las Vegas."

The magazine also charged that in its earlier articles it had pointed out instances of gambling in the state and that there had been little, if any, curtailment of gambling since the articles appeared. The article says one club in Lafayette closed after the articles on crime appeared,

but that another one opened under the same management almost immediately.

GOV. M'KEITHEN said this morning that he didn't know what to say, that he had instructed the state police to make certain that any gambling going on was stopped and that he had no knowledge of any gambling.

The story also charges that three illegal bookmaking operations are flourishing in New Orleans.

Asked to comment, Gov. McKeithen said this was the sort of operation the state police could investigate but that he hoped the New Orleans police and the DA could handle it.

DISTRICT Attorney Jim Garrison has denied the existence of any organized crime in Orleans Parish.

The governor repeated what he said earlier, although not so strongly, that he thought Life was attempting a deliberate "smear" of Louisiana.

ASKED WHY LIFE would say there is gambling and other evidence of organized crime if in fact it doesn't exist, the governor said, "I just don't know. I said before, and I still think, it has something to do with Sheridan being indicted down here" in connection with Garrison's probe.

He was referring to NBC newsman Walter Sheridan, who is under indictment for bribery in connection with Garrison's assassination investigation.

The governor said representatives of the magazine are coming to see him this week, and "they have told me they will make available all of the information on which they base their charges."

McKeithen said he is "most anxious" to hear what they have to say.

Last week, the governor announced that he is establishing a statewide law enforcement commission, which will serve as an advisory group to the administration and the

Legislature on all matters involving crime and prosecution of criminals.

TODAY, M'KEITHEN said that he has made no firm decision on who will be appointed other than Upton, as an ex-officio member representing the crime commission here. He said, however, that he hopes to have men of high stature.

About the domed stadium, McKeithen said that the stadium commission is "in the midst of preparations for negotiations" with railroad officials for the Illinois Central site in the central city area.

Asked about whether he intends to ask the State Police to intervene in the investigation in the string of murders recently in the New Orleans area, Gov. McKeithen said, "Our idea is to cooperate with local officials. We certainly want to offer any help they can use. We have a fine crime laboratory, for example, which they can call upon for help." *JMA*