

4 FLED BOOK

DEPOSITORY,

WITNESS

TESTIFIES

Four men fled the Texas School Book Depository minutes after President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, a witness testified at the Clay L. Shaw trial today.

Richard Randolph Carr of Dallas testified that three men, one a "Latin", left the building and drove away in a station wagon while a fourth fled on foot. He said the FBI told him to "keep his mouth shut" about what he saw.

Shaw, 55, is on trial in Criminal District Court on

charges of conspiring to kill Kennedy, shot to death in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963.

In other highlights of today's testimony:

—A hostess at the VIP Room at New Orleans International Airport testified she saw Shaw sign the room's guest register as "Clay Bertrand" in December, 1966.

—Carr testified he believes the shots fired at Kennedy came from the front, but said he based this on a movement of the grass he saw from a building seven floors up.

—Carr said he did not know the president was assassinated until an hour and 15 minutes after it happened.

The VIP room hostess, Mrs. Jesse Parker, said Shaw came into the room with another man, whom she could not

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identify, and signed the book, then pointed out Shaw in the courtroom as the man who signed it.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY JIM GARRISON charges that Shaw used the alias Clay or Clem Bertrand, and the state's star witness, Perry Raymond Russo, testified he was introduced to Shaw by this name at a party at which Russo says the assassination of Kennedy was discussed.

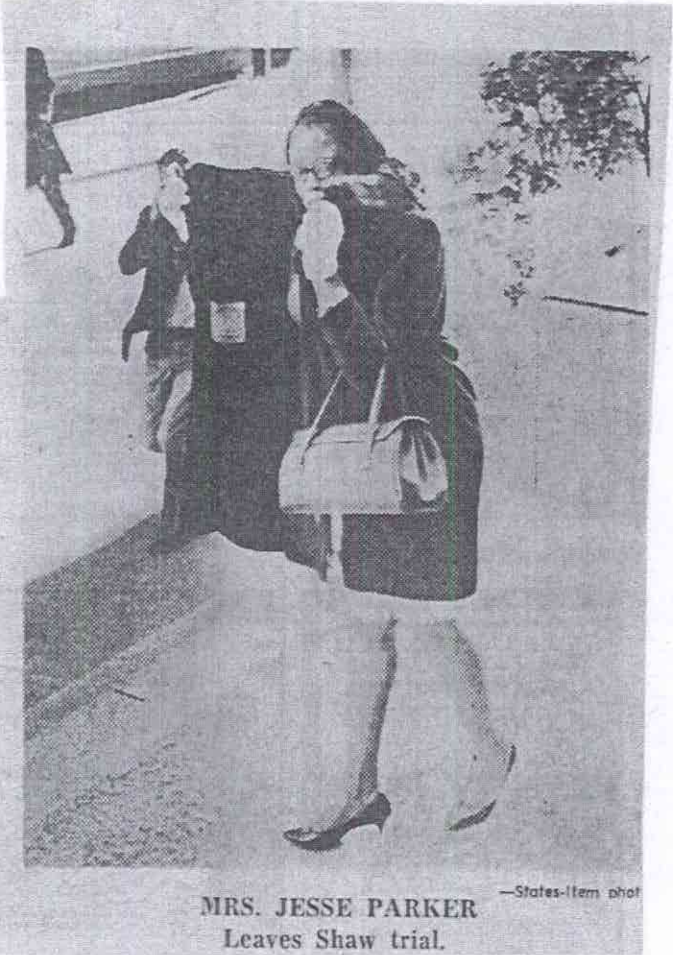
Shaw has denied ever using the alias.

Also this morning, there was further testimony by Dr. John M. Nichols of Kansas University, who testified Monday that he believes, on the basis of his study of color slides taken from the Abraham Zapruder film of the assassination, the fatal bullet was fired from the front.

Nichols also testified he believes Kennedy and Gov. John B. Connally of Texas showed pain reaction from different bullets.

Under cross-examination, Dr. Nichols acknowledged he has had little formal training in the fields of pathology and forensic medicine—the areas in which he earlier qualified as an expert witness—but is largely self-taught.

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MRS. JESSE PARKER
Leaves Shaw trial.

Also today, the defense requested subpoenas for three out-of-state witnesses. They are:

Mary E. Bledsoe, of Dallas.

Capt. J. W. Fritz, of the Dallas Police Department.

Col. Pierre Finck, of Washington, D.C.

An attorney for Connally, who has been subpoenaed by the state, said today he had had no word on when Garrison's office wants the former governor to testify.

The governor and his wife had been subpoenaed for Monday, but their appearance was postponed indefinitely by the state. The attorney said a representative of the DA's office promised to call him and work out a mutually satisfactory time for the Connallys to testify.

The state's questioning this morning was handled by chief prosecutor James L. Alcock and assistant DA Alvin V. Oser. The defense was handled by chief counsel F. Irvin Dymond. The trial is before Criminal District Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr.

MRS. PARKER'S TESTIMONY REPRESENTED a return of the focus of the trial to events in New Orleans. For nearly a week, Shaw's name had not been mentioned as testimony centered around events in Dealey Plaza in Dallas.

Dr. Nichols still was under direct examination by the state when this morning's session got under way.

Oser asked him how fast Connally would have reacted if he had been hit by the same shot that hit Kennedy.

"... I WOULD SAY THAT THE governor would have reacted seven one-thousandths of a second later," Dr. Nichols said.

The witness said if the fatal shot had hit the president

from the rear, his head would have moved to the front.

On cross-examination, Dymond attacked Dr. Nichols' credentials as an expert. He questioned in detail how the witness would conduct an autopsy.

Dr. Nichols said, among other things, he would take X-rays of the body and examine them carefully. Dymond asked him if he ever examined X-rays of Kennedy's body. The witness said he had not.

ASKED IF HE IS AN EXPERT on ballistics, Dr. Nichols said he claims "a degree of knowledge" in the field.

Dymond asked him his formal training in the field. The witness said it consisted of a one-hour lecture in medical school, recovering bullets, testifying in court and conducting experiments. This way, he said, he created his own expertise.

Dr. Nichols offered to show Dymond the results of his work, but the attorney declined.

The witness said he has appeared in court many times in connection with autopsies in which he identified bullets taken from bodies.

ASKED ABOUT HIS TRAINING in photography, Dr. Nichols said he has been using cameras since the age of 10 and has used them many times to take pictures of bodies for autopsies.

He said he had "not a minute's formal training, but my results speak for themselves."

Asked if he has seen the clothing worn by Kennedy the day of the assassination, Dr. Nichols replied:

"I am suing the federal government for that now."

IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, Dr. Nichols said he did not know the speed of the presidential vehicle at the time the shots were fired.

A sudden acceleration of the vehicle, the witness said, did not occur.

... cause the president's head to be thrown back. He said the speed and direction of the wind would be an "insignificant" factor.

Asked if it is possible for a man to be "stabbed or shot and not know that it happened and not show any immediate reaction," Dr. Nichols replied:

"Not a normal person."

DR. NICHOLS SAID THE PRESIDENT was normal at the time of the shooting. Asked if he had ever met Kennedy, he said he met him once. Asked if he ever met Connally, he said:

"I have tried, but he rejects me. He doesn't answer my letters."

He said good health and intoxication are the only two factors necessary to be taken into account when discussing the threshold of pain.

Dr. Nichols said he attempted to determine the direction of the shot. He said he could make a better estimate if he could see the autopsy photos, for which he is suing the government.

"ISN'T IT A FACT THAT YOU are curious to see these photos to determine if your opinion is correct?" Dymond asked.

"All I want is the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, but I would also like to confirm my opinion" Dr. Nichols said.

On redirect examination, Oser showed the witness a rifle. Dr. Nichols said he purchased one like it to conduct his experiments.

The state then called Mrs. Parker. She said in December, 1966, she was employed by Eastern Air Lines as a VIP room hostess. She said she was on duty at the VIP room at New Orleans International Airport on Dec. 14, 1966, between 8 a. m. and 2 p. m.

SHE POINTED OUT SHAW as a man she saw enter the room between 10 a. m. and noon, accompanied by another man.

She said she saw Shaw sign the guest register, pass a few words with the other man and leave. The other man, she said, did not sign the book.

Alcock showed her the register book and asked her to point out the signature. She said:

"The name is Clay Bertrand."

Under cross-examination, Mrs. Parker said she was contacted by the DA's office after the preliminary hearing for Shaw in March, 1967.

She said Shaw's "pretty gray hair" was what made her remember him.

MRS. PARKER SAID SHE SAW SHAW'S picture on television and remembered him from the VIP room. She was unable to say just when this was.

She said she didn't go to the FBI or other authorities at that time because she "didn't want to get involved."

Mrs. Parker said she had never seen Shaw before Dec. 14, 1966. Asked if she could identify anyone else who signed the VIP register in that period, she said "Mr. John Mecom." (Mecom is owner of the New Orleans Saints, Professional football club.)

She also mentioned the name David F. Dixon, executive secretary of the Louisiana Stadium and Exposition District.

Mrs. Parker said she never saw Shaw again until she saw him in the courtroom.

Dymond asked, "Isn't it a fact that when you looked at him in the courtroom, you said that is not the man?"

MRS. PARKER DENIED THIS. Dymond asked, "Isn't

it a fact that only when they threatened to give you a lie detector test . . . you said, 'yes, that's the man'?"

"I was not threatened, I was asked," the witness said.

At this point, Alcock asked for a subpoena of Capt. James Krubbe, a lie detector expert for the police department, and for the lie detector test taken by Mrs. Parker. Judge Haggerty called a recess.

There was a discussion of whether the lie detector testimony would be admissible. It usually is not at a trial, but Alcock contended Dymond "opened the door" for it during cross-examination by asking Mrs. Parker about such a test.

After a discussion, Judge Haggerty overruled Dymond's objections and Alcock asked Mrs. Parker if she had taken a lie detector test.

She said she did and that no one threatened or coerced her in connection with it.

During the test, she said, she identified a picture of Shaw.

CAPT. JAMES W. KRUEBBE of the police department was called and qualified as an expert in giving lie detector tests.

He testified he gave such a test to Mrs. Parker on Jan. 27 of this year. He said she took it willingly.

The next witness was Carr, who was questioned by Garrison. He came into court in a wheelchair. He said on Nov. 22, 1963, he was on the seventh floor of the Dallas courthouse building at Houston and Commerce streets facing Dealey Plaza.

He said he saw the parade coming when he noticed a man on a fifth-floor window of the book depository across the street. He said he later saw the man come down and rush in the direction of Houston and Commerce.

"Before that I heard a report like a pistol shot. After that I heard three rifle shots from a high powered rifle," Carr said.

Dymond objected that the witness couldn't tell the difference between the shots but Carr testified that he is a rifle expert.

Carr said he believed the shots came from the direction of the grassy knoll.

THE WITNESS SAID AFTER THE SHOTS, he saw a light brown station wagon parked on the wrong side of Elm st. facing north toward the railroad tracks.

"Immediately after the shooting, three men emerged from behind the depository. One was a Latin. I can't say if he was Spanish—and two other men," Carr said.

He said the men drove north on Houston. "The car was in motion before the rear door closed."

Carr said the man he saw in the window came across the street in a very big hurry "looking back over his shoulder as if he were being followed."

He said he "kept his mouth shut" about what he saw after talking to an FBI agent about it.

ON CROSS-EXAMINATION, CARR SAID he did not know Kennedy was assassinated until an hour and 15 minutes after it happened. He said he could not tell if the four men came from behind the depository or out of a side door.

He said he looked closely at the man he had seen in the fifth-floor window and "I would know him again if I saw his hide hanging in a tannery."

Carr said he estimated the direction of the shot because from his seventh-floor window he "saw the grass go up" in the plaza below.

Judge Haggerty then recessed court for lunch.

Dr. Nichols' testimony Monday struck at two key points in the Warren Commission's report.

points in the Warren Commission's version of the assassination—that all the shots fired at the presidential car came from the rear, and that the first bullet ripped through the bodies of both Kennedy and Connally.

Dr. Nichols' testimony was cut short Monday when some of the grisly details apparently were too much for one juror, who suffered an upset stomach. More direct examination of the witness by the state was the first order of business this morning, to be followed by cross-examination.

THE JURORS watched the Rex parade yesterday from a balcony of a private home in the uptown section, then went back to their hotel where they are sequestered for the duration of the trial.

Shaw, free on bond, spent a quiet holiday with friends.

Meanwhile, the U.S. Justice Department filed notice of appeal of a decision by Washington, D. C., General Sessions Judge Charles E. Halleck Jr. that the 45 photographs and 24 X-rays of the Kennedy autopsy report, along with Lee Harvey Oswald's rifle and other items, be removed from the National Archives and taken to New Orleans for the Shaw trial.

THE AUTOPSY records and photos are concealed in the Archives till 1971 at the request of the Kennedy family.

The key to the state's case against the Warren Commission thus far has been the film taken in Dealey Plaza by Zapruder, a Dallas dress manufacturer. It appears to show Kennedy's body moving backwards after the fatal shot hit him.

Garrison contends this backs up his assertion that shots were fired from more than one direction, thus destroying the Warren Commission's conclusion that Oswald fired them all.

ZAPRUDER, INTERVIEWED yesterday in Dallas by Associated Press writer Ruth Ann Vaughn, said he doesn't have a print of the movie.

"That film is with Time and Life," said Zapruder, who sold

the movie to the magazine corporation for \$25,000.

"I'm glad I don't have it. I believe we should respect it and let it go for a while," he said.

Zapruder, who had just returned after testifying at the Shaw trial, said his part in history doesn't affect him much any more.

"I'M GOING ON about my business," he said. "It affected me emotionally at the beginning, but as things go on you learn to live."

He gave the \$25,000 he received for the films to the family of Policeman J. D. Tippit.

Tippit was killed, said in-

vestigators, as he stopped Oswald shortly after the President was slain. The gunfire involving Tippit led to the arrest of Oswald.

ZAPRUDER SAID he is not as avid a picture buff as he was prior to the assassination.

"I kind of lost my spirit after that tragedy," he said.

Has he taken any other important pictures?

"I've taken pictures of my five grandchildren," he said. "They're important to me."