

# Eight Words, Marina Top Trial Drama

By JACK DEMPSEY

Eight words and the Russian widow of an accused assassin gave the conspiracy trial of Clay L. Shaw its most dramatic moments today.

Those eight words — "The motion for a directed verdict is denied"—triggered the long trial's first outburst from the crowded courtroom of newsmen and spectators.

A short burst of applause from spectators and a few audible "yeas" greeted the announcement from Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. that Shaw's trial would continue.

REPORTERS dashed from the courtroom to report the news. Others remained to watch the reaction from the principals in the trial. They got no surprises.

Shaw, who had been in the process of either taking papers out or putting them into a briefcase, stood up and looked toward the rear of the courtroom. His lawyers simply shook their heads as if they had expected the judge's ruling.

"I am still confident I will be vindicated," Shaw told newsmen after walking to the rail separating the spectators from the court area.

HE MANAGED a weak smile.

District Attorney Jim Garrison wasn't even in the courtroom when the announcement was read.

He had been in the judge's chambers where he evidently got the word, then left the courtroom, totally expressionless.

"WHAT'S your reaction?" he was asked as he walked down the hall of the Criminal Courts building.

"I have no reaction," he replied. "I have no nervous system anymore." Then he was gone, reportedly to con-

fer with Gov. John J. McKeithen, who was in New Orleans for a meeting today.

Most of the newsmen who have been covering the trial expected the ruling. The ap-

plause from the spectators, they felt, was more a reaction of people who didn't want the proceedings to end, rather than any feeling they might have had about the decision.

But it was all over very quickly and spectators got their second big moment when into the courtroom strolled Mrs. Marina Oswald Porter, the widow of the man named by the Warren Commission as the lone assassin of President Kennedy—Lee Harvey Oswald.

ALL EYES were focused on the tiny woman as she removed a green raincoat. Beneath she was wearing a gray wool, loose-fitting dress with a white collar.

ON TOP of her head her blonde hair was arranged in a twist and she had thin bangs over her eyes. She was accompanied by her husband, Kenneth Jess Porter.

In her slight accent, she spoke so softly that she had to be urged several times to speak louder.

At one point, chief defense counsel F. Irvin Dymond walked over to the witness stand and readjusted the microphone. But it helped very little.