

Alcock Defends Shaw Charges

Subj. Shaw 7-11-69

Dismissal of perjury charges against Clay L. Shaw would "forever immunize all defendants who testify falsely" at their trials, Assistant Dist. Atty. James L. Alcock said today.

Alcock filed two separate pleadings before Criminal District Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara relating to the charges against Shaw, who the state claims lied at his conspiracy trial earlier this year.

Filed today were an amended bill of information against Shaw and an answer to a

motion by Shaw's attorneys to quash the charges.

JUDGE O'HARA heard Alcock's motions and gave the defense until July 11 to file further pleadings.

Shaw was acquitted March 1 of Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's charge that he conspired to kill President John F. Kennedy. The state claims Shaw testified falsely during that trial that he never knew Lee Harvey Oswald or David William Ferrie.

In his amended bill of information, Alcock changed the earlier charge to say Shaw "intentionally" lied, and to add that he made the alleged misstatements "under oath."

IN THE ANSWER to the motion to quash, Alcock denied a defense claim that the jury's general verdict of not guilty on the conspiracy charge made immaterial the issue of whether Shaw knew Ferrie or Oswald.

The answer also denied that the perjury charges place Shaw in double jeopardy for the same alleged offense.

Alcock argued that the Legislature in writing the perjury laws never intended to immunize defendants who win acquittals from prosecution if they testify falsely.