

So. End Man to Testify on 'Plot'

A dishwasher who claims to have been with Lee Harvey Oswald and his killer, Jack Ruby, four times in Ruby's Dallas night club flew from Boston Thursday to testify in the New Orleans "plot trial."

Arthur E. Strout, 26, whose last known Boston address was 120



ARTHUR E. STROUT

Appleton St., South End, claims to have had a picture showing him in the nightclub with "Oswald, Ruby, Russo and two other men."

Perry R. Russo, 25, of Baton Rouge, La., is the so-called "confidential informant" who has testified for the prosecution in the hearing to determine if businessman Clay L. Shaw should be brought to trial.

Strout has declined to identify the "two other men" in the picture which he says is now in the hands of New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison.

Strout said his meetings with the two principals in the assassination of President Kennedy took place about a month before the killing in November, of 1963.

He said he was back visiting his sister, Mrs. Naomi Stevens, then of Amarillo, Tex., and now of Auburn, Me., in February, 1966. He said that at that time he saw a .22 caliber pistol

which had been used as a decoy in the assassination.

Strout said he was with David Ferrie when the 49-year-old pilot sold the pistol to an Amarillo pawnbroker. Ferrie died Feb. 22 while being investigated by Garrison as an assassination plot suspect.

Strout, who has lived most of his life in Auburn, came to Boston about six weeks ago and was employed on a casual, day-to-day basis by the Shera-

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ton-Boston Hotel as a pot washer. He lived at the Appleton street address until about two weeks ago when, apparently, he went back to Maine to visit his parents.

His passage to New Orleans was paid for by a New Orleans private detective employed by Garrison.

The Rev. Peter Egnat of Assembly of God Church, Dorchester, who paid Strout's rent in Boston, described him as "a little mystical" and added "you can't tell what he would do."