

TODAY'S DATE: 21Mar70 YESTERDAY'S DATE: 20Mar70

Went to New Orleans on the 17th for my hearing. It was a nice holiday. (I wore green, seeing as the first half of me is Mick.) The prosecution was not ready.

The hearing was reslated for the 7th of April -- two years and one day after my arraignment.

Ed Baldwin, the lawyer who entered the motions to quash, has contracted to take the entire case, for \$1500 now and another grand and a half if and/or when he walks me out of this thing. We have borrowed the first \$1500 and plan to start negotiating loans for the second fee (which can be used for the appeal should I be convicted).

I am much more optimistic than at this time last month. First, Baldwin is one of the best criminal attorneys in New Orleans and I had been told by others that the retainer fee alone might run as high as \$5000 for a decent attorney. Second, Clay Shaw has filed a five million dollar suit against the DA and Russo and three of the big financiers of the probe -- which ought to cause future perjurers and monetary contributors to think twice.

A Jack Anderson column which ran in most American newspapers (but not in the New Orleans papers) on February 23rd alleges that the Grand Jury is considering evidence that Garrison attempted to sexually molest a 13-year-old boy in the New Orleans Athletic Club last year.

Fear of Garrison in New Orleans continues. It is as if the Shaw trial had never taken place. Very few people will speak out against him in public, though a recent very popular button slogan down there has been, "EVEN PARANOIDS HAVE REAL ENEMIES."

from Kerry Thornley (?)