

Garrison Arrests an Ex-Major In 'Conspiracy' to Kill Kennedy

NEW ORLEANS, March 1 (AP)—District Attorney Jim Garrison arrested today Clay Shaw, retired director of the New Orleans International Trade Mart, and accused him of having taken part "in a conspiracy to assassinate President John F. Kennedy."

No immediate charge was filed. William Gurvich, the district attorney's chief investigator, said Mr. Shaw, 54 years old, "will be charged with participating in a conspiracy to murder John F. Kennedy."

Mr. Shaw, who retired 18 months ago from the Trade Mart post, was an Army major during World War II. He arrived at Mr. Garrison's office at 12:15 P.M., and the arrest was announced at 5:45 P.M.

District Judge Thomas M. Branney set bond at \$10,000, which was posted. Judge Branney said he believed that Mr. Garrison's recommendation of \$25,000 bond was excessive.

Mr. Shaw was booked, but not formally charged, for "conspiracy to commit murder." In Louisiana, a charge is not formal until it has been accepted by a district attorney.

At a news conference in the corridor outside Mr. Garrison's office on the second floor of the courthouse, Mr. Gurvich read the following statement:

"The first arrest has been made in the investigation of the New Orleans district attorney's office into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

"Arrested this evening in the district attorney's office was Clay Shaw, age 54, of 1313 Dauphine Street, New Orleans.

"Mr. Shaw will be charged with participation in a conspiracy to murder John F. Kennedy.

"It should be pointed out,

however, that the nature of this case is not conducive to an immediate succession of arrests at this time. However, other arrests will be made at a later date."

Mr. Shaw, a native of Kentwood, La., moved to New Orleans with his family at the age of 5.

For a time, he lived in New York City, where he was in advertising and public relations.

During World War II he served in Europe and was awarded the Croix de Guerre by France and the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star by the United States.

Mr. Shaw returned to New Orleans in 1947 and was a founder of the International Trade Mart.

Asked if Mr. Shaw had made a statement, Mr. Gurvich replied, "No comment."

Asked how long it would be before formal charges were filed, Mr. Gurvich said he did not know.

"Special cases take special handling," he said. "For all I know it could be several days." He said Mr. Shaw's lawyers were checking on the matter.

The Trade Mart is a privately supported nonprofit organization formed to promote trade through the Port of New Orleans.

Lee Harvey Oswald, identified by the Warren Commission as the man who killed President Kennedy, passed out pro-Castro leaflets outside the Trade Mart the fall before the assassination.

Mr. Shaw said in an interview last week that he once saw Oswald distributing the leaflets but never met him. Mr. Shaw served as managing director of the mart from 1947 until his retirement Oct. 1, 1965.

The Warren Report contained no mention of Mr. Shaw.