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JFK DEATH HELD CAUSE OF RIOTS

N.O. Man Testifies at Trial of Communism

By TOM STEWART

WASHINGTON (AP) — The assassination of President John F. Kennedy was pinpointed Tuesday by a student of agitation and propaganda as one of the underlying causes of the urban riots of recent years.

Testifying at a three-day mock trial of international communism sponsored by anti-Communist groups, Edward S. Butler of New Orleans and Los Angeles said the slaying triggered an appetite for overt violence in many "revolutionaries."

"It smashed the highest symbol of authority in the country," Butler said. "Revolutionaries all over the country looked up and said, 'We can get away with murder.'"

Butler 33, is executive vice-president of the Information Council of the Americas, which he described as a private organization that keeps tabs on propaganda and agitation campaigns in the Western Hemisphere.

Although Butler said various Communist purposes were served by the assassination, he did not attempt to ascribe the murder to a Communist plot, nor did he mention any Communist connection with the riots in the cities.

Despite objections from the defense counsel in the "Court of World Public Opinion" that he lacked the qualifications, Butler was allowed to testify as an expert witness.

During cross-examination Butler was asked to expand on his contention that the assassination spurred revolutionaries to new activity.

"A great many people feel a

revolution is in progress right now," he said. Asked if he agreed with these people, Butler replied:

"I think it's in progress right now — wouldn't you say that 100 cities in this country burned up, that that's violent?"

Butler later told newsmen the assassination was a "traumatic experience" for the whole nation. But he said it had an especially telling effect on violence-prone persons and groups of all types "including the Ku Klux Klan and the rest of the right-wing aberrants."