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ASSASSINATION 3/15 DA7

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BY THOMAS K. HARVEY

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NEW ORLEANS (UPI)--POLICE TIGHTENED SECURITY AT A PRELIMINARY HEARING FOR NEW ORLEANS BUSINESSMAN CLAY L. SHAW TUESDAY AFTER IT WAS REVEALED A PISTOL WAS FOUND NEAR THE COURTHOUSE AND A MAN HAD BEEN ARRESTED FOR DISTURBANCE INSIDE.

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OFFICERS SAID THERE WAS NO APPARENT CONNECTION BETWEEN THE ARREST AND THE DISCOVERY OF THE GERMAN-MADE PISTOL IN A TRUCK AT A SERVICE STATION WHERE SHAW AND HIS ATTORNEY PARKED THEIR CAR TUESDAY.

THE MAN ARRESTED WAS IDENTIFIED AS JAMES R. LISCOMBE, 30. OFFICERS SAID HE WAS SEEN PUSHING NEWSMEN AND THREATENING TO "MAKE NATIONAL HEADLINES IN NEW ORLEANS."

DEFENSE ATTORNEYS GOT THEIR CHANCE TO CROSS-EXAMINE PERRY R. RUSSO, THE STAR STATE WITNESS, WHO TESTIFIED TUESDAY HE WITNESSED SHAW PLOTTING TO KILL PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY WITH LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND DAVWD W. FERRIE IN SEPTEMBER OF 1963.

A 20-MAN FORCE OF DEPUTIES SEARCHED EVERYONE ENTERING THE COURTROOM WEDNESDAY. CITY POLICE WERE ADDED TO THE SECURITY FORCE.

DEFENSE ATTORNEY F. IRVIN DYMOND SPENT THE EARLY PART OF HIS CROSS-EXAMINATION QUESTIONING RUSSO, A 25-YEAR-OLD BATON ROUGE, LA., INSURANCE SALESMAN, ABOUT HIS RELIGIOUS BELIEFS, PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT, AND HIS RECORDS IN HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.

PRESIDING JUDGE WILLIAM J. BAGERT SAID SUBPOENAS HAD BEEN ISSUED

FOR TELEVISION TAPES FROM STATIONS WDSU AND WVUE, INCLUDING ONE IN WHICH RUSSO SAID TWO WEEKS AGO HE HAD "NEVER HEARD" OF OSWALD BEFORE THENOV. 22, 1963, ASSASSINATION OF KENN

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HIS RECORDS FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND FROM TULANE AND LOYOLA UNIVERSITIES IN LOUISIANA ALSO WERE SUBPOENAED.

AS RUSSO TOOK THE STAND WEDNESDAY, DYMOND ASKED HIM:

"DO YOU BELIEVE IN GOD?"

"IT WOULD DEPEND ON DEFINITION," RUSSO REPLIED.

"HOW DO YOU DEFINE GOD?" DYMOND ASKED.

"I DEFINE GOD AS THE ENTITY OF THE UNIVERSE," RUSSO SAID.

DYMOND ASKED HIM WHAT WAS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HIS OATH TO TELL THE TRUTH, "SO HELP ME GOD," AND RUSSO REPLIED:

"IT WOULD BE TO TELL THE TRUTH...."

RUSSO ALSO TESTIFIED IN THE OPENING PHASES OF THE CROSS-EXAMINATION THAT HIS MOTHER AND FATHER DID NOT GET ALONG WELL AND THAT HE UNDERWENT PSYCHIATRIC TREATMENT IN 1959 AND 1960 AND HAD DISCUSSED PROBLEMS WITH PSYCHIATRISTS AT TIMES SINCE THEN.

BAGERT AND JUDGE MATTHEW BRANIFF FREQUENTLY BROKE IN BEFORE THE NOON RECESS TO TELLDYMOND TO "GET ON WITH IT."

DYOMOND REPLIED HE WAS TRYING TO SHA

DYMOND REPLIED HE WAS TRYING TO SHAKE THE CREDIBILITY OF THE WITNESS BUT BRANIFF SAID, "YOU HAVE NOT CONTRADICTED HIM ON ANY MAJOR POINT OF HIS TESTIMONY."

RUSSO, IN ADDITION TO THE INTERVIEW ON WDSU, TOLD THE BATON

ROUGE, LA., STATE TIMES FEB. 24 THAT HE GOT IN TOUCH WITH GARRISON AFTER NOTICING FERRIE'S PICTURE IN THE PAPER AS A RESULT OF DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON'S INVESTIGATION OF THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION.

THIS WAS TWO DAYS AFTER FERRIE, THE FORMER AIRLINE PILOT AND MYSTERY MAN GARRISON CALLED A "MAJOR FIGURE" IN THE PROBE, WAS FOUND DEAD IN HIS NEW ORLEANS APARTMENT OF A BRAIN HEMORRHAGE.

AT THAT TIME, GARRISON HAD BEEN SAYING FOR SOME TIME THAT HE HAD UNCOVERED IMPORTANT NEW INFORMATION ON THE ASSASSINATION.

IN THE NEWSPAPER INTERVIEW, RUSSO SAID FERRIE TOLD HIM ONCE "WE'RE GOING TO GET" KENNEDY. BUT HE DID NOT MENTION ANYTHING ABOUT THE PLOT IN MID-SEPTEMBER OF 1963.

IN THE WDSU INTERVIEW, HE SAID HE HAD NEVER KNOWN OSWALD "UNTIL I SAW HIM ON TELEVISION," PRESUMABLY AFTER THE DALLAS ASSASSINATION. THE WARREN COMMISSION CONCLUDED OSWALD WAS THE LONE ASSASSIN OF KENNEDY.

IN AN AFFIDAVIT FILED IN NEW ORLEANS FOR A WARRANT TO SEARCH SHAW'S APARTMENT, GARRISON'S OFFICE SAID A "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT" WITNESSED THE SEPTEMBER MEETING AND HIS STORY WAS VERIFIED BY "TRUTH SERUM."

STEVE DERBY, RUSSO'S ROOMMATE AT BATON ROUGE, SAID RUSSO TOLD HIM HE TOOK TRUTH SERUM DURING QUESTIONING BY GARRISON.

RUSSO TESTIFIED TUESDAY THAT SHAW, FERRIE AND OSWALD PLOTTED THE ASSASSINATION IN DETAIL, DISCUSSING "TRIANGULATION OF CROSSFIRE" AND ARGUING OVER WHETHER IT WOULD BE BEST TO TRY TO ESCAPE BY AIR.

HE SAID "CLEM BERTRAND," WHOM HE IDENTIFIED AS SHAW, SAID IT WOULD BE FUTILE TO TRY TO ESCAPE AND THAT THE CONSPIRATORS NOT AT THE ACTUAL KILLING SHOULD BE ELSEWHERE AND "IN THE PUBLIC EYE."

RUSSO TESTIFIED SHAW SAID HE WOULD BE ON THE WEST COAST ON

BUSINESS.

SHAW WAS VISITING A BUSINESS GROUP AT SAN FRANCISCO THE DAY KENNEDY WAS ASSASSINATED. A SAN FRANCISCO OFFICIAL OF THE ORGANIZATION SAID HE APPEARED TO BE AS STUNNED BY THE TRAGEDY "AS WE WERE."

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