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ASSASSINATION 3/14 DA18

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2ND NIGHT LD ASSASSINATION 231A

BY M. GENE MEARNS

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)--A 25-YEAR-OLD INSURANCE SALESMAN TESTIFIED TUESDAY HE HEARD LEE HARVEY OSWALD, DAVID W. FERRIE AND CLAY L. SHAW CONSPIRING TO ASSASSINATE PRESIDENT KENNEDY IN 1963 TWO MONTHS BEFORE KENNEDY WAS KILLED IN DALLAS.

PERRY R. RUSSO, A FORMER COLLEGE STUDENT WHO NOW LIVES IN BATON ROUGE, SAID HE LOOKED ON AS THE THREE MEN ARGUED ABOUT ESCAPE ROUTES, AND DISCUSSED "TRIANGULATION OF CROSS-FIRE." AT A PARTY IN FERRIE'S APARTMENT.

HE POINTED OUT SHAW, 54, FORMER MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE NEW ORLEANS INTERNATIONAL TRADE MART, IN THE COURTROOM AS THE MAN HE MET AT THE PARTY AS "CLEM BERTRAND."

HE IDENTIFIED OSWALD, NAMED AS THE ASSASSINATION OF KENNEDY BY THE WARREN COMMISSION, AND FERRIE FROM PHOTOGRAPHS. BOTH ARE NOW DEAD.

RUSSO'S TESTIMONY TOOK UP MUCH OF THE FIRST DAY OF A PRELIMINARY HEARING TO DETERMINE WHETHER DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON HAS ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO TRY SHAW FOR CONSPIRACY TO MURDER.

THE HEARING WAS RECESSED AT 4:40 P.M. EST UNTIL WEDNESDAY AT 11 A.M. EST.

RUSSO SAID HE SAW OSWALD FOUR TIMES IN NEW ORLEANS, IN THE MONTHS

BEFORE KENNEDY WAS ASSASSINATED NOV. 22, 1963. HE KNEW HIM AS "LEON OSWALD," HE SAID.

HE DESCRIBED OSWALD AS A DIRTY, HALF-SHAVEN AND UNPLEASANT FIGURE WHO SHARPLY DISAGREED AT THE MEETING ON THE BEST METHODS AND ONCE TOLD "BERTRAND" TO "SHUT UP AND LEAVE HIM (FERRIE) ALONE. HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING."

"HE DID NOT TAKE A LIKING TO ME," RUSSO SAID OF OSWALD. "THE FIRST TIME I WAS INTRODUCED TO LEON OSWALD, HE MADE A CRACK ABOUT NOT WANTING ME TO BE THERE."

RUSSO SAID OSWALD QUESTIONED HIS PRESENCE AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING IN FERRIE'S APARTMENT.

OSWALD ASKED, "HE'S GOING TO STAY? WHAT'S HE DOING HERE.?" RUSSO SAID.

"FERRIE SAID, 'HE'S ALL RIGHT.'"

PICKUP 5TH PGH: RUSSO'S NAME