Conspiracy Trial Step Nears

Shaw to Be Arraigned in Garrison Probe

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Following a relatively uneventful weekend in New Orleans for the presidential murder probe of District Attorney Jim Garrison the coming week will bring another major step in events leading to the conspiracy trial of Clay L. Shaw.

Shaw, the grey-haired former International Trade Mart managing director, will be arraigned at 10:30 a. m. Wednesday before Criminal District Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. who will subsequently preside at Shaw's trial.

Shaw, a 54-year-old native of Kentwood, will be arraigned on chargts of criminal conspiracy to murder President John F. Kennedy. The defendent's attorneys have said a plea of not guilty would be made. Shaw has been free on $10,000 bond since his arrest by Garrison March 1.

The major weekend development of the conspiracy probe came Saturday in Gahanna, Ohio, a suburb of Columbus, where 29-year-old Gordon Novel was arrested as a fugitive from Louisiana following a 45-minute stakeout by Gahanna police.

TO SET NOVEL BOND

Novel, former owner of the Jamaican Village Bar at 800 N. Rampart, has been sought on a locally-issued arrest warrant for allegedly conspiring to commit simple burglary of a Houma munitions dump in 1961. Garrison also wants Novel for questioning here as a "material witness" in the Kennedy assassination investigation.

Following his arrest Saturday afternoon on a Gahanna street, Novel was transferred to the Columbus City Jail where he conferred with two Columbus attorneys Saturday night.

Gahanna police Sunday quoted Franklin County Criminal Municipal Court Judge Dean Strabaugh as saying he would set Novel's bond at $10,000 when he comes before Judge Strabaugh Monday morning. Garrison had recommended that Novel's bond be set at $50,000.

Det. Sgt. Robert Kelley of the Gahanna Police Department said Novel and the two attorneys were discussing the bond at the Columbus jail Saturday night. When Novel posts the bond he will again be a free man, Kelley explained, but under law would be confined to the court's jurisdiction of Franklin County.

Kelley said Novel spent a quiet day Sunday in the Columbus jail, and to his knowledge, had not conferred further with the attorneys.

Novel stated Saturday that he would "fight extradition (to Louisiana), if necessary, to the United States Supreme Court." He also renewed his charge that Garrison's probe of the assassination is "the fraud of the century."

As he joked with reporters in Columbus, Novel was asked why he was there. "It's the nicest town in the whole United States," he replied. Novel's fiancee lives in Columbus and he is reported to have business connections there.