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Orleans Jury Opens Assassination Probe

NEW ORLEANS, La. (AP) — A grand jury moves into the controversial Kennedy assassination probe today with a subpoena for a lawyer who handled some minor legal matters for Lee Harvey Oswald in the summer of 1963.

The Orleans Parish (County) grand jury ordered Dean A. Andrews Jr. to appear at its secret session for questioning today.

It marked the grand jury's first step into the investigation, which Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison contends will prove that a conspiracy was hatched in New Orleans which culminated in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

The Warren commission said Oswald, a former New Orleans resident, shot the President and there was no credible evidence any one else was involved.

Use of Alias Claimed

Andrews told the Warren commission that—shortly after the assassination—a man he knew as Clay Bertrand telephoned him and asked that he represent Oswald.

The FBI could never find a Clay Bertrand. Garrison contends that Clay L. Shaw, a prosperous New Orleans businessman, used the name Bertrand as an alias. Shaw said he has never used an alias.

Shaw, 54, former managing director of the International Trade Mart here, was arrested March 1 and booked on conspiracy to murder. He is free on $10,000 bond.

Under Louisiana law, being booked does not constitute a formal charge. The question of formal charge may be decided Tuesday at an unusual preliminary hearing for Shaw in Criminal District Court.

Mentioned in Warrant

Shaw's attorneys lost a bid yesterday to have the case quashed — but Criminal Dist. Judge Bernard Bagert said Garrison may have to produce his unidentified "confidential informant" against Shaw during the preliminary hearing.

"It is my inclination now that the identity of the informant will have to be disclosed at the hearing," Judge Bagert said, after refusing to dismiss the case on a claim of lack of jurisdiction.

The informant was first mentioned in Garrison's application for a warrant to search Shaw's home. The application alleged that Shaw, Oswald, David W. Ferrie and others met at Ferrie's apartment here in September 1963 and agreed "to kill John F. Kennedy."

Present at the meetings, said Garrison, was "a confidential informant who saw the conspirators and heard the plans."

The district attorney's office as legal adviser to the grand jury, usually determines who will be subpoenaed to appear before it. The subpoena for Andrews was issued yesterday.