

T.P. 10/21/67

LA., SATURDAY MORNING,

TALK OF SHAW PLEA PLANNED

Meeting Monday to Come Before Ruling

A meeting Monday between defense attorneys for Clay L. Shaw and members of the district attorney's office will precede any ruling on a Shaw motion for a six-month continuance or change of venue in his criminal conspiracy case, Criminal District Court Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. announced Friday.

Assistant District Attorneys James L. Alcock and Richard V. Burnes said a reasonable delay of less than six months would be agreeable when they answered the defense motion Tuesday.

Shaw, charged with conspiring to assassinate President John F. Kennedy, requested the six-month delay, or a change of venue if the delay is not granted, on the ground that acts of District Attorney Jim Garrison make a fair trial impossible.

The state labeled the six-month request "arbitrary, capricious and unreasonable," but said it would acquiesce in a limited continuance in order to "preclude any error which might justify a reversal of the conviction on appeal."

Although Alcock would not define "reasonable delay," he said privately that he does not expect the trial to begin before next year.

The state also accused Shaw of being responsible for any possible prejudicial atmosphere

in New Orleans, calling him the "author of his own misfortune."

If a continuance is granted, the state argues, the possibility of a change of venue is precluded.