

Shaw Pleads Innocent at Arraignment

Clay L. Shaw pleaded innocent today to charges that he committed perjury during his recent trial in which he was acquitted of charges of conspiring to kill President John F. Kennedy.

Shaw appeared with two of his attorneys, Edward Wegmann and F. Irvin Dymond, for his arraignment before Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara.

Through his attorneys, Shaw waived a reading of the bill of information filed against him by the state and requested time to file pleadings in the case. Judge O'Hara gave Shaw's attorneys until April 28.

There were no objections from the state's attorneys, assistant district attorneys James L. Alcock and Andrew Sciambra.

SHAW is accused of lying in his testimony during the conspiracy trial when he said he had not known Lee Harvey Oswald or David W. Ferrie. District Attorney Jim Garrison had accused Shaw. Fer-

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rie and Oswald of conspiring to kill Kennedy. Oswald had been named by the Warren Commission as the lone assassin of the President. Ferrie died during Garrison's investigation of the assassination in 1967.

Alcock and Sciambra declined to answer any questions from newsmen following the arraignment. Similar "no comment" were issued by Shaw's attorneys when asked what type of motions the defense planned to file.

Meanwhile in Judge Matthew S. Braniff's section of court, attorneys for Thomas Bethell, who was also charged in connection with the recent Shaw trial, filed three motions, one of them asking that Garrison be ordered to recuse himself in the prosecution of Bethell, a former investigator for the DA.

BETHELL was accused of showing the state's trial memorandum in the Shaw case to one of Shaw's attorneys, Salvador Panzeca.

Bethell's attorney, Herbert J. Garon, filed two other motions, one an application for a bill of particulars seeking the exact time and place that the alleged transferral of the memorandum took place, and the other a request for the defense to examine two written statements bearing Bethell's signature.

A memorandum filed with the motion charges that Garrison, who intends to prosecute Bethell, is the same district attorney who alleges himself to be the victim of Mr. Bethell.

GARON said in the memorandum that Garrison claims to be the district attorney and the complaining witness at the same time. He told the court that the code of criminal procedure prohibits this practice and "fundamental justice and fair play would instantaneously reject and repel such an unholy alliance."

Further the memorandum says.

In view of Mr. Garrison's shameful conduct in the Clay

L. Shaw case and the public record which he established as an irresponsible prosecuting attorney, can there be any doubt that his only motive would be to convict Mr. Bethell without regard to the canons of professional ethics or to a standard of justice which has been precious to all responsible lawyers throughout the history of the nation.

CITING the criticism of Garrison by the press locally and nationally, the memorandum states.

"To place the blame for this failure, at least partially on others, has become an absolute necessity for his political preservation. He had to make a comeback somehow. Now, not wishing to swallow the bitter pill of defeat, he uses the power of his office to seek a scapegoat or scapegoats to suffer the stings of his own shortcomings."

Judge Braniff set April 27 as the date for a hearing on the motions.