

Spiesel Returns To Witness Chair

The defense resumed its cross-examination of prosecution witness Charles I. Spiesel today in the third day of testimony in the conspiracy trial of Clay L. Shaw.

Trial Judge Edward A. Haggerty resumed proceedings at 9:05 a. m., a few minutes after defendant Shaw, looking refreshed, entered the courtroom and chatted with acquaintances.

THE WITNESS was already in the witness chair when chief defense counsel Irvin F. Dymond walked over to the prosecution table and handed

assistant district attorneys James L. Alcock and Andrew Sciambra a multi-paged document.

Five or six minutes elapsed while the two men examined the document. Judge Haggerty then reminded the witness he was still under oath.

Dymond began his cross-examination of Spiesel:

Q—Have you talked with any-

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one since the completion of your testimony yesterday, Mr. Spiesel?

A—Only to say that I testified yesterday in court.

Q—With whom did you talk?

A—Casual acquaintances. I don't know their names.

Q—Where did you talk to these people?

A—At the Fontainebleau Motor Hotel. At Lucky Pierre's.

Q—Lucky Pierre's? Is that a bar in the French Quarter?

A—Yes, it is.

Q—Who did you talk with at Lucky Pierre's?

A—I don't know their names. I relaxed. I played pool.

Q—Where in the Fontainebleau Motor Hotel did these discussions take place? In the bar?

A—No.

Q—In the lobby?

A—No. As a matter of fact, on the telephone.

Q—Oh, so you called someone on the telephone to discuss the case? Who did you call?

A—I called an old friend of mine. Mr. John Rochelle — he works for the State of Louisiana.

AT THIS POINT Dymond stopped his questioning, held up a copy of the document examined by Alcock and Sciambra and told the court that at this time he would like to show the document to the witness.

Handing the document to Speisel, Dymond asked: "I show you a copy of a proceeding numbered No. 32,001,

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marked United States Court of Appeals and ask you to examine it and see if it is a faithful copy of a complaint filed by you."

The witness then began examining the document, turning pages.

THE WITNESS answered that it was a copy of an appendix of a complaint and told the court there were various items missing.

Q—I would like to ask you at this time if this is not a complaint authored and written by you.

A—Yes.

Dymond, who was standing at the side of the witness box during this discussion, then returned to his chair at the defense counsel table.

HE CONFERRED momentarily with fellow counsellor, William Wegmann. He then stood and addressed the witness:

"I'd like to tell you in advance that I'm going to read certain parts of this document, and if you question any portions, you may stop me and examine that portion to see if I have read it correctly."

Alcock objected stating that, inasmuch as the witness identified himself as the author of the document, the document spoke for itself. He further argued that the line of questioning would be redundant.

JUDGE HAGGERTY entered the discussion, saying to Dymond: "You have to lay the proper foundation, Mr. Dymond, you can't ask him questions."

Alcock interjected: "Mr. Dymond's asking the witness questions is not going to change the document in any way."

Dymond then replied: "I intend to offer this document into evidence."

Judge Haggerty then referred to the law regarding impeachment of witness and explained the law regarding contradictory statements.

DYMOND interjected he hadn't asked a question yet.

Alcock rejoined: "What is the purpose of asking these questions? They are excerpts from his own document."

Dymond said, "His honor doesn't know the question yet



—States-Item photo.
CLAY L. SHAW strikes a characteristic pose—with a cigarette—as he and one of his attorneys, EDWARD WEGMANN, stand on the Esplanade ave. neutral ground near Dauphine awaiting the arrival of a witness who was searching for the apartment where he testified he attended a party in 1963 and heard talk of a plot to kill President Kennedy.



—States-Item photo.
TRIAL JUDGE EDWARD A. HAGGERTY JR., left, and witness **CHARLES I. SPEISEL** stand outside a building at Dauphine and Esplanade where the witness led jurors into a building to see if he could remember an apartment where he claims he attended a party with Clay L. Shaw in 1963.

Crew of Haggerty Has Early Parade

By **EDWARD J. LEPOMA**

Carnival came a little early today for a few hundred folks in the French Quarter.

While the krewes of Choctaw, Helios, Pandora and Mokana prepared for their afternoon parades, the 14-man crew at the Criminal Court building beat them to the punch by a couple of hours.

What the milling crowds in the area of Dauphine and Esplanade didn't realize at first was that they were about to witness part of the Clay L. Shaw conspiracy trial proceedings.

SHORTLY AFTER 11 A. M. hordes of photographers and newsmen rushed to the area to wait for the 14 jurors

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and the principal figures in the trial who were ordered to the scene by trial Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr.

A witness, Charles I. Spiesel, had testified he attended a party in the French Quarter with Shaw, but couldn't remember the exact address. So Judge Haggerty ordered everybody to the Quarter so that Spiesel might refresh his memory.

Pretty soon, Quarterites walking their dogs, bicycle riders, neighbors and scores of automobiles turned the area into a logjam.

Traffic soon was tied up for blocks. One pretty lass came out onto her balcony, saw the crowd, dashed back inside and changed her clothes when she saw the flash bulbs popping.

ANOTHER CURIOUS ONLOOKER, asked what he thought of the situation, replied, "I have a fixed opinion."

Pretty soon, Shaw, himself, pulled up in a limousine, got out and, accompanied by two detectives, walked to the Esplanade ave. neutral ground to chat with friends and acquaintances.

Just a few feet away, police had arrested three hippy types who were placed in the back seat of the police car and, sure enough, it stalled. The crowd obliged, pushed the car and the hippies were on their way to jail.

"INTRIGUING," ONE LITTLE OLD LADY remarked as Judge Haggerty, nifty in a cranberry colored sport coat, arrived with witness Spiesel, just as natty in a black pin-stripe suit, gray hat and chomping on a cigar.

Finally, an old-fashioned, red New Orleans Public Service Inc. bus containing the jurors pulled up and the crowd grew even larger. At the instructions of the judge, Spiesel looked about and led the jurors to 1323 Dauphine, an address which is part of the apartment complex where Shaw lives. Shaw's actual address is 1313 Dauphine.

The spectators didn't catch any throws, but they did go home with a lot of curiosity satisfied.

city since 1961.

Spiesel said he once came to Louisiana to see Louisiana State University play Ole Miss in football.

Asked by Dymond what happened when placed under hypnosis, Spiesel replied, "Certain thoughts are planted or given and that's what I mean."

"DO YOU MEAN that the thoughts planted give you the impression of being true," Dymond asked.

"Possibly, yes. My suit may or may not go to trial and since my answer would be carried in the national press, I don't feel that I should have to go into details that would harm my case unless his honor insists upon it."

Asked to explain his suit, Spiesel said he asked for \$16 million damages because he was well aware a good portion of what he said may be overturned by the statutes of limitation and would leave him with \$3 million to \$4 million if he was successful.

"Do you mean that the damages to you are worth \$1 million a year?"

Spiesel replied, "that's what it amounted to."