

Judge Refuses to Quash Arrest Order

NEW ORLEANS, March 29 (UPI)—Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. refused today to quash an arrest order against former New Orleans lounge operator Gordon Novel as a material witness in District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy.

Novel's attorney said he would appeal to the State Supreme Court.

The judge said that he would consider reducing Novel's \$50,000 bond if Novel returns to the jurisdiction of the court. The judge said he might even release Novel on his own cognizance if the witness returns.

Attorney Steve Plotkin asked Haggerty to quash the arrest warrant on grounds that Novel had never been properly subpoenaed by the grand jury and that Garrison's office had followed the wrong procedure in requesting the arrest.

Novel left New Orleans early last week shortly before the grand jury attempted to

subpoena him for the assassination investigation. He has since been reported in several different sections of the Nation. Criminal Sheriff Louis Heyd Jr. testified during the hearing that his men were not able to serve the subpoena on Novel the night prior to the grand jury meeting.

Garrison also brought key witness Layton Martens be-

fore the grand jury today. Martens, a 24-year-old student, is a former roommate of the late David W. Ferris, who Garrison charges conspired with Lee Harvey Oswald and Clay L. Shaw in September of 1963 to assassinate the President.

Martens said he was "cooperating now as I have consistently cooperated with the district attorney's office."

"In my presence, my attorney was advised by the district attorney's office that I am not suspected of any criminal activity whatever."

"The district attorney is interested only in my knowledge of certain individuals in the case."