

# N.Y. Author Testifies Before Grand Jury

A New York author, whose two books severely criticize the Warren Commission Report on President John F. Kennedy's death, testified before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury for almost three hours today and emerged to declare:

"Dist. Atty. Garrison's investigation is going to culminate in a congressional investigation."

Writer Harold Weisberg entered the jury room at 10 a. m. with DA Jim Garrison and Asst. DAs Richard Burns, Alvin Oser, James Alcock and Andrew Sciambra.

He departed with Garrison shortly before 1 p. m., handed copies of his two books, "Whitewash," and "White-



—States-Item Photo.  
HAROLD WEISBERG

porter Ross Yockey and charged:

"Right now the federal government is trying every possible way to prevent Garrison's investigation."

But he said he expects "a new and thorough investigation by Congress which will be entirely open to the public."

**WEISBERG CHARGED** the Warren Commission, which blamed Kennedy's murder on a lone assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, had failed in its mission of fact gathering.

"The last thing I want is a reopening of the Warren Commission or anything like it," he added.

Weisberg described his first book as a blow against the Warren report and the second a criticism of what he termed "CIA, secret service and FBI coverups."

**WHILE THERE WAS** no immediate indication of what was discussed in the secret jury session, sources in the DA's office said it might center upon possible operations of the Central Intelligence Agency here.

Published reports this week in the States-Item said there is mounting evidence of a CIA link to the inquiry by Garrison into what he charges was a plot to kill Kennedy.

Both returned within 20 minutes.

Sciambra came through the jury room door at 11:30 a. m. He would not comment on the possibility of further action by the jury today.

**JAMES PHELAN** of the Saturday Evening Post published a story critical of Garrison and his investigation this week and drew immediate fire from the DA's office.

Sciambra, who Phelan said did not mention star witness Perry Russo's later conspiracy disclosures in a report on his first interview with the Baton Rouge salesman, called Phelan's article "incomplete and distorted."

Defense attorneys for 54-year-old Clay L. Shaw, the only man charged with complicity in Kennedy's murder, have asked Criminal District Court to subpoena Phelan for testimony.

They termed the writer's testimony "essential to the defense."

**RUSSO TESTIFIED** at a preliminary hearing for Shaw that he overheard the retired New Orleans businessman conspire with the late David W. Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald to kill the president.

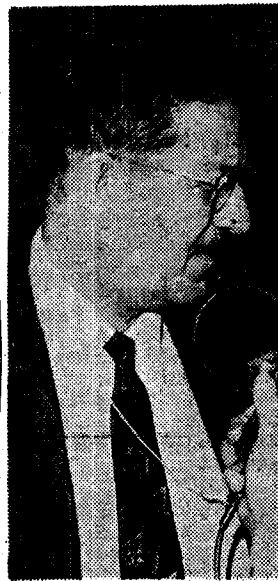
# DA to Trigger Congress Action, Author Predicts

Solons Will Follow with Own Probe—Weisberg

"Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's investigation is going to culminate in a congressional investigation," said a New York author after testifying before a secret session of the Orleans Parish Grand Jury almost three hours Friday.

Writer Harold Weisberg, who has written two books severely criticizing the Warren Commission Report on the death of President John F. Kennedy, entered the jury room at 10 a. m. with DA Jim Garrison and Assistant DAs Richard Burns, Alvin Oser, James Alcock and Andrew Sciambra. He departed with Garrison shortly before 1 p. m.

Weisberg charged the Warren Commission had failed in its



—Photo by The Times-Picayune.  
HAROLD WEISBERG  
Testifies before Grand Jury.

mission of fact gathering and said, "The last thing I want is a reopening of the Warren Commission or anything like it."

Ferrie, a former airline pilot, died of what the coroner called natural causes five days after Garrison's investigation became public. Oswald was named by the Warren Commission as the lone assassin of Kennedy at Dallas in 1963.

## CHARGES PREVENTION

He said he expects "a new and thorough investigation by Congress which will be entirely open to the public," even though "right now the federal government is trying every possible way to prevent Garrison's investigation."

Weisberg described his first book "Whitewash" as a blow against the Warren report and the second "Whitewash II" as criticism of what he termed "CIA, Secret Service and FBI coverups."

While there was no immediate indication of what was discussed in the secret jury session, sources in the DA's office said it might center upon possible operations of the Central Intelligence Agency here.

Published reports this week said there is mounting evidence of a CIA link to the inquiry by Garrison into what he charges was a plot to kill Kennedy.

At 11:20 a. m. Alcock and a member of the jury hurriedly left the secret session, but returned within 20 minutes. Sciambra came through the jury room door at 11:30 a. m.

## BLASTS PHELAN STORY

The Saturday Evening Post published a story by James Phelan this week which was critical of Garrison and his investigation. The story drew immediate fire from the DA's office.

Sciambra, who Phelan said did not mention star witness Perry Russo's later conspiracy disclosures in a report on his first interview with the Baton Rouge salesman, called Phelan's article "incomplete and distorted."

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Russo testified at a preliminary hearing for Shaw that he overheard the retired New Orleans businessman conspire with the late David W. Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald to kill the president.