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DA Plot Probe Figure Due to Get Subpena

The Los Angeles County district attorney's office was expected to serve a subpoena today on Lawrence J. Howard Jr., who is wanted here as a material witness in District Attorney Jim Garrison's Kennedy assassination probe.

The subpoena was issued by Garrison's office Dec. 29, along with subpoenas for Loran E. Hall of Kernville, Calif., and Thomas Beckham of Omaha, Neb.

AT THE TIME, however, Howard was not at his residence, 2706 Pine ave., in El Monte, Calif. near Los Angeles.

Howard, who had returned to El Monte, said today he returned home yesterday from "an extended vacation in the wilds of New Mexico." He said he was unable to return earlier because he was in "inaccessible territory near Durango."

The subpoena for Howard says information has been given the DA that Howard was in association with the late David William Ferrie during visits to New Orleans in 1963. Garrison claims that Ferrie, who died here last February, was part of a conspiracy to murder President John F. Kennedy.

THE DOCUMENT also says that the DA has information that Howard was engaged in CIA-sponsored guerrilla training in Florida for raids on Cuba, that he was active in the "Free Cuba" movements in Florida, Louisiana and Texas.

It says Howard arrived in

See **HOWARD**— Page 11

Howard--

Continued from Page 1

Dallas, checked into the YMCA in October, 1963, and stayed in Dallas until the time of the Kennedy slaying, and that he was in contact with the late Jack Ruby "and other individuals believed to have been involved in the assassination."

Ruby, a Dallas nightclub owner, fatally shot Lee Harvey Oswald, the man identified by the Warren Commission of the lone assassin.

THE DOCUMENT stipulates that Howard will have immunity from prosecution if he answers the summons to testify here.

Howard, who described himself as an unemployed typesetter-welder, said today that he spoke by telephone with the DA's office in Los Angeles and that he understands the subpoena is to be served sometime today. This was confirmed by the DA's office.

He said he does not plan to avoid being served.

HOWARD SAID that he was working in Los Angeles Nov. 22, 1963, the date of the assassination, and that he has never registered at the Dallas YMCA.

"There is no information at all that I can give that would in any way uncover anything. I gave a statement to the FBI and as far as they were concerned, I was cleared," Howard said.

He would not discuss why he was questioned by the FBI, but said, "I have no knowledge of any conspiracy concerning the assassination of President Kennedy . . . I think they're interested in me because at one time I helped train guerrilla forces for a proposed invasion of Cuba."