

KOHN'S LETTER PROMPTS WIRE

8-1
Giarrusso Not Satisfied
Over 'Theft' Issue

Supt. of Police Joseph I. Giarrusso sent a telegram Thursday to Metropolitan Crime Commission president James Schwartz which indicated that he is still not satisfied as to how Aaron M. Kohn, managing director of the MCC, received official police memoranda.

The police documents are being involved in charges and countercharges between Traffic Court judge candidate Thomas L. Giraud and incumbent Judge David H. MacHauer.

Referring to a letter that Kohn made public Wednesday, Giarrusso said, that Kohn, "while resorting to using excessive degree of verbiage, did not address himself or respond to the issues outlined in my letter." Giarrusso sent a letter to Kohn last Saturday asking him for the source of police memoranda supplied to Judge MacHauer which allegedly revealed that Giraud "fixed" a traffic ticket for Nofio S. Pecora.

"Am I to believe that Mr. Kohn determines what candidate should be endorsed and gives him information . . . in-

cluding two documents stolen from the Police Department files?" Giarrusso asked in his telegram.

Referring to Kohn's charge that Giarrusso is conducting a "pursuit of vengeance," Giarrusso replied, "Does Mr. Kohn have the authority to accuse a public official of vengeance because he is seeking the truth and the source of an individual that stole two documents from an official, confidential file?"

Giarrusso also said that he refuses to believe that Schwartz and other board members of the MCC "subscribe to this type of deception," and that he will not further respond to Kohn's letter until he hears from them.

PURPOSE STATED

In his letter to Giarrusso, Kohn said he released the intelligence memoranda because the MCC does "fact-finding for the purpose of helping responsible officials and agencies in the law enforcement processes . . ."

He said Judge MacHauer inquired June 5 about ties between Pecora and Giraud.

"Because he (MacHauer) is known to us as a responsible, competent and honest public official, I assured him that any

information, except the identity of confidential sources, would be made available to him," said Kohn in the letter.

Kohn said he sent Judge MacHauer several documents related to Pecora's background, including copies of the police intelligence memoranda pertaining to Pecora's speeding charge and its disposition.

Of his sources for getting the memoranda, Kohn said, "They were given to me by a responsible and competent person not a member of the New Orleans Police Department."

He said MacHauer, as senior traffic judge, should have been advised of the disposition of the charge against Pecora.

"It is unfortunate that this has become an issue during the campaign for traffic judge. This matter should have been acted upon almost two years ago when the evidence came into possession of the police department," said Kohn.