

NO NOLAN CASE INTRUSION--MCC

Challenges DA's Office to Produce Evidence

The Metropolitan Crime Commission of New Orleans Inc. Thursday challenged the district attorney's office to "produce evidence to support statements" that the MCC tried to keep Eugene Nolan's home under surveillance.

Nolan, one of 22 persons indicted by a New York grand jury on gambling charges, was arrested here Monday by DA personnel after his indictment by the Nassau County, N. Y., grand jury in what Nassau DA William Cahn termed a \$100 million-a-year bookmaking operation.

The MCC executive committee said a statement by DA Jim Garrison's office aimed "to delude our community by prepared deliberate falsehood." Cahn called Nolan, who lives at 1700 Lakeshore dr. here, one of the "biggest bookmakers in the country."

JEOPARDIZED—DA

At time of Nolan's arrest, the DA's office charged that its investigation and arrest "were jeopardized by recent irresponsible statements and actions" by MCC managing director Aaron M. Kohn.

The DA's office said: "The Metropolitan Crime Commission in attempting to conduct a surveillance . . . tipped Nolan to the fact that his house was under surveillance when on Thursday of last week one of its investigators was physically seized by Nolan in the very

act of keeping his house under surveillance with binoculars."

But the MCC retorted: "We deny that any MCC investigator or other representative has engaged in surveillance of the residence or other location used by convicted gambler Eugene Nolan.

"We deny that any representative or agent of the MCC was seized by Nolan in the very act of keeping his house under surveillance with binoculars."

DEMANDS EVIDENCE

The MCC executive committee demanded chief assistant DA Charles R. Ward to produce evidence to support his accusations, adding "this request to Mr. Ward could not be addressed to him by letter because Crime Commission communications to Ward and to DA Garrison are returned unopened."

The MCC further charged

that assistant DAs Richard Burnes, James Alcock and Numa Bertel "were directly responsible for disclosing publicly Mr. Kohn's testimony in the secrecy of the grand jury room, concerning his knowledge that Nolan was currently engaged in gambling operations in New Orleans."

Nolan's name figured last week in the jailing of Kohn for contempt of the grand jury. Kohn was freed by order of the Louisiana Supreme Court the following day.

"Because the protection of the people of this community is entrusted, to a large degree, to Mr. Ward and those whom he supervises," the MCC concluded, "we believe his continuing public deceptions must not go unchallenged. No member of our community can be considered safe against abuses of the powers which have been entrusted to him and his office."