

# 'Plot' Arrest Warrant Issued for Bar Seller

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Authorities sought today a former French quarter bar owner as a material witness in the investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Criminal Court Judge Matthew S. Braniff issued a warrant for the arrest of Gordon Novel, 29, who was last reported in Columbus, Ohio, and was said to be seeking sanctuary in Chicago. Braniff set bail at \$50,000.

The judge acted after Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison filed an affidavit in court saying he had good reason to believe that Novel was a "most important" witness who was necessary to the grand jury's investigation.

A subpoena had called for Novel to appear Wednesday before the grand jury. But Novel's attorney, Steve Plotkin, said his client was then in Washington, D.C., on personal business.

## Wants Protection

Novel popped up in Columbus the same day and said he did not intend to return to New Orleans unless guaranteed freedom from "harassment."

The affidavit requesting the arrest order said Novel sold his Jamaican Village bar on the edge of the French quarter and left the city while under subpoena, stating publicly he had no intention of returning. The affidavit said Novel should be placed under sizable bond or the grand jury "will be deprived of a most important and material witness."

The district attorney subpoenaed Layton Martens, who had been arrested here three days after the Kennedy assassination and held for "investigation of subversive activities," to appear before the grand jury Wednesday.

At the time of the assassination, Martens, 24, roomed with David W. Ferrie at 3330 Louisi-



—UPI  
**DONALD DOOTY**  
Subpoenaed for Questioning

ana Ave., where Garrison said a death plot was hatched. Ferrie died last month.

Martens, Ferrie and Roland Beauboeuf, a 19-year-old at the time who also roomed with them, were arrested by Garrison's men at the request of the Secret Service and FBI on Nov. 25, 1963 — three days after Kennedy was killed.

## Booked, Then Released

Ferrie was booked for being a fugitive from Texas. Police records show Martens and Beauboeuf were booked "relative to vagrancy, under investigation of subversive activities."

All three men were released the next day.

This district attorney yesterday also subpoenaed Donald Dooty, 35, for questioning about the case.

No background information was available on Dooty, and he

refused to answer reporter's questions when he went to Garrison's office.

The central figure in the case, Clay L. Shaw, left for a pleasure trip to the Mississippi Gulf Coast following his indictment by the grand jury Wednesday for conspiring to murder Kennedy. Shaw, the only man charged so far in the probe, will go on trial here at an undetermined date.

The name of Edward A. Haggerty Jr., meanwhile, was drawn from a list of eight criminal district court judges to preside at Shaw's trial.

In an interview with New Orleans television station WDSU two weeks ago, Martens said he had been questioned twice by Garrison's investigators recently and underwent a lie detector test on one occasion.

He said he first met Ferrie through the Civil Air Patrol and they became good friends. Martens said he believed he knew all of Ferrie's friends and he had never heard Ferrie mention Clay Shaw or Clay Bertrand. Garrison has alleged that Shaw sometimes used Bertrand as an alias.