



LAYTON P. MARTENS
Probe witness arrested.

WITNESS IN DA PROBE BOOKED

J-P 6-28-68
Charged with Attempted
Murder in Knifing

Layton P. Martens, a witness in District Attorney Jim Garrison's Kennedy assassination probe, was arrested Thursday night in his French Quarter apartment and booked with attempted murder.

Martens was arrested in connection with the stabbing of Darryl Gertenschlager, 29, 728 Dumaine, Apt. 401. Gertenschlager was undergoing surgery in Charity Hospital late Thursday night. Police said his condition was extremely critical.

Officers said the 25-year-old Martens became involved in an argument with Gertenschlager at his apartment at 1205 Bourbon. They said that Martens went to his kitchen to get a knife to "protect himself."

Gertenschlager "charged" Martens, police said, and was stabbed in the abdomen with the eight-inch knife.

No further details of the stabbing were immediately available.

Martens was a roommate in 1963 of David W. Ferrie who died just days after the news of Garrison's probe of the assassination was revealed. Garrison said Ferrie was involved in a local plot to kill President John F. Kennedy, and Martens was called to testify about any knowledge he may have had of the case.

Martens maintained at the time that he was under no suspicion of any criminal activity.

On April 5, 1967, he was indicted for perjury in connection with testimony about two other Garrison probe figures, Gordon Novel and Sergio Archacha Smith.

Marten's attorney argued that his client's constitutional rights had been violated.