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NEW ORLEANS

Probe Figure Cancler Gets 18-Year Term

John "the Baptist" Cancler, a figure in Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's Kennedy death plot probe, today was sentenced by Criminal District Judge Oliver P. Schulingkamp to 18 years in prison as a multiple offender.

Cancler was convicted in February of simple burglary. Through his attorney, Milton Brener, he asked a new trial after producing a Parish Prison inmate who confessed to the burglary.

It was Cancler's third conviction.

ON JULY 17 Judge Schulingkamp denied the new trial motion and a plea to set aside a multiple-offender count lodged against Cancler by the district attorney's office.

Brener claimed significant new evidence, namely the confession by Donnell Carroll, who said he burglarized the house with a friend known to him only as "Wolf."

At the hearing on the new trial motion May 2, however, an eyewitness to the burglary, Dr. Morris Kloor, 7107 Maple, said Carroll was not the man seen entering the house.

LAST MONTH, Cancler, a Negro, told a nationwide television audience he was asked by two of Garrison's assistants to break into the home of accused Kennedy plot conspirator Clay L. Shaw and "put something there."

He said he refused to go through with the alleged scheme.

Earlier this month he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, plus a \$500 fine, after he refused to repeat his charges before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury.

He was brought before Judge Bernard J. Bagert and asked whether the televised statements were true. He refused to answer. Judge Bagert then cited him for contempt of court.