

Should Drop Shaw Charge--Gurvich

S-1 6/26/67

Private detective William H. Gurvich today said he thinks Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison should drop the conspiracy charge against Clay L. Shaw.

Gurvich went to Garrison's office today to ask him to re-

(Did Lee Harvey Oswald have time to fire three shots at President Kennedy? See Page 2.)

evaluate his assassination probe, but departed in a huff

after he was left to cool his heels for half an hour.

Describing himself as Garrison's chief aide in the investigation of the murder of President Kennedy, Gurvich told reporters that if the DA refuses to reevaluate the investigation, he will resign.

Gurvich said later that he had telephoned Garrison and officially resigned.

HE APPEARED AT the DA's office at 10:30 a.m. and was barred from entering the back offices by Louis Ivon,

an investigator on the staff, who informed him Garrison had given orders that Gurvich was to wait in the reception room.

When Ivon blocked his way at the guard railing to the inner offices, Gurvich asked, "Have I been fired?"

Ivon replied, "I don't know anything about that."

"May I come in?" Gurvich asked.

"No, you can't," Ivon replied.

"YOU'RE NOT MY BOSS," Gurvich said, and Ivon replied that he knew that, but had orders to tell him to wait in the outer office and that Garrison would see him later.

"You mean I can't go into my office?"

Ivon said, "The boss wanted you to wait outside."

Then Gurvich got into a heated exchange with States-Item reporter Ross Yockey when Yockey asked him: "You actually have an office in there, Bill?"

Gurvich started at Yockey,

then said, "Ross Yockey, as many times as you've sat in there and talked with me, you ask me a stupid question like that?"

Yockey said, "But that was always in someone else's office, wasn't it Bill?"

Gurvich said, "You're a damn liar. You know all those times we sat in there and talked. I introduced you to Garrison."

YOCKEY SAID, "Wasn't it in several different offices?" Gurvich replied, "We talked in Garrison's office." Yockey said, "That's what I mean." Gurvich said, "Well, that's my office, too; that's where all my equipment is."

Then Gurvich asked Ivon again, "Can I go into my office? I want to get my equipment." Ivon continued to stand in his way.

Then Gurvich waded through the television camera equipment to a telephone and made a call, asking, "Is your Daddy there? No? All right."

At that point, assistant DA James Alcock came out and asked Gurvich to come with him.

(Turn to Page 5, Column 1)

Continued from Front Page

GURVICH REPLIED, "Too late, Jim. They played right into it, Buddy."

But he went into the rear offices with Alcock. When cameramen attempted to follow, they were stopped and asked to leave the office.

About 15 minutes later, Gurvich came out and told reporters he had sent a telegram to Garrison asking to meet him at his office today at 10:30 a. m. "It's 11 o'clock," he said, "and I have a very important appointment. I don't wait for anyone longer than a half hour."

HE SAID HE knew Garrison was in his office and that he was told the DA was conducting "some sort of staff meeting."

Gurvich refused to comment on what he told Sen. Robert Kennedy, D-N. Y., at a meeting in Washington June 8. Friday, it was reported that he told Kennedy the Garrison investigation had no substance.

He was interviewed over

the weekend in New York by the New York Times, which quoted him as saying he has "grave misgivings" about the probe and that he would ask the DA to take "an entirely new look at the whole matter."

Asked today why he wanted Garrison to reevaluate his investigation, Gurvich said, "No comment."

A MEMBER OF Garrison's staff, commenting on reports by the National Broadcasting Co. and a Long Island, N.Y., newspaper, Newsday, said Friday that Gurvich "has not been part of the Kennedy investigation for the last two months."

Gurvich denied this today, saying that as far as he knows he is still working on the investigation. He said he had only been out of touch with the office "for just a few weeks."

Asked if he feels the charges against Shaw, the retired businessman accused by the DA of conspiring to murder Kennedy, should be dropped, Gurvich replied:

"At this time, yes, I do."

F. Irvin Dymond, defense attorney for Shaw, said he was surprised by Gurvich's statement, but very pleased.

Dymond appeared in the hall outside Garrison's office shortly after Gurvich left. He said, "This is the first I've heard of Mr. Gurvich's statement that the charges against Clay Shaw should be dropped. Of course, I'm very pleased to hear it."

DYMOND SAID that to his knowledge neither he nor any of his staff has been in contact with Gurvich.

He said that at this time he did not know how Gurvich's defection would affect his case.

At this point, he said, he did not think the defense tactics would be changed materially.

Gurvich denied to reporters an allegation that he is an agent for the Central Intelligence Agency. "If I am a double agent," he said, "I am working for Garrison and for justice."

After calling Garrison to announce his resignation, Gurvich went to Parish Prison and attempted to see Vernon Bundy, the Negro narcotics addict who testified that he

saw Shaw and Lee Harvey Oswald together on the Lake Pontchartrain seawall during the summer of 1963. Oswald was identified by the Warren Commission as Kennedy's assassin.

Criminal Sheriff Louis A. Heyd Jr. said that Gurvich was denied access to the prison until Heyd could check with Garrison or until Gurvich gets permission from Bundy's lawyer to see him.

Gurvich said that he would return later.

He said his misgivings center around "the behavior of certain people in the district attorney's office and the criminal procedures employed in this case."

Gurvich said he has "no reason to believe that Garrison does not believe that there was a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy hatched in New Orleans. He is sincere in that belief."

Gurvich, declining to spell out his misgivings about the probe, said he "would like to see more extensive and thorough searches made in the gathering of evidence to clarify questions that develop."

Up to now, he said, "this standard and professional method of criminal investigation was not always used in all phases of this investigation."

FRIDAY, Newsday reported that Gurvich specifically denied calling Garrison's probe a hoax, but said Gurvich refused to deny he had said the investigation had no substance to it.

Gurvich was quoted as saying there is a difference between calling something a hoax and saying there is nothing to it.