

## NBC Man Denies Effort At Bribery in JFK Probe

Walter J. Sheridan, NBC News reporter, denied yesterday that he tried to bribe the key witness in New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of the Kennedy assassination. He branded the charge an attempt by Garrison to intimidate newsmen.

In a news conference here, Sheridan said he would surrender soon to answer a criminal information filed against him and Richard Townley, a New Orleans television newsmen who worked with him on a documentary that criticized Garrison's handling of the investigation.

Sheridan said he never tried to influence Perry Russo, star witness in Garrison's case

against retired businessman Clay L. Shaw, who is awaiting trial on a charge of conspiring to assassinate President Kennedy in 1963.

Meanwhile, New Orleans Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. refused to enjoin Garrison from keeping a TV date with NBC Saturday to rebut the network's criticism. Shaw's attorneys had claimed that Garrison's appearance would prejudice Shaw's jury.

Meanwhile, Judge Bernard J. Bagert sentenced John (The Baptist) Cancler, a self-professed burglar who appeared on the NBC program, to six months in jail and \$500 fine for contempt. Cancler refused to tell the grand jury whether what he said on TV was true.