

No Legal Ties Left On Novel in Probe

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Flamboyant Gordon Novel, once considered a central figure in the probe of the Kennedy assassination, left the police station without legal ties Monday because New Orleans authorities gave no indication they are still interested in him.

Municipal Court Judge William T. Gilie ordered three pending cases against the 29-year-old former night club owner dismissed and released him from the \$10,000 bond under which he had been placed. The cases dealt with New Orleans authorities' attempts to extradite Novel.

THE RULING BY the court apparently ended a series of charges and counter charges, mystery and intrigue which has made Novel a celebrity of

sorts since his initial arrest on May 1.

In arguing Monday for dismissal of the three affidavits, Atty. Jerry Weiner cited a decision of Judge Bruce Jenkins two months ago.

At that time, Jenkins extended the deadline to extradite Novel for 60 days, asserting that, "if they (Louisiana authorities) don't do something by that time they are out of business."

GILIE APPARENTLY agreed with Jenkins although he did not elaborate on his ruling.

Weiner argued that there were no valid papers in the governor's office as of last Friday to legally detain Novel.

He said all of the extradition papers sent here failed to establish whether Novel was

wanted as a material witness or a fugitive. Weiner also maintained the papers were not signed by the district attorney as required by statute.

A SPOKESMAN for the Ghana Police Department said New Orleans District Atty. James Garrison did not reply to phone calls and telegrams asking about his intentions to obtain custody of Novel.

"We've not heard anything for two months," the officer testified and then agreed with Weiner that, "We're all sick and tired of this."

Sheriff's deputies had taken custody of Novel on one occasion. They also recommended their holding charge be dropped because they have had no contact with Garrison.

SPELLED CHARGES against Novel involve an allegation that he conspired and

otherwise participated in the burglary of a munitions dump in Houma, La.

In a bevy of statements made to reporters, Novel called the charges a "sham" and maintained Garrison has or will file in the near future.

Novel back to Louisiana so he could be "used" in the Kennedy investigation.

Novel said he will still return to New Orleans to press \$50 million in civil suits he has or will file in the near