

GARRISON SEEKING WITNESS'S ARREST

Judge Issues a Warrant for
a Former Bar Owner

By **MARTIN WALDRON**
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NEW ORLEANS, March 23—A New Orleans judge ordered today the arrest of Gordon Novel, a 29-year-old former bar owner in the New Orleans French Quarter, as a material witness in the investigation by District Attorney Jim Garrison into the assassination of President Kennedy.

In an affidavit filed with the judge, Mr. Garrison said he had "good reason to believe" that Mr. Novel was a "most important" witness who was material to the grand jury's investigation.

Criminal Court Judge Matthew S. Braniff issued a warrant for Mr. Novel's arrest and set bail at \$50,000.

Mr. Novel, who told reporters in New Orleans last week that the District Attorney wanted to question him about a Cuban refugee organization that operated in New Orleans in 1963, was scheduled to appear before the grand jury yesterday, but he did not show up.

His lawyer said Mr. Novel was in Washington, D. C. The Associated Press reported that a man identified as Mr. Novel was in Columbus, Ohio, last night but departed today, leaving a note at his motel saying that he had gone to Chicago.

A member of Mr. Garrison's staff said that if Mr. Novel was arrested in another state, the District Attorney was prepared to file a request for extradition to Louisiana.

Mr. Novel testified before the grand jury last week and was to have returned for further questioning. He had been questioned on several occasions by assistants to Mr. Garrison.

In another development today, Mr. Garrison subpoenaed a former roommate of David D. Ferrie to appear before the grand jury next Wednesday.

He is Layton Martens, 23 years old, who was identified by the District Attorney's office as Patrick L. Martens, who accompanied Mr. Ferrie and another man to Texas on the afternoon that President Kennedy was murdered in Dallas.

Mr. Ferrie, a former airline pilot, died Feb. 22. He has since been named by the New Orleans grand jury as a "conspirator" in a plot to assassinate Mr. Kennedy.

Before testifying before the grand jury last Thursday, Mr. Novel told a reporter for The New Orleans States-Item that he had known Mr. Ferrie "in-

directly," but he said he thought Mr. Garrison was more interested in a Cuban refugee leader.

Subpoena Issued

Donald Dooty, a young man with a red beard, was subpoenaed for questioning by the District Attorney's staff this afternoon. Mr. Dooty refused to talk to reporters, and the District Attorney's office would not say if he was being questioned in relation to the assassination investigation.

Criminal Court Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. was picked by lot today to be the trial judge in the case involving Clay L. Shaw, who was indicted last night by the grand jury on a charge of conspiring with Mr. Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald to assassinate President Kennedy. No date has been set for Mr. Shaw's trial or for an arraignment.

Irving Dymond, one of Mr. Shaw's attorneys, said he planned to ask the court to require the District Attorney to file a "bill of particulars" outlining in detail the charge against Mr. Shaw.

Mr. Shaw, under a \$10,000 bond, was reported by his physician, Dr. Martin Palmer, to have departed from New Orleans last night for a weekend at an undisclosed Mississippi beach.

Mr. Garrison's office would not say why the District Attorney had decided to ask the grand jury to indict Mr. Shaw. Last Friday, after a three-judge panel ruled at a preliminary hearing that there was sufficient evidence to hold Mr. Shaw for trial, Mr. Garrison said he planned to file a bill of information, a legal maneuver that would bypass the grand jury.

Judge Braniff said the District Attorney might have decided to seek the grand jury indictment "because of the seriousness of the situation" involving an alleged conspiracy to assassinate a President.

Novel Fears 'Harassment'

COLUMBUS, Ohio, March 23 (AP)—A man identified as Gordon Novel said tonight he was afraid to go back to New Orleans for further grand jury testimony regarding an alleged conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy.

Reached by newsmen at a hotel here, he denied any knowledge of any conspiracy.

Mr. Novel said he did not want to return to New Orleans without a guarantee of immunity from "harassment."

Mr. Novel said he knew Clay L. Shaw, "but not in connection with this." He said he "indirectly" knew "a David Ferrie."

Mr. Novel said that he had never been in Dallas and that he was working in the Louisiana Pavilion of the New York World's Fair at the time of the assassination.