

Marina Is Ordered to Appear in N.O.

T.P. 2/2/68
Held Necessary Witness in Murder Probe

With one out-of-state Kennedy death probe witness in New Orleans, District Attorney Jim Garrison seemed assured Thursday of getting another — the widow of accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald.

Texas District Court Judge John Mead ruled in Dallas that Mrs. Marina Oswald Porter must come to New Orleans, and said she is a "material and necessary witness" in the investigation of the murder of President John F. Kennedy.

The witness already in New Orleans, Thomas Edward Beckham, appeared in Criminal District Court Thursday, but his appearance before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury was re-scheduled for Feb. 15.

Mrs. Porter's husband accompanied her to the hearing on Garrison's subpoena under the interstate agreement for the return of witnesses.

TRAVELING EXPENSES

She would not comment after the hearing, but she has said previously she would return to New Orleans "if I have to."

She is scheduled to go before the grand jury Feb. 8 and 9. Judge Mead presented a check from Garrison's office for traveling expenses to Mrs. Porter.

In New Orleans, Beckham, 27, asked the court for time to confer with his attorney, newly elected state Rep. Edward H. Booker.

Assistant District Attorney James L. Alcock agreed to the delay, and Judge Matthew S. Braniff told Beckham to appear before the jury at 9 a.m. Feb. 15 "without further notice."

Beckham arrived in New Orleans shortly after midnight



—AP WIREPHOTO.
MRS. MARINA OSWALD PORTER

Ordered to appear in N. O. from Omaha, where a court had ordered him to return as a material witness at Garrison's request.

WILL HOLD SERVICES

Beckham will bear his own expenses during the delay.

Three pistol-toting men accompanied Beckham into court. One, James Hauger, 32, said he resigned from the Omaha police force two days before to act as Beckman's bodyguard.

Another was an unidentified brother of Beckham, and the third was Herman Henning, who carried credentials as an auxiliary sheriff. Two other brothers of Beckham were also with him.

Beckham described himself as

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THE TIMES-P



—Photo by The Times-Picayune.
THOMAS E. BECKHAM
Grand Jury appearance
delayed.

GARRISON PROBE

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a minister and psychologist, and said he intends to hold services while in New Orleans. He said he has a degree from Faith Bible College and the theological seminary in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Also known as a cowboy singer, Beckham discussed a reported forthcoming album entitled "Material Witness." He first said it was a "kinda party record on Garrison," but later said it was "just a bunch of songs I've done and doesn't have anything to do with Garrison."

THREATENED, CLAIM

As for the bodyguards, Beckham said he needs them because he has been threatened in Omaha and in New Orleans. Beckham said his mother, a New Orleans resident, has had telephone calls from persons who said he would be hurt if he went before the jury.

Before Beckham's arrival in court newsmen went to Booker's office at 2538 Tulane ave., only to find that no interviews were being held.

Garrison's subpoena said Beckham was an associate of the late David William Ferrie, who has a prominent part in Garrison's theories. It said both were ordained priests in the 'old Orthodox Catholic Church of North America.'

AUDITOR HEARD

The subpoena also alleged that Beckham was reportedly in Dallas in November of 1963, the month of the assassination.

The grand jury did hear legislative auditor James B. Lancaster, but it was not explained why. Lancaster only said his appearance "was not because of anything our audits have uncovered."

Among other things, the jury also is investigating some transactions of the Orleans Parish School Board involving leases and land purchases.

Also subpoenaed were Dr. Joseph Weinberg, 4900 Carondelet; Leon Rosenweig, 5637 Evelyn ct.; the Rev. Spencer Taylor, 202 N. Tonti; and Girard Villamarette.