

Jury Gets Quarter Rackets Case

By AHT ROANE
and FAYVITZGOSBY

A jury in the trial of French Quarter bar operator William Colacurcio was still deliberating his fate late Monday night, after getting the case shortly after 6 p.m.

Dinos Fallis and Theodore G. Dimopoulos, associated with the Greek Italian Association Club of 523 Iberville, are also defendants in the trial which began Nov. 13 in Judge Lansing L. Mitchell's section of Federal District Court.

Final arguments from both the prosecution and the defense concluded about 5 p.m. Monday.

Prosecutor Irving Warshauer quoted Colacurcio as saying, "What's wrong? This is New Orleans. People expect it to be opened up."

Warshauer concluded, "You are wrong, Mr. Colacurcio. The people of New Orleans don't want their public officials bribed."

Attorney Mark Lane, representing Colacurcio, said perhaps his client was prosecuted "because his name ends in a vowel. And that's unfair for someone to be prosecuted because he's Italian or anything else."

Lane said the police reasoning was "because he's Italian he must be involved in some kind of criminal activity."

Lane told the jury, "It's time to put a dash on the RICO (Racket Influencing and Corrupt Organizations) Act, because it is being used against people for whom it was never intended."

"Somewhere along the line, you've got to say stop. Stop! You've gotten out of control."

Edward Baldwin, representing Rallis, said, "This is a little bit of a bill, they tried to blow it up into organized."

He said the case "should be tried at Tulane and Broad as a misdemeanor, referring to the Criminal Courts building."

Baldwin said the operation reminded him of the book, "The Gang That Couldn't Shoot Straight," and added that his client was a poor card game operator, "because he lost his shirt."

The best defense of Dimopoulos is one of non-involvement, his attorney, Frank Disalvo, told the jury.

"He was not in the total package, which was discussed between Kastner and Colacurcio, said Disalvo.

"Teddy is no mouseteater," but the evidence showed he is no racketeer either, he added.

He said the government mentioned him once in the indictment and briefly in its opening statement, but not at any other time.

Disalvo said he chose to keep his client off the witness stand, "because

the government proved no case against him."

Assistant U.S. Attorney Richard Simon, who handled the first part of the closing argument for the prosecution, said, "The right package discussion between Kastner and Colacurcio involved."

Using the third floor at 523 Iberville for prostitution.

Getting the prostitutes off the street.

Organizing the cab drivers.

Keeping the girls in line, as they are like sheep, and have to be driven down the straight path.

An early warning notice of any possible action coming from the District Attorney's office.

Simmons said Colacurcio also spoke of "spreading a little good will in the City Attorney's office and with the City Council."

He said this showed Colacurcio was not an innocent pawn who was trapped by police deception.

Warshauer said the tapes showed Colacurcio had been involved in past payoffs.

Simmons said a defense tactic was to try and put all the law enforcement officers on trial, and he disputed Colacurcio's statement taken from a tape that "strongness is money."

Simmons said his belief is that "strongness is integrity."

Lane told the jury, "They would have you believe that no one on the New Orleans Police Department, including the vice squad, ever took a bribe in the French Quarter."

Colacurcio, he said, sponsored a Big Daddy's Vice Squad baseball team and bought the players' uniforms.

Lane said that if he wanted to bribe someone, "he could have gone to them first."

He said the police omitted the earliest taped conversations when he said Colacurcio firmly said "no" to Kastner's suggestion.

11/27/79

Tulane Beat Pants Off Him

(The Times-Picayune Florida Parish Bureau)
HAMMOND, La. — Fortunately for Terrel C. "Poots" McCrory, the weather in Tangipahoa Parish is unreasonably warm. The green diaper he wore Monday on a three-block walk through downtown Hammond might have been inadequate otherwise.

McCrory lost a "charity wager" to former Tulane noseguard Mark Ollivart, and as a result had to wear the diaper and carry a sign which read, "Tulane beat the pants off me," much to the delight of his many friends who lined the parade route.

All of this was done to raise money for the Hammond High School band, which had about \$3,000 worth of equipment stolen in a burglary about three weeks ago. Ollivart and McCrory, who work for a local radio station, raised \$300 in pledge bets.

McCrory said it was the longest walk he had ever taken, but said he was satisfied with the money raised. "All I can say now is go to hell, Tulane," said McCrory. Ollivart said that was the typical yearly remark made by LSU fans and was all that could be expected of the Tiger mentality.

2 of 8 Candidates at Forum

By ANDREA STAHL

Only two out of eight invited candidates in the Dec. 8 election turned out for a forum Monday night at St. Gabriel the Archangel School.

Candidates for juvenile court judge Agita Ganuchegu and James E. Young Jr. were the two candidates who made it. Dr. Thomas Clausen, candidate for superintendent of education, sent a representative.

Gubernatorial candidate David

classrooms during their sophomore year of college, a three-year probationary term before tenure is granted and an alternate method of qualifying teachers other than the existing National Teachers Examination.

The two candidates for judge discussed the increasing presence of juveniles in court and announced proposals to help curtail all the problems.

"I have a definite three-phase program," said Young. "First, the parents

learning in the home. That's why a strong, working family unit is essential."

Ganuchegu also had some definite proposals which she called "specifics" and not just "theory."

She headed her list with a proposal to beef-up the supportive services in juvenile court instead of relying heavily on probation services. "I also believe a juvenile should be evaluated

CREAM
COM
Only J
Rat
Use a po
faster at S
less meet s
EX
Jenn-A
Thu
PLEAS
Cod

● Pena Sentenced

Continued from Page 1

stantive violation of the statute. Pena and Ms. Rodriguez were convicted several weeks ago by a jury after an eight-day trial during which it was shown that they were renting rooms above the Habana to prostitutes so that they could ply their trade.

Defense attorneys Mark Lane, April Ferguson and Joseph N. Marcal said they will appeal the conviction to the U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals, and Judge Gordon released the defendants on their previously posted bonds of \$75,000 and \$50,000 respectively pending the appeal.

Before passing sentence, Judge Gordon pointed out that the defendants faced maximum penalties of 20 years, \$25,000 or both, on each of the two counts and said he thought it a judge's duty to defendants and society "to state why he does what he does in the discharge of an awesome responsibility."

He asserted, "The facts and circumstances in this case do not fit the mold when the United States Congress passed the statute. Congress intended

● Lambert

Continued from Page 1

posts and will not be assigned to work in the Lambert campaign. Both men took a leave of absence to work in the Fitzmorris campaign.

"While the matter of who is the Democratic nominee is still in litigation, at the present time it appears as if the nominee will be Louis Lambert," said Morial in the official written announcement, adding:

"At the time of my endorsement of Jimmy Fitzmorris in the open primary, I stated that Mr. Lambert was acceptable. However, for a variety of reasons, all of which were made known during the open primary campaign, I chose to endorse Mr. Fitzmorris.

"Mr. Lambert has assured me of his concern for the urban areas of Louisiana, as well as for all the people of our state. He expressed to me his deep and abiding interest in the fiscal stability and integrity of New Orleans as the state's largest city and pledged his continued best effort and support for New Orleans. He has the personal commitment and dedication to move our state forward and to make Louisiana first.

"The next few years will be difficult ones for the cities. The next governor will have many hard and difficult decisions to make. It is of the utmost concern to me that the major consideration in making those decisions be the peoples' interest. Mr. Lambert has assured me that it will be so."

to suppress the so-called Mafia. The judge added that he was informed that subsequent to the passage of the anti-racketeering statute, the United States attorney general told United States attorneys around the country not to seek convictions under the law without specific permission.

Judge Gordon said he did not believe the court should encourage the widespread use of the organized crime statute because "it is subject to widespread abuse."

He added, "That worries me. I don't want to fashion a sentence to encourage prosecutors to use this statute, and I don't believe the public interest is to be served by a lengthy sentence."

Judge Gordon told the defendants he believed they had learned their lesson, but did not mean to comfort them. "I am just discharging my obligation. Each of you had to know what you did was wrong. The factor was one of greed."

The case was a result of a long investigation of prostitution activities on Decatur and culminated in a massive raid on bars in the area May 31, 1979, in which many alleged prostitutes were arrested and federal cases were filed against several bar owners.

The case of Pena and Ms. Rodriguez was the first of these to be tried.

During the investigation, several New Orleans police officers and agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation posed as corrupt policemen and accepted bribes from Pena and his co-defendant.

The defense was one based on the theory of entrapment and wrongdoing by the police officers. Defense attorneys attempted to show during the trial that police officers engaged in sexual activity with prostitutes during the probe.

In a lengthy appeal for mercy on behalf of the defendants, Lane launched in a harangue directed at federal prosecutors and law enforcement officers as well as Police Superintendent James C. Parsons.

He charged that the same activities attributed to the defendants take place at leading New Orleans hotels, and that the hotels get a percentage of prostitution money.

He charged that the case was an example of selective prosecution.

Lane attacked Parsons, saying that prostitution is still going on in the Decatur area.

He related a long history of Pena's life and claimed that the defendant had worked for the FBI, the Central Intelligence Agency and had helped the Warren Commission in the probe of President Kennedy's assassination.

"We are not dealing with organized crime — we are dealing with two little people," he told Judge Gordon.

to help settle the
to sweep up
Andy Valencia was not
nd Haymond D. Speeg,
plan were Verigan,
a P. Haynes.
rministry included Mrs.
Verigan shot back.
quires that teachers
to class," said Mrs.

Pena, Rodriguez Get Minimal Sentences

By GORDON GSELL

Operators of a Decatur Street bar who were convicted of conspiracy and racketeering in connection with prostitution activities at the bar were given minimal sentences Wednesday by U. S. District Judge Jack M. Gordon.

Before passing sentence on Orestes Pena, owner of the Habana Bar, 117 Decatur, and Amelita Rodriguez, his manager, Judge Gordon commented that the facts and circumstances of the case did not "fit the mold" when Congress passed the anti-racketeering statute under which the defendants were charged and convicted.

Accordingly, he sentenced Pena to serve six months and pay a fine of \$5,000. He also was placed on probation for three years with a special condition that he not operate or manage a bar.


Cont. In Sec. 1, Page 10, Col. 1

Sen the l
Iran: on tl
endor
Cann
Stu
sever
Ohio, the (C
cisco delpt
"W
peop
dent.
Asso
agai
forel
rial
Ra
did n
Iran
Lo
that
onstr
from
Th
his s
esta
Janu
Beve
dent:
An
pate
whic
poli
c
tear

F

B.
mor
"We
adm
win
gov
H.
to p
frav
ney:
Tha
deci
W
roo
stat
not
elec
E
this
tior
woi
tior
T
ele
nur
can
ele
aft
iti
nur
E
pro
3.01

100%



Days Left **3**

Raised To Date
\$7,847,844

11/2/79

Addressing the managers at the opening session of the American Express World Travel Service Congress at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, James D. Robinson III said even though travel and tourism is the second largest industry in the world and the single largest source of foreign

vice to aggressively promote tourism and try." Robinson said have national tour the ministerial

Racketeering Defendant Requests Aid

16 NOV 79

By GORDON GSELL

The federal court trial of French Quarter bar operator William Colacurcio and two others on conspiracy and racketeering charges was recessed early Thursday afternoon when Colacurcio asked that attorney Mark Lane be called in as associate defense counsel.

Lane represented two other bar operators who were convicted recently of conspiracy and racketeering in connection with prostitution activities at the Habana Bar, 117 Decatur.

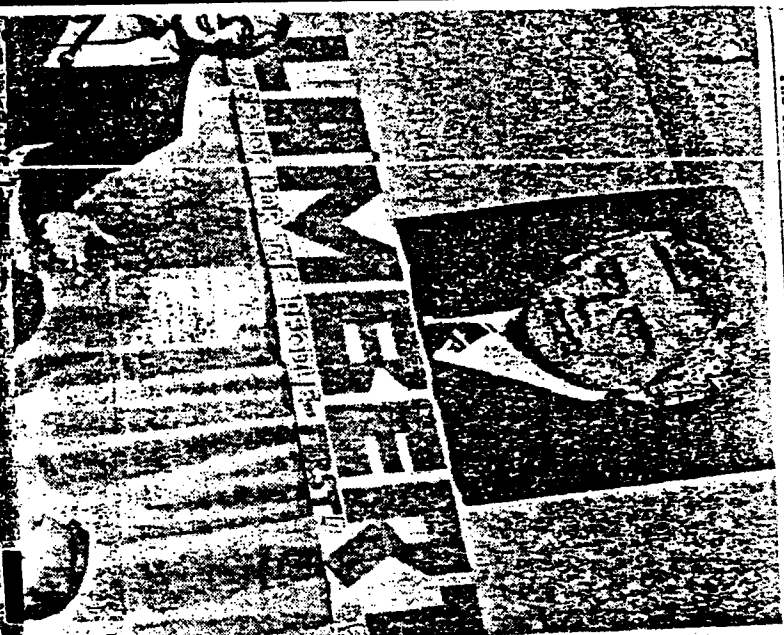
Those defendants, Orestes Pena, owner of the Habana, and Amelia Rodriguez, his manager, were given minimal sentences by U.S. District Judge Jack M. Gordon after the jury conviction.

Colacurcio, Dinos Rallis and Theodore G. Dimopoulos are on trial before a jury in Judge Lansing I. Mitchell's section of federal district court in connection with alleged gambling operations at the Greek Italian Club, 523 Iberville.

The government's charges are similar to those in the Habana Bar case — that Colacurcio, Rallis and Dimopoulos paid off police officers and agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation who were posing as corrupt policemen for protection of the gambling operation.

Colacurcio, who is represented by Irvin Dymond and Edward Castaing, asked Mitchell to allow him to associate Lane in his defense after Sgt. John Kastner concluded his direct testimony under questioning by federal prosecutors Richard T. Ammons Jr. and Irving Warshauer.

On the day of testimony Kastner, who



Three Found Gu

By ARTUR ROANE JR.

A federal court jury has returned eight of a possible nine guilty counts against three defendants accused of bribing police officers and running a gambling operation at a French Quarter foreign seamen's club. The verdicts were delivered about midnight Monday to U.S. District Judge Lansing I. Mitchell.

As a result, the maximum sentence for both William Colacurcio and Dinos Rallis could be a 45-year prison term, and/or \$70,000 in fines.

The third defendant, Theodore G. Dimopoulos, could be sentenced to serve 25 years and/or pay \$45,000.

The minimum could be suspended sentences and no fines imposed.

Colacurcio and Rallis were convicted of both violating and conspiring to violate the Racketeer-Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) Act. And each was convicted of conducting an illegal gambling business.

Dimopoulos, though, was convicted of only the second, two counts and acquitted of conspiring to violate the

RICO Act.

This was the second time that convictions were obtained from federal government from Decatur Street raid and prostitution.

The three men were involved in running the French Quarter Association Club at 5 Iberville.

Evidence against the defendants was gathered by law enforcement agencies in early October.

In early October, Amelia Rodriguez, manager of another section of the club, was charged with conspiracy and racketeering. They received minimal sentences.

The charges, again from prostitution grounds at the Habana Bar are about half a block from the French Quarter.

In addition to the officers, the jury heard testimony from the officers, the hours of conversation recorded. The jurors began