

DA Must Prove His 'JFK Plot' Evidence

W. J. T. 3/14/67

NEW ORLEANS, March 14 (UPI)—Today is the day Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison has to prove he has enough evidence to prosecute a businessman on charges of conspiracy to murder President Kennedy.

In the course of laying his case before a three-judge district court panel, Garrison may be forced to reveal some details of the alleged plot. So far, all that is known is that Clay L. Shaw, the businessman, is accused of conspiring with Lee Harvey Oswald, pilot David Ferrie and "others." Oswald and Ferrie are dead.

Garrison said one of these unidentified "others" informed him about Shaw and part of the secrecy may be lifted at the hearing.

RULING DUE

District Judge Bernard J. Bagert, spokesman for the panel, said he will rule today whether Garrison will have to reveal the name of the secret informant.

Garrison, who will present the case himself, said the informant will be available in case he will be needed to testify.

Shaw's attorneys met with the three judges yesterday and presented a series of motions. The panel overruled most of them, but did grant one motion

setting up special guidelines for the hearing.

Bagert announced he was easing the tight restrictions he had imposed on news media last week regarding coverage of the hearing and all subsequent proceedings in the Shaw case.

Bagert revoked a provision forbidding newsmen to publish any material not introduced in open court. The judge said, however, bans on the press could be tightened if it became necessary.

LOSE PLEA

Attorneys for Shaw, the former managing director of the International Trade Mart here, lost a motion to have a single judge decide whether Shaw could be brought to trial.

The lawyers contended the three-man panel was without precedent and was unconstitutional.

The decision of today's panel was to be reached by majority vote. Bagert said neither the

defense nor the prosecution would be allowed to question the panel about the way it voted.

A former Dallas cab driver, Raymon Cummings, 35, visited Garrison's office Monday and took a lie detector test. Cummings' lawyer said the results of the test were not revealed.

TO RUBY'S CLUB

Cummings claims he took Oswald, Ferrie and another man to Jack Ruby's nightclub several months before the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination in Dallas.

Ferrie died Feb. 22, only days after Garrison mentioned him as a key figure in his probe. An autopsy showed the death was from natural causes.

Cummings said in Dallas he had received three phone calls threatening his life.

"They said my time is marked and I definitely would not be able to get in the plane to come back to Dallas," he said. But Cummings returned unharmed.