

D.A. ROLE MINOR AT SHAW TRIAL

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Appearance of Garrison
to Be 'Rare'—Alcock

District Attorney Jim Garrison, who initiated conspiracy charges against retired businessman Clay L. Shaw nearly two years ago, will leave the great majority of the courtroom work to his assistants when Shaw comes to trial beginning next Tuesday.

One of his chief assistants, James L. Alcock, said Tuesday that Garrison will make "intermittent but rare" appearances in the courtroom during Shaw's trial on a charge of conspiring to murder President John F. Kennedy.

Alcock will serve as chief counsel for the state. Also actively participating in the prosecution will be assistant DAs Andrew Sciambra, Alvin Oser and William Alford.

Meanwhile, Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr., in whose section of Criminal District Court the Shaw trial will take place, issued a written set of guidelines for conduct during the trial.

The judge also verbally criticized local newsmen for asking witnesses as to what they were going to testify in the trial.

VIOLATION CLAIMED

Getting witnesses to discuss their testimony and publishing it before hand is a violation of his guidelines, he said.

"That's just what I don't want them to do," he said.

Judge Haggerty was referring to questions directed to some of the 11 state witnesses revealed Monday.

However, the section of the judge's written guidelines covering extra-judicial statements does not mention reporters.

It is aimed specifically at "witnesses, attorneys and all parties officially participating in this matter," and other persons associated with the trial.

These persons "are forbidden from making any extra-

judicial statements of any kind concerning this case from this date and until such time as this case is concluded," the guidelines say.

The judge later hedged on whether news personnel are actually prohibited from questioning witnesses, or whether

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the rule applies only to participants in the trial.

"Why be a party to their violation of the order?" he asked.

Another part of the guidelines prohibits the release or publishing of the names and addresses of prospective jurors.

THREATS AVOIDED

Judge Haggerty said he wanted to guard against possible threats or harassment of prospective jurors.

Names of excused jurors may be published, "but detailed questions and answers propounded to prospective jurors that might tend to discourage future jurors from accepting service on the jury should not be published," according to the guidelines.

There was no indication of just where to draw the line in reporting questioning of prospective jurors in open court.

Any restriction would be a departure from the traditional practice of publishing proceedings in open court.

Also Tuesday, a Newsweek reporter denied any wrongdoing in interviewing witnesses in the Shaw case.

Hugh Aynesworth, of the Newsweek Houston bureau, said Garrison's office "is trying to make it appear we've done something wrong."

Aynesworth said he and another reporter, Ken Biffel, have been in New Orleans to work in the case, but have violated no law.

INVESTIGATION SET

Alcock said Monday he will instigate an Orleans Parish Grand Jury investigation into complaints that the reporters and a private investigator, William Gurvich, have been questioning state witnesses.

Alcock said Tuesday he will question his witnesses closely to see if anyone has been trying to "color their testimony."

Alcock has also claimed that

Newsweek reporters were able to quote witnesses from statements they gave to the DA's office.

Aynesworth said this was "ridiculous."

Aynesworth confirmed that Gurvich, formerly associated with Garrison on the Kennedy death probe, has "given me some help" in work on the Shaw case.

Gurvich said he plans to confer with his attorney and will withhold comment until then.

Aynesworth expressed concern "with this new attempt by Garrison's office to interfere with freedom of the press. All newsmen should be."

ALCOCK ASKED

Alcock was asked why Garrison will not handle the Shaw case himself, but referred the question to Garrison.

When it was pointed out that the DA is rarely accessible to newsmen, Alcock said, "You'll see him before the trial starts."

Garrison has rarely prosecuted cases personally since becoming DA in 1962. He has said the district attorney should be an administrator and leave courtroom work to his assistants.

"It's easy for a DA to come to a big murder trial, snap his suspenders and make a big play to the press. But it's not the way to run a good DA's office," Garrison has said.

The DA has also expressed fear of an attempt on his life in connection with the Kennedy probe.

There were reports in the DA's office that Garrison will deliver the prosecution's opening statement to the jury in the Shaw case.

The state outlines its allegations in the opening statement.

Judge Haggerty's guidelines also permit Criminal Sheriff Louis A. Heyd Jr. to have a closed circuit television view of the courtroom for security purposes.

However, no audio broadcast of the proceedings to the sheriff's office will be permitted.

Heyd said Monday he needs television and sound broadcast to help maintain security.

His office was equipped with an electronic device enabling him to hear what was going on in the court room. Apparently

it will have to be removed.

OTHER RULES

Some other rules set out in Judge Haggerty's guidelines follow:

—Names and addresses of jurors selected can be released and published after selection.

—No photographs of jurors at any time or place shall be taken without permission of the court.

—“No cameras, recording devices or registering devices, or any other electronic or mechanical equipment shall be used within the court house premises . . . excepting those necessary devices already in daily use in other trials or offices . . .”

—“The court will permit sketches and drawings to be made within the courtroom . . .”

—Each person will be searched before entering the courtroom.

—No teletype machine or tele-

phone equipment not already in operation will be installed.

—No one will be allowed in the courtroom unless he has a seat, and no one will be permitted to enter or leave during testimony or argument.

—Credentials for news media shall not be transferable.

—Exhibits will be handled only by attorneys and persons authorized by the court.

—Sheriff Heyd will be in charge of security and seating arrangements.