## Shaw Elated After Jury Frees Him From News Dispatches

NEW ORLEANS, March 1—Clay L. Shaw freed from a two-year nightmare of having to defend himself against charges of plotting the death of President John F. Kennedy, said today he felt "Great! Simply great!"

Shaw, a 55-year-old former New Orleans businessman, had just been declared not guilty by the unanimous vote of an all-male jury that took only 54 minutes of deliberation to decide it did not believe the charges of district attorney Jim Garrison.

The trial lasted 34 days.
The 6-foot4, white-haired defendant, his face stretched into a smile, strode over to the jury box and shook each juror's hand amid the applause and cheers of spectators who had spent more than 12 hours in the coutroom the final day to hear the 1:02 a.m. (CST) verdict.

Shaw left through a back door and departed in a car, protected from further questioning by a phalanx of depution

"We took one ballot, and it was unanimous," said Larry D. Morgan, 34, who was the seventh man chosen for the jury. "There was just not enough conclusive evidence to make me believe Shaw was involved."

See SHAW, A3, Col. 1

## Shaw Elated After Jury Acquits Him

SHAW, From A1

Morgan said the jurors gave their attention to evidence directly concerning Shaw, rather than the protracted attack on the Warren Commission report presented by Garrison and his aides.

"We weren't there to try the Warren report," Morgan said.

Garrison, his two-year investigation reduced to shambles, has not indicated whether he will continue the investigation.

But Shaw's acquittal did not quiet critics who do not believe Oswald acted alone, as the Warren Commission asserts, in the 1963 killing of the President in Dallas's Dealey

Sen. Russell Long (D-La.), said to be the man who first the greatest fraud perpetrated encouraged Garrison to investigate the assassination, said the Shaw acquittal did not prove the Warren Commission that they had proved Shaw a dark-haired, talkative man

"I just do not think Oswald acted alone and I bet if you ask members of that jury about it, they would agree . . that Oswald did not act alone," Long said. "The acquittal of Clay Shaw was probably based on the fact they could not establish without a reasonable doubt the connection between Shaw and Oswald."

By contrast, the New Orleans States-Item, a one-time supporter of the District Attorney, published a front-page editorial calling for Garrison's resignation.

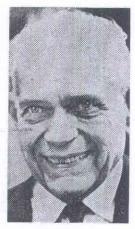
"He has shown himself unfit to hold the office of District Attorney or any other office," the newspaper said. "Mr. Garrison has abused the vast powers of his office. He has perverted the law rather than prosecuted it. . .

The newspaper said Garrison himself "should now be brough to the bar to answer for his conduct.'

The verdict came exactly two years after Shaw's arrest on March 1, 1967, on the charge of criminal conspiracy that carries a penalty of 1 to 20 years.

Garrison, leaning against a table, climaxed his case by urging the jurors to strike a blow against the Government and the Warren Commission.

"The government handling of the assassination," Garrison said, "was a fraud. Probably



CLAY SHAW ... "Great! Simply great!"

in the history of mankind."

His assistants, James L. Alcock and Alvin Oser, argued Perry Raymond Russo, now 27, guilty. Oser used arithmetic, angles and photographs to argunmen in three locations in different names-Leon Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963.

Defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond, sandwiched between rie's apartment in mid-Septemfive prosecution speeches, said ber, 1963. He said Ferrie, Garrison's case was "an Alicein-Wonderland story" and the nedy's death. trial was nothing more than "a forum for an attack on the Warren Commission."

Garrison's 1963-that he thought David Shaw.

Ferrie, a former airline pilot, had something to do with the assassination.

Ferrie was arrested once. He denied any knowledge of a plot. In February 1967, he died of a brain hemorrhage. Garrison said it was suicide.

A. Andrews Jr., a lawyer who firmed it in his testimony. claimed he got a call from someone wanting a lawyer for Oswald soon after the assassi-

Who was the caller? "Clay Bertrand," said Andrews. The FBI checked his story and discounted it.

Andrews said at the trial, however, that the name "Bertrand" was a figment of his imagination and that he had made it up to gain a reputa-

After Andrews turned up in the case, the state's star witness emerged from obscurity: who said he'd known Ferrie. After several hypnotic sesrive at the conclusion that sions, Russo told more: he Kennedy was killed by three knew Oswald and Shaw, under wald and Clem Bertrand.

> Russo told of a party at Fer-Shaw and Oswald plotted Ken-

Russo was, as Alcock acknowledged, the state's case. His testimony and that of aninvestigation other hypnosis-involved witbegan in October 1966, with ness, New York accountant the first "lead" apparently a Charles I. Spiesel, may have private detective's story-in been the turning points for

On cross-examination, Russo admitted he had told a police officer after Shaw's prelimi-nary hearing in 1967 that he couldn't honestly say Shaw was at the "plot" party.

"If I had to say yes or no, would have to say no" he The next "lead" was Dean told the officer, who con-

Spiesel told the jury of dark conspiracies with his enemies hypnotizing him, robbing him of sexual powers and disguising themselves as relatives. He testified he was at a 1963 New Orleans party and Shaw with others talked about how Kennedy might be killed.

His testimony led jury, judge and lawyers on French Quarter hunt for the site of the party. It was not found.

The state quickly shifted from Shaw, the defendant, to a "trial" of the Warren Commission. Huge exhibits were mounted, angles of fire discussed, numerous photos introduced. One supposedly showed "a man holding something" in Dallas' Dealey Plaza. And eyewitnesses from Dallas said they thought gunfire from some direction came other than the Texas School Book Depository, where Oswald fired from, according to the Warren Commission.

Garrison had no counterpart witness to the testimony of Col. Pierre A. Finck, the Swiss-born Army doctor who helped perform the Kennedy autopsy. Finck said positively Kennedy was shot twice from

behind.