

Shaw Trial Hears Russo Tell of 3 Plotting Death

NEW ORLEANS (UPI) — Perry Raymond Russo, Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's star witness in the case against Clay L. Shaw, testified today he witnessed Shaw discussing how to assassinate President John F. Kennedy with Lee Harvey Oswald and David W. Ferrie.

He said Ferrie told Shaw and Oswald it would be "easy."

Russo, 27, a Baton Rouge, La., insurance man, said he attended a party in New Orleans a few weeks before the Nov. 22, 1963, Kennedy assassination in Dallas and heard the plot discussed in detail.

"Pace Back, Forth"

He said Ferrie was obsessed with the assassination.

"He paced back and forth that night while some kind of Spanish speech was going on, on his record machine, telling how the projected assassination would be done," Russo said.

"He told about a triangulation of cross fire. He said one of the participants would have to be captured as a scapegoat or patsy. He said all three would shoot but the first shot he called the diversionary one. The other two would shoot to kill.

"The diversionary shot would be to attract attention. The last two would be to kill, fired almost simultaneously," he testified.

Russo was the second witness in Shaw's trial on charges of conspiring to kill Kennedy to say he heard Shaw plotting the murder. But he also said — as he had at Shaw's preliminary hearing in 1967 — that Oswald was also there.

Oswald, the presidential assassin according to the Warren Commission, is named along with Ferrie as a "conspirator." Both Oswald and Ferrie are now dead.

Russo gave his original testimony on March 14, 1967. The next day he said he had been placed under hypnosis by Garrison's investigators three times before the hearing.

His testimony follows that of Charles I. Spiesel, a New York accountant and tax consultant, took the jury, at the defense's request, on a journey Saturday to the French Quarter in search of the apartment he testified he visited in June 1963.

There, he testified, he heard about 10 men, including Shaw and Ferrie, discussing ways to kill Kennedy.

At the corner of Dauphine and Esplanade streets, Spiesel went into two buildings and said later in court that "the second is similar if not the building" into which he went shortly before midnight and heard the talk.

One of Shaw's attorneys, Ed-

ward Wegmann, said Shaw owned the building Spiesel pointed out from 1950 to "around 1954."