

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

POLICE ARREST NOVEL NEAR COLUMBUS, OHIO

DA's Witness Doesn't Resist; Has Gas Guns

Gordon Novel, the elusive figure wanted for questioning here by District Attorney Jim Garrison in relation to his presidential murder probe, was arrested at 3:45 p.m. Saturday in a suburb of Columbus, Ohio.

Police in Gahanna, Ohio, a town of 12,000 persons in Franklin County, said Novel, 29, offered no resistance when he was apprehended while walking along a street.

Novel, former owner of the Jamaican Village Bar at 800 N. Rampart, has been sought by Garrison's office since March 25 as a material witness in an alleged local plot to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

Gahanna Police Chief Robert F. Brandon said that Novel had two tear gas guns in his possession when arrested. He added, however, that the possession of tear gas guns is legal in Ohio.

Following his arrest, Novel stated: "Unless I am kidnaped or killed . . . their days of perpetrating this monstrous fraud are numbered." He had previously denounced Garrison as a "fraud," and said that his investigation is not based on fact.

Friday, Garrison telegraphed Montreal, Canada, with an arrest warrant that his office said "may or may not be related" to the assassination probe.

MUNITIONS BURGLARY PLOT

Under the new charge, Novel is accused of conspiring with David W. Ferrie to commit simple burglary of a munitions plant in Houma during 1961. Ferrie, who died Feb. 22, conspired with retired businessman Clay L. Shaw and Lee Harvey Oswald to

murder Kennedy, Garrison has alleged.

Novel left here weeks ago just before the opera was issued.

Novel is expected to appear before the Ohio state Grand Jury on Monday. He would remain only with a guarantee of immunity from "harassment." He also denied any knowledge of an assassination conspiracy, and admitted knowing Shaw "but not in connection with this." He also "indirectly" knew "a David Ferrie," he said.

Novel, wearing a white shirt and dark pants, was booked at the Columbus City Prison at 7:20 p.m. for investigation as a fugitive from Louisiana. Police records showed he had \$26.50 with him when arrested.

NOT QUESTIONED

Asked if Novel planned to waive extradition proceedings, Brandon said that he had not questioned Novel for fear that "it might hurt the case." The police chief said he did not know what business Novel had in Gahanna.

Asked how his department knew that Novel was in town, Brandon replied, "You know how things leak out." He did not elaborate. Novel's arrest followed a 45-minute stakeout by Gahanna officers, he added.

Brandon said Garrison had called Gahanna Mayor Paul Van Auken Saturday morning

in connection with Novel's presence there.

Discussing the apprehension, William Gurvich, a private investigator serving as Garrison's chief aide, said Novel walked into a police trap when he returned to an apartment he had been keeping in Gahanna. He said officers there began the stakeout after Garrison's office had alerted them that Novel was

living in the apartment. "I learned of the apartment through a confidential source," Gurvich added.

"If he waives extradition we will return him Monday," Gurvich stated. "If Novel fights extradition, we will bring him back as soon as possible. He is entitled to an extradition hearing, at which the judge would decide whether we have sufficient cause to extradite him. Then we would have to go through the Ohio governor."

Shortly after being arrested, Novel issued a written statement to newsmen, which read in part:

"I would like to congratulate Chief Robert F. Brandon of the Gahanna Police Department of the suburb of Columbus, Ohio, in his apprehension of myself. His office and men are to be praised in doing what the supposed master Crime Solver . . . Mr. Jim Garrison . . . couldn't do. My attorneys will fight extradition if necessary to the United States Supreme Court. . . ."

Before being brought into the Columbus jail, Novel asked that Chief Brandon walk in front of him and another officer behind.

"Don't let this turn into another Dallas," Brandon quoted Novel as saying, an obvious reference to the snooting in the Dallas police station of Oswald two days after the Kennedy assassination.

Held under \$50,000 bond which had earlier been set here, Novel told police his fiancée, Miss Abby Mulligan, lives in Columbus and he had planned to settle there. Brandon said Novel had given Miss Mulligan an engagement ring recently, and that he was with her father when arrested.

Steven R. Plotkin, Novel's attorney here, said his client had called him from Gahanna after being apprehended. However,

Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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The Times-Picayune
New Orleans, La.

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Date: 4-2-67

Edition:

Author:

Editor:

Title ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY 11-22-63

Character:

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Classification: 89-

Submitting Office: N.O.

Being Investigated

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Plotkin said he would not comment on whether Novel planned to waive extradition proceedings until after he (Plotkin) had conferred with Columbus attorneys. He added that he was trying to help Novel obtain legal counsel in Columbus.

Another development in the case came Saturday when attorney-author Mark Lane and Shaw's defense attorney E. Irvin Dymond exchanged verbal blows here in the wake of a statement by Lane that Garrison had an "iron-clad case."

It was reported that Dymond complained to Criminal District Court Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. Friday that the Lane statement served to inflame public opinion against his client, Shaw.

Shaw is charged by Garrison with conspiring to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

Dymond said he talked with Judge Haggerty about the Lane statement made at a special meeting of the Young Men's Business Club Thursday. "I think it was completely improper," said Dymond of the remark attributed to Lane, author of the critical analysis of the Warren Commission Report, "Rush to Judgment." Lane has practiced law for many years.

"I don't quite understand a lawyer making such a statement that the state has an 'iron-clad case' and that he wouldn't want to defend the case," said Dymond.

"To my thinking, it is unethical. But it is quite in keeping with Mr. Lane's promoting of his book and movie. He's an opportunist."

"SHAW NOT MENTIONED"

Lane responded that he had not talked about Clay Shaw in his speech.

"What I said was that I had talked with Mr. Garrison and seen the evidence that a powerful domestic force was behind the conspiracy. I have not said that I believe Clay Shaw was involved with that force.

"I can't see why Mr. Dymond has become frantic. Perhaps he

has information I don't have. Maybe his panic flows from that source."

Lane said he came to New Orleans at the request of the YMBC. "From my reception here," said Lane, "it indicates to me that people here are interested in the subject.

"I am an American citizen and have a right to speak on important questions. This right is guaranteed by the Constitution. I am sure no judge would interfere with that right.

"As far as Mr. Dymond is

concerned, if he had gone directly to the court instead of to the press and television first, I would consider him sincere when he says he does not want publicity."

Judge Haggerty would make no comment about the meeting with Dymond. Instead, he told The Times-Picayune that he will lay down guidelines concerning the forthcoming Shaw arraignment and trial at a 2 p. m. press conference Monday.

Lane will leave New Orleans, probably Sunday, for a speaking engagement at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, Minn., Monday. "But I'll be back in New Orleans in a month or so," said Lane.

Meanwhile, extradition fights in Texas and Canada loomed over ordered arrests of two men linked to Garrison's probe.

Garrison telegraphed arrest warrants to Montreal for Gordon Novel and to Dallas for Sergio Archacha Smith, based on charges of conspiring to burglarize a Houma munitions bunker in 1961.

A warrant for Novel's arrest as a material witness in the plot inquiry was issued last week.

The new charge accuses Novel and Archacha of conspiring with the late David W. Ferrie, another key assassination inquiry figure, to commit simple burglary of a Schlumberger Wells Services munitions dump 40 miles southwest of New Orleans.

Bill Gurvich, the district attorney's special services investigator, declined to say whether the alleged burglary is connected directly with the investigation. "This case occurred two years before the Shaw thing," he said, "and may or may not be related."

Cuban Student Group Blasts DA's Tactics

The New Orleans delegation of the Cuban Student Directorate said it is "surprised by the low level tactics used by the district attorney's office" in its accusations against Sergio Archacha Smith.

A press release issued Saturday by Carlos Bringuier, New Orleans delegate to the directorate, stated:

"The New Orleans delegation of the Cuban Student Directorate wants to make public the following statements:

"We don't know if the charges against Mr. Sergio Archacha Smith—burglarizing a Houma munitions bunker in 1961—are true or false.

"We are surprised by the low level tactics used by the DA's office bringing out these accusations against Archacha Smith at a time that they are investigating a supposed plot to kill the late President Kennedy that could lead the public opinion to judge Archacha Smith guilty by association.

"We do know that, at the proper time, those responsible for these Communist-inspired smears against anti-Castro Cubans and conservative Americans will be charged with much more important charges than this filed against Archacha Smith. Even if it will be proved true these charges against Archacha Smith, the result would be

that Archacha Smith had been charged for his efforts to liberate his country from the Communist tyranny defended by Mark Lane. On the other hand, Archacha Smith would feel glad that at least he had not been charged for activities tended to betray his own country, undermine the credibility of its institutions and deliver it into the hands of international communism, which look like are the activities in which had been engaged some people in New Orleans from some time ago to this moment.

"We are asking again to the responsible citizens of New Orleans to respect their institutions, to respect the government of the United States and don't allow themselves to be fooled by these smears which already involve, according to Mark Lane, those, and some in very high places, who will do all in their power to prevent that day from coming. We witnessed in Cuba how the Communists took over the country, smearing and discrediting our institutions, and we are witnessing here how they and their fellow travelers are paving the way to do the same traitor job in this wonderful country."