14 MAR (96) 1284 PCS 70 132 PCS

BULLETIN

NEW ORLEANS, MARCH 14 (AP)--PERRY RAYMOND RUSSO, A WITNESS FOR DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON, TESTIFIED AT A PRELIMINARY HEARING TODAY THAT CLAY L. SHAW WAS ONE OF THE THREE MEN HE HEARD PLOTTING TO KILL

PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

MM1254PCS NM

A15

ADD AP NEWS DIGEST

£A15NU

BULLETIN MATTER

NEW ORLEANS--FIRST ADD RUSSO 414 X X X KENNEDY.

RUSSO, A 25-YEAR-OLD INSURANCE SALESMAN FROM BATON ROUGE, SAID HE HEARD THE CONVERSATION IN THE APARTMENT OF DAVID W. FERRIE IN SEPTEMBER 1963.

RUSSO'S TESTIMONY STAMPED HIM AS THE "CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT"
CITED BY GARRISON AS THE SOURCE WHO "SAW THE CONSPIRATORS AND HEARD
THE PLANS."

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THE 'PLANS."

RUSSO DESCRIBED THE SCENE IN FERRIE'S APARTMENT THIS WAY:
"THERE SEEMED TO BE SOME SORT OF PARTY IN PROGRESS. THEY WERE
DRINKING AND TALKING."

THE PARTY DIED OUT RUSSO SAID, AND THE ONLY ONES LEFT WERE HIMSELF, FERRIE, "LEON OSWALD" AND "CLEM BERTRAND."

A16NU

ON THE DIRECTION OF GARRISON, RUSSO WALKED BEHIND THE CHAIR OF CLAY L. SHAW IN THE COURTROOM. ASKED TO POINT OUT THE MAN HE WAS INTRODUCED TO AS CLAY BERTRAND, RUSSO HELD HIS HAND OVER SHAW'S HEAD.

MM1PCS NM

URGENT

NEW ORLEANS--SECOND ADD RUSSO A14 (WHICH MAKE PROBE BJT 2ND LEAD)
X X X HEAD.

SHAW LOOKED STRAIGHT AHEAD, IMPASSIVE. THE 54-YEAR-OLD FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE NEW ORLEANS INTERNATIONALTRADE MART, HAS DENIED ANY PART IN AN ASSASSINATION CONSPIRACY. HE WAS ARRESTED BY GARRISON ON MARCH 1 AND RELEASED ON \$10,000 BOND. TODAY'S HEARING WAS TO DETERMINE IF SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE EXISTS TO HOLD HIM FOR TRIAL.

RUSSO DESCRIBED THE TALK IN FERRIE'S APARTMENT IN THESE WORDS:

"DAVID FERRIE BEGAN THE CONVERSATION AFTER SOME EXCUSE FOR MY BEING THERE. HE BEGAN PACING BACK AND FORTH AND TALKING TO BERTRAND AND OSWALD."

"THESE DISCUSSIONS CENTERED AROUND HOW THE ASSASSINATION OF KENNEDY WOULD HAVE TO USE DIVERSIONARY TACTICS."

RUSSO QUOTED FERRIE AS SAYING THERE WOULD BE TWO TO THREE PEOPLE INVOLVED. ONE PERSON WOULD SHOOT "DIVERSIONARY SHOTS," THE OTHER WOULD SHOOT WHAT HE SAID FERRIE TERMED "THE GOOD SHOT." HE QUOTED FERRIE AS SAYING ONE MAN "WOULD HAVE TO BE THE SCAPE GOAT."

RUSSO DESCRIBED FERRIE AS THE PILOT IN THE PLOT. HE QUOTED THE FORMER AIRLINES PILOT AS SAYING THEY WOULD GO TO MEXICO AND REFUEL \*AND ON TO BRAZIL AND THEN TO CUBA.\*

RUSSO SAID BERTRAND INTERRUPTED TO SAY THAT AS SOON AS THE SHOT WAS FIRED, "THE WORLD WOULD KNOW ABOUT IT," AND THEY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO GET A PLANE OUT OF CUBA.

RUSSO, EARK-HAIRED AND SLENDER, ATTENDED HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE IN NEW ORLEANS, WHERE HIS PARENTS STILL LIVE. HE CAMPAIGNED HERE FOR THE REPUBLICAN

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HE PLAYED ON SEVERAL LOCAL BASEBALL TEAMS AND SERVED AS MANAGER OF TWO

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RUSSO SAID HE FIRST MET FERRIE--WHO WAS FOUND DEAD IN BED FEB.

GARRISON ASKED RUSSO TO TELL THE COURT THE EACKGROUND OF THE ASSASSINATION.

"I HAD OCCASION TO HAVE A FRIEND WHO WAS IN THE CIVIL AIR PATROL,"
RUSSO SAID.

AT THIS POINT, SHAW'S ATTORNEYS OBJECTED ON GROUNDS THE TESTIMONY WAS HEARSAY.

A LONG LEGAL DEBATE FOLLOWED.

RUSSO TESTIFIED THAT HE KNEW BERTRAND AS "CLEM BERTRAND," NOT CLAY BERTRAND. GARRISON HAD ALLEGED THAT CLAY BERTRAND WAS AN ALIAS USED BY SHAW.

A NEW ORLEANS LAWYER, DEAN ANDREWS JR., TOLD THE WARREN COMMISSION THAT A "CLAY BERTRAND" TELEPHONED HIM AFTER THE ASSASSINATION AND ASKED HIM TO REPRESENT LEE HARVEY OSWALD, NAMED BY THE COMMISSION AS THE LONE ASSASSIN OF KENNEDY.

(MORE)

MM120PCS NM

## £A24NU

URGENT

NEW ORLEANS 2ND ADD PROBE BJT 2ND LEAD (A14NU): OF KENNEDY.
RUSSO SAID HE WAS IMPRESSED BY FERRIE'S "DEMONSTRATIONS" AT
A CIVIL AIR PATROL MEETING.

AS KED WHAT THE DEMONSTRATIONS CONSISTED OF, RUSSO SAID: "HE PUT ON A DEMONSTRATION OF HYPNOTIC ABILITY," USING SOME OF THOSE PRESENT AT THE MEETING.

FERRIE LISTED HIMSELF IN THE CITY DIRECTORY AS A PSYCHOLOGIST.

GARRISON ASKED RUSSO TO IDENTIFY SEVERAL PICTURES OF FERRIE'S

APARTMENT AT 3330 LOUISIANA AVENUE PARKWAY, NOT FAR FROM NEW

ORLEANS' ELECANT GARDEN DISTRICT.

RUSSO IDENTIFIED A HALLWAY, THE LIVING ROOM, THE DINING ROOM,
AND A SECOND HALLWAY LEADING TO THE BACK ENTRANCE OF THE APARTMENT.

ASKED IF HE WENT TO FERRIE'S APARTMENT OFTEN, RUSSO SAID:

"HE HAD COME TO MY HOUSE AND I HAD GONE TO HIS ON MANY OCCASIONS
IN 1963 AND 1962."

THE FIRST WITNESS ETC SECOND GRAF PROBE 1ST LEAD A172NU.
MM132PCS NM