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Columbus, Ohio, March 23 (AP)- A New Orleans night club operator sought by the Louisiana city's Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison said tonight he was afraid to go back for further grand jury testimony regarding an alleged conspiracy to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

Contacted by newsmen at a hotel here, the man identified as Gordon Novel, 29, denied any knowledge of any conspiracy.

Novel, who appeared before the grand jury last Thursday and was told to return tomorrow, said he doesn't want to return to New Orleans with out a guarantee of immunity from "harassment."

Asked about Clay Shaw, indicted today on a charge of conspiring to kill the President who was slain in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963, Novel said he knew Shaw "but not in connection with this."

Regarding the late David Ferrie whom Garrison also has linked with the alleged plot along with Lee Harvey Oswald, Novel said he "indirectly" knew "a David Ferrie."

The visitor, who left New Orleans last Saturday, said at first he thought Garrison might be onto something, but that now he is convinced "Garrison's political ambition is what this is all about."

Was he ever in Dallas? No, replied Novel. At the time of the assassination, he said, he was working in the Louisiana pavilion of the New York World's Fair.

Novel said he did not know Perry Russo of New Orleans, a key witness in Garrison's investigation.

Earlier today, Novel's attorney, Steven R. Plotkin, said his client left New Orleans Saturday. Plotkin said Novel had gone to Washington, D.C., but Novel indicated he has been here since Monday. A subpoena had been issued today for Novel's reappearance.

Novel was quoted here as calling the conspiracy investigation "a fraud" and that he first "helped" Garrison ~~but~~ at the request of a friend of the district attorney but "Garrison doublecrossed me."

Novel declined to say what he told Garrison but said he had disclosed "all he knew."

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