

Judge Doubts Warren Report Will Be Evidence In Kennedy Conspiracy Trial

NEW ORLEANS, La. (AP) — The judge who is to preside over the trial of Clay L. Shaw, charged with conspiring to murder President John F. Kennedy, said Saturday he does not believe the Warren Commission report can be admitted as evidence.

Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. told a news conference in his office the main reason the report couldn't be used is that neither the district attorney nor the defense would have a chance to cross-examine witnesses named by the Warren Commission.

No Time To Read It
I don't have time to read the

Warren Commission report and I think it best that I don't read it," the judge said. "Possibly, subconsciously, I might pre-judge the case because of it."

Haggerty also said he will not ask any of his fellow Criminal District Court judges to aid him in presiding over the Shaw trial. Shaw is charged by the grand

jury with conspiring to assassinate President Kennedy in 1963.

Not Afraid Of Trial

The judge said he is not fearful of conducting the case against Shaw, former managing director of the International Trade Mart and the first man to be sent to trial in connection with Kennedy's death.

Haggerty said he does not intend to call his fellow judges for assistance because "it would be inopportune in a jury trial to stop and go consult with my brother judges."

The trial went to Haggerty by lot.

"I can tell you I'm not afraid," he said. "I hope to conduct the trial fair and square. Someone has to try it. I am not cringing."