

EB72

NOVEL LEAD

COLUMBUS, OHIO, APRIL 3 (AP)-A FORMAL FUGITIVE CHARGE WAS FILED TODAY AGAINST GORDON NOVEL, WANTED BY A NEW ORLEANS PROSECUTOR INVESTIGATING THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

NOVEL, A 29-YEAR-OLD FORMER NEW ORLEANS NIGHT CLUB OPERATOR, VOWED TO FIGHT EXTRADITION TO LOUISIANA "IF NECESSARY TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT."

A TOP AIDE TO GOV. JAMES A. RHODES SAID, HOWEVER, THAT OHIO SELDOM REFUSES TO RETURN TO OTHER STATES PERSONS ARRESTED IN OHIO ON OTHER CHARGES. NOVEL WAS PICKED UP SATURDAY IN SUBURBAN GAHANNA AT THE REQUEST OF NEW ORLEANS DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON, WHO IS CONDUCTING THE ASSASSINATION INQUIRY.

GAHANNA POLICE FILED A FORMAL AFFIDAVIT TODAY NAMING NOVEL AS A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE, ON THE BASIS OF A NEW ORLEANS CHARGE OF CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT BURGLARY.

NOVEL'S COLUMBUS LAWYER, JERRY WEINER, CONTENDED NOVEL WAS NOT A FUGITIVE BECAUSE "HE DID NOT FLEE LOUISIANA TO AVOID PROSECUTION." HE SAID THE CHARGE WAS FILED AFTER NOVEL HAD LEFT LOUISIANA.

WEINER, WHO SAID HE HAD NEVER MET NOVEL UNTIL SATURDAY NIGHT, SOUGHT TO GET HIS CLIENT FREED ON \$10,000 BOND FROM THE COLUMBUS CITY JAIL, WHERE HE HAS BEEN HELD SINCE SHORTLY AFTER HIS ARREST.

EB82

SUB

COLUMBUS--NOVEL LEAD B72 SUB 6TH GRAF: LOUISIANA.

WEINER, WHO SAID HE HAD NEVER MET NOVEL UNTIL SATURDAY NIGHT, SAID HE HOPED TO ARRANGE BOND FOR HIS CLIENT, BUT NOVEL REMAINED IN JAIL AFTER AN APPEARANCE BEFORE MUNICIPAL JUDGE WILBUR SHULL. SHULL CONTINUED THE \$10,000 BOND SET SATURDAY NIGHT, AFTER NOVEL WAS BOOKED FOR INVESTIGATION.

AT HIS COURT APPEARANCE, NOVEL SAID, "I USED TO WORK FOR GARRISON, IN FACT I DID SOME OF THE INVESTIGATING IN THIS SO-CALLED PLOT. I'VE GOT A LOT OF CHARGES OF MY OWN TO MAKE ABOUT HIM."

SHULL INTERRUPTED NOVEL, WHO BEGAN ARGUING ON HIS OWN BEHALF BEFORE WEINER REACHED THE COURTROOM. AT ONE POINT NOVEL SAID OF

REPORTS HE MIGHT RETURN TO NEW ORLEANS VOLUNTARILY, "I DID NOT INTEND TO DO THAT BECAUSE OF THIS CUBAN..."

AFTER WEINER ARRIVED, HE AGREED TO A 30-DAY CONTINUANCE ON THE FUGITIVE CASE WHILE HE SOUGHT TO GET A HEARING ON THE EXTRADITION REQUEST.

WEINER, ETC., 7TH GRAF.

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WEINER SAID HIS NEXT STEP MIGHT BE TO ASK A FORMAL PETITION TO RHODES LIST

ING THE REASONS NOVEL DOES NOT WANT TO RETURN TO LOUISIANA, SETTING THE STAGE FOR AN EXTRADITION HEARING.

JOHN MCELROY, RHODES' CHIEF ASSISTANT, SAID HEARINGS SELDOM ARE GRANTED AND EXTRADITION ONLY RARELY IS REFUSED.

HE NOTED THAT LOUISIANA HAS NOT RETURNED TO OHIO A MAN ARRESTED IN THE NEW ORLEANS AREA ON AN OHIO CHARGE OF LARCENY BY TRICK. THAT MAN, EUGENE WOODS, HAS BEEN SOUGHT BY OHIO FOR MANY MONTHS, BUT MCELROY SAID, "I DON'T KNOW THAT WE WILL TRADE ONE FOR THE OTHER."

NOVEL WAS ARRESTED AT THE REQUEST OF GARRISON ON ASSURANCE A LOUISIANA WARRANT WAS ON FILE.

GARRISON, ETC., 6TH GRAF B40.

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EB40

NOVEL 430

COLUMBUS, OHIO, APRIL 3 (AP)-GORDON NOVEL PLANNED TO POST \$10,000 BOND FOR RELEASE FROM JAIL TODAY AND BEGIN MAPPING HIS FIGHT AGAINST EXTRADITION TO NEW ORLEANS, WHERE HE IS WANTED AS A MATERIAL WITNESS IN AN INQUIRY INTO THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

NOVEL'S COLUMBUS ATTORNEY, JERRY WEINER, SAID LAST NIGHT HE HOPED TO POST BOND SOON AFTER A SCHEDULED PRELIMINARY COURT HEARING FOR HIS CLIENT. WEINER SAID THE BOND MONEY WAS BEING PROVIDED BY FRIENDS OF NOVEL IN NEW ORLEANS. HE DID NOT NAME THEM.

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AFTER HIS ARREST SATURDAY NIGHT IN SUBURBAN GAHANNA,
THE 29-YEAR-OLD FORMER NEW ORLEANS NIGHT CLUB OPERATOR VOWED
TO "FIGHT EXTRADITION IF NECESSARY TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME
COURT."

WEINER SAID THE FIRST STEP LIKELY WOULD BE THE FILING OF
AN AFFIDAVIT WITH OHIO GOV. JAMES A. RHODES STATING REASONS
WHY NOVEL DOES NOT WANT TO GO BACK.

EB57

SUB.

COLUMBUS, OHIO--NOVEL B40 SUB 4TH GRAF: GO BACK.

RHODES' TOP AIDE, JOHN MCELROY, WAS QUOTED AS SAYING EXTRADITION
REQUESTS ARE ALMOST NEVER DENIED. LOUISIANA, BY CHANCE, HAS NOT YET
EXTRADITED A MAN WANTED IN OHIO, EUGENE WOODS, DESPITE TWO REQUESTS.
WOODS HAS BEEN WANTED FOR MANY MONTHS ON A CHARGE OF LARCENY BY
TRICK.

NOVEL WAS ARRESTED BY GAHANNA OFFICIALS AFTER BEING TOLD BY THE
OFFICE OF NEW ORLEANS DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON, WHO IS CONDUCTING
THE ASSASSINATION INQUIRY, THAT A CHARGE WAS ON FILE AGAINST HIM IN
LOUISIANA.

GARRISON'S ETC. 6TH GRAF.

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NOVEL WAS ARRESTED ON A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE WARRANT OBTAINED
BY GAHANNA OFFICIALS FROM THE OFFICE OF NEW ORLEANS DIST.
ATTY. JIM GARRISON, WHO IS CONDUCTING THE ASSASSINATION INQUIRY.
GARRISON'S OFFICE SAID THE WARRANT RESULTED FROM A CHARGE
OF "CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT THE SIMPLE CRIME OF BURGLARY" OF A
MUNITIONS DUMP IN HOUMA, LA., ABOUT 40 MILES SOUTHWEST OF NEW
ORLEANS.

EARLIER, GARRISON HAD ISSUED A WARRANT SEEKING NOVEL
AS A MATERIAL WITNESS IN THE ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION.

EB41

NOVEL WAS ARRESTED AS HE ENTERED THE OFFICE OF A NEWS SERVICE OPERATED BY RICHARD L. PAUGH, A LOCAL COLUMNIST AND TELEVISION NEWSMAN.

PAUGH DENIED ANY CONNECTION WITH NOVEL BUT SAID HE HAD INTERVIEWED HIM ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO.

GAHANNA MAYOR PAUL VAN AUKEN SAID NOVEL HAD HIS SUITCASES STORED IN THE OFFICE AND "APPARENTLY WAS PREPARING TO LEAVE BY PLANE SATURDAY NIGHT."

VAN AUKEN SAID HE HAD NO IDEA WHERE NOVEL MIGHT HAVE BEEN PLANNING TO GO, BUT NOTED THAT HIS FIANCEE WAS OUT OF TOWN, POSSIBLY IN CHICAGO.

THE FIANCEE, MISS ABBY MULLIGAN OF COLUMBUS, WAS LISTED AS THE MOST LIKELY REASON FOR NOVEL'S BEING HERE. HER BROTHER SAID MISS MULLIGAN, A FORMER BUNNY AT THE PLAYBOY CLUB IN CHICAGO, HAD BEEN GIVEN A RING BY NOVEL.

NOVEL ALSO REPORTEDLY HAD BUSINESS TIES HERE. A BUSINESS ACQUAINTANCE SAID HE WAS DEVELOPING AN "ANTI-BUGGING" DEVICE IN CONJUNCTION WITH A LOCAL ELECTRONICS FIRM. HE ALSO WAS REPORTEDLY TO CONFER WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE RESTAURANT AND BAR BUSINESS HERE.

THE BOND OF \$10,000, SET BY MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE DEAN STRABAUGH, WAS \$45,000 LESS THAN RECOMMENDED BY GARRISON.

NOVEL HAS DENIED ANY KNOWLEDGE OF THE ALLEGED KENNEDY ASSASSINATION CONSPIRACY AND SAYS HE HAS REFUSED TO GO BACK TO NEW ORLEANS BECAUSE OF "INTIMIDATION AND HARASSMENT."

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