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(340)

COLUMBUS, OHIO, APRIL 3 (AP)-VAGUE REFERENCES TO CUBA AND PLOT INVESTIGATIONS HIGHLIGHTED A COURT APPEARANCE TODAY BY A FORMER NIGHT CLUB OPERATOR ARRESTED HERE AT THE REQUEST OF A LOUISIANA PROSECUTOR INVESTIGATING THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

GORDON NOVEL, 29, REMAINED IN JAIL IN LIEU OF \$10,000 BOND AFTER HIS APPEARANCE IN COLUMBUS MUNICIPAL COURT ON A FUGITIVE CHARGE FILED FORMALLY TODAY BY POLICE FROM SUBURBAN GAHANNA, WHERE HE WAS ARRESTED SATURDAY NIGHT.

NOVEL WAS PICKED UP AT THE REQUEST OF NEW ORLEANS DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON, WHO WANTS NOVEL AS A WITNESS IN HIS INQUIRY INTO THE KENNEDY ASSASSINATION. THE FUGITIVE CHARGE STEMMED, HOWEVER, FROM A COUNT OF CONSPIRING TO COMMIT BURGLARY WHICH GARRISON ALSO FILED AGAINST NOVEL.

NOVEL SHOWED UP BEFORE MUNICIPAL JUDGE WILBUR SHULL WITHOUT A LAWYER AND BEGAN ARGUING HIS OWN CASE FOR A LOW BOND.

"I USED TO DO 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," NOVEL SAID.

SHULL INTERRUPTED BEFORE NOVEL COULD SAY ANY MORE.

IT WAS THE FIRST INDICATION NOVEL MIGHT HAVE BEEN PART OF THE GARRISON INVESTIGATION.

LATER NOVEL SAID HE HAD HEARD IT SAID HE PLANNED TO RETURN TO NEW ORLEANS VOLUNTARILY BUT, "I DID NOT INTEND TO DO THAT BECAUSE OF THIS CUBAN. . ."

A147CO

THIS TIME HIS LAWYER, JERRY WEINER, INTERRUPTED AND SILENCED NOVEL. WEINER APPEARED IN THE COURTROOM WHILE NOVEL WAS TALKING.

NOVEL ARGUED HE WAS NOT A FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE, AS THE CHARGE HERE ALLEGED, BECAUSE HE HAD LEFT NEW ORLEANS BEFORE ANY CHARGE WAS FILED AGAINST HIM.

HE ALSO SAID HE HAD ESTABLISHED INTENT TO TAKE UP RESIDENCE IN COLUMBUS, WHERE HE SAID HE PLANS TO MARRY ABBY MULLIGAN, A ONETIME PLAYBOY BUNNY IN CHICAGO.

NOVEL ORIGINALLY WAS BOOKED INTO THE COLUMBUS CITY JAIL FOR INVESTIGATION. ANOTHER MUNICIPAL JUDGE, DEAN STRAUSBAUGH, SET BOND AT \$10,000 SATURDAY NIGHT.

NOVEL, WHO TALKED READILY WITH NEWSMEN SATURDAY, REFUSED A REQUEST TODAY TO BE INTERVIEWED.

HIS LAWYER, ASKED ABOUT THE COURTROOM REFERENCE TO CUBA, SAID, "YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GET ME TO COMMENT ON THAT."

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A157!CO

COLUMBUS--NOVEL A146-7CO ADD: ON THAT.

WEINER SAID LATER HE SILENCED NOVEL BECAUSE, "I NEVER WANT A CLIENT TO MAKE A STATEMENT THAT I DON'T KNOW IN ADVANCE WHAT HE IS GOING TO SAY."

WEINER ALSO SAID HE WAS NOT NOTIFIED OF THE COURT APPEARANCE AND "I JUST HAPPENED TO STUMBLE INTO IT."

TECHNICALLY, THE MUNICIPAL COURT CASE WAS CONTINUED FOR 30 DAYS. BUT WEINER SAID THE EXTRADITION PROCEEDINGS PROBABLY WILL SUPPLANT ANY FURTHER ACTION IN MUNICIPAL COURT.

EXTRADITION, HE SAID, "IS GOING TO TAKE A LOT LONGER THAN 30 DAYS." HE NOTED EXTRADITION PAPERS HAVE NOT ARRIVED AT THE OFFICE OF OHIO GOV. JAMES A. RHODES.

RHODES' CHIEF AIDE, JOHN MCELROY, SAID TODAY THAT REQUESTS FOR EXTRADITION ARE RARELY REFUSED. HE NOTED THAT GENE WOODS, WANTED IN OHIO ON A LARCENY BY TRICK CHARGE, STILL IS IN LOUISIANA DESPITE TWO REQUESTS FOR HIS EXTRADITION TO OHIO, BUT SAID, "I DON'T KNOW THAT WE WILL TRADE ONE FOR THE OTHER."

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