

Witness in JFK Probe Must Serve Attempted Theft Term

Vernon Bundy Jr., a witness for the state against Clay L. Shaw, must serve a previously suspended sentence for attempted theft, the States-Item learned today.

Bundy, 28, a Negro, is already in jail on a narcotics conviction. He testified for the state in the recent preliminary hearing for Shaw, who is charged with criminal conspiracy in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Bundy was given a suspended sentence on May 25, 1966, on the attempted theft charge after he pleaded guilty to a count involving property belonging to Municipal Auditorium.

Records in Criminal District Court show Bundy and a "John Doe" were arrested Sept. 12, 1965, and that a bill of information charging Bundy and Doe with the crime were filed by the DA's office Oct. 5. He was arraigned Oct. 15 and pleaded not guilty.

WHEN JUDGE BERNARD J. Bagert suspended the sentence, he did so on condition that Bundy immediately enter the federal hospital in Ft. Worth for treatment for narcotics addiction.

Bundy was discharged from the hospital Oct. 31, 1966. He surrendered himself on March 4, 1967, on another charge and was placed in Parish Prison, where he later recalled to investigators for District Attorney Jim Garrison that he saw Shaw and Lee Harvey Oswald on the lakefront in the summer of 1963.

On June 13, assistant DA Michael Krarmazin asked Judge Bagert to revoke the suspension of the attempted theft sentence on grounds that Bundy had violated the provisions of his probation.

Judge Bagert ordered Bundy

to serve the full year in Parish Prison, with credit for time already served.