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Garrison Probe NL 300

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NEW ORLEANS AP - The murder conspiracy trial of Clay Shaw, the first man charged in the Kennedy assassination plot probe, will begin late next month, if the presiding judge has his way. Impatient with delays, Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. Wednesday ordered the prosecution and defense to quickly finish special pleadings.

"These motions have dragged on four months," Haggerty complained after ordering Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison to name the West Coast city where Garrison claims Shaw furthered a conspiracy to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

Haggerty also directed the state to supply the defense with the approximate dates Garrison says Shaw met with Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby in Baton Rouge.

These were the only points won by Shaw's lawyers as Judge Haggerty ruled on a set of motions asking the district attorney to give more information on his charges against Shaw.

Still pending in pre-trial maneuvering are a motion to quash the charge and a supplemental motion for a bill of particulars. Haggerty said he should be able to settle these questions by Sept. 13, and the trial for Shaw could be set for the latter part of September "barring some unforeseen development."

Haggerty approved a state motion calling for a meeting of attorneys representing both sides to fix a date for the trial.

Shaw, a wealthy 54-year-old retired businessman, was arrested March 1 and charged with participating in what Garrison contends was a New Orleans plot to assassinate President Kennedy.

Garrison contends that Shaw, former managing director of the New Orleans Trade Mart, conspired with Oswald, and a onetime airline pilot named David W. Ferrie and others to kill Kennedy.

Shaw denies there was a plot. Oswald, identified by the Warren Commission as the lone assassin of Kennedy in Dallas on Nov. 22, 1963, was shot and killed by Ruby two days later. Ruby, who died of cancer last January, denied ever knowing Oswald. Ferrie died of natural causes last February shortly after news of Garrison's probe became public.

Shaw, free on \$10,000 bond, did not appear at Wednesday's hearing.

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