

Crime-Probing Jury Again Quizzes Young

(States-Item Bureau)

BATON ROUGE—Aubrey Young, former aide to Gov. John J. McKeithen, underwent questioning for the second straight day today as the East Baton Rouge Parish grand jury pursued its organized crime investigation.

District Attorney Sargent Pitcher, who summoned the jury into session at the request of Gov. McKeithen, said he would issue a statement late today, but was gener-

ally keeping the jury's doings under cover.

Young, who served as a McKeithen confidant for three years before he was fired this summer, was grilled for three hours by the grand jury yesterday about telephone conversations he had with New Orleans rackets figure Carlos Marcello.

Pitcher said that Young earlier had told him the contents of one conversation with Marcello, but has not revealed anything overwhelming.

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As the grand jury continued its probe, Gov. McKeithen said he would have nothing further to say while investigation was in progress.

"In light of the press conferences already held and the full scale investigatory effort under way," the governor said, "I shall withhold any further pronouncements on these matters until further results of these investigatory efforts are made known to me."

The governor's office went into a semi-blackout of contact this morning while a staff meeting was held. The office was refusing to accept any calls.

Meanwhile, it was learned that Young, 45-year-old former deputy sheriff from Monroe, was committed to the Southeast Louisiana State Hospital at Mandeville as a mental patient rather than as an alcoholic.

ACCORDING to the interdiction papers, Young passed out in his Baton Rouge apartment and needed help for his mental and alcoholic condition.

The papers were signed by his mother, Mrs. W. E. Young, and two doctors, Parish Coroner Chester Williams and W. T. Brown. Young was committed to the hospital on Sept. 18.

He was given an indefinite pass from the hospital to appear before the parish grand jury.

Pitcher said that he had additional witnesses to call before the parish grand jury. He has issued a subpoena for records of the Southern Bell Telephone Co. relating to the telephone calls between Marcello and Young.

THE DISTRICT attorney said that much of the information Young disclosed to him concerned matters outside his jurisdiction.

Pitcher visited the fourth-floor suite of the governor in the state Capitol this morning, but there was no statement on what took place.

The district attorney apparently has a private entrance to the grand jury room and is able to move witnesses to it from his office without their being seen by observers.

Young and Life reporter David L. Chandler testified

before the jury yesterday.

Pitcher said Life produced evidence that 15 to 18 calls were made, possibly up to 50. Young admitted to receiving two.

Young told the jury, Pitcher said, that he didn't believe he did anything wrong in talking with Marcello by telephone. Young offered to undergo a lie detector test to check the truth of his story.

PITCHER indicated Marcello may be called by the grand jury, though he gave no indication of when.

A Southern Bell spokesman said privately there may be firings if any employe should be found illegally giving out information such as that published in Life concerning private phone calls.

The spokesman said employes are barred from giving out such information. Federal law makes it a crime to divulge information taken from intercepted calls without consent.

Pitcher said Young not only had talked with the grand jury but also had submitted to an interview of three hours last night.

"He was tired, but he was lucid and rational," Pitcher said.