

Loran E. Hall, Kernville, will have an opportunity to appear in Kern County Superior Court and object to being subpoenaed as a material witness in the controversial probe into what New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison claims was a plot which resulted in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy Nov. 22, 1963.

Kern County Dist. Atty. Kit Nelson said he received Garrison's request to subpoena the Kernville man yesterday.

The request was accompanied by a \$405.40 check for Hall's transportation and expenses to testify before the Orleans Parish (county) Grand Jury Feb. 1 and 2.

Nelson's office will file the request with the Superior Court. Hall, he added, will be given notice and other opportunity to appear to explain why the subpoena would result in "undue hardship" or why he should not be considered a material witness.

Nelson said it is not a matter of extraditing Hall, or even that would be the Louisiana's request. Garrison's subpoena is based on the fact to secure evidence in witness of a reciprocal agreement between states, he said. Courts rejecting a state's attempt to subpoena a witness are based on "undue hardship and other materiality is involved," Nelson said.

The Orleans Parish subpoena asks Nelson to secure Superior Court order directing Hall to make the trip to New Orleans and be available for questioning Feb. 1 and 2. If Hall does not appear and object, when notified, Nelson said the request probably will be granted under terms of the reciprocal agreement.

However, Nelson said Hall has the right to counsel and to ask the court to reject the request.

Meanwhile, the \$405.40 check will be held and given to Hall if the court directs him to make the trip to New Orleans. The subpoena grants Hall immunity from arrest for anything happening prior to his entry into Louisiana.

The subpoena, issued by Criminal District Court Judge Matthew S. Branniff of New Orleans, reports Garrison has information that Hall checked into the Dallas YMCA in October, 1963 and remained in that city until the time of President Kennedy's death. The subpoena alleges Hall was in Dallas with Jack Ruby "and other individuals believed to be involved in the assassination" including Lee Harvey Oswald.

Yesterday, the Associated Press reported from New Orleans that Hall while saying see Subpoena—page 14

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he denied President Kennedy denied any knowledge of a conspiracy to kill him. The AP quoted a telephone interview by the New Orleans States-Item with Hall while he was on the job as a bartender in nearby Wofford Heights.

The leased wire story quotes Hall as saying President Kennedy "should have been removed from office — by ballot, not by bullet." Hall also said he will not return voluntarily to New Orleans, but if a court order directs him to do so "I naturally will go . . . I have nothing to hide."

When interviewed last Friday Hall said he was at home in Monterey Park, Calif., when the President was slain. He and Mrs. Hall moved to Kernville during 1964.

During yesterday's interview Hall, who Garrison says was associated with Oswald and Jack Ruby in Dallas, reported he first saw Ruby "when I, like the rest of America, saw him shoot Oswald on television."

Garrison, Hall said, is interested in him because he once told FBI agents he was present in the Dallas home of Mrs. Sylvia Odlo during a meeting described by the Warren report as involving a person introduced to her as "Leon" Oswald.

However, Hall said yesterday he wasn't at such a meeting, but falsely told the FBI he was there because he was "frightened," AP reports.



Kern County Dist. Atty. Kit Nelson holds \$405.40 check in one hand while looking over sheaf of documents from Orleans Parish, La., seeking Superior Court order directing Loran E. Hall, Kernville, to answer a subpoena to testify in the Louisiana county's Grand Jury probe into assassination of President Kennedy in 1963. Check is for Hall's transportation to and from New Orleans, if the Kern court grants the request.

—Californian Photo