

Editor in Onassis Case Reports Galella Tried to Hide Evidence

By MAX H. SEIGEL

A magazine editor testified in Federal Court here yesterday that Ronald E. Galella, the photographer, had urged her to destroy all his photographs of Mrs. Aristotle Onassis, that the magazine had in its files.

The photographs had been subpoenaed by lawyers for Mrs. Onassis.

Miss Bernadette Carrozza, editor of Photoplay, was the first witness called in Mrs. Onassis' countersuit, which seeks to keep Mr. Galella at least 100 yards from her at all times.

Judge Irving Ben Cooper, who is hearing the case without a jury in the Federal Court-house at Foley Square, has reserved decision on a move by Mrs. Onassis for dismissal of a \$1.3-million damage suit by Mr. Galella in which he had charged her with interfering with his livelihood. Mr. Galella's lawyers completed their presentation of that suit on Tuesday.

Attempt to Conceal Reported

In her testimony this morning, Miss Carrozza said the photographer telephoned her on Feb. 18 to say that the court must not get any of his photos.

"Hide it, burn it, destroy it," she testified he told her.

Miss Carrozza also told Judge Cooper that on the morning of Feb. 22 Mr. Galella visited her office to ask what photos from the magazine's March issue was in possession of the court.

The Photoplay editor said she had told the photographer that everything from the files was in the hands of the court and that only the photos from the March issue had been returned to him.

Mr. Galella then produced a photograph of Mrs. Onassis coming down the steps of the

Metropolitan Museum of Art, according to the witness, and said, "Well, then, I guess I better turn over this contact sheet."

The editor testified that Mr. Galella had added: "I could get in trouble if they knew I took these pictures. I wasn't supposed to take them. On the QT, the injunction was against me at the time I took those picture I could go to jail."

'Nobody Else Knows'

Miss Carrozza also testified that Mr. Galella told her last December: "Nobody else knows what time Mrs. Onassis walks her dog. Nobody else knows what time she goes to Central Park. Only I know."

And last October, Miss Carrozza said, Mr. Galella told her that only he knew Mrs. Onassis' exits and entrances and the stairways she used, and so only he had pictures of her.

Shortly after the luncheon recess, Alfred S. Julien, counsel for Mr. Galella, started cross-examination. He told the court that his wide-ranging questioning was designed to test the credibility of the witness.

Judge Cooper overruled most objections by Martin London, lawyer for Mrs. Onassis, explaining that he wanted to give Mr. Julien wide latitude in his questioning because Miss Carrozza was "an important witness."

Neither Mrs. Onassis nor her chief counsel, former Federal

Judge Simon H. Rifkind, was present yesterday. But the courtroom remained full of spectators.

Miss Carrozza is to return to the witness stand today at 10:30 A.M. for further cross-examination.