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Scotus-Shaw 200

WASHINGTON AP - The Supreme Court refused today to stand in the way of trial of Clay L. Shaw on charges of conspiring to kill President John F. Kennedy.

Shaw, a retired New Orleans businessman, had appealed to the Court for "sanctuary" from Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's impending prosecution. Shaw claimed he was the victim of "a concerted pattern of persecution."

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Shaw, 55, also sought to make the Warren Commission report binding on all courts in the country and to have Louisiana's conspiracy laws declared unconstitutional.

The Warren Commission, headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, declared Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, assassinated Kennedy in November 1963.

Garrison's theory is that Shaw conspired with Oswald and others to murder Kennedy.

Shaw said Garrison's prosecution is designed to intimidate those who disagreed with the conspiracy theory. Shaw said Garrison did not expect to obtain "a valid conviction."

Warren took himself out of the case.

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WASHINGTON Scotus-Shaw, A091, first add: case.

In New Orleans, a spokesman for the district attorney's office said he had not yet seen the ruling but that a trial date for Shaw "will be set as soon as possible."

"The trial definitely will not be this month because we don't have a jury," James L. Alcock, assistant district attorney, said.

"The earliest date for the trial would be some time in January," he added.

Alcock said the ruling did not surprise him. "The only thing that surprised me was that it took the Supreme Court this long to make a decision."

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