

Setback for Defense in 'Kennedy Plot'

New Orleans

Attorneys for Clay L. Shaw, accused of conspiring to assassinate President Kennedy, lost a bid yesterday to have a single judge decide whether Clay should be brought to trial.

The attorneys had asked that the three-judge panel which will preside at today's hearing for Shaw be dissolved. They charged that the three-judge court was without precedent and was unconstitutional.

That motion was overruled, but the judges did grant another motion asking that the court set up special guidelines for the conduct of the hearing.

The defense also saw two other motions overruled. One requested that the defense be able to employ its own court reporter during the hearing and the other asked for a return of property seized as evidence from Shaw's French Quarter apartment.

With the hearing less than 24 hours away, District Judge Bernard J. Bagert an-

nounced he was easing the tight restrictions he had imposed on news media last week.

He struck from the order a provision forbidding newsmen to publish any material not introduced in open court.

However, witnesses, lawyers and other persons connected with the case remain under order to say nothing about the case to newsmen.

The ground rules for the panel provide for rule by majority vote with Bagert act-

ing as spokesman. Neither the defense nor the prosecution will be allowed to query the panel about the way it voted.

In papers filed with the court in connection with a search of Shaw's home, District Attorney Jim Garrison maintained, that Shaw, assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, David Ferrie and others planned the Kennedy assassination at a meeting in Ferrie's apartment here.

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