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JFK PLOT
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TRIAL IN
45 DAYS

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NEW ORLEANS, March 18—The courts of Louisiana have made the first judicial assault on the Warren Report. Within 45 days, Clay L. Shaw, 54, will go on trial charged with conspiring to kill President Kennedy, according to an estimate by the District Attorney's office here. A 20-year sentence is possible.

But 45 days may be too short a guess. Defense lawyers are considering a change of venue to get the trial out of the superheated atmosphere of New Orleans. They are also thinking, one member of the four-man defense team indicated, of trying to get the case into the calmer currents of a Federal court.

"There have been suggestions that some mumbo-jumbo is going on here," assistant D.A. James Alcock said during the last of four days of preliminary hearings before an extraordinary three-judge panel.

He was speaking of defense objections during the testimony of a physician-hypnotist who put the state's key witness into a trance to try to get him to recall more clearly the alleged plot.

But the feeling of "mumbo-jumbo" is unavoidable. This reporter was called away from an interview by a night club operator and offered information of a second unrelated plot for "only \$10,000." Every man-on-the-street has his own theory on where the Warren Report went wrong, and cab drivers save for possible resale value or souvenirs bills given them by Clay Shaw during Shaw's discreetly

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guarded travels about town. He is out on \$10,000 bail.

LUCIDITY, CALM

Ironically, it was in interviews with Lee Harvey Oswald's relatives here that this reporter found a return to lucidity and calm. They had housed the Presidential assassin-to-be when he returned from Russia as any family would care for a relative temporarily on his uppers.

Mrs. Lillian Murret, the "Aunt Lillian" referred to frequently by Oswald, was the New Orleans relative who knew him best. "She has very kindly taken us in," Oswald wrote to his wife, Marina, after he arrived in New Orleans April 25, 1963.

"He never mentioned any of them," Mrs. Murret said when asked whether Oswald had known Shaw or the New Orleans eccentric David W. Ferrie, alleged to be co-conspirators with Oswald.

Mrs. Murret, a thoughtful, soft-voiced sister of Oswald's mother, said she had no

knowledge of any move by Oswald from Magazine Street, where he was living with his wife, to Ferrie's home across town as was alleged during the hearing.

FERRIE DIES

Ferrie died on Feb. 22 of "natural causes" while he was under investigation. According to the state's star witness, 25-year-old Perry R. Russo, Ferrie took Oswald in as his "roommate."

Oswald's cousin, John Martial Murret, 33, son of "Aunt Lillian," and also a witness before the Warren Commission, said in an interview that he could not believe Oswald would conspire with Ferrie.

Murret had known Oswald as a youngster as well as during his New Orleans visit from April to September, 1963 when the plot was allegedly hatching.

Ferrie was "one of these certain types of guys with homosexual tendencies," said Murret, a salesman with a wife and family. "It would be a surprise to me

if he (Oswald) had anything to do with these people."

Press coverage of the trial was hampered by an order from the judges barring either defense lawyers or the prosecution from talking with reporters. But after the judicial panel had ruled that probable cause had been shown and had bound Shaw over for trial, Attorneys for both sides spoke, still without permitting attribution.

One prosecutor said there were "numerous" other plot witnesses in the wings and that only the top of a formidable iceberg had been shown in the preliminary hearing.