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Garrison Subpoenas Man Held in '63 Probe

New Orleans DA Also Orders Arrest of Ex-Bar Owner in Kennedy Investigation

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Layton Martens, arrested here three days after the assassination of President John F. Kennedy and held for "investigation of subversive activities," was subpoenaed by Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison Thursday in his investigation of the crime.

The district attorney also ordered the arrest of Gordon Novel, 29, a former bar owner here whom he described as an important material witness for the grand jury considering the case.

Martens, 24, was ordered to appear before the grand jury next Wednesday.

He formerly roomed with the late David W. Ferrie at 3330 Louisiana Ave.

Arrested at FBI Request

Martens, Ferrie and Roland Beauboeuf, then 19, were arrested by Garrison's men at the request of the Secret Service and FBI Nov. 25, 1963. Ferrie was booked for being a fugitive from Texas; Martens and Beauboeuf were booked for vagrancy.

Police records show that Martens was held for the FBI and Secret Service "under investigation of subversive activities."

Garrison said at that time that Ferrie, Beauboeuf and Martens were picked up "in connection with some leads of our own."

All three men were released the next day.

In an interview with New Orleans television station WDSU-TV two weeks ago, Martens said he had been questioned twice by Garrison's investigators recently and underwent a lie detector test on one occasion.

He said he hoped he would not be subpoenaed and his name "dragged through the streets."

Also subpoenaed Thursday was Donald Dooty, a baldish red-bearded man about 35 years old. No background information was available on Dooty, and he declined to answer newsmen's questions when he went to Garrison's office.

The developments followed the grand jury's indictment Wednesday of Clay L. Shaw, New Orleans civic leader, on a charge of "willfully and unlawfully conspiring" to murder Mr. Kennedy. Shaw was arrested March 1 and accused by Garrison of hatching the plot with Lee Harvey Oswald and Ferrie in mid-September, 1963. Ferrie died last Feb. 22.

Oswald was named by the Warren Commission as the lone assassin.

Novel reportedly was in Chicago when the order for his arrest was approved by Criminal Judge Matthew S. Braniff. Former owner of the Jamaican Village lounge on the fringe of the French Quarter, Novel said in Columbus, Ohio, Wednesday that he did not intend to return to New Orleans unless guaranteed freedom from "harassment."

Severs Business Ties

Novel told newsmen he had helped Garrison in the assassination inquiry but now felt he was being double-crossed.

In the affidavit requesting the arrest order, Garrison's office said Novel severed his business ties here and left the city while under subpoena. The affidavit said Novel should be placed under sizable bond or the grand jury "will be deprived of a most important and material witness."



Gordon Novel

(AP Wirephoto)

As an alternative to arrest, Judge Braniff set a bail of \$50,000 for Novel.

Novel's connection with the Kennedy probe has never been disclosed. When he was first subpoenaed to appear before the grand jury March 16, he said he thought Garrison wanted to question him about activities "during 1961 which are related to Mr. Sergio Arcacha Smith."

Arcacha, now living in Dallas, said he never heard of Novel. Arcacha headed an anti-Castro group in New Orleans in 1961.