

The Mystery Girl In 'Kennedy Plot'

New Orleans

District Attorney James Garrison's office issued a warrant yesterday for the arrest of Lilly Mae McMaines of Omaha, Neb., connected to the Kennedy assassination probe by star witness Perry R. Russo.

Russo, 25-year-old Baton Rouge insurance salesman, said Mrs. McMaines — the former Sandra Moffett of New Orleans — was one of several persons attending a party in David W. Ferrie's apartment after which he says he heard Ferrie, Lee Harvey Oswald and Clay L. Shaw conspire to kill President Aohn F. Kennedy.

Mrs. McMaines, married to part-time minister Harold McMaines, 48, told newsmen last Friday she did not attend the party in September

1963. The 22-year-old woman acknowledged knowing Russo and said she had once been in love with him.

ARREST

Garrison's office swore out a warrant for her arrest as a material witness in its investigation.

"We feel sure she is a very important witness," said Assistant District Attorney Andrew Sciambra.

Russo's testimony came during a preliminary hearing for Clay L. Shaw, accused by Garrison of conspiring to kill Kennedy.

In talking with newsmen in Omaha, Mrs. McMaines said she did not meet Ferrie until 1965. She said she refused to accompany two Garrison investigators back to New Orleans after they contacted her March 8.

Attorneys for Shaw, a wealthy retired business executive, also expressed an interest in questioning her.

PARTY

Russo alluded to Sandra Moffett only once during his three days' of testimony at Shaw's preliminary hearing. At one point he said he was taken to the party by a friend. Later he named Sandra Moffett as "the girl I brought."

Another witness who challenged Garrison's view of the assassination said by telephone from an undisclosed location yesterday that Garrison ought to take a lie detector test to show whether the whole thing is a fraud or not.

Gordon Novel, who sold his saloon and slipped out of New Orleans last week just before the grand jury subpoenaed him, issued the challenge through Jack Dempsey, a reporter for the New Orleans States-Item.

TRIAL

There was little chance Garrison would comment since a trial judge advised him not to make any statements about Shaw's forthcoming trial.

Novel charged in Columbus, Ohio, last week that the whole Garrison investigation was a fraud for the sake of political ambition.

Novel's attorney, Steve Plotkin, moved to reduce Novel's \$50,000 bond so that Novel could return to New Orleans without going to jail.

Novel has been ordered by a New Orleans court to return immediately as a "material witness" or be arrested as a fugitive.

A.P. & U.P.