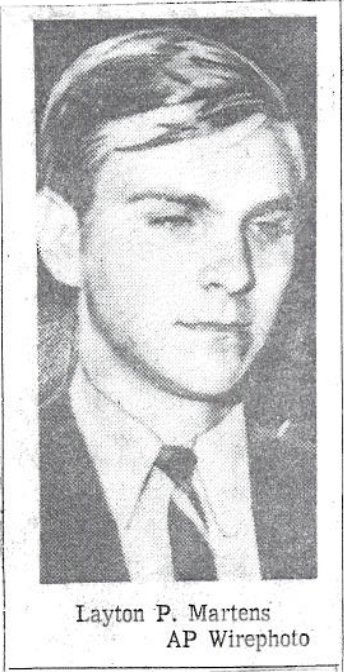


Garrison Probe Figure Seeks To Quash Warrant



Layton P. Martens
AP Wirephoto

By John S. Lang

NEW ORLEANS, La. (AP) — An attorney for a missing witness in Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's Kennedy assassination

conspiracy case plans to ask the State Supreme Court to throw out the arrest warrant for the man.

Criminal Dist. Court Judge Edward Haggerty Wednesday denied a motion by Gordon Novel's attorney to quash the warrant for Novel.

Haggerty continued Novel's bond at \$50,000 but indicated he might lower it if Novel returns to the court's jurisdiction.

Garrison disclosed there had been threats on his life, but he joked about them in the hallway of the court building Wednesday.

Garrison seeks Novel's arrest

as a material witness in his investigation. Novel, 29, sold his French Quarter tavern and left town last week just before a second subpoena was issued for him to appear before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury.

He was last reported in Washington, D.C., and has repeatedly called Garrison's investigation "a monstrous fraud."

The grand jury has indicted Clay L. Shaw, 54, prominent retired business executive, for conspiring to murder President John F. Kennedy. The indictment said David W. Ferrie, Lee Harvey Oswald and "unnamed others" were coconspirators.

Layton P. Martens, 24, one-time roommate of Ferrie, spent 90 minutes Wednesday before the Grand Jury.

Martens read this statement

to newsmen as he waited to go before the Grand Jury.

"I am here in response to a subpoena. I am cooperating now as I have in the past. In my presence, my attorney was advised by the district attorney's office that I am not suspected of any criminal activity whatever. As far as we have been informed, the district attorney is interested only in my knowledge of certain individuals in this case. On the advice of my attorney, however, at the present time I will make no public statement about the matter under investigation."

In Omaha, Neb., Lillie Mae McMaines, 22, another material witness sought by Garrison, decided not to waive extradition and return here. Mrs. McMaines was arrested Tuesday on a charge of being a fugitive from justice.