

CW-NU

(NY ONLY; NOT FOR PUBLICATION)

PROBE 270

NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 5 (AP)--A DEFENSE LAWYER ESTIMATES IT MAY BE SIX MONTHS BEFORE A DATE IS SET FOR THE TRIAL OF CLAY L. SHAW, 54-YEAR-OLD RETIRED EXECUTIVE CHARGED WITH CONSPIRING TO MURDER PRESIDENT KENNEDY.

SOME OF THE LEGAL STEPS ALONG THE WAY WERE DETAILED BY EDWARD F. WEGMANN, PRIOR TO TODAY'S STRICTLY GUARDED ARRAIGNMENT BEFORE CRIMINAL DISTRICT JUDGE E. A. HAGGERTY JR.

ARRAIGNMENTS ARE A FORMALITY IN WHICH THE INDICTMENT IS READ TO THE ACCUSED AND A PLEA IS ENTERED.

WEGMANN SAID JUDGE HAGGERTY ASSURED HIM THAT, AFTER SHAW'S PLEA OF INNOCENT, THE DEFENSE WOULD BE GRANTED 30 DAYS IN WHICH TO FILE NEW MOTIONS IN THE CASE.

WHEN MOTIONS ARE FILED, DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON'S OFFICE MAY ASK TIME IN WHICH TO FILE REPLIES. AT THE END OF THIS PERIOD, A DATE FOR A HEARING ON THE MOTIONS IS SET.

THEN, IF MOTIONS ARE DENIED, THE DEFE

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THEN, IF MOTIONS ARE DENIED, THE DEFENSE MAY APPEAL TO THE STATE SUPREME COURT.

"OUR ESTIMATE IS THAT IT WILL BE THREE TO SIX MONTHS BEFORE THE COURT REACHES THE POINT OF CONSIDERING A TRIAL DATE," SAID WEGMANN.

GARRISON, WHO HAS HEWED TO A STRICT NO COMMENT LINE FOR WEEKS, ACCUSED SHAW OF CONSPIRING WITH LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND DAVID W. FERRIE TO KILL THE PRESIDENT.

KENNEDY WAS ASSASSINATED IN DALLAS NOV. 22, 1963. THE WARREN COMMISSION NAMED OSWALD, A FORMER NEW ORLEANS RESIDENT, AS THE KILLER AND SAID THERE WAS NO CREDIBLE EVIDENCE OF ANY CONSPIRACY.

GUIDELINES IMPOSED BY JUDGE HAGGERTY FORBID ANY ONE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE CASE TO MAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY EVIDENCE.

HAGGERTY SPECIFIED THAT HIS GUIDELINES APPLIED TO "ALL ATTORNEYS, POLICE, INVESTIGATORS, WITNESSES, AND ANY PUBLIC EMPLOYEE OFFICIALLY CONNECTED WITH THE PROCESSES OF THIS COURT."

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