

ANSWERS SHAW ATTORNEY'S QUERY

No Juror Aided DA Fund--Foreman

18 May 1967

The Orleans Parish Grand Jury foreman said today neither he nor any member of the jury has contributed to a private fund created to finance Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's Kennedy death plot investigation.

Attorneys for murder conspiracy defendant Clay L. Shaw raised the possibility of juror contributions in motions filed with Criminal District Court Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr.

They asked for a full disclosure of the membership and finances of Truth and Consequences. Specifically, they wanted to know if any member had contributed.

FOREMAN Albert LaBiche answering a newsman's question, declared:

"I have definitely not made any contribution, and I have asked every member of the jury if they have made contributions.

"They said they have not. I feel it would be a definite conflict of interest."

Grand jurors are engaged in

a continuing investigation of what Garrison says was a plot hatched to murder Kennedy at Dallas in 1963.

The jury has indicted one man for complicity in Kennedy's death. Two others have been charged with perjury.

RETIRED NEW Orleans businessman Clay L. Shaw, 54, is free on \$10,000 bond awaiting trial on charges that he conspired with Lee Harvey Oswald and the late David W. Ferrie to kill the President. Ferrie, onetime airline pilot,

died Feb. 22—five days after the Garrison inquiry became public. Oswald was named by the Warren Commission as Kennedy's lone slayer.

Meanwhile, an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation has refused to tell the jury about his part in the investigation of Kennedy's assassination.

FBI man Regis Kennedy spent more than an hour in the jury room yesterday afternoon after his appearance was

See **PROBE**—Page 19

ordered by Judge Bernard J. Bagert.

But Garrison said Kennedy invoked executive privilege and refused to divulge information to the jury during the hour he was behind the closed doors.

Despite his reticence, Kennedy may escape a criminal contempt charge, the possibility of which was mentioned by attorneys for the Justice Department.

AFTER THE agent's appearance, Asst. DA Alvin Oser said the subpoena on Kennedy had been withdrawn.

Judge Bagert ordered Kennedy before the grand jury after ruling the federal government has no right to guard its employes from testimony before courts and their agencies.

"Judicial control over the evidence in a case cannot be abdicated to the caprice of executive officers," the judge declared.