

Subpenaed in Partin Case

U.S. Jury Calls Strate, 3 More

Subpenas were issued today for Zachary "Red" Strate and three other New Orleans men to appear before a federal grand jury here Tuesday.

Strate, a New Orleans builder, was convicted of conspiracy and fraud along with Teamster Union President James R. Hoffa in 1964.

The federal grand jury has been investigating charges of a conspiracy to get Baton Rouge Teamster official Edward Grady Partin to change his testimony, given as a government witness, which helped to convict Hoffa of jury-tampering.

THE OTHER three subpenaed are:

—Julian M. Levy, court reporter for Criminal District Court Judge Malcolm V. O'Hara. At a recent Chicago federal court hearing on a motion to set aside the Hoffa conviction, Judge O'Hara testified that he had been the "messenger" in an attempt to get Partin to sign an affidavit stating that illegal wire-tapping evidence had been used to convict Hoffa. The judge said during the Chicago hearing that the affidavit was dictated to Levy.

—Edward M. Baldwin, New Orleans attorney who was Judge O'Hara's campaign manager in 1965 when the judge ran unsuccessfully for district attorney against incumbent Jim Garrison. During the Chicago hearing, Judge O'Hara testified that on June 5, 1967, Baldwin called him and told him that Walter Sheridan, a former Justice Department investigator, was doing a "White Paper" for the National Broadcasting Co. on Garrison's probe of the Kennedy assassination. Judge

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O'Hara said that Baldwin initiated plans for setting up a meeting between Strate and Sheridan. Strate testified that Sheridan offered help in Chicago if he, Strate, would help discredit the Garrison investigation. Baldwin was subpenaed for the hearing, but was not called.

—PERSHING GERVAIS, one-time chief investigator for Garrison, who is now in business with Strate. Gervais also was subpenaed for the Chicago hearing but was not called to testify.

The Chicago hearing was ordered by the U.S. Supreme Court to determine if wiretap evidence had been used. The Hoffa appeal failed, however. Federal Judge Richard B. Austin said the union boss was not entitled to a retrial on fraud and conspiracy charges.

Judge O'Hara also testified during the hearing that he had been the expense-paid traveling companion and intimate friend of Strate.

SHERIDAN, WHO was a top aide to former U.S. Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy, was not called. Sheridan headed a team of lawyers and investigators that gathered the evidence used to convict Hoffa.

Following the broadcast of the NBC show, which was Sheridan was indicted by the Orleans Parish Grand Jury for public bribery in connection with the assassination probe.

Since the hearing, the Metropolitan Crime Commission has called for the removal of O'Hara as a judge and the New Orleans Bar Association has asked Atty. Gen. Jack P. F. Gremillion to investigate O'Hara.

U.S. Asks Court To Drop Partin Indictment

BATON ROUGE (AP)—The Justice Department asked U.S. District Court today to dismiss a 26-count embezzlement and forgery indictment against Edward Grady Partin, business agent for Teamsters Union Local No. 5 in Baton Rouge.

Partin turned state's evidence in the jury tampering trial of former Teamsters Boss Jimmy Hoffa, who is now in prison. Partin served as the government's star witness in the case.

U.S. ATTY. Louis LaCour of New Orleans filed the motion, saying "evidentiary problems" such as the continued absence of many of the union's books and records and the death of an important government witness had made it impossible for the government to prosecute the case.

Partin was indicted in 1962 or 13 counts of embezzling union funds and 13 counts of making false entries on union books to convert funds to his own use.

No previous attempt had been made to prosecute the indictment against Partin.

LaCour's motion also said that the "pronounced bias and prejudice of several government witnesses against the

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defendant . . . would severely detract from their credibility at trial."

LaCour said it would be impossible to prove the charges against the local Teamsters boss.

"The government further represents that even if a successful prosecution could be maintained, the interests of justice would warrant a dismissal of this charge," the motion concluded.

THE STATEMENT was not explained.

Partin was accused in the indictment of embezzling \$1,657 in union funds as well as making false entries on the union books to convert additional money to his use.

Partin has been a central figure in the Baton Rouge labor field.

Early this summer, owners shut down industrial construction along the Mississippi River, putting 15,000 men out of work and bringing on a special session of the Legislature.

Partin at the time was busy organizing sand and gravel pit operators and workers on city-parish construction jobs.

The labor leader, however, denied he was the cause of the labor strife.

SINCE THEN, the Legislature, at the request of Gov. John McKeithen created a special labor-management commission on inquiry to investigate racketeering in the labor-management field in this area.

The commission has scheduled its first hearing Oct. 23 and reportedly will subpoena a number of witnesses.