

NOVEMBER 22, 1967

FIVE

## Kohn Declines Crime Jury's Invitation

Aaron M. Kohn, the managing director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission, has declined an invitation to appear voluntarily before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury today to testify concerning organized crime.

Kohn, who has appeared before the jury numerous times, turned down the offer in a letter to First Assistant Dist. Atty. Charles R. Ward, saying that "I must decline your invitation to appear before the grand jury while litigation involving the crime commission and your office is still pending.

The MCC has appealed to the state Supreme Court a Criminal District Court decision that the organization must take all of its records before the grand jury.

**THE MCC CONTENTS** that to reveal its sources of information would destroy its effectiveness as an anticrime organization.

In the letter to Ward, Kohn said that the assistant DA has made "the crime commission the target of false accusations and official investigation. . . ."

Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison initiated a grand jury investigation of allegations of organized crime on the heels of Life Magazine accusations that systematic crime was flourishing in the area.

When Kohn echoed the magazine's charges, he and members of the commission were subpoenaed to testify before the jury and later to bring all records of the MCC before the jury.

Under subpoena for today in an unrelated matter were William Judice, 2610½ Esplanade, Jennings Courville, a vice-president of the National American Bank, and Columbus Banks, whose subpoena was issued in care of Total Community Ac-

tion, 124 Camp.

Judice and Courville were incorporators of a short-lived business school under investigation by the DA's office. Banks was a teacher at the school.

ASSISTANT DA Julian Murray said he wished to emphasize that the jury is "merely investigating the facts. There is no inference at this time that these people have done anything improper."

The school reportedly opened last June, enrolled a number of students, and closed several months later.

### DOUBLE INCREASE

NEW DELHI (AP)—New Delhi taxi drivers apparently feel they can have their cake and eat it too.

Police warned unsuspecting persons that the cabbies, recently granted a fare increase, have now had their meters adjusted. But they are getting still higher fares by showing passengers charts which had been intended for the interim period and which authorize drivers to charge specified higher amounts than shown on the meters.

In Vietnamese, Tet Nhat means "first day of the return of spring." The observance of the festival of Tet occurs in January or February.