

Marina Is Ordered To Testify in Orleans



—AP WIREPHOTO.
MRS. MARINA OSWALD PORTER
 with husband in Dallas court.

A Dallas judge ruled today that the widow of Lee Harvey Oswald must come to New Orleans next week to testify in District Attorney Jim Garrison's Kennedy assassination probe.

Texas District Court Judge John Mead told Mrs. Marina Oswald Porter at Dallas she is a "material and necessary witness" in the New Orleans investigation of the slaying of President John F. Kennedy.

Meanwhile, Thomas Edward Beckham, another out-of-town state witness sought by Garrison, appeared at Criminal District Court here today, but his grand jury appearance was delayed until Feb. 15.

MRS. PORTER IS NOW SCHEDULED to appear before the jury Feb. 8 and 9.

She appeared at the Dallas court with her husband, and would make no comment after the judge's decision. She had previously said she would return to New Orleans "if I have to."

The court action today was a hearing on Garrison's subpoena under the interstate agreement for return of witnesses.

Judge Mead presented Marina with a check from Garrison's office to cover her traveling expenses to New Orleans.

IN THE NEW ORLEANS COURT action, Beckham, 27, asked that his grand jury appearance be put off until he had a chance to confer with his local attorney, newly elected state Rep. Edward H. Booker.

Assistant DA James L. Alcock agreed to the request and Judge Matthew S. Braniff told Beckham to appear before the jury at 9 a.m. Feb. 15 "without further notice."

Beckham arrived in town shortly after midnight from Omaha, where a court had ordered him to return as a material witness at Garrison's request.

Jury--

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The witness will remain in town at his own expense because the delay was at his own request.

BECKHAM WAS accompanied to court this morning by three men with pistols. One was James Hauger, 32, who said he resigned from the Omaha police force two days ago to act as Beckham's bodyguard.

The other two were an unidentified brother of Beckham's and Herman Henning, who carried credentials as an auxiliary sheriff here. Two other brothers of Beckham's were also with him.

Beckham described himself as a minister and psychologist with a degree from Faith Bible College and Teho Theological Seminary in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. He said he plans to hold religious services while here.

IN HIS ROLE as a cowboy singer, Beckham said he has an album coming out entitled "Material Witness." He first described it as a "kinda party record on Garrison," but later said it was "just a bunch of songs I've done and doesn't have anything to do with Garrison."

Beckham said he needed the bodyguards because he has been threatened both in Omaha and here. He said his mother, who lives here, has had telephone calls from persons who said Beckham would be harmed if he appeared before the jury.

BEFORE BECKHAM'S brief court appearance, newsmen

were told by Jimmy Beckham, 17, one of the brothers, that they could interview Thomas Beckham if they would come to Booker's office at 2538 Tulane.

The press corps trooped to the office, only to be told by Booker that no interviews would be given.

Garrison's original subpoena for Beckham alleged that the singer was an associate of the late David William Ferrie, a key figure in the DA's probe of the slaying of President John F. Kennedy.

THE SUBPENA SAID Beckham and Ferrie were both ordained priests in the "Old Orthodox Catholic Church of North America."

The document also said Beckham was reported to be in Dallas in November of 1963, the month the President was killed.

In Beckham's absence, the jury heard legislative auditor James B. Lancaster, but it was not disclosed in what connection. Lancaster would say only his appearance "was not because of anything our audits have uncovered."

BESIDES THE Kennedy probe, the jury is investigating some land purchases by the Orleans Parish School Board, and other matters.

Other persons waiting to testify today were identified as Dr. Joseph Weinberg, 4900 Carondelet; Leon Rosenweig, 5637 Evelyn ct.; the Rev. Spencer Taylor, 202 N. Tonti; Girard Viliamarette, of City Hall.

No one disclosed in what case these persons were to testify.



—States-Item Photo.
THOMAS E. BECKHAM