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Garrison Staff Ready for Shaw Trial

By MARTIN WALDRON
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NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 20— District Attorney Jim Garrison's staff withdrew today a request for a delay in the trial of Clay L. Shaw, a retired New Orleans businessman who is accused of conspiring to assassinate President Kennedy.

Apparently stunned by criticism in New Orleans for seeking the delay, Mr. Garrison's assistants reversed themselves and said that they were ready for trial.

The selection of the jury is scheduled to begin at 10 A.M. tomorrow.

There had been criticism and speculation in New Orleans that the delay sought by Mr. Garrison's assistants indicated that there was no solid evidence against Mr. Shaw.

Assistant District Attorney James L. Alcock said "The state will trust the good judgment, common sense and spirit of justice which prevails among the people of Louisiana and will withdraw its motion and announces at this time that the state is ready to go to trial tomorrow."

Both The New Orleans Times-Picayune and The States-Item had called the request for a delay "an 11th hour maneuver." Mr. Alcock spoke slightly of the papers today.

Wanted X-Rays and Photos

Last Friday, Mr. Alcock said in a statement that the trial could not proceed unless the National Archives released X-rays and photographs made at the autopsy on President Kennedy's body.

Mr. Garrison was not in court today, and was not available for comment.

He has not indicated if he will take part in the trial of Mr. Shaw, the 56-year-old retired director of the New Orleans Trade Mart.

The selection of a jury is expected to take several days, but the trial judge, Edward A. Haggerty Jr., has suggested that he may hold court on Saturdays and Sundays in an effort to speed up the trial. Sunday court sessions have been held in New Orleans previously.

One of the witnesses at the trial may be Mrs. Marina Os-

wald Porter, the widow of Lee Harvey Oswald. The Warren Commission, appointed by President Johnson to investigate President Kennedy's murder, said that Oswald was the sole assassin.

Defense attorneys have said that they will call Mrs. Porter, now the wife of a Dallas tavern operator.

Mr. Garrison and a New Orleans grand jury have accused Mr. Shaw of conspiring with Oswald and with a former airline pilot, David W. Ferrie, to assassinate President Kennedy.

Mr. Ferrie is now dead, as is Oswald.

The District Attorney has said that the Central Intelligence Agency intended to cover up the conspiracy because some of its agents or former agents were involved in the assassination.



United Press International
Clay L. Shaw