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Shaw bjt 2nd NL two takes total 760 1st take 470

By DON MCKEE

Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS AP - Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison, breaking out new evidence in his conspiracy case, put up a surprise witness Thursday who linked Clay L. Shaw with Lee Harvey Oswald about three months before President Kennedy's assassination.

Shaw, 55, retired New Orleans businessman, is on trial on a charge of plotting to kill Kennedy in 1963. His attorney told the jury Shaw never knew Oswald—the man charged with Kennedy's murder and now dead.

The prosecution opened its case with a series of witnesses who testified about a previously undisclosed attempt by Oswald to land a job in a small Louisiana town in 1963.

But the first five witnesses produced no testimony about the conspiracy charged to Shaw, Oswald and David W. Ferrie, a former New Orleans airline pilot, also dead.

Garrison, in an opening statement, said he would prove Kennedy was shot from the front and died "as the result of a conspiracy." Over repeated defense objections, Garrison won the right, in effect, to put the Warren Commission Report on trial alongside Shaw. The commission found no credible evidence of conspiracy and named Oswald as the lone assassin.

Climaxing the first day of testimony, a Negro mailman from Baton Rouge, Corrie Collins, told of seeing Shaw, Oswald and Ferrie together in a car at Clinton, La., in late August or early September 1963. Kennedy was killed Nov. 22, 1963.

Collins said he was in Clinton, 120 miles from New Orleans, directing a voter registration drive for the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE). He said he saw a black Cadillac with three men in it near the courthouse.

The man in the back seat got out, Collins said.

Q: Do you know who it was?

A: Lee Harvey Oswald.

Collins identified Shaw as the driver and Ferrie as the other passenger. Under cross-examination, Collins said he had seen the gray-haired Shaw only one other time—in the courtroom at the trial's start Jan. 21.

As did other witnesses, Collins said he made initial identification from photographs in newspapers or on television. He was handed photos of Oswald and Ferrie in the courtroom and said they were the men in the car with Shaw.

Collins said he saw Clinton's town marshal, John Manchester, talk with the driver of the car. Manchester had testified he was checking all strange cars euring the civil rights drive and spoke to the driver of a black Cadillac.

Manchester described the driver as "a big man, gray-haired, rudy complexion, a real easy talking man." Shaw is 6-4, weighs 205 and has almost white hair.

W: Do you see the man in this courtroom?

A: Yes, sir.

Q: Would you point him out?

Manchester pointed to Shaw, who stared back without any show of emotion. Manchester testified that the car's driver identified himself as "a representative of the International Trade Mart, New Orleans." Shaw was for years managing director of the Mart.

Both Collins and Manchester said they were not questioned by the FBI, nor did they volunteer their information to anyone investigating the assassination. "No one asked me," Collins said.

Voter registrar Henry Earl Palmer testified that Oswald was one of two white men in a Negro voter registration line in Clinton during the same general period of 1963. None of the witnesses could pinpoint a date other than late August or early September.

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Shaw 2nd NL take 2: September 390

Palmer, who also told of seeing a black Cadillac with two men in it, said Oswald came into the registration office and produced a U.S. Navy identification card with the name "Lee H. Oswald" and a New Orleans address. Oswald was a Marine Corps veteran.

Oswald was turned down for lack of proof of residence, Palmer said, but the registrar suggested there was no need to register to get a job at the hospital. "He thanked me and left," Palmer said.

Another witness, former state legislator Reeves Morgan of Jackson, La. said he was visited at his home by Oswald in the fall of 1963. Oswald, after talking to a Jackson barber, was asking help in getting a job at East Louisiana State Hospital in Jackson. Morgan said he gave Oswald some advice on how to apply for a job, suggesting, "It wouldn't hurt if he was a registered voter."

Morgan said he told the FBI of his encounter with Oswald. He said he made the report about two days after the president was slain in Dallas.

The FBI, both here and in Washington, refused to comment on Morgan's testimony.

Barber Edwin Lee McGehee of Jackson led off the prosecution testimony by telling of giving Oswald a haircut and sending him to Morgan to see about a job.

"Is there any special reason why you waited five years before saying anything about this to anybody?" defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond asked.

"Nobody approached me," McGehee said.

Dymond in his brief opening statement told the jury: "We are not here to defend the findings of the Warren Commission."

Extending his palms outward, he said: "I implore you to be careful about that." Dymond said the defense not only would prove Shaw had no part in a conspiracy with Oswald and Ferrie, but also that "he never knew or ever laid eyes on these two."

Garrison, asking for a conviction that would carry 1-20 years imprisonment, said he would prove Shaw conspired to kill Kennedy.

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Shaw trial b.t nl 390

By DON MCKEE

Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS, La. AP - Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison told a courtroom Thursday he would prove that President John F. Kennedy was killed by a shot fired from in front and died "as the result of a conspiracy."

"The evidence will show," Garrison told a jury, "that the final shot which struck him came from in front of him, knocking him backwards in the car."

Garrison asked the jury to convict Clay L. Shaw of conspiring to assassinate Kennedy in 1963.

Over repeated defense objections, Garrison interrupted in midspeech won the right to, in effect, put the Warren Commission report on trial alongside the 55-year-old Shaw, prominent retired New Orleans businessman.

The commission, headed by Chief Justice Earl Warren, concluded that Kennedy's lone assassin was Lee Harvey Oswald. The commission said it found no credible evidence of a conspiracy.

Garrison told the 12 jurors that the prosecution would prove Shaw conspired with Oswald and David W. Ferrie, a former airline pilot, to assassinate Kennedy.



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Shaw NL Insert

NEW ORLEANS-Shaw Bjt NL A224 to update insert after 6th

graf: Kennedy.

Defense Atty. F. Irvin Dymond in his opening statement told the jury: "We are not here to defend the findings of the Warren Commission. That is not this case at all."

In a brief speech he appealed to the jurors not to let the Warren report "obscure the real issues." He said, "I implore you to be careful about that."

The defense will prove, Dymond said, that key prosecution witness Perry Raymond Russo "is a liar—a notoriety seeking liar." Dymond said he would prove Russo lied in numerous instances. Russo testified at a preliminary hearing he heard Shaw, Oswald and Ferrie plotting to kill Kennedy in 1963.

Garrison said: 7th graf

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Shaw Trial NL insert

NEW ORLEANS - Shaw Trial BJT NL to update insert after 9th

graf-inserted as A228: 1963.

The first prosecution witness was Edwin Lee McGehee, a barber from Jackson, La. He testified that in late August or early September 1963 he gave Oswald a haircut.

McGehee testified he sent Oswald to a state legislator "to see him about getting a job at East Louisiana State HQTSPITAL—that he would help him." About two weeks later, the barber said, he told a friend after having seen Oswald on television that he was the man who had his hair cut.

"Is there any special reason why you waited years before saying anything about this to anybody?" Dymond asked?

"Nobody approached me," McGehee said.

Garrison 10th graf

db33ipes Feb 6

Garrison said new witnesses will link Shaw, Oswald and Ferrie as a trio in a black Cadillac in a small Louisiana town about two months before the assassination. Shaw has denied knowing Ferrie or Oswald.

"We will later offer evidence concerning the assassination in Dealey Plaza in Dallas because it confirms," Garrison said, "the existence of a conspiracy and the significance and relevance of the planning which occurred in New Orleans."

"It is the position of the State of Louisiana that, regardless of the power which might bring about the execution of a president of the United States—whether it be initiated by a small group or the highest possible force—neither the planning of his murder nor any part of it will be regarded in Louisiana as being above the law."

"And st, with David Ferrie now dead and Lee Oswald dead, the state is bringing to trial Mr. Shaw for his role—as revealed by the evidence—in participating in the conspiracy to murder John F. Kennedy," he said in a prepared opening statement.

Shaw, 6-4 with wavy gray hair, sat at the glass-topped counsel table alternately starting at Garrison, 6-6, and looking down at the table.

Oswald and Ferrie were named as conspirators with Shaw in a grand jury indictment of March 1967. Oswald was shot to death by night club owner Jack Ruby in the basement of Dallas police headquarters two days after the Nov. 22, 1963 assassination. Ferrie died in his apartment soon after Garrison's probe began; the coroner ruled death by brain hemorrhage, but Garrison said it was suicide. Ruby also is dead, victim of cancer while in jail

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Shaw trial NL add

NEW ORLEANS Shaw trial NL A224 add: jail 410

Garrison said the state would forge these links in an assassination conspiracy:

-In June 1963 at a party in New Orleans, Shaw and Ferrie discussed killing Kennedy, and later that month Shaw was seen talking to Oswald on the lakefront, that Shaw gave Oswald "what appeared to be a roll of money."

-In late August or Early September, Shaw, Ferrie and Oswald drove into Clinton, La., in a black Cadillac and parked near the voter registrar's office; that witnesses will identify all three as occupants of the car on a trip purportedly made for Oswald to register since he had applied for a job in a nearby hospital earlier.

-In September 1963 the three discussed and refined plans to assassinate Kennedy. Crossfire by two or three gunmen was discussed as well as escape routes, and alibis.

-Oswald moved to Dallas, got a job at the Texas Book Depository, rented a room under a fictitious name and on the day of the murder took a rifle into the depository.

Garrison said "the state will establish" that both Kennedy and former Gov. John B. Connally of Texas, riding in the presidential limousine, "were wounded as a result of gunshots fired by different guns at different locations."

Garrison said the state would put up eyewitnesses, photographs and motion pictures, including the film shot by spectator Abraham ZCAPRUDER AT THE TIME OF THE ASSASSINATION. The state intends to run the film for the jury.

"Thus," Garrison said, "you will be able to see in color motion picture—the President as he is being struck by the various bullets and you will be able to see him fall backwards as the fatal shot strikes him from the front—not the back but the front."

Garrison revealed also that he plans to show Oswald run across the grass in front of the book depository a few minutes after the shooting and "climbed into a station wagon with another man at the wheel and that this station wagon pulled away and disappeared into the traffic on Elm Street."

Garrison said evidence would show that Shaw was the mysterious "Clay Bertrand" who purportedly telephoned a lawyer requesting him to defend Oswald after Oswald's arrest. The district attorney said Shaw in 1966 had a change of address, directing his mail to a friend's address—and at least five letters addressed to "Clem Bertrand" were delivered to the new address.

"Clem Bertrand," Garrison said, was the name used by Shaw at the conspiratorial meeting of September 1963. Garrison said he had a witness who would testify Shaw signed the name "Clay Bertrand" to a guest register at a party in December 1966.

Before Garrison's statement, the defense was denied a motion for a court order granting immunity to Sandra Moffett McMaines, a witness hiding in Iowa. She refused to return for fear of Garrison, her attorney said.

Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr. denied the motion after the state pledged there was no intention of arresting the witness if she came to New Orleans.

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