



GORDON NOVEL

## Novel Charged In Transport of Bugging Device

Gordon Novel, sought as a witness by Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison in his Kennedy assassination probe, is scheduled for arraignment Friday on charges of interstate transportation of unlawful eavesdropping devices in Reno, Nev.

Federal Marshal Don Weaver last Thursday arrested Novel on U.S. grand jury indictment. Novel was freed the next day on \$10,000 bond.

The indictment said Novel had in his possession a briefcase with a radio receiver, recorder and microphone at an Indian pyramid tribal council meeting at Nixon, north of here. The indictment said he transported the device to Nevada from Ohio sometime before last July 29.

Novel, a former New Orleans nightclub operator now living in Reno, has said he knows nothing about the Kennedy assassination and once filed a \$50 million suit against Garrison and his backers, saying Garrison's statements ruined his reputation.

Novel dropped that suit in 1967 rather than return to New Orleans to testify.

Novel also filed a \$1 million damage suit in February, 1969, against Ohio Bell Telephone Co., for allegedly tapping his telephone in Columbus, Ohio.