

'Plot' Jury Charges Witness With Perjury

By CARL J. PELLECK

New York Post Correspondent

New Orleans, March 17—The latest man arrested in the Kennedy assassination investigation here was the Warren Commission witness who first mentioned Clay Bertrand—the man on whom District Attorney Jim Garrison has focused his case.

Dean Adams Andrews Jr., a pudgy assistant DA from neighboring Jefferson Parish, was arrested after the grand jury indicted him for perjury just hours after he appeared before it. His is the second arrest in the investigation here into a so-called plot which allegedly culminated in the Dallas assassination of Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963.

The prosecution yesterday refused to place its star witness, Perry Raymond Russo, 25, back on the stand for re-direct examination. This ended his testimony before the three-judge preliminary hearing into murder-conspiracy charges against Clay L. Shaw, a wealthy retired business man.

But a number of subpoenas are still outstanding and must be returned before the hearing is ended. Some are merely for the record and others are for additional witnesses. Two other witnesses who were originally slated to testify also must be heard.

The 6-foot-2 Shaw, according to Garrison's charges, is really Clay Bertrand.

A well-known social figure here, Shaw has denied this and also denied ever having known Lee Harvey Oswald or David W. errie, a pilot who died here Feb. 22, the two men who allegedly participated with Shaw in the supposed plot to kill Kennedy.

Russo's testimony that Oswald met with "co-plotters" in New Orleans in the "beginning of October," 1963, also brought a flat contradiction yesterday from Joseph A. Ball, former Warren Commission counsel.

"There's no question Oswald left New Orleans on Sept. 25 and never went back," Ball said in Los Angeles. "We can trace him day by day from then right

up to the time of the assassination."

The charge against Andrews here yesterday apparently is based in part on his testimony before the Warren Commission on July 21, 1964.

Mentioned Bertrand.

It was in this testimony that he first mentioned the name Clay Bertrand.

He said he was in a hospital here recuperating from pneumonia when he received a call from "a voice I recognized as Clay Bertrand."

Andrews testified that Bertrand "asked me if I would go to Dallas and Houston—I think —Dallas, I guess, wherever it was" to defend Oswald on the charge of killing Kennedy.

When the commission asked him further to identify Bertrand, he replied:

"I had seen Clay Bertrand once some time ago, probably a couple of years. He's the one who calls in behalf of gay kids normally, either to obtain bond or parole for them. I would assume he was the one that originally sent Oswald and the gay kids, these Mexicanos, to the office because I had never seen those people before at all. They were just walk-ins."

Andrews also testified that Oswald had visited his office from three to five times during the summer of 1963, mainly



DEAN ANDREWS JR.

He named Bertrand.

for the purpose of getting his Marine Corps discharge changed.

He testified that Oswald had come to his office accompanied by "gay kids," a group he described as young men who preferred to wear women's clothes and walked effeminately.

He said he hadn't seen Bertrand for some two years before he received the call in the hospital.

Asked if he had a picture in his mind of Bertrand, Andrews answered:

"Oh, I ran up on that rat about six weeks ago and he spooked, ran in the street. I would have beat him with a chain if I had caught him."

He described Bertrand as 5-8, weighing about 170 pounds with sandy hair, blue eyes and a ruddy complexion.

But the Warren Commission noted that an FBI report of an earlier interview with Andrews described Bertrand as being 6-foot-2.

The Warren Commission noted that the FBI, after continued discussions with Andrews, "came to the conclusion that Clay

Bertrand was a figment of your imagination."

"That's what the Feebees [FBI] put on," Andrews replied. "I know that the two Feebees are going to put these people on the street looking and I can't find the guy . . . I couldn't give it to them. I haven't been playing cops and robbers with them. You can tell when the steam is on. They are on you like a plague. They never leave. They are like cancer. Eternal.

On Monday, Andrews told a New York Post reporter essentially the same story he told the Warren Commission. He denied that Bertrand was Clay Shaw, as Garrison has charged.

Garrison has asked Andrews' attorney to have him submit either to hypnosis, a lie detector test or truth serum for the purpose of finding out "the true facts."

Andrews so far has refused to submit to any of these tests.