



APPROVED FOR RELEASE 1994
CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM

One Of Doctors Who Performed Autopsy On J.F. Kennedy Says Bullets Came From Rear

By PRESTON MCGRAW

NEW ORLEANS, (UPI).— One of the three doctors who performed the autopsy on President John F. Kennedy testified Monday the bullets which killed him were fired from the rear.

Army Col. Pierre A. Finck, testifying for the defense in the Clay L. Shaw assassination conspiracy trial, said the shots which caused the neck wound found in the President's body, and the huge, fatal, head wound hit from behind.

Finck said he did not have photographs and X-rays available from the autopsy when he later testified before the Warren Commission although they would have been "helpful." He said he understood this was at the request of Robert F. Kennedy, then attorney general.

Shaw, charged with conspiring to assassinate the President but not with the assassination itself, was all but forgotten again Monday. The defense turned to discrediting Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's theory that the fatal shot in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963, came from the front.

Garrison earlier presented as part of the prosecution case his theory that the assassination was the result of a conspiracy, that more than one person fired at Kennedy in Dealey Plaza, and that Lee Harvey Oswald, behind and above the

presidential car in the School Book Depository Building, did not fire the fatal shot.

None of this technically had anything to do with the actual charge against Shaw, who is accused of plotting with Oswald and David W. Ferrie in the summer and fall of 1963.

Defense attorneys said they hoped to wind up their case by Wednesday so the jury could begin deliberation late this week.



Defense Witness

Army Col. Pierre A. Finck, a member of the three-man team which performed the autopsy on President John F. Kennedy, took the stand as a defense witness in the Clay Shaw Conspiracy case in New Orleans.

Finck said the neck wound "was definitely" inflicted by a shot from the rear and the head wound shot "entered in the back of the head and exited at the right side of the top of the head."

Finck is head of the Defense Department's wound pathology branch.

Finck, a slight and balding man, spoke with a German accent and spelled out words that he wanted remembered.

*File (Oswald)
P-8593*

The News

Tuesday, 25 February 1969

✓ Artist's Sketch Links JFK-King Murders

A private investigating commission in Washington — headed by Bernard Fensterwald — said it had discovered a possible link between President Kennedy's assassination and Dr. Martin Luther King's murder thanks to a sketch made by Sergio Jaubert, an artist with the Mexican police.

Fensterwald, former assistant to the subcommittee against monopolies in the United States, added that the link had been found while comparing a picture taken in Dallas of a suspect arrested after Kennedy had been shot, and the Mexican artist's sketch. A "great resemblance" was noted.

The Mexican artist drew the sketch through data supplied by the FBI when it was believed James Earl Ray — King's convicted assassin — had fled to Mexico after the Memphis murder.

When Ray was sentenced to 99 years his case was not ordered closed because investigators believe there was a conspiracy to kill Dr. King.

A member of the private commission said he found the photo of the suspect arrested in Dallas in 1963 in the files of the "Dallas Herald."

The commission is investigating a "mysterious" man, believed to be a Canadian citizen, who, according to reports, was identified by several persons as Ray's accomplice.

THE NEWS

MARCH 19, 1969

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~~Garrison Charges Shaw With Perjury~~

NEW ORLEANS. (UPI).—Clay L. Shaw, freed from a "nightmare" on charges of conspiring to murder President John F. Kennedy, was charged with two counts of perjury Monday by District Attorney Jim Garrison, the man who dragged Shaw into court on the earlier charges.

Shaw was acquitted shortly after midnight Saturday on the conspiracy charges, two years to the day after he was arrested and charged with plotting with Lee Harvey Oswald and David W. Ferrie to kill Kennedy.

The new charges state Shaw lied when he denied from the witness stand knowing or being acquainted with Oswald and Ferrie.

The charges were filed about the same time Monday the Louisiana Bar Association said it was powerless to launch an investigation or take disciplinary action against Garrison.

Although Shaw, looking at pictures of both Ferrie and Oswald, denied that he knew either man, several witnesses during the trial testified that they saw Shaw with either Oswald or Ferrie during 1963.

Garrison Said Using Unjust Legal Powers

NEW ORLEANS. (UPI).—Clay L. Shaw lived for two years with a "horrifying nightmare," but now that he has been acquitted on charges he conspired to kill President John F. Kennedy, a bad dream of similar proportions has begun for Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison.

Garrison was accused Sunday both in New Orleans legal offices and by the city's press of using his powers unjustly.

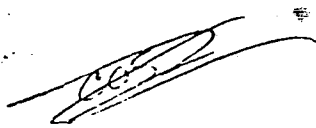
Shaw himself stayed in seclusion Sunday, but he appeared to have recovered from the long ordeal on Saturday when he held a news conference.

He was all smiles during the conference except when he speculated on what his chances for acquittal might have been had he not been financially able to afford a good legal defense.

"The thought has rarely been absent from my mind during the two years what would have happened if I had been friendless, absolutely poor—as I will be

soon, but am not at this time—and not in a position to defend myself," Shaw said. "And you can't help thinking that maybe this has happened more often than any of us realize."

THE NEWS
MONDAY, 3 MAR 69



Freed from Nightmare

Shaw Feels Great After Acquittal



Good News

Clay Shaw is all smiles as he holds up a New Orleans newspaper during a press conference Saturday afternoon after being acquitted on a charge of conspiring to kill President Kennedy. The jury found Shaw not guilty after deliberating for 54 minutes. (AP)

By H. D. QUIGG
NEW ORLEANS (UPI). — Clay I. Shaw, freed from a two-year nightmare of having to defend himself against charges of plotting the death of President John F. Kennedy, said Saturday he felt "great! simply great!"

Shaw, 55-year-old former New Orleans businessman, had just been declared not guilty by the unanimous vote of an all-male jury which took only 54 minutes deliberation to decide it did not believe the charges of Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison.

The trial lasted 34 days. The 6-foot-4, white-haired defendant, his face stretched into a smile, strode over to the jury box and shook each juror's hand amid the applause and cheers of spectators who had spent more than 12 hours in the courtroom the final day to hear

the 1:02 a.m. CST verdict. Shaw left through a back door and departed in a car, protected from further questioning by a phalanx of deputies.

"We took one ballot, and it was unanimous," said Larry D. Morgan, 24, who was the seventh man chosen for the jury. "There was just not enough conclusive evidence to make me believe Shaw was involved."

Morgan said the jurors gave their attention to evidence directly concerning Shaw, rather than the protracted attack on the Warren Commission Report presented by Garrison and his aides.

Shaw's acquittal was followed Saturday by demands for Garrison's removal. The New Orleans States-Item, a one-time supporter of the district attorney, published a front page editorial calling for Garrison's resignation.

"He has shown himself unfit to hold the office of district attorney or any other office," the newspaper said. "Garrison has abused the vast powers of his office. He has perverted the law rather than prosecuted it..."

"Garrison's conspiracy case was built upon the quicksands of unreliability and in the end it did not stand up."

The newspaper said Garrison himself "should now be brought to the bar to answer for his conduct."

But Shaw's acquittal did not quiet critics who do not believe Oswald acted alone, as the Warren Commission asserts, in the 1963 killing of the President in Dallas' Dealey Plaza.

Sen. Russell Long, D-La., said to be the man who first encouraged Garrison to investigate the assassination, said the Shaw acquittal did not prove the Warren Commission correct.

'Fraud' Says Kohn, Urges Garrison's Office Probe

NEW ORLEANS (UPI). — Aaron Kohn, managing director of the Metropolitan Crime Commission, Saturday labeled Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's assassination probe "a fraud" and again called for a state investigation of Garrison's office.

Garrison had lost his "case of the century" earlier in the day when a 12-man jury, after one unanimous ballot, found Clay I. Shaw innocent on charges of conspiring to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

"I would hate to believe that the case ended with the jury's decision because there's still another unresolved question and that is the truth or the falsity of the charges made against the district attorney," Kohn said.

"There were allegations of attempted bribery and of intimidation on the part of the district attorney and his staff in efforts to secure statements from witnesses in the JFK probe," he said.

Garrison's probe was started to cover up his lack of prosecution of organized crime, said Kohn.

"It was a process of fraud in order to divert tension away from the very embarrassing situation he found himself in over organized crime," said Kohn. "At the time he started this thing he was under tremendous pressure and criticism."

Kohn, who had called for a similar investigation by the attorney general in 1967, said he doubted that the investigation would ever be made.

THE NEWS
SUNDAY - 2 MAR 1969

1
Joke

CARDEL

Clay Shaw Acquitted

NEW ORLEANS, (AP).
A 12-man jury here has
acquitted Clay Shaw of
charges of conspiring to
assassinate President
Kennedy. The jury re-
turned its verdict after
deliberating about 50
minutes.

Feltes P-8593

The News
Saturday, 1 March 1969

D.A. Calls Shaw A 'Liar,' Asks Jury To Return 'Just Verdict' Of Guilty

By PRESTON MCGRAW.
NEW ORLEANS, (UPI).—
Asst. Dist. Atty. James Alcock, calling Clay L. Shaw a "liar" in his final arguments, urged a 13-member all-male jury Friday to return a "just verdict" of guilty on charges the re-fused New Orleans business-man plotted to kill President John F. Kennedy.

Both the state and defense presented final argu-

ments Friday afternoon, and the case was expected to go to the jury later in the day after more than a month of testimony and argument.

Alcock, in an hour and 30 minute summation, did not even mention the hours of testimony the state presented to dispute the Warren Commission's conclusion that Lee Harvey Oswald acted alone to shoot

Kennedy from the Texas School Book Depository Building in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963.

But, as if anticipating the later defense summation, Alcock said he had "no apology" for the prosecution witnesses, which included Vernon Bundy, a New Orleans narcotics addict, and a New York accountant who before his involvement in the Shaw case,

once accused the New York police of hypnotizing him night and day.

THE NEWS

SATURDAY, 1 MAR 69

P-8543

Testifies on Own Behalf

Shaw Denies Everything

NEW ORLEANS, (UPI). -- Looking straight at the jury and almost spitting out the words, Clay L. Shaw denied Thursday that he ever conspired to assassinate President John F. Kennedy or even knew the two men he is accused of conspiring with.

The defense then rested its case, and a 32-day trial which put the Warren Report and the credibility of the federal government under prosecution along with Shaw appeared nearing an end.

Only state rebuttal witnesses, final arguments and the charge to the all-male jury by Dist. Judge Edward A. Huggetty remained. The case was expected to be in the jury's hands by late today.

The white-haired Shaw, in a blue suit, was on the stand 33 minutes for direct examination by chief defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond and an hour for cross-examination by Asst. Dist. Atty. James Alecock.

"Have you ever talked, even lightly, about killing the President of the United States?" Dymond asked.

"No, certainly not," Shaw said.

"Did you ever engage in a plot to assassinate John F. Kennedy, President of the United States?"

"No."

"Did you ever conspire with David Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald to murder John F. Kennedy, President of the United States?"

Shaw said.

"No."

"Did you ever at any time want the President to die?"

"Certainly not."

He also said he never knew Ferrie or star state witness Perry Raymond Russo and the closest he ever came to seeing Oswald was when someone told him "some nut" was passing out Fair Play for Cuba pamphlets in front of the New Orleans International Trade Mart when Shaw was its managing director.



Focus on Shaw

Clay Shaw, charged with conspiring to kill President John F. Kennedy, walks past cameramen on his way to court Thursday where he took the stand in his own defense. (AP wire-photo.)

The News

28 Feb 69

D.A. Threatened Russo Not to Change His Story, Defense Witnesses Testify

By PRESTON MCGRAW .

NEW ORLEANS (UPI).—

Two defense witnesses testified Wednesday that only fear of reprisals by Dist. A'ty. Jim Garrison kept Garrison's star witness from going back on his story that he saw Clay L. Shaw plotting to kill President John F. Kennedy.

One of them quoted Perry R. Russo, Garrison's most damaging witness so far against Shaw, as saying he knew Shaw was not involved in a conspiracy but if he said so, "Garrison will clobber me."

Attorney F. Irvin Dymond said the defense definitely would rest its case Thursday after putting Shaw on the stand.

James Phelan, a staff member of the now defunct Saturday Evening Post, said Russo told him he was afraid to meet face-to-face with Shaw because he would know Shaw was not the man he had seen with David W. Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald at an alleged conspiracy session.

Another defense witness, New Orleans Police Lt. Edward M. O'Donnell said Russo told him Shaw was not there.

"He told me Clay Shaw was not at Dave Ferrie's apartment," O'Donnell said. He said Russo later retracted that story and said he was afraid Garrison would charge him with perjury.

Phelan also said Russo

was afraid of possible reprisals by Jim Garrison.

O'Donnell said he made a four-copy report of his conversation with Russo and sent Garrison a copy.

O'Donnell admitted saying in the report that he

falsely told Russo he made a tape recording of the first conversation in an effort to make Russo go back to his former statement that he did not see Shaw at the meeting.

The News

27 Feb 69

Witness Is Mum To Central Question During Shaw Trial

By PRESTON MCGRAW
NEW ORLEANS. (UPI).—
A pudgy lawyer with green
sunglasses, an uncollected
fee from Lee Harvey Os-
wald, and a perjury convic-
tion on appeal gave four
answers, but not the criti-
cal one Tuesday to the cen-
tral question of the Clay L.
Shaw trial: Who was "Clay
Bertrand?"
Dean A. Andrews, the
eighth defense witness in

Shaw's trial on charges of
conspiring to assassinate
President John F. Kennedy,
testified:

—Shaw was not the man
who called Andrews the day
after the Nov. 22, 1963,
Kennedy assassination and
suggested he defend Lee
Harvey Oswald.

—When he reported the
incident, he gave the FBI
the name "Bertrand" in-
stead of the caller's real

name because it would
"bring a lot of heat and
trouble to somebody who
didn't deserve it."

—The name was actually
an alias used by a third
person he met at a "tag's
wedding" in the French
quarter of New Orleans in
the 1950's.

—He would not identify
"Bertrand" because it might
further incriminate him in
the developments which
have caused him to be con-
victed of perjury.

The News
26 Feb 69

CP

One Of Doctors Who Performed Autopsy On J.F. Kennedy Says Bullets Came From Rear

By PRESTON MCGRAW

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presidential car in the School Book Depository Building, did not fire the fatal shot.

None of this technically had anything to do with the actual charge against Shaw, who is accused of plotting with Oswald and David W. Ferrie in the summer and fall of 1963.

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Finck is head of the Defense Department's wound pathology branch.

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Defense Witness

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The News
25 Feb 69

FBI Arms Expert Defends Warren Report, Says JFK Killed By 3 Shots

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)—President John F. Kennedy was killed by rifle shots fired from a sixth-floor window behind him, and

anyone who heard more than three shots was the victim of "sonic booms" caused by the whiz of bullets, an FBI firearms ex-

pert told the Clay L. Shaw trial Saturday.

The testimony by Robert A. Frazier contradicted Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's claim that Kennedy was killed by a "triangulation of fire"—including bullets fired from the front.

Defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond asked Frazier the key question Saturday:

"From all the evidence you have examined did you find any evidence that the shots came from any place other than the sixth-floor window of the depository?"

"No, sir," Frazier replied.

Frazier, chief of the firearms identification unit of the FBI laboratory in Washington, said it was "a relatively easy shot" with the 6.5 mm Italian military rifle that was found in the depository to the point 265 feet away to the slow moving presidential limousine Nov. 22, 1963.

COB

The News
23 Feb 69

Clay Shaw

Judge Rejects Warren Report Testimony As Trial Evidence

(Compiled From
Cable Dispatches)
NEW ORLEANS— Judge
Edward A. Haggerty refused
a motion to place all War-
ren Commission testimony
concerning the assassination
of President John F. Ken-
nedy into evidence at the
Clay Shaw conspiracy trial
Friday.

Haggerty's ruling came
during cross-examination of
Marina Oswald Porter, wid-
ow of Lee Harvey Oswald,
the man named by the War-
ren Commission as Ken-
nedy's lone assassin. Shaw
is charged with conspiring
to kill Kennedy.

Chief defense counsel F.
Lloyd Dymond asked to have
the Warren Commission tes-
timony placed into evidence
when Asst. Dist. Atty. James
I. Alcock quoted her testi-
mony to the commission
and asked if she had lied
once about not knowing of
an Oswald trip to Mexico.

"I didn't lie to the War-
ren Commission the first
time, the second time or the
third time," she said of her
three appearances before
the commission.

The commission, which
found no credible evidence
of a conspiracy, has been
on trial, in effect, alongside
Shaw. In its official inves-
tigation, the commission,
headed by Chief Justice
Earl Warren, took testimony
from 552 witnesses.

Dymond's first witness
was Mrs. Porter, 27, who
was born in Russia and mar-
ried Oswald there during
his stay in that country
from October 1959 to June
1962. She has remarried

since Oswald's murder two
days after the Kennedy as-
sassination on Nov. 22,
1963, and now lives in
Richardson, Tex.

During her examination,
she described Oswald as a
friendless man who seldom
gave her any money. She

Continued on Page 8

Continued from Page 1
said the most he ever gave
her at one time was a dol-
lar.

Mrs. Porter contradicted
the testimony of star pros-
ecution witness Perry Ray-
mond Russo, who described
Oswald as a bearded beat-
nik type who once shared
an apartment with a New
Orleans homosexual, David
Ferrie.

Russo, a book salesman,
testified he knew Oswald
as a "Leon Oswald" who
plotted in September, 1963
with Shaw and Ferrie, a
former airline pilot now
dead, to assassinate Ken-
nedy.

Oswald and his wife lived
in New Orleans until a few
weeks before the assassina-
tion, when they left and
went to Dallas. Mrs. Os-
wald moved in with Mrs.
Ruth Paine, a friend, in
the suburban city of Irving.

Another defense witness,
Lloyd J. Cobb, an attorney
and president of the New
Orleans International Trade
Mart, said in the 90 days

preceding Oct. 8, 1963, he
and Shaw worked constant-
ly together, seven days a
week and at all hours.
Shaw was managing direc-
tor of the trade mart and
Cobb said they were trying
to get up enough leases to
support a 12 million dol-
lars bond issue to build a
new building.

The period would have
been the one during which
Russo said he witnessed the
conspiracy at a party at
Ferrie's French Quarter
apartment.

Goldie Naomi Moose,
Shaw's secretary, testified
that Shaw's trip to the west
coast which put him in San
Francisco on the day of the
assassination was taken at
the request of the Colum-
bia Basin Import Club in
Portland, which had invited
him to speak.

The prosecution contends
the west coast trip was to
establish an alibi.

The prosecution hammer-
ed away on cross-examina-
tion of Mrs. Porter about
Oswald's secretiveness about
his activities.

The News

22 Feb 69

Shaw Case: The State Rests

By PRESTON MCGRAW
NEW ORLEANS. (UPI).
—On the 26th day in court,
the prosecution rested its
assassination conspiracy
case against Clay L. Shaw

Thursday, and Criminal
Dist. Judge Edward A. Hag-
gerty, Jr. said he would
rule Friday on a defense
plea that the white-haired
Shaw be freed forthwith.

The defense claimed Dist.
Atty. Jim Garrison failed in
12 days of testimony by 43
witnesses to prove Shaw
plotted to kill President
John F. Kennedy.

Haggerty sent the jury
off to eat, promised to get
the 12 men and two male
alternates "a good movie"
Thursday night and said
he would do his homework
on the defense motion that
Shaw be ruled innocent.

"We submit to the
court," said chief defense
attorney F. Irvin Dymond,
"that no agreement or con-
spiracy to commit a speci-
fic crime has been proven."

The 6-foot-6 Garrison
charged the 6-foot-4 Shaw
conspired with Lee Harvey
Oswald and David W. Fer-
rie to assassinate Kennedy
with a "triangulation" of
fire.

Dymond said if his mo-
tion for a directed verdict
of acquittal is denied, his
defense case on behalf of
the 55-year-old Shaw will
take four days.

Dymond's main conten-
tion was that Garrison's
star witness in his efforts to
prove a conspiracy destroy-
ed the case by saying he
knew of no plot.

The witness, Perry Ray-
mond Russo, 27, a some-
times taxi driver, insurance
and book salesman, first
testified he heard Shaw
and Oswald plot at Ferrie's
apartment in September,
1963, to kill Kennedy.

But when Dymond ques-
tioned him, Russo said the
meeting could have been a
"bull session" and refused
to call Shaw, Oswald or Fer-
rie "conspirators."

Dymond recalled he had
asked Russo in court: "You
sat in and listened in on
a conspiracy meeting with
a man you later saw repre-
sented in the newspapers
and on television and you
didn't report it?"

"No," replied Russo. "I
never said anything about a
conspiracy. I didn't sit in
on any conspiracy."

The News

21 Feb 69

Shaw Gives Testimony, Denies Using Alias

NEW ORLEANS. (UPI).—Clay L. Shaw testified 20 minutes Wednesday at his conspiracy trial and afterwards Dist. Judge Edward A. Haggerty Jr., saying he did not believe the testimony of a state witness, refused to let the prosecution enter a fingerprint card listing Shaw as "Clay Bertrand."

"Clay Bertrand" is an alias Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison said Shaw used while plotting to assassinate President John F. Kennedy. The fingerprint card listing Shaw's alias as "Clay Bertrand" was made up March 1, 1967 shortly after Shaw's arrest. The jury was out of the courtroom during the afternoon and did not hear Shaw's testimony or Haggerty's order.

The ruling came after Garrison abruptly cancelled testimony by former Texas Gov. John Connally. A prosecutor said Connally was now considered a "hostile witness."

Connally, who was riding in the car with Kennedy and was badly wounded, had been subpoenaed by Garrison to testify Monday.

Garrison switched signals, however, and when the trial resumed Wednesday after a one-day recess for Mardi Gras, Asst. Dist. Atty. Alvin Oser said the state did not want Connally as a witness.

"I understand Gov. Connally has been giving interviews to television stations, changing testimony he gave the Warren Commission," Oser said. "We must now regard him as a hostile witness."

In his testimony Shaw flatly denied he told policeman Aloysius J. Habighorst, who fingerprinted him, that "Clay Bertrand" was his alias.

"Did you ever tell anybody in the central lockup that you had an alias?" Chief defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond asked Shaw.

"I did not," Shaw said in a flat clipped voice.

Under cross examination by Alcock, Shaw said the fingerprint card was "blank" when he signed it. Furthermore, Shaw said, it was the only card he signed and it did not include fingerprints or other information.

Alcock had brought out that Habighorst had said Shaw read the card before he signed it. Shaw said while his fingerprints were being made, that the lawyer with him at the time (Edward Wegmann) was not allowed to enter the bureau of identification with him.

Habighorst had said Wegmann was standing in the door "part of the time." But Police Capt. Louis J. Carole testified he ordered Wegmann out.

The News

20 Feb 69

209

Shaw Jury Spend Day Watching Mardi Gras During Trial Recess

By PRESTON MCGRAW
NEW ORLEANS, (UPD).—
Jurors in the Clay L. Shaw
conspiracy trial watched

Mardi Gras parades from
the home of a friend of
Judge Edward A. Haggerty
and ate box lunches during

the one-day recess in the
trial, called because of the
carnival.

The trial, which began
five weeks ago, will resume
at 10 a.m. EST Wednesday.
Dr. John Nichols, associate
professor of pathology at
the University of Kansas
Medical School, Kansas
City, Kan., was to be in the
witness chair.

Nichols was on the stand
Monday when two jurors had
to leave the courtroom, one
because he felt the onset
of high blood pressure and
the other because of an
upset stomach.

Haggerty announced later
that both recovered, but he
recessed court anyway be-
fore the state had finished
examining Nichols.

Nichols, using the Abra-
ham Zapruder film of Pres-
ident John F. Kennedy's as-
sassination as basis for his
opinion, said he believed
separate shots wounded
Kennedy and former Texas
Gov. John Connally and the
shot that killed Kennedy
was fired from the front.

His testimony contradicted
the report of the War-
ren Commission on two
points. The commission said
one shot passed through the
lower part of Kennedy's
neck from behind, then
pierced the body of Connal-
ly, who was sitting in front
of the President.

The commission also
found the fatal second shot
that hit Kennedy in the
head was fired by Lee Har-
vey Oswald from a sixth
floor window of the Texas
School Book Depository, be-
hind and to the right of the
President.

The commission reported
that there was no credible
evidence of a conspiracy.
Shaw, 55, a white-haired re-
tired businessman, is being
tried on a charge of con-
spiring with "Leon" Oswald
and the late David W. Fer-
rie, a flier, to assassinate
Kennedy.

The trial has become a
trial of the Warren Report,
with chief defense lawyer
F. Irvin Dymond thrust into
the role of defending the
report. Shaw's name has
been mentioned only three
times in the last three days
and then by the judge, tell-
ing him he remained free
in his original 10,000 dol-
lar bond.

The state had hoped to
rest its case Wednesday.

Judge Charles W. Halleck
of the District of Columbia
Court of General Sessions
Monday ordered the Nation-
al Archives to release to
Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison for
evidence X-rays and pho-
tographs of the Kennedy
autopsy and of Connally's
wounds, the rifle Oswald
used, a spent bullet and
fragments of a bullet.

The government imme-
diately appealed the ruling,
which indefinitely delayed
delivery of the items, and
the state's conclusion of the
prosecution.

The News
19 Feb 69

President Kennedy Was Shot From Front Says Pathologist

By PRESTON MCGRAW

NEW ORLEANS, (UPI)—A pathologist called upon by the prosecution in the Clay L. Shaw assassination conspiracy trial testified Monday that the shot which killed President John F. Kennedy in 1963 was fired from the front.

Dr. John N. Nichols of Kansas City, Mo., contradicted the Warren Commission Report after seeing the Abraham Zapruder film. It was the 11th showing of the film in four days at the trial.

The defense objected bitterly to Nichols' answer to nearly every question the state asked.

After looking at the Zapruder film and slides, Nichols, holding prints of the slides in his lap, said that in pictures were Kennedy is reacting to pain, former Texas Gov. John Connally does not appear to be. This also was a contradiction of the Warren Commission, which said Kennedy and Connally were both hit by the first bullet—the bullet passing through Kennedy's back into Connally's back.

Asst. Dist. Atty. Alvin V. Oser asked Nichols from what direction did he think the fatal shot was fired at the President. Dr. Nichols had said the President appeared to be falling backward.

"I would say this is compatible with a gunshot from the front," Dr. Nichols said.

Earlier in the day the prosecution was forced to get federal permission from Washington to ask a former FBI agent Regis L. Kennedy, two questions about "Clay Bertrand," a mystery name Shaw is accused of suing in an alleged plot to kill Kennedy.

Permission was granted, the questions were asked and the witness answered "yes" one time and "no" another.

The FBI agent said the prosecution questions were outside the area in which the U.S. Attorney General's office had instructed him to answer. Court was adjourned for one hour and 40 minutes while a Garrison assistant telephoned Atty. Gen. John P. Mitchell in Washington for permission to let the agent answer.

When the recess was over, Asst. Dist. James L. Alcock questioned Kennedy.

"Prior to the interview of Mr. Dean Andrews, the attorney, were you engaged in an investigation of the assassination of Kennedy?" asked Alcock.

"Yes," replied the former FBI agent.

"Were you seeking Clay Bertrand in the overall investigation of the assassination?" asked Alcock.

"No," replied the former

FBI agent.

F. Irvin Dymond, Shaw's attorney, asked Kennedy one question in cross examination: "Did you ever locate Clay Bertrand?"

"No," Kennedy said.

Although it has not been mentioned during the trial, Andrews has been quoted by the Warren Commission as saying a "Clay Bertrand" telephoned and suggested he go to Dallas to represent Oswald in the assassination case.

The prosecution was expected to rest its case Wednesday. Court will not be held Tuesday because it will be Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

Former Texas Gov. John B. Connally and his wife Nellie had been subpoenaed to testify Monday but were asked not to come to New Orleans from Houston. Connally said there was some doubt if they would testify at all.

Connally, wounded seriously by the same man who assassinated Kennedy, has disagreed with the Warren Commission about whether it was the assassin's first or second bullet that hit him. But he also has said those who try to "nltpick" the commission report are "scavengers."

Court was recessed 22 minutes early Monday when jurors Herbert J. Kenison, 28, and Irving Mason, 50, reported they were ill. Judge Edward A. Haggerty, Jr., said Kenison had an upset stomach and Mason said he had high blood pressure.

The judge said an assistant coroner looked at both men and said they were not in serious condition.

Haggerty advised the jurors he had made arrangements for them to sit on a front porch to watch carnival parades Tuesday, from 9:30 a.m. to about 2:30 p.m., accompanied by seven or eight deputies.

"Please don't make this a mockery or joke," the judge said. "Don't let anybody talk to you."

He also told them they could not have a Mardi Gras drink.

The News
18 Feb 69

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Three Shots Fired, Say Two At Clay Shaw Trial

By PRESTON MCGRAW

NEW ORLEANS, (UPI). — A former Dallas railroad man testified Saturday in the Clay L. Shaw conspiracy trial he saw a puff of smoke rise from a grassy knoll area in front of the presidential motorcade moments after President John F. Kennedy was shot.

"I heard three shots and I looked to see where the shots came from," James L. Simmons of Mesquite, Tex., said. "Underneath the trees I detected what appeared to be a puff or whiff of smoke."

Kennedy's motorcade was traveling toward the trees when he was slain Nov. 22, 1963 in Dallas. The Warren Report said Kennedy was shot from the rear by Lee Harvey Oswald, sitting at a sixth-floor window in the Texas School Book Depository.

Shaw, 55, is charged with conspiring with Oswald and David W. Ferrie to assassinate the President.

"There is a row of trees along this fence and toward the end of the fence a small building, and just this side of it I saw this smoke," Simmons said.

Simmons, who worked for the Dallas Union Terminal Railroad Co. at the time, said he found footprints in the mud in the area where he saw the smoke. Under cross examination, however, Simmons said the footprints may have been left by persons who had stood there just to watch the motorcade.

The trial was recessed until Monday when Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison said he would call former Texas Gov. John Connally and his wife to the stand. Connally was wounded in the gunfire which killed Kennedy. Both he and his wife were riding in the presidential car.

Asst. Dist. Atty. Andrew Sciambra said the state will complete its case next week. Besides Simmons, Mrs. Elizabeth Gayle Newman and Mrs. Mary Moorman, both of Dallas, testified Saturday.

A film of the assassination taken by Dallas clothing manufacturer Abraham Zapruder was shown for the 10th time at the trial.

An assistant district attorney set up the screen in court again. Spectators leap-

ed up from the right side of the courtroom and crowded the aisle and left wall to watch it.

A photograph taken by Mrs. Moorman 10 feet from the President's car aroused more interest from Shaw than others the state had presented. When the picture was handed to Shaw's attorney for inspection, the defendant, dressed in a black suit, walked to the opposite end of the table and looked at it carefully.

The picture Mrs. Moorman took showed Kennedy slumping over in the seat of his car after the fatal shot. Mrs. Moorman said she was on the south side of Elm Street, directly across from Zapruder.

"I heard three shots," Mrs. Newman said. "I thought they were firecrackers. The first two shots we heard were real close together."

Throwing both palms up to her chin level to show what the President did, Mrs. Newman said, "at the first noise he threw his hands up and sort of turned his head."

"At the sound of the second shot, Gov. Connally clutched his stomach, his eyes got real big and he sort of slumped in his seat."

"What happened with the third shot?" Asst. Dist. Atty. Alvin V. Oser asked.

"His head seemed to explode. It just flew in the air and he fell to one side," Mrs. Newman said.

"We (she and her husband) both had a child and we got down and covered the children with our bodies."

In cross examination by defense attorney F. Ivin Dymond, Mrs. Newman slapped the judge's desk — "Slap...slap...pause...slap" — to show how she heard the three shots. In this she contradicted other state witnesses who said they heard the shots as "slap...pause...slap...slap."

The "slap...pause...slap...slap" description better fits Garrison's theory there were three men in the assassination plot, that one fired to attract attention of police and the other two fired simultaneously for the "kill."

While court will be held Monday, it will be recessed Tuesday, which is Mardi Gras in New Orleans.

The News

16 Feb 69

At Shaw Trial

Dallas Ex-Sheriff Contradicts Warren Commission Report

By PRESTON MCGRAW
NEW ORLEANS. (UPI).
—A former Dallas deputy
sheriff contradicted the
Warren Commission re-
port in the Clay L. Shaw
conspiracy trial Friday and
said Lee Harvey Oswald
left from the front of the

Texas School Book Deposi-
tory and fled in a station
wagon.

Shaw is on trial on
charges of conspiracy with
Oswald and David W. Fer-
rie to assassinate President
John F. Kennedy in 1963.

The testimony of Roger
Dean Craig, who quit the
Dallas sheriff's department
on July 4, 1967, followed
the ninth viewing of a film
of the assassination and
testimony by an FBI agent
contradicting Dist. Atty.
Jim Garrison's contention
Kennedy was shot from the
front.

Craig disagreed with the
Warren Report, which said
Oswald fled from the
school book depository by
taxi and bus.

"I heard a shrill whistle,
heard a man running down
the grass toward a light
green station wagon with a
chrome luggage rack on
top," said Craig. "The car
continued running as the
man ran towards the curb
as the station wagon stop-
ped and the man jumped
in. It had out-of-state plates
on it."

"I tried to stop the sta-
tion wagon but it went into
the traffic and disappeared.
There was one person in
the wagon, very dark com-
plexioned, Latin looking,
with dark hair, muscular,
bull-necked, a strong face."

Craig said he heard later
that an officer had been
killed in the Oak Cliff sec-
tion of Dallas and he called
Capt. Will Fritz, head of
the Dallas homicide division.
Craig said he told Fritz he
suspected the man who fled
down the grass may have

Continued on Page 2

Continued from Page 1

killed the officer, J.D. Tip-
ple.

Craig said he went to
Fritz' office and saw
Oswald there. He said Os-
wald was the same man he
saw running down the
grass and getting into the
station wagon.

Under cross-examination,
Craig said he came to New
Orleans in December, 1967
and worked for Willard
Robertson, an automobile
dealer who was a member
of a group called Truth or
Consequences that helped
finance Garrison's investiga-
tion.

Earlier, Lyndal L. Shaney-
felt, an FBI photographic
expert whom Garrison had
subpoenaed, disagreed with
the district attorney's
theory that Kennedy had
been shot from the front
as well as the back.

"Have you found any
photographic evidence that
the shots which hit the
President came from any-
where except his right
rear?" chief defense attor-
ney F. Irvin Dymond asked.
"I did not," Shaneyfelt
said.

Shaneyfelt, of Alexandria,
Va., did a detailed analysis
of the home movie film tak-
en by Abraham Zapruder of
Dallas, which showed the
moment when the fatal shot
Nov. 22, 1963, struck Ken-
nedy in the head.

The film was shown four
more times in the court-
room Friday, making a to-
tal of nine showings in two
days. Still photographs tak-
en by Philip Willis of Dal-
las were also presented in
court.

Most of the photographs
showed people running
around the street in front
of the Texas School Book
Depository.

Shaw is not accused of in-
volvement in the assassina-
tion itself.

But Garrison Thursday
turned the trial of Shaw in-
to a trial of the Warren Re-
port by going into the
events in Dallas.

Garrison has contended
the fatal shot came from
the front, that there was a
conspiracy, more than one
person fired, and Oswald
did not fire the bullet which
killed Kennedy. The War-
ren Report said Oswald
alone did the killing, firing
three shots from the rear.

A Washington judge Fri-
day gave Garrison's case a
boost when he ruled a po-
tential witness in the Shaw
trial may examine the au-
topsy photographs and X-
rays of John F. Kennedy
now in the National Ar-
chives.

Judge Charles Halleck of
the District of Columbia
Court of General Sessions
ordered a Pittsburgh path-
ologist Dr. Cyril H. Wecht

be allowed to see the au-
topsy material before 4 p.m.
Monday.

Wecht, who has published
reports critical of the War-
ren Report, said the ar-
chives evidence was rele-
vant to the Shaw case. He
is expected to be called as
a witness by Garrison.
(More details, page 9)

Halleck also directed the
U.S. archivist, Dr. James
Rhoads, to take the rifle al-
legedly used by Oswald and
a bullet and bullet frag-
ments which struck Kenne-
dy to New Orleans, along
with certified copies of the
autopsy report, doctor's
statements at the time of
Kennedy's death and photos
of Kennedy's shirt, coat and
tie.

The autopsy itself and the
X-rays will not be entered
as evidence.

Shaneyfelt testified about
the Zapruder film:

"In frame 313, the explo-
sion of his head, the frag-
ments you see streaking
through the air are going in
a forward direction from
the vertical."

"As an expert in exami-
ning photographs, my im-
pression is that the shot
came from the rear."

The prosecution contends
that frame 315 shows Ken-
nedy's head snapping back
with the fatal rifle shot, in-
dicating it came from the
front.

Shaneyfelt also testified
the first shot hit Kennedy
at the base of his neck, came
out through his chest and
hit former Tex. Gov. John
Connally in the back.

Connally and his wife
were riding in jump seats
in front of the President
and Mrs. Kennedy.

Shaneyfelt also testified
about a detailed re-enact-
ment of the assassination
staged by the FBI for the
Warren Commission.

He said the FBI agent
taking the part of Connally,
a man of the same size and
build, wore the coat that
Connally had worn with a
bullet hole in the back. He
said the coat the agent who
stood in for Kennedy wore
was not Kennedy's coat but
it had a bullet hole marked
and calculated from the bul-
let wound in the President's
body.

"Why didn't you use Pres-
ident Kennedy's coat?" Asst.
Dist. Atty. Alvin Oser asked
him.

"I don't know that,"
Shaneyfelt said.

"Why didn't you use a
skin hole in Governor Con-
nally?"

"I don't know that ei-
ther," the witness said.

Among the items Garrison
wants from the National
Archives are the clothes
Kennedy was wearing when
he was killed. Garrison also
wants photographs and X-

The News

15 Feb 69

JFK Murder Film Horrifies Shaw Jury

NEW ORLEANS, (UPI).—Dist Atty. Jim Garrison, turning the Clay L. Shaw trial to the actual assassination of President John F. Kennedy, showed for the first time publicly Thursday a one-minute film of the killing while jurors and spectators moaned and gasped.

"Oh, my God!" said one of the audience as the film by Dallas dress manufacturer Abraham Zapruder showed Kennedy fall forward, appear to pitch, and then his head exploding as the fatal shot struck.

"I was running around saying, 'they shot him, they shot him they killed him!'" Zapruder testified after the film was shown. He sold it to Life Magazine after the assassination and Garrison subpoenaed it for Shaw's trial on charges of conspiring to kill Kennedy.

Garrison made another of his rare courtroom appearances—his second of the Shaw trial—to personally call the turn as the prosecution finished its testimony about an alleged plot involving Shaw in New Orleans and switched to the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination in Dallas.

The defense objected strenuously.

Prosecutors also put Dallas County Surveyor Robert H. West on the stand. He testified he heard four explosions—not three—when Kennedy was shot.

West said he thought the first two were "motorcycle backfires, recognized the third as a gunshot and located the fourth as coming from the "northwest quadrant" of Dealey Plaza.

Both the Texas school book depository building, where the Warren Commission says three shots came from, and the famous "grassy knoll" which some police originally thought was the source of the firing, are in the northwest quadrant.

Haggerty ruled the film would have to be shown first with the jury out of the room so Zapruder could determine if it was all there, and again to the jury and spectators.

He said afterward he couldn't tell whether the film was complete. Eighteen frames had been defective, he said, and might have been removed without his knowing it.

The News

14 Feb 69

CS

Assistant D. A. Turns Witness In Shaw Trial

By BILL CRIDER

NEW ORLEANS (AP). — An assistant prosecutor Wednesday became a witness at Clay Shaw's conspiracy trial as the state again moved to explain omissions and errors in the Sciambra memorandum.

Andrew J. Sciambra, a trim, dark assistant district attorney who was a boxer in college, testified his report was "hastily done, incomplete, with errors in it, omissions in it, and does not reflect all that Perry Russo told me."

Sciambra wrote his 3,500 word memorandum to Dist. Atty. J. Garrison after the first official interview of Russo, the star state witness.

Russo, a 27-year-old New Orleans book salesman, testified he attended a party at David W. Ferrie's apartment in September, 1963, and overheard Shaw, Ferrie and Lee Harvey Oswald plotting to assassinate President John F. Kennedy.

However, none of this appeared in Sciambra's memorandum—which developed into a major point for those skeptical of Garrison's probe.

Sciambra said he didn't make notes during the Feb. 25, 1967, talk with Russo -- who lived in Baton Rouge at the time -- and was constantly interrupted while dictating it after the meeting.

Russo, in his testimony, agreed he was bothered at times, but remained "100 percent sure" he heard the assassination plotting.

He insisted that his expressions of grave doubts made to various people before the trial started were due to enormous mental pressures generated by the case -- which Garrison claims will prove the Warren Commission wrong.

The News

13 Feb 69

Index

-C.B.

Clay Shaw Trial

Why Witness Didn't Report Plot In 1963

By PRESTON MCGRAW

NEW ORLEANS. (UPI). — A book salesman who is the prime witness in Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's conspiracy case against Clay L. Shaw admitted Tuesday that in 1963 he did not consider an alleged plot to kill President John F. Kennedy serious enough to report to police.

The turnabout testimony from Perry Raymond Russo seemed a blow to Garrison's case against Shaw, a 55-year-old retired businessman charged with conspiring with Lee Harvey Oswald and pilot David W. Ferrie to assassinate Kennedy.

"You didn't consider it (talk about killing Kennedy) important enough to report," defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond asked Russo in cross-examination.

"Right," replied Russo.

The slim, dark-haired prosecution witness admitted he never heard Shaw or Oswald plot to kill Kennedy. But he said he heard Ferrie say at a party in mid-September, 1963, "We'll kill him," and he said he heard talk of killing Fidel Castro during the same conversation.

"Would it be fair to say that you did not consider this a serious threat?" asked Dymond.

"Well, you didn't know how to take Ferrie," said Russo. "It was the same as trying to invade Cuba — I couldn't say whether he intended to invade Cuba or not."

"But you did not know whether in that meeting they were just showing the breeze or having a bull session?" Dymond asked.

"Right," replied Russo.

Dymond asked Russo if he was sure he did not go to police out of loyalty to Ferrie.

"I had no loyalty to Dave Ferrie," Russo said.

He said if he had just met Ferrie, the talk about killing the President with "a triangulation of rifle fire," sacrificing one man as a scapegoat and flying the others out to Cuba or Brazil, might have made him report it to police.

But he said he had known Ferrie for some time and Ferrie talked so much it was impossible to tell if what Ferrie said at the party was serious.

Under intense cross examination, Russo said he had been under psychiatric care but had not seen the psychiatrist, Dr. Max E. Johnson since Jan. 31, 1965.

Russo also admitted he told a police officer in June 1967 after taking a lie detector test that he was not sure whether Shaw was at the party where Ferrie talked of killing the President.

But Russo said at the time he was under pressure by a number of newsmen to "split hairs" on his statements.

The newsmen harassed him so much, Russo said, he hardly knew what he thought at the time.

Russo also testified he had been hypnotized three times for Garrison and transcripts were made of the first two sessions. Judge Edward A. Haggerty, Jr. refused to allow the transcripts to be introduced until direct evidence comes up later.

Russo, 27, who speaks quickly and articulately and tosses around phrases like "my theoretical concept of justice" and "peripheral evidence," was a state witness Monday. He pictured Ferrie as a homosexual and as the leader in the alleged plot to kill Kennedy. Russo said Shaw attended the 1963 party at Ferrie's apartment while using the name "Clem Bertrand"—an alias Shaw has denied. Russo said he knew Oswald as "Leon Oswald."

Dymond started his cross examination of Russo Monday and continued it Tuesday. Russo referred Tuesday to Ferrie's talk about riflemen at the back and front of the "auditorium." It was the first time he had spoken of an auditorium. Shaw's lawyers did not press Russo about it.

The witness admitted he did not hear all of the alleged plotting. He said he was "in and out" of Ferrie's apartment during the conversation.

"Was there any actual agreement to kill the President?" Dymond asked.

Criminal Dist. Judge Edward A. Haggerty, Jr. told Russo not to answer, saying it was up to the jury to decide the question.

Dymond handed Russo two rifles on the witness stand Tuesday. One was a military rifle with telescopic sight similar to the one Oswald used to kill Kennedy. The other was a sporting type rifle that had been exhibited in a preliminary hearing in the Shaw case in 1967.

Russo said the military rifle much more closely resembled the one he saw "Leon Oswald" polishing at Ferrie's home.

Dymond asked Russo if between the assassination and his writing to Garrison in February, 1967, and offering to testify, he had told anybody he knew Oswald.

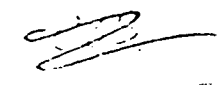
"I told a couple of friends I'd known him," Russo said. "I probably told some people at school but I'm not sure who they were."

Dymond asked Russo if he had told Layton Martens, a friend of Ferrie's, in 1963, that "I'm supposed to get 25,000 dollars for helping Garrison but all I've gotten is 300 dollars."

Russo replied that he was referring to two rumors at that time and said he had not been promised anything by Garrison.

He said Garrison gave him 300 dollars one time to pay expenses, 45 or 50 a second time, 50 a third time and then 65 to 70 dollars.

The News
Feb 69



Plot or Bull Session?

Star Witness Outlines
Conspiracy's Workings

NEW ORLEANS. (UPI). —Perry Raymond Russo, the state's star witness against Clay L. Shaw, Monday repeated his story of hearing Shaw plot to kill President John F. Kennedy, but admitted under cross-examination it could have been "a bull session."

Russo, pointing to the 55-year-old retired New Orleans businessman, identified him as the "Clem Bertrand" he heard discussing how to assassinate Kennedy in 1963 with Lee Harvey Oswald and David W. Ferrie.

"Is it not true that the conversation could have been a bull session just as well as something serious?" defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond asked him.

Garrison has contended that the assassination was done by a conspiracy involving the "paramilitary right" and Cuban exiles, some with ties to the Central Intelligence Agency, who were infuriated by Kennedy's policies toward Castro's Cuba.

Russo was the key witness at Shaw's preliminary hearing in 1967, when his

testimony caused three judges to order Shaw, a 55-year-old retired New Orleans businessman, bound over for trial.

Russo said that in September, 1963, he met "Bertrand" and Oswald in Ferrie's apartment.

"Ferrie was muttering about Kennedy," Russo said. "He was walking up and down, telling how the assassination could be done."

"He told us about a triangular cross-fire. He said two could escape. One would have to be captured as a scapegoat or patsy. All three would shoot but one would fire a diversionary shot to draw the attention of police. The other two would shoot to kill, firing almost simultaneously."

Russo said Ferrie said the two members of the murder team supposed to escape could make it away in a plane, flying directly to Cuba or to Mexico and then to Brazil.

Shaw broke in, Russo said, to say that flying the escape plane to Brazil would require a refueling stop and that the plane would have to get dangerously close to

the scene of the assassination.

"Shut up!" Russo quoted Oswald as telling Shaw. "Ferrie knows what he is doing. He is a pilot."

The News
11 Feb 69

Letters To The Editor

Dear Sir:

Because I am considered by the mother of Lee Oswald to be an expert on the assassination of President John Kennedy and the others who died after him I proposed a revolutionary new class at San Francisco College dealing with the subject matter in a logical, academic, a political manner with full participation of students, myself as a teaching assistant or source of material, and a professor to be paid by Ford Foundation who has offered a large sum of money as a grant to a "qualified professor" to examine the Warren Report and other evidence not reported by the Warren Commission.

The course is intended as a psychological analysis of Oswald to show motivation for his actions and how his actions during the last 13 months of his life beginning with the Cuban Missile Crisis motivated his final act. The Warren Commission, though it relied heavily on a psychological analysis of Oswald's early relation with his mother and on sexual relations with his wife, avoided Os-

wald's mental state at the time of the Missile Crisis to the extent of not locating his whereabouts during this memorable event.

The fact of the matter is that Oswald ordered a pistol shortly after the Missile Crisis, which crisis coincided with the State trial of Billie Sol Estes, with the rumor that the TFX warplane contract had been corruptly awarded to General Dynamics, and with the date Oswald felt he should receive an honorable military discharge because his 6-year obligation matured. Aside from being angered over his bad military discharge, Oswald, if he really considered himself a Marxist, was not oblivious to these other significant events which affected most other people in one way or another.

Further evidence that Oswald was angered by these events is that he reacted by ordering another weapon on March 10-12, 1963 when three out of four of the same events received substantial news coverage again.

Subsequently, Oswald was active politically on

the first anniversary of the Cuban Missile Crisis, though he did not actually shoot President Kennedy until the anniversary of the date the TFX warplane contract was awarded: November 22. This seems significant because Sirhan Sirhan shot Bobby Kennedy on the first anniversary of the June 5, 1967 Middle East war.

In attempting to publicize this theory I started on June 12, 1968 toward Cuba via Canada, which country jailed me 30 days and accused me of plotting to assassinate their Prime Minister. If such nonsense on the part of Yankee Capitalists is not proof enough that the publication of my theory will damage Capitalism then the Jan. 7 death of newspaper edition and harsh Vietnam war critic William Baggs of the Miami News should be proof enough for anyone, as Baggs knew of my theory and probably knew, that I am now in Mexico trying to go to Cuba to get publicity for the strike at San Francisco State College and for the class I hope to participate in there.

William R. Hobkins

The News
10 Feb. 69

Index

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Trial Witness Says: **Shaw Discussed Ways To Assassinate JFK**

By PRESTON MCGRAW

NEW ORLEANS, (UPI). — A New York accountant testified Friday he attended a party in June, 1963, where Clay L. Shaw and seven others sat around a kitchen table and talked about the best way to kill President John F. Kennedy.

The witness, Charles I. Spiesel, who later admitted he had once sued the city of New York for putting him under "hypnotic spells," told Shaw's trial that Lee Harvey Oswald was not at the party but David W. Ferrie was.

Shaw, the 55-year-old retired managing director of the New Orleans International Trade Mart, is charged with conspiring with Oswald and Ferrie in 1963 to kill the President.

Another prosecution witness, Vernon Bundy, a New Orleans narcotics addict, testified he saw Shaw meet Oswald on the New Orleans waterfront in June, 1963. Bundy said he went there to inject himself with heroin and saw Shaw give Oswald "what looked to me like money."

Spiesel said Ferrie introduced him by name to Shaw and that he listened as the group talked of general things, then started discussing murdering the President when a "blond, bearded" man said:

"Somebody ought to kill . . . I'd like to do it, but how do you do it?"

The trial was recessed after Spiesel's testimony until Saturday, when Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's star witness, Perry R. Russo, is to take the stand.

Russo, a Baton Rouge, La., insurance salesman, testified at preliminary hearing in the Shaw case more than a year ago that he saw Shaw, Ferrie and Oswald plotting to kill Kennedy in the fall of 1963.

In a merciless cross-examination by chief defense attorney F. Irvin Dymond, Spiesel admitted he once filed a damage suit against a doctor and the city of New York because "they used to hypnotize me."

But he denied, in answer to another question by Dymond, that he told a Denham Springs, La., lawyer that Communists were following him and threatening him.

"Isn't it a fact you charged the New York police had hypnotized you and tortured you and forced you to get out of your business?" Dymond asked him. Spiesel said "they tried to hypnotize me."

Dymond said although one of the suits filed in New York was dismissed, the other was still going on. Spiesel said the suit against Dr. Allen Roos was still active.

Spiesel said he met Ferrie in a bar in June of 1963, and the two went to the party, where he was introduced to Shaw.

About eight persons sat at the table, Spiesel said. At first, "the conversation was rather general," he said, but then it turned to the possibility of murdering Kennedy.

Spiesel said a blond man with a heavy beard sitting across the table from Shaw said, "I'd like to do it but how do we do it?"

"Then everybody at the table talked about five minutes about how to kill the President," Spiesel said. "The consensus was that it would have to be done with a high-powered rifle from about a mile away. Somebody said whoever did it probably would be killed."

Bundy said he was preparing to inject himself with heroin when a blond man

The News

8 Feb. 69

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