

ORLEANS PARISH GRAND JURY

ARTHUR J. BIDDERSON JAN. 9, 1969

Assassination

THE ORLEANS PARISH GRAND JURY

JANUARY 9, 1969

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

ARTHUR JEFFERSON BIDDERSON

PRESENT: MR. JAMES ALCOCK, MR. NUMA BERTEL, MR. ANDREW
SCIAMBRA, ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, and
MEMBERS OF THE ORLEANS PARISH GRAND JURY

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Reported by:
Maureen B. Thiel
Secretary

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 1969

ARTHUR JEFFERSON BIDDERTON, after being duly sworn by the Foreman of the Orleans Parish Grand Jury, testified as follows:

MR. ALCOCK:

Q. Have you had occasion to speak to your attorneys?

A. Mr. Panzeca is on his way here now.

Q. Have you had occasion to speak to Mr. Dymond?

A. Yes.

Q. I must tell you that under the laws of the United States and the State of Louisiana you have a right to refuse to answer any question which incriminates you or tends to incriminate you, do you understand that?

A. Yes.

Q. If there is a question that you are not sure of and think it will tend to incriminate you, or incriminate you, we will take it into court and have the court decide whether you have a right to refuse to answer. You do not have to make the decision, the court will do that. Too, you have taken an oath to tell the truth and the Grand Jury expects you to do that, and I might add that if you do not tell the truth you can, and will be charged with perjury. Do you understand that?

A. Yes, I do.

Q. Are there any questions that you would like to ask me at this time?

A. No.

Q. Please state your full name.

A. Arthur Jefferson Bidderson.

Q. By whom are you employed?

A. Self employed.

Q. In what capacity?

- A. I am a realtor.
- Q. For what firm?
- A. Marilyn Tate Co.
- Q. Where is that located?
- A. 906 Royal Street, New Orleans, La.
- Q. How long have you been associated with that firm?
- A. Approximately 9 years.
- Q. What is the nature of your employment?
- A. I am the owner of the firm.
- Q. How long have you been the owner?
- A. Since August of 1966.
- Q. Prior to that you were working as a realtor?
- A. An employee, as a salesman.
- Q. Where were you born?
- A. Tulsa, Oklahoma.
- Q. Were you raised in Tulsa, Oklahoma?
- A. All my life.
- Q. When did you first come to New Orleans?
- A. After World War II, 1946 or 47.
- Q. What was the reason for your coming to New Orleans?
- A. I was employed by Grace Line in New York City as purser, and I worked out of the office here and sailed to South America.
- Q. How long were you so employed?
- A. From Grace Line to Delta Line and I was with them for

about five years.

Q. After coming to New Orleans, what year did you come to New Orleans?

A. 1946 or 1947.

Q. You remained with Grace Lines and/or Delta?

A. I was one year with Grace and then went to Delta Lines.

Q. In the same capacity?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you go to sea for Delta?

A. Yes.

Q. How long were you with Delta?

A. Until, I believe, 1950.

Q. After 1950 what type employment did you have?

A. Became distributor for RCA Victor records at Television & Appliance Distributors for a few years and from that time until I became a realtor with Walther Bros. Distributors for RCA.

Q. What is your education background?

A. I attended Tulsa Public Schools, Washington & Lee University in Lexington, Virginia for one year, Texas A & M for one year, Columbia University Midshipmen School in New York City, until commissioned in World War II as an Ensign in the U. S. Navy.

Q. You still in the Navy Reserve?

A. No.

Q. When did you leave the Navy Reserve?

A. I can't give you a definite answer on that, I don't know. I am 44 years old.

Q. Did you go to the Merchant Marine Academy?

- A. I attended the Merchant Marine Academy at Islip Bay, Long Island, after the war.
- Q. Are you married?
- A. No, I am single.
- Q. How old are you?
- A. 44.
- Q. Where do you reside?
- A. 1414 Chartres Street
- Q. With whom do you reside?
- A. I live alone, a single home.
- Q. How long have you resided there?
- A. I bought the property in 1957.
- Q. Have you resided there continuously from 1957 until the present time?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Is this a single dwelling?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you have any relatives in New Orleans?
- A. No.
- Q. Where are your relatives?
- A. Tulsa, Oklahoma.
- Q. When did you first meet Clay Shaw?
- A. 1946.
- Q. Where was this?
- A. In New Orleans.

Q. You were with the Grace Lines at the time?

A. Yes.

Q. What was the occasion for you meeting him?

A. I think it was at a reception for Steamship Company employees, at the St. Charles Hotel.

Q. Was he, at the time, associated with the International Trade Mart?

A. He was in the planning stages of building the first International Trade Mart.

Q. Have you been an acquaintance of his since 1946?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know a person by the name of Forma Duval?

A. Yes.

Q. Where did you meet him?

A. I met him at Mr. Shaw's home, 1313 Dauphine Street.

Q. Do you recall when you met him at Mr. Shaw's home?

A. No, I cannot.

Q. Do you know what type of business Mr. Devalle was in?

A. No, I do not.

Q. Did you meet him on more than one occasion?

A. Yes.

Q. Approximately how many times?

A. Yes, approximately 4 or 5 times, no more.

Q. Were these 4 or 5 meetings all at Clay Shaw's apartment?

A. Possibly two of them there and the other three times at my office when he came to look for an apartment.

Q. Did he live here in New Orleans?

A. Yes.

Q. With whom?

A. I believe he lived alone, but I cannot answer that.

Q. Did you ever have any business dealings with Forma Devalle?

A. None, except through my office as a rental agent.

Q. Did you ever rent him an apartment?

A. No.

Q. You say you have been a close friend of Shaw's since 1946, can you estimate for the Jury approximately how many times a week you saw him, or a month ... ?

A. During the early days I saw him very frequently up until 1950 because we restored two buildings together, we both had apartments in these buildings. After that time I saw him only occasionally in real estate matters and the restoration of property in the French Quarter. I was associated with him in restoring property, in the French Quarter.

Q. Give us the name of the properties that you were associated with him in restoration.

A. 537 Barracks Street, 906 Esplanade.

Q. Were these two properties restored prior to 1950?

A. Yes., substantially restored.

Q. You restored buildings with him, were you in partnership with him?

A. No, I was merely the leg man.

Q. Was the property owned by Mr. Shaw?

A. Yes.

Q. Was anyone else involved ...

A. I should explain that my hobby is restoring old buildings.

Q. And his is too?

A. Yes.

Q. MR. SCIAMBRA:

You said you were sharing an apartment ...

A. An apartment building at 537 Barracks Street, we did not share the same apartment, we were in the same building.

MR. ALCOCK:

Q. Mr. Shaw owned the property 537 Barracks Street, and you assisted in the restoration?

A. That is correct.

Q. Do you own any other property than 1414 Chartres Street?

A. At the present time, no.

Q. Have you owned any other property?

A. Yes.

Q. What property was that?

A. 1428 Royal Street, an apartment building.

Q. Did you own that by yourself or in conjunction with someone else?

A. With Jack Sawyer.

Q. Is he a resident of New Orleans?

A. Yes.

Q. When did you first meet Mr. Sawyer?

A. Five years ago.

Q. Was it in the City you met him?

A. Yes, New Orleans.

- Q. Where was it that you met him, can you recall?
- A. He was my neighbor.
- Q. On Chartres Street?
- A. On Chartres Street.
- Q. What was the number there? His residence?
- A. 1412 Chartres Street, I believe.
- Q. Do you know with whom he was living at that location?
- A. He was living alone.
- Q. During the period 1946 to 1950, when you testified you were close to Clay Shaw, did you ever live together?
- A. In the same building, yes.
- Q. What building was that?
- A. 537 Barracks Street and 906 Esplanade.
- Q. These were the properties you were restoring?
- A. Yes.
- Q. At this particular time was ^{there} anyone else that you would consider yourself close to, besides Mr. Shaw, during 1946 to 1950? Close personal friends.
- A. Many friends, yes.
- Q. Name some of them.
- A. At that period, 1946 to 1950?
- Q. Yes, this is the period that you said you were closest to Shaw, is that right?
- A. Yes. Charles Luttrell, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Fisher, Mrs. Marilyn Tate, a close friend of mine at that time, Mr. and

Mrs. Roland Chiara, those would be my closest personal friends that I can recall at this period of time.

Q. During this period of time I presume you and Shaw lived in the same apartment building and saw each other once a day at least?

A. At that time, yes.

Q. Who, if anyone, was living with Shaw at that time?

A. No one.

Q. After 1950 how often did you see Shaw? Say, 1950 to 1955?

A. Only occasionally except in regard to business matters and restoring buildings. I did not own any at this time and he traveled a great deal, so I would say I might speak to him once a week on the phone, but saw him very little from that time forward.

Q. How about the time 1955 to 1960 how often did you see him?

A. I would say the same thing.

Q. Just on the phone principally.

A. Yes.

Q. During the period 1946 to 1950, can you name any of Mr. Shaw's closest friends, would they be the same as you had, or different.

A. I could not name his closest friends.

Q. Well, I assume you were one, and Marilyn Tate would be one ...

A. Yes.

Q. Did he have a great many friends?

A. Yes, he had a great many friends and they were not necessarily mine.

Q. Can you recall anybody, during that period, that you would state was close to Mr. Shaw or anyone that he might have

introduced you to?

A. That is a long time ago, no one in particular, no.

Q. Now in 1960 through 1962, were you close to Shaw?

A. At the period that we restored the Spanish Stables on Governor Nicholls Street, 1716 and 1724 Gov. Nicholls Street, I would meet him two or three times a week at the building for the plans of the restoration.

Q. Who owned that property?

A. Mr. Shaw. I managed that property in the real estate business.

Q. What period was that in?

A. That extended over a period of a couple of years. It took some time to restore that large building.

Q. Approximately what years would they be?

A. I can't give the exact dates, but I can get them for you.

Q. Would it have been after 1960?

A. Yes, I am sure.

Q. Since the year 1960 to 1962, did you have occasion at any time to go to any social function at Mr. Shaw's apartment?

A. I would go there, yes.

Q. Approximately how often?

A. I would say once a month or so. He would generally come to my office to discuss business since I managed his property. Later on he took out a real estate license with my firm. We handled all his property.

Q. He took out a real estate license with your office?

A. Yes, he got the license with our office.

Q. At the social gatherings at his apartment, referring to the years 1960-1962, can you recall anybody that you saw

saw at his apartment?

A. I would generally be invited there for receptions or cocktail parties for people he would entertain in the Trade Mart, business acquaintances more than social. I have no one specifically that I would care to name.

Q. Was Mr. Sawyer in the City at that time?
here

A. No, I don't believe he has been ~~there~~ that long.

Q. How about Forma Devalle?

A. I can't answer that, I don't know.

Q. Do you know, as a matter of fact, that Forma Devalle at one time roomed with Mr. Shaw?

A. I did not know that.

Q. The period of 1960 to 1962, what sort of automobile did you have?

A. In 1961 I bought a Cadillac sedan, a 1960 second-hand one.

Q. What color was it?

A. Black.

Q. Did you buy it new?

A. No, secondhand, I bought it in '61.

Q. Was it in fairly good condition when you bought it?

A. Yes.

Q. You still have it?

A. No, I gave it as a Christmas gift to one of my workmen and I got a new car in 1966, it was Christmas I gave it to him.

Q. Who was the employee?

A. Ray B. Hiatt, presently a handyman in my office.

- Q. How many people do you have employed at your office?
- A. I have only one salaried employee, my secretary, Margie O'Dare Boyle.
- Q. You have commission salesmen?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What are their names?
- A. I have about 14 of them. Do you want all of their names?
- A. Yes.
- A. Marilyn Tate, our number 1 salesman, Margie O'Dare Boyle, Jack M. Sawyer, Joseph Mizelle, Gowdy Milhouse, Llona George, Clay L. Shaw ...
- Q. Clay Shaw is still an employee of yours? A commission salesman
- A. Yes. Glad to have him. (continuing) .. James Cooper .. there are some new ones ...
- Q. When you saw new, when would they have come with you?
- A. Mr. Cooper asked for his license this fall. You do your real estate licenses in September. Many of my women salesmen are inactive. I can provide you with a list, I can't think of their names offhand.... I am nervous ...
- Q. Well, there is nothing to be nervous about. Of the employees that you have named, are there any that have been with you, say, longer than any of the rest?
- A. Mrs. Tate, of course, organized the business. Margie O'Dare Boyle came with me shortly after I came in the business, some of the sales personnel have been there before my time.
- Q. Did you buy this business from Mrs. Tate?
- A. Yes.
- Q. When did this transaction take place?
- A. In the summer of 1966, August, 1966.

- Q. Back to 1963, can you estimate to the Jury approximately how often you saw Shaw during that year?
- A. During that time I was doing no restoration for Mr. Shaw, other than property management. I would say probably once a month.
- Q. Do you recall whether the year 1963 you ever attended any social functions in Mr. Shaw's apartment?
- A. No.
- Q. You can't recall any that you went to?
- A. No.
- Q. Can you recall, for the year 1963, any persons you saw in Shaw's company more often than others?
- A. No, Mr. Shaw was away much of the year. The only occasion I can think of that I saw him, except occasionally, was on his return from Europe. He stayed in my home for a week or two until his home was available again, we had it rented, and he did stay in my home for a period of a week or two. Much of his time was spent with his parents across the lake.
- Q. In Hammond?
- A. Yes, his father was not very well.
- Q. His mother is still living?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Can you tell us when Mr. Shaw left for Europe?
- A. No I cannot tell you specifically. It was June of 1963, *correction below*
I believe.
- Q. How long was he in Europe?
- A. Through that summer.
- Q. This would have been the summer preceding the assassination?
- A. Oh no, gentlemen, may I correct my testimony. The summer

before Mr. Shaw was arrested he was in Europe, the year 1966, the summer before his father died, which was Thanksgiving time, he was in Europe. The year of 1963, the year of the assassination, I saw Mr. Shaw very little.

Q. Do you recall Mr. Shaw making a trip to the west coast in November of 1963?

A. A speaking engagement in California?

Q. Yes.

A. He was in California at the time of the assassination.

Q. Right. Do you recall his making this trip?

A. Yes.

Q. How do you recall that?

A. Because he was away at that time, and when one of my principals is away I have to manage property for them, I knew he was on a speaking tour.

Q. Back to 1966, you say that in the summer Clay Shaw was in Europe?

A. Yes.

Q. And as you recall it, he left sometime in June?

A. Either May or June, I believe June.

Q. Do you recall approximately how long he was gone?

A. The entire summer.

Q. When he returned you stated that he stayed with you in your apartment?

A. Yes, we had rented his apartment.

Q. Can you recall when this was, the period of time?

A. Not specifically, I would say he was away 3 or 3-1/2 months and we rented his house for him.

- Q. When was it he stayed with you, approximately what period of time?
- A. On his return he stayed at my house a week or two weeks until he could get back into his own home.
- Q. During this period of time he was in your house, after his return from Europe, where did he get his mail?
- A. I don't know.
- Q. Isn't it a fact that he asked the Postal authorities to direct his mail to your residence during that time?
- A. Not to my knowledge.
- Q. You never received letters to him at your place which were forwarded to him from 1313 Dauphine?
- A. Not to my knowledge.
- Q. Was anyone living at your residence at that time besides yourself?
- A. No.
- Q. No one else?
- A. No.
- Q. Have you ever used the name of Clay Bertrand?
- A. No.
- Q. Have you ever used the name of Clem Bertrand?
- A. No.
- Q. Has anyone ever addresssed you by either one of those names?
- A. No sir. I have no knowledge of that name until the investigation started.

- Q. Has anyone else ever, to your knowledge, addressed a letter to your residence in the name of Clay or Clem Bertrand?
- A. Certainly not to my knowledge.
- Q. Has Clay Shaw ever asked that letters directed to his home be forwarded to your home, to your knowledge?
- A. No.
- Q. Were you in the City of New Orleans the entire year of 1963?
- A. With the possible exception of a visit to my ranch, yes.
- Q. Where is the ranch located?
- A. Tulsa, Oklahoma. To be specific, Hominy, Oklahoma.
- Q. When would that have been that you went there?
- A. I cannot give you the exact date, I can get that for you.
- Q. How long a period of time would that have been that you were gone?
- A. At the most, two weeks. I was in New Orleans, however, at the time of the assassination.
- Q. Going back from there, do you recall having been home?
- A. No, and I haven't looked that up, but I could find that out.
- Q. Has anyone ever resided at 1414 Chartres Street with you? Besides Shaw?
- A. Yes. I had a roommate there. I have a 3 story house and a bedroom and bath on each floor, and I did have a roommate.
- Q. Who was that?
- A. Fred Tate.
- Q. Would that have been in 1963?
- A. No, I had no roommate in 1963.
- Q. When would that have been?

A. I think 1965 and 1966.

Q. The entire year of 1966?

A. No, I don't know what period.

Q. Do you recall Mr. Tate being there until Mr. Shaw's house was ready, and when he was staying with you?

A. No, I did not have a roommate at the time and that is how I was able to accommodate Mr. Shaw.

Q. You stated that you gave the Cadillac to one of your employees?

A. Yes, I should have traded it, but I didn't.

Q. Was this Cadillac ever used by any of your employees?

A. No. This is my own car.

Q. Specifically, in the year 1963, do you recall letting anyone use your Cadillac, employees or anyone?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever let Clay Shaw use it?

A. To my knowledge, no. I may have loaned it to him.

Q. Is it possible?

A. Its possible.

Q. Have you ever loaned it to him , say to take a trip to see his family in Hammond?

A. I may have loaned it to him when he came back from Europe, I don't think he had a car and I may have loaned it to him for that purpose, but I don't recall it. He had his father's car, a stationwagon.

Q. Going back to 1963, do you recall letting Clay Shaw use your car?

A. No.

- Q/ You are saying he did or did not use your car?
- A. He did not borrow my car, he had a car of his own.
- Q. Specifically in the summer of 1963 do you recall whether Shaw ever used your car?
- A. No.
- Q. If I were to tell you that there is on record in the Post Office a change of address directing mail from 1313 Dauphine Street to Clay Shaw to your home at 1414 Chartres Street in the year 1966, would you dispute that?
- A. No, but I don't recall this. I could elaborate on this.
- Q. Go on.
- A. It would seem very unlikely that he would address it to my home rather than to my office if he wanted me to receive his mail because Mr. Shaw did receive mail at my office.
- Q. In 1966 was he employed by you? As a commission salesman?
- A. Yes.
- Q. He was at that time?
- A. Yes. ^{and things} And his accountants sent statements/to my office because he was abroad, not to my home to my knowledge.
- Q. Again, I am asking you, would you dispute the fact that there is a record of the change of address?
- A. No I could not dispute that fact, but it would seem unlikely because he would send it to my office.
- Q. Why would he send it to your office?
- A. So it could be forwarded to him.
- Q. In Europe?
- A. Yes. Any letters he might receive, any letters that might have to be forwarded.

Q. What about personal mail?

A. The same thing.

Q. Are you testifying that you forwarded mail to him in Europe?

A. Yes, I forwarded mail to him in Europe.

Q. And it came to your office?

A. Yes, it came to my office.

Q. And did not come to your home?

A. Did not come to my home. I cannot dispute the fact that there may have been a change of address to my home, but to my knowledge he did not receive any mail at my home.

Q. Do you recall in the summer of 1966 through Sept. 1966, and you don't recall anytime during that period any mail addressed to 1313 Dauphine coming to your home?

A. No, I have no recollection of that.

Q. Have you ever received any mail using the name of Clay or Clem Bertrand?

A. No.

Q. In 1963 how often did you see Clay Shaw?

A. I would say approximately once a month if that, very little in 1963.

May I ask that the correction be made that Mr. Shaw was at my house in 1966 and not 1963?

Q. Yes, that has been noted. And I believe you did say that in 1966, he might have had the use of your car, is that correct?

A. Yes, he might have borrowed my car. I have no recollection of this but he might have borrowed it to go across the lake.

Q. If there is documentary evidence, such as a gasoline credit card, to the fact that he was using your car in Hammond, Louisiana, you would not dispute it?

A. No sir.

Q. Do you know whether or not you will be a witness in this coming trial?

A. No sir, I really hope not.

MR. SCIAMBRA:

Q. Have you ever seen David Ferrie?

A. No.

Q. Have you ever seen Lee Harvey Oswald?

A. No.

Q. Do you know anyone who may have seen either of those persons in New Orleans?

A. I have never met anyone, and I have inquired, who has ever seen either of those persons.

MR. ALCOCK:

Back to 1963 when you had a black Cadillac, did you know of anyone else who worked for Marilyn Tate who had a black Cadillac?

A. No.

Q. None of the bosses or employees had a black Cadillac?

A. No.

Q. To your knowledge, did any of your acquaintances have a black Cadillac?

A. No.

Q. To your knowledge, did you know of any acquaintance of Clay Shaw who might have had a black Cadillac?

A. No.

Q. To your knowledge, did Clay Shaw ever own a black Cadillac?

A. No, not to my knowledge.

Q. To your knowledge, do you know whether or not the International Trade Mart, as an entity, ever owned a black Cadillac?

A. To my knowledge, no.

Q. From 1963 to the present date, how often have you seen Clay Shaw?

A. My association with Mr. Shaw in real estate remained the same until the time of his arrest, after his retirement I saw him even less because he was busy writing a play and was particularly close to his mother after his father's death.

Q. What about after his arrest?

A. I would see him more at his home at that time, he was not actively engaged in the Trade Mart.

Q. How about the last two years?

A. Since he has been arrested I have tried to be as close and staunch friend and help him in every way I can, believing explicitly in his innocence.

Q. Have you been interviewed by Southern Research or any investigating firm that is doing Shaw's investigation?

A. This gentleman here (indicating Mr. Sciambra) and Mr. Charles Ward. This was immediately after Mr. Shaw's arrest.

Q. Have you been questioned or interviewed by Southern Research or any investigator on behalf of Clay Shaw?

A. Yes.

Q. When was this?

A. This was 3 months after his arrest.

Q. Did you say the investigator was from Southern Research?

A. I don't know. I know it was someone for Mr. Shaw's defense.

Q. Do you recall his name?

A. No I do not.

Q. I take it you spoke to Mr. Shaw's attorneys?

A. Yes.

Q. After Shaw's arrest, did he have occasion to live with you? In your place at 1414 Chartres Street?

A. Mr. Shaw was brought to my home the night of the arrest, but not subsequent to that one night. He was in no condition to go back to his apartment.

Q. What sort of car do you have now?

A. Cadillac, its white.

Q. Would it be a fair estimate to say that Shaw ceased living at your house after returning from Europe about the middle or latter part of September, 1966?

A. Yes, I don't think he stayed there over a week, but he might have stayed there two weeks. It was a place to hang his hat, he was across the lake, his father died on Thanksgiving and he was spending a great deal of time with his parents.

Q. This might have been the time you lent him your car to go to Hammond?

A. I might have. I would like to state that it is doubtful that I lent my car for more than an emergency because I need my car for my business. I loaned my Thunderbird that I had owned before and it had been badly wrecked, I didn't loan my car to people anymore.

Q. I take it that you just had the Cadillac at that time?

A. I had two cars at that time so it might be that I loaned it to him.

Q. What kind of car did you have then?

A. My new Cadillac. I couldn't get anything for trading my old one in so I was Cadillac poor! That is why I gave it to my handyman at Christmastime in return for some work he did for me.

Q. In 1963, the summer and fall, you rarely saw Clay Shaw, is that correct?

A. Yes.

Q. You feel you ever saw him in person or was it by telephone?

A. Usually by telephone. I was in touch with him enough to keep the business contacts, but I did not see much of him.

Q. To your knowledge, did Shaw leave the country in 1963?

A. To my knowledge, no.

Q. The only trip you can recall was the trip to the west coast?

A. I can't answer that, I don't know.

Q. But you do know he made a speaking tour?

A. Yes.

Q. Has Jack Sawyer ever resided at your house?

A. No.

Q. Has Forma Devalle ever resided at your house?

A. No.

Q. Did you ever know a colored man named Charles Daniels?

A. No.

Q. Did some painting work for Clay Shaw?

A. No.

Q. Do you know where Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop is?

A. Yes.

- Q. Have you ever seen Clay Shaw there?
- A. Yes, its right next door to my office, or was.
It used to be 929 Bourbon Street, next door to Lafitte's.
- Q. To your knowledge, does Shaw know any school teachers in the French Quarter? I don't know if they are male or female.
- A. No, to my knowledge, no.
- Q. Would you say it is a fair statement to say that you are rather close to Shaw from 1946 to 1950 and then not again until March 1, 1967 to today?
- A. That would be a fair statement.
- Q. Since his arrest, March 1, 1967, besides yourself, can you name any other close associates of Shaw?
- A. Yes, I can name some but I would rather not, is that all right?
- Q. No, I would like to hear them.
- A. Marilyn Tate has been close to him, his attorneys have been his closest associates, ...
- Q. Do you know Mr. Billy Wegmann?
- A. Yes, I have met Mr. Ed Wegmann and I have met Mr. Dymond, and I have met Mr. Panzeca this morning, the first time I have met him.
- Q. I think you stated that Clay Shaw is presently a commission salesman for you?
- A. Yes, he has a license with my office, he has had it for two years or maybe longer.
- Q. Do you know the marital status of Jack Sawyer?
- A. He is single.
- Q. ~~How old~~ How old a man is he?
- A. 35 to 40.

Q. And Forma Devalle?

A. About 35 to 40, from his appearance.

Q. Is he single also?

A. I don't know, no I believe he is married.

Q. Have you ever had occasion to make a trip outside New Orleans with Clay Shaw?

A. Yes, I made a trip to New York in 1948 and to Williamsburg, Virginia to look at the restorations of houses there with Mr. Shaw, and in 19 .. to San Francisco for one week I met Mr. Shaw in San Francisco to visit a friend of ours dying of cancer there.

Q. When was this?

A. In March of 1966, I believe. I flew out and he went by train, he doesn't like to fly.

Q. Do you know a person by the name of Donald Doody?

A. Yes, he rented an apartment from me, on Dumaine Street.

Q. He is not a resident of this City?

A. Not that I know of, I don't know where he is now.

Q. Have you ever met Perry Rousso?

A. Never.

Q. Have you ever met Vernon Bundy, the colored male who testified at the pre-trial hearing?

A. No. I have heard the name.

Q. Do you recall in the summer or fall of 1963 attending any social functions with Clay Shaw?

A. No. I have tried to recall and reconstruct that year, no.

Q. At the time he was still Director of the Trade Mart?

A. Yes.

Q. Do you know Goldie Moore?

A. Yes. She is Mr. Shaw's secretary.

Q. Where did you meet her? At the Trade Mart?

A. Yes, it was a long time ago.

Q. Can you think of any particular close acquaintance of Shaw's during the summer and fall of 1963?

A. No, I cannot.

MR. SCIAMBRA:

Before Mr. Shaw's arrest in 1967, do you ever recall him having occasion to mention Lee Harvey Oswald?

A. No.

Q. Do you recall him saying anything in connection with the literature distribution that took place in front of the International Trade Mart in 1963?

A. Oh, there was much comment on it at the time, and the television film on it, but I don't believe Mr. Shaw was there at the time Oswald did this.

Q. Was he aware that Lee Harvey Oswald was the person handing out the leaflets?

A. At the time of the assassination he was.

Q. Before that?

A. No.

Q. At the time that it happened was he aware that it was Lee Harvey Oswald?

A. No, not to my knowledge.

Q. Did he see it over TV, to your knowledge.

A. After the assassination we all saw it.

I am sure he did, I have no knowledge of it however.

MR. ALCOCK:

Have you ever met through Mr. Shaw any Cuban refugees?

A. No, I have not.

Q. Do you know a Mr. Dallenhower (phonetically)?

A. Yes. He was Mr. Shaw's assistant at the Trade Mart.

Q. You met him through Mr. Shaw?

A. Yes, I know the staff at the Trade Mart because I would deal through the office there. That is how I knew Miss Moore.

Q. Did you know Mr. Mario Burmudez? He had Mr. Shaw's job originally.

A. No, he was with the Office of International Relations for the City of New Orleans.

Q. Did you know him?

A. Yes, I managed Mr. Burmudez' property.

Q. Is he still in the City or do you know?

A. As far as I know..

Q. Where was the location of the property?

A. 911 Dauphine Street and I have a house for sale of his on Constantinople Street, at the present time.

Q. At any time during your meetings with Mr. Shaw, during 1963, 1964 or 1965, did he discuss with you the Cuban situation.

A. No.

Q. Did Mr. Shaw, at any time during that period of time, discuss with you the integration and segregation issue?

A. Yes, we discussed that.

Q. On that issue what was Mr. Shaw's position?

A. He has always been instrumental in my acquiring my real

estate business all through the years and very helpful in his advice and I needed to use him as a sounding board in real estate on the problems of integration and segregation in the rental of my property and I discussed it with him many times.

Q. When were you at Texas A & M?

A. Let's see Pearl Harbor was 1941, I was at Washington & Lee the next year, 1942 and 1943 I was at Texas A & M, in the Cavalry.

Q. You did not meet Shaw until you had moved here to New Orleans?

A. No, not until I moved here.

Q. MR. SCIAMBRA:

You may have misunderstood the timing of my question before, but the pictures of Lee Harvey Oswald handing out leaflets in front of the Trade Mart and his subsequent arrest on Canal Street, which occurred in August of 1963, did it appear on television in 1963?

A. At that time I had no recollection of Lee Harvey Oswald until after the assassination and I am sure Mr. Shaw didn't either. If he did, I certainly don't know about it.

MR. ALCOCK:

Q. Any further questions?

Let me caution you that the questions asked of you in this room before the Grand Jury are secret.

A. I understand that.

Q. You are not entitled to discuss any of the matters brought up before the Grand Jury and that includes your attorneys. The only time you could discuss it with your attorneys would be if you were charged and you are not charged, so again let me caution you about discussing anything in the areas that we may have gone into today. Thank you very much.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I certify that the preceding transcript is a true and correct copy of the testimony given, under oath, in the presence of the Orleans Parish Grand Jury, on the 9th day of January, 1969, and reduced to typewriting by me.

Maureen B. Shif

