

Odom Says He Has Nothing To Hide

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he said. "Here" is the Dallas County town in which Odom now lives with his wife and two children.

They reside in a multi-unit apartment complex in the suburban city. For reason of privacy, Odom asked that the name of the city not be mentioned.

Odom said he was not aware that anyone was interested in talking to him until he was located Tuesday by The Times Herald with the help of the New Orleans States-Item.

"I didn't have a chance to read a newspaper or watch television over the weekend," said Odom, a tall, rangy man who was born in Lakeview, Texas.

He said he would be willing to tell his story to Garrison or anybody else. "I have nothing to hide—my goodness," he said. "You can tell Mr. Shaw that I am ready to help him if I can."

ODOM SAID he also felt sure that his story of the trip to New Orleans and his brief meeting with Shaw can be corroborated. "The man at the Roosevelt might remember it all," he said. "The records of the hotel should show I was there."

As he remembered it, Odom was in New Orleans for "two or three days" in the latter

part of November, 1966. With the Times Herald reporter present, he rummaged through some of his personal papers in his apartment Tuesday and came up with the stub of his airplane ticket he used to return from New Orleans to Dallas. It is dated Nov. 22, 1966.

"I never throw anything away," he said, "and I'll bet I'll eventually find Mr. Shaw's business card somewhere."

ODOM SAID he did not recall any of the specific things said either by him or Shaw in the November New Orleans conversation. "I was trying to find a place for the bullfight and he said he might help me—something like that," he said. "But the bullfight did not come off so that was it."

"That was the only time I have ever talked to Mr. Shaw or had any contact with him whatsoever."

Asked to describe the man he talked to, Odom gave a description as to size—"very tall and big", age—"about 50 or so" and other characteristics which match Shaw's.

LEFT UNANSWERED by Odom's story is the coincidence of the numbers, 19106, being in both Oswald's and Shaw's possession.

In front of the five-digit notations in Oswald's book are two letters which Garrison says are "P" and "O." Others say, however, that they are actually Russian letters.

Usually reliable investigative sources in Dallas say that P.O. Box 19106 did not come into existence here until the middle of 1965 when the Knight and Maple substation was re-modeled. This could not be confirmed definitely, however.

Since Oswald died in November, 1963 after being shot by Ruby, this had given some credence to Garrison's theory that the post office box number — along with the name, Lee Odom — were phonies and existed only as part of the Shaw-Oswald-Ruby code.