

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

CLAY L. SHAW

versus

JIM GARRISON individually, and
as District Attorney for the Parish
of Orleans, State of Louisiana, and
JAMES L. ALCOCK individually, and
as Executive Assistant District Attorney
for the Parish of Orleans, State of
Louisiana, and CHARLES R. WARD
individually, and as an Assistant
District Attorney for the Parish of
Orleans, State of Louisiana

CIVIL ACTION

NO. 68-1063

SECTION B

MEMORANDUM OF PLAINTIFF ON MOTION TO
COMPEL ANSWER TO DEPOSITIONS

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

The motion to compel was brought pursuant to the provisions of Rule 37-A upon the failure of all witnesses to answer questions at the depositions.

It is directed to the court's attention that all four deponents are employees of Jim Garrison or defendants themselves in this proceeding.

The issue presented to the court is not the right to discover but the scope of the discovery.

Rule 26 states that, unless otherwise ordered by the court as provided by Rule 30-B or 30-D, the deponent may be examined regarding any matter not privileged. None of the deponents sought to obtain protective orders, despite the fact that adequate time was afforded for this purpose. Additionally, no request was made by any of the deponents for an extension of the deposition on the grounds that they did not have time to seek protective orders of the court.

On the contrary, their employer and chief defendant in these proceedings, on June 4, the day before the depositions were to commence, issued an all-emcompassing directive instructing

the deponents not to cooperate or testify in any way at the depositions. The order itself is couched in contemptuous terms. (See Ex. F attached hereto)

Counsel now argue that they relied upon privileged testimony rather than on the instructions of Garrison. However, a reading of the Garrison letter of instructions and a reading of the depositions will disclose that the Garrison letter was the reason behind the refusal to answer.

It will be shown, from a reading of the depositions, that few, if any, questions were asked which went into a privileged field. Further, that the refusal to answer was not made on a question-by-question and fact-by-fact evaluation as to whether the matter was privileged or not, but constituted a general denial to answer any questions at any time that the name of Shaw was mentioned. It is absurd to argue that the name of Shaw automatically makes the question privileged. If this is true, it will eliminate and deprive plaintiff on his right to deposition.

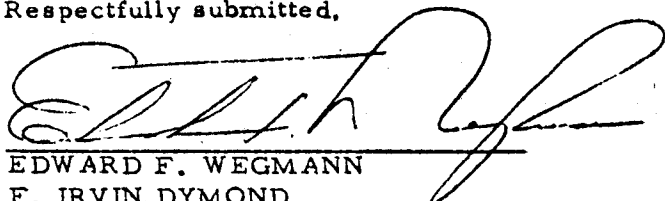
The truth of the matter is that they did not and do not, in the future, intend to answer any questions relative to Clay L. Shaw. This is true despite the fact that there is no state or federal authority authorizing the invocation of a privilege, such as that as is imposed or invoked by Garrison in his letter.

Counsel contend that Shaw is entitled to have the penalties invoked for the arbitrary refusal to answer questions. These penalties include the cost of the depositions and the attorneys' fees for the two days spent in wasted effort in attempting to obtain answers to legitimate questions.

In addition, Shaw is entitled to an order directing the deponents to disregard the Garrison letter and to answer the questions in good faith.

Motion to compel defendants to answer questions propounded to them at their depositions should be granted and defendants should be made to pay the cost of the original depositions by an award to plaintiff in a sum to be determined by this Court.

Respectfully submitted,

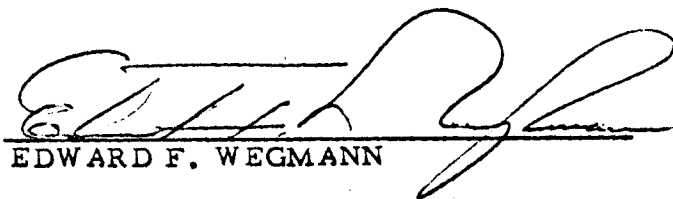


EDWARD F. WEGMANN
F. IRVIN DYMOND
WILLIAM J. WEGMANN
SALVATORE PANZECA,

Attorneys for Plaintiff,
1047 National Bank of Commerce Bldg.
New Orleans, La. - Telephone 524-0732

C E R T I F I C A T E

I certify that I have served a copy of the foregoing Memorandum upon all counsel of record by placing same in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, this 24th day of June, 1968.



EDWARD F. WEGMANN

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA
NEW ORLEANS DIVISION

CLAY L. SHAW,

Plaintiff

versus

CIVIL ACTION

JIM GARRISON, individually, and as
District Attorney for the Parish of
Orleans, State of Louisiana, and
JAMES L. ALCOCK, individually,
and as Executive Assistant District
Attorney for the Parish of Orleans,
State of Louisiana, and
CHARLES R. WARD, individually,
and as an Assistant District Attorney
for the Parish of Orleans, State of
Louisiana,

NO. 68-1063

SECTION: B

Defendants.

MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION TO JOIN THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES AS A DEFENDANT HEREIN

MAY IT PLEASE THE COURT:

Plaintiff has filed herein a Motion to Join the Attorney General of the United States as a defendant, and this Motion has been opposed by the present defendants.

We shall first treat the question of whether or not it is the duty of the United States Attorney General to appear as a party to this suit. The first statute to be considered is 28 USC 547, which sets forth the duties of each United States Attorney, and the pertinent portion of which reads as follows:

"Except otherwise provided by law each United States Attorney within his district shall***prosecute or defend for the Government, all civil actions, suits or proceedings in which the United States is concerned***"
(Emphasis Ours)

We must then examine 28 USC 509, which prescribes the functions of the Attorney General of the United States, the text of the pertinent portion thereof being:

"All functions of other officers of the Department of Justice and all functions of agencies and employees of the Department of Justice are vested in the Attorney General." (The remaining portion of this statute lists certain exceptions which are not pertinent to the issues in this matter)

It is obvious from the two foregoing statutes that the various United States Attorneys are subservient to the Attorney General of the United States, and that as such, whatever may be a duty of a United States Attorney is likewise a duty of the Attorney General.

It should be noted that the aforesaid 28 USC 547 does not say that it is the right or power of United States Attorneys to prosecute or defend actions in which the United States is concerned, but rather that it confers upon those officers an absolute duty to do so. Nowhere do we find a provision to the effect that it shall lie within the discretion of either the Attorney General or the United States Attorneys to defend or prosecute an action in which the Federal Government is concerned.

Upon the oral argument of this Motion, the question was propounded by the Court as to whether, in order for this duty to become effective, the United States would have to already be a party to the proceedings. It is respectfully submitted that had the Congress meant to require that the United States already be a party, the legislation would have so stated. On the contrary, this statute specifically imposes this duty in connection with cases in which the United States is concerned.

Logically, in order to determine whether the duty to appear in these proceedings has been imposed upon the Attorney General through the United States Attorney by virtue of 28 USC 547, we must determine whether or not the United States is concerned in the present proceedings. In view of

the theory of the District Court prosecution, which plaintiff seeks to enjoin, as well as the statements of intention, accusatory statements and implications set forth by the District Attorney for the Parish of Orleans, it is beyond reason to conclude that the United States could fail to be concerned in these proceedings. It must be borne in mind that the following represents merely a scant sampling of the ends which the State admittedly seeks to accomplish by virtue of the prosecution of plaintiff and the publicity attendant thereto:

- (a) To brand the President of the United States as an accessory after the fact in the murder of his predecessor, President John F. Kennedy.
- (b) To brand Executive Order No. 11130, rendered by President Johnson, as a farce, an order issued in bad faith and nothing more than a part of a scheme to deceive and mislead the citizens of our country.
- (c) To impugn the honesty and integrity of the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, the Attorney General of the United States, the Members of Congress who served on the Warren Commission, the Chief and Members of The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Secret Service and the Central Intelligence Agency.

To say that the United States is not concerned in these proceedings is to say that it places no value upon the existence of faith and confidence in the United States Government by the American people; that it is not concerned with the fact that the President of the United States has been accused of criminal activity, and that the entire governmental structure of this country is completely devoid of honesty, integrity, frankness and good faith toward the citizenry. The Court upon oral argument further asked the question, even if the United States is concerned in these proceedings, does this Court have the right to order the Attorney General to involuntarily become a party thereto. 28 USC 1361 clearly gives this Court the authority in the nature of mandamus to order the Attorney General to appear herein as a party.

It is in connection with 28 USC 1361 that the question of whether the appearance in these proceedings is a discretionary matter on the part of

the Attorney General, or whether it is an absolute duty conferred upon him by statute. When this legislation was being considered by the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, the Department of Justice expressed concern that it might be interpreted so as to give the District Courts jurisdiction to order a Government official to act in a manner contrary to his discretion, and it was because of this concern that the Senate Committee adopted the amendment to the Act which specifies that the Court can only compel the official or agency to act where there is a duty or an obligation. (See USC Congressional and Administrative News (1962) at page 2784.) In the case at bar, it is respectfully submitted that we are dealing with an action that is not within the discretion of the Attorney General but one which is imposed upon him as a duty by 28 USC 549 and 509.

Rule 19A provides that persons having a joint interest shall be made parties and be joined on the same side as plaintiffs or defendants, and that when a person who should join as a plaintiff refuses to do so, he may be made a defendant, or in proper cases an involuntary plaintiff.

Rule 19B deals with parties who are not indispensable but who ought to be parties if complete relief is to be accorded between those already parties. It provides that if the jurisdictional and venue requirements are present, the Court shall summon them to appear in the action and only has discretion if the jurisdictional and venue requirements are not present. 28 USC 1391 (e) removes all jurisdictional and venue problems.

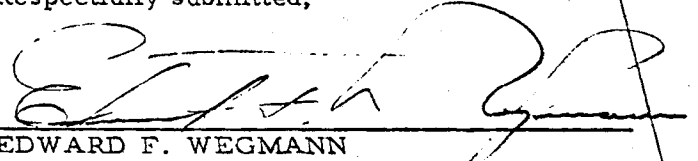
With respect to the Court's discretion in this matter, it is respectfully pointed out that the position taken by the defendants in opposing plaintiff's Motion to Join the Attorney General in these proceedings, is merely another example of the bad faith of which the prosecution of the plaintiff reeks. The District Attorney for the Parish of Orleans has preached all over the Nation that the President of the United States, the Justice Department, the

Central Intelligence Agency, the Secret Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation all have a serious involvement in this prosecution. These statements and public denunciations have, without a doubt, had an adverse influence on prospective jurors. It is only natural that the public should believe the worst; that is, that because of their silence, these individuals and agencies were in fact improperly involved and are covering something up.

The entire theme of the District Attorney's allegations along these lines seem totally inconsistent with his opposing the opportunity to have the United States through the Attorney General as a party litigant in these proceedings, thus subjecting them to the rules of discovery in civil proceedings and affording him an opportunity to prove in open court, if he can, his allegations regarding their involvement. The District Attorney has seen fit to oppose his being granted this opportunity, furnishing another example of his using the news media to create prejudice, suspicion and doubt, and then backing off when he is given an opportunity to prove his insinuations in a court of law.

It is respectfully submitted that it is the duty of the Attorney General of the United States to become a party to these proceedings and that justice will best be served by this Honorable Court's ordering that he do so.

Respectfully submitted,



EDWARD F. WEGMANN
F. IRVIN DYMOND
WILLIAM J. WEGMANN
SALVATORE PANZECA,

Attorneys for Plaintiff
1047 National Bank of Commerce Building,
New Orleans, Louisiana - Telephone 524-0732

Files
Copeland
Schmidt

MFR:BCS:rk
129-11

JUL 9 1968

[REDACTED]

Handwritten initials: *W* and *7/9*

Dear [REDACTED]:
The President has asked me to reply to your letter. He thanks you for your warm expressions of support.

The President appreciates having your views on the stigma some persons attached to Dallas after the assassination of President Kennedy, but which has not been attached to Los Angeles.

Sincerely,

Martin F. Richman
Acting Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legal Counsel

Handwritten initials: *MF*

RECEIVED AND MAILED
JUL 9 1968

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

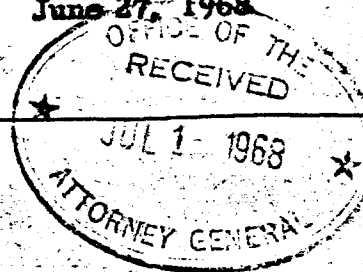
RE REFERRAL

To: The Attorney General

JUL 29 4 1 AM '68

Date: June 27, 1968

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL



ACTION REQUESTED

- Draft reply for:
 - President's signature.
 - Undersigned's signature.
- Memorandum for use as enclosure to reply.
- Direct reply.
- Furnish information copy.
- Suitable acknowledgment or other appropriate handling.
- Furnish copy of reply, if any.
- For your information.
- For comment.

NOTE

Prompt action is essential.

If more than 48 hours' delay is encountered, please telephone the undersigned immediately, Code 1450.

Basic correspondence should be returned when draft reply, memorandum, or comment is requested.

REMARKS:

Description:

Letter: Telegram: Other:

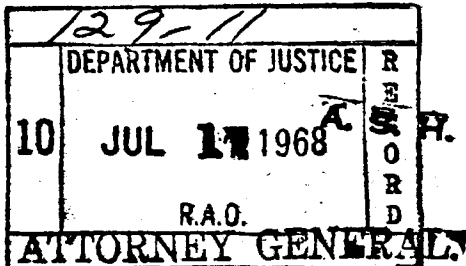
To: The President

From: [REDACTED]

Date: 6/11/68 (6/13 pm)

Subject: Protests stigma which is still attached to Dallas, Texas but did not develop in Los Angeles as a result of the assassination of Senator Kennedy.

By direction of the President:



Whitney Shoemaker
Assistant to the President

OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL (Department or Agency copy)

mec

See 166-1201

7C

I know that this letter will
 probably never reach your eyes, but
 for once I feel that I should state
 how I feel instead of just sitting
 things pass. Maybe this passage
 among the positive-thinking people
 is what is wrong with America.
 Returning the negative feeling people
 are not hesitating to express them-
 selves today. Of course, you must get
 immovable comments like this
 every day and this is not even the
 reason I am writing. Can you tell
 me how long the "Black cloud" will
 hang over Dallas? I made Dallas
 my home for six years, moving
 to a suburb of Los Angeles only
 one month ago. How many times
 in the last week I have heard
 "Remember in Dallas" and "Don't
 let this be a Dallas". There are
 not enough remarks, as the city
 even has never stopped since 1963.

June 11 1968
 1374
 70
 Mrs. [unclear]
 Dallas, Texas 75201

"Vice President, I is there and never saw the "carnival-like atmosphere" described last week by one news commentator. Our city was in shock and perhaps even mass hysteria after the shooting of President Kennedy and Governor Conally. We have been branded as Church-going hypocrites. We were even foolish enough to keep the chief of police who "allowed Oswald's murder, and since then personally broke into a house to relieve a berserk gunman of his weapon. Could it be that the Chief of Police was human and not quite himself at the losing of a man whom we loved and thought loved us? I shed many tears for our dead President and his wife only to find in the "Manchester book what he actually thought of us. I think this hurt almost as much as his death. Regardless of this, the Kennedy name remained God-like in Dallas. Now, in 1963, tragedy

strikes again and Los Angeles emer-
lilly-white. I sincerely believe that
the Los Angeles Chief of Police did
an unsurpassable job, but could it
be that everyone learned a lesson
in 1963? Will the criticizing of
Dallas never cease? I know the
remarks were pointed to even you
who was guilty of having a home
in our state. I thank you for not
having turned your back on Dallas
and America. I could not blame
you if you did, even now. I am
sorry that you are not running
for the Presidency this year. I could
lose my 18 year old brother to the
war in Viet Nam, but my vote
would be cast today to you and
your policies. I know that thank
you is a meaningless phrase for
what you have given all of us,
but thank you, Mr. President.

Sincerely,

7c

T-6/28/68
FW:WSB:mep
129-11

6-28

D. A. K.

July 3 1968

Honorable Donald D. Clancy
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Congressman

This is in reply to your letter of June 25, 1968, concerning the criminal case filed against Mr. Clay Shaw by New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison.

Your constituents appear to be laboring under a misconception concerning the status of this Department in that case. This Department has taken no action of any description to interfere with the trial of that case. Recently Mr. Shaw filed an action in the Federal court in Louisiana to enjoin the prosecution of the criminal charges against him, and on the basis of the allegations set forth the Court issued a temporary restraining order.

We hope this information will assist you in replying to your constituents. It has been our pleasure to serve you in this matter.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

cc: Records
Chrona
Black
Deputy Attorney General
Mr. Vinson

INSPTD. AND MAILED
COMMUNICATIONS SEC.
JUL 3 1968 11

SENT BY MESSENGER
COMMUNICATIONS SEC.
JUL 3 1968 11

FW
mep
7/10

BFT
7/11
WSB
6/28

CM
7/1

RONALD D. CLANCY
2d DISTRICT OF OHIO

COMMITTEE:
ARMED SERVICES

DISTRICT OFFICE:
430 U.S. POST OFFICE
AND COURT HOUSE
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45202
TELEPHONE: 684-3738

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

June 26, 1968

Congressional Liaison
Department of Justice
Constitution Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20530

Gentlemen:

I have received several letters with reference to action recently taken by the Justice Department in issuing an injunction against New Orleans District Attorney, James Garrison, to prevent him from bringing Clay Slaw^{to} trial for conspiracy in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. It would be appreciated if you could advise me if such action has been taken, and if so, the reasons surrounding the issuance of the injunction.

Thank you for your attention and cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Donald D. Clancy
DONALD D. CLANCY

RECEIVED
JUN 27 1968
CRIMINAL DIVISION

129-11

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
10	JUN 27 1968
R.S.O.	
CRIMINAL GEN. CRIME SECT	

W.

6-18

Typed: 6/25/68
RMV:RCM:ehd
129-11

June 28, 1968

Honorable James C. Carran
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman: 7C

This is in response to your communication of June 17, 1968 transmitting a letter from [redacted] concerning the assassination of President Kennedy.

[Handwritten initials]

The authors who have criticized the conclusions of the Warren Commission do not claim to have any significant new evidence, so far as we are aware. Rather, their criticisms and demands for a new inquiry are based upon different conclusions they have drawn from parts of the same body of evidence that was examined by the Commission. The Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts concerning the assassination. The evidence amply supports the basic conclusions of the Commission. In these circumstances, we see no basis for a new inquiry.

[Handwritten initials]

With respect to the New Orleans matter, we can only point out that Mr. Garrison has not discussed his proceedings with Federal authorities. It would not be proper for us to comment on the evidence in a case pending before a state court.

As always, it is a pleasure to be of assistance. Your enclosure is returned herewith.

Sincerely,

Enclosure
Records ✓
Chrono
Malley
Mr. Vinson
Deputy AC

[Handwritten initials]

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
1968 JUN 28 W.D.B.

11934

PLEASE EXPEDITE

THIS MAIL SHOULD

ANSWERED WITHIN 48 HOURS

Receipt was acknowledged 6-18-68

Correspondence Section
Records Administration Office
Administrative Division

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

6/17/ 1968

Department of Justice
Congressional Liaison Office
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

The attached communication
is sent for your consideration.
Please investigate the statements
contained therein and forward me
the necessary information for re-
ply, returning the enclosed corre-
spondence with your answer.

Yours truly,

James C. Corman
JAMES C. CORMAN

M. C.

129-11
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Corman
11 JUN 18 1968 M. H.
CRIMINAL DIV. CRIME SEC.

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
225-5811

VERNER OWENS
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

COMMITTEE ON
JUDICIARY
SELECT COMMITTEE ON
SMALL BUSINESS

JAMES C. CORMAN
22^D DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

DISTRICT OFFICES:
14422 VICTORY BLVD.
VAN NUYS, CALIFORNIA 91401
787-1776

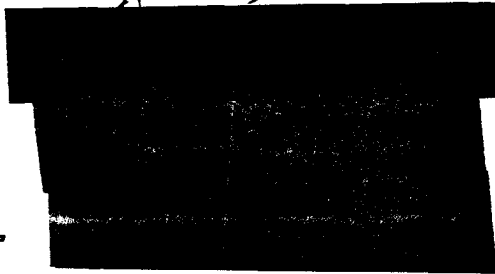
ETHEL G. NARVID
FIELD REPRESENTATIVE

1021 1/2 SAN FERNANDO RD.
SAN FERNANDO, CALIFORNIA 91340
365-1776

Congressman Corman,
For the past year there
has been much information
from New Orleans
which might dispute the
findings of the Warren
Commission Report. The
one-bullet theory and
the one-assailant theory
are in question.

Do you favor a comprehen-
sive investigation of
the J.F.K. assassination
case?

Sincerely,



RECEIVED

JUN 18 1968

CRIMINAL DIVISION

7C

7C

6-14
Typed: 6/17/68

FMV:MSB:lm
129-11

June 21, 1968

Honorable George Murphy
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

This is in reply to your memorandum of June 13, 1968, concerning your constituent, [redacted] who requested information regarding the injunction granted by a Federal court temporarily restraining New Orleans District Attorney J. A. Garrison from prosecuting Mr. Clay Shaw. 7c

Since neither Mr. Garrison nor Mr. Shaw have ever discussed these proceedings with Federal authorities, the only information we have regarding this matter is that the court issued the injunction at the request of Mr. Shaw and his attorneys.

It has been our pleasure to serve you in this matter.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

WSP
Records
Chromo
Mr. Flock
Mr. Vinson
DAG

SENT BY MESSENGER
COMMUNICATIONS SEC.

JUN 21 1968

PLEASE EXPEDITE

THIS MAIL SHOULD BE

ANSWERED WITHIN 48 HOURS

Receipt was acknowledged 6-14-68

Correspondence Section
Records Administration Office
Administrative Division

United States Senate
13 June 1968



7C

Respectfully referred to

.....
Department of Justice - Washington, D.C.
(MARKED PARAGRAPH)

for such consideration as the communication
herewith submitted may warrant, and for a report
thereon, in duplicate to accompany return of
inclosure.

[Handwritten signature]

By direction of

RECEIVED

JUN 14 1968

CRIMINAL DIVISION

129-11

DEPT. OF JUSTICE	U. S.	RECORDS
11	JUN 14 1968	CRIM. DIV.
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.		

and encouraging us to have
under the same

general security

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

P.S. Could you kindly send
me information regarding
of the Federal injection in
the Jerome - Shaw case.

6-12

T. 6/28/68

FMV:WSB:ls
129-11 X A. C

July 1, 1968

Honorable Alphonzo Hall
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Miss Joanne Kauffman

Dear Congressman:

This is in reply to your memorandum of June 19, 1968, concerning an inquiry you received from [redacted] relating to New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of the assassination of the late President Kennedy and his prosecution of Mr. Clay Shaw.

7C

7C

FW
6/28

We can only point out that neither Mr. Garrison nor Mr. Shaw have ever discussed these proceedings with Federal authorities, nor has the Federal Government done anything to interfere with Mr. Garrison's investigation or trial of Mr. Shaw. Recently Mr. Shaw filed an action in the Federal court in Louisiana to enjoin the prosecution of the criminal charges against him, and on the basis of the allegations set forth the Court issued a temporary restraining order.

We hope this report will be of assistance in replying to [redacted]. It has been our pleasure to serve you in this matter. Your enclosure is returned herewith.

WWS
6/28

7C

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure

Records ✓
Chrono.
Mr. Block
Mr. Vinson
Deputy Attorney General

SENT BY MESSENGER
COMMUNICATIONS SEC.
JUL 1 1968 JA

PLEASE EXPEDITE

THIS MAIL SHOULD BE
ANSWERED WITHIN 48 HOURS

Receipt was acknowledged 6-20-68

Correspondence Section
Records Administration Office
Administrative Division

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

19 June 1968, 196

Congressional Liaison

Justice Dept.

Washington, D. C.

The attached communication is submitted for your consideration, and to ask that the request made therein be complied with, if possible.

If you will advise me of your action in this matter and have the letter returned to me with your reply, I will appreciate it.

Please send reply to

attention of: Miss Joanne

Kaufman

129-11
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

11 JUN 20 1968

R.A.O.

Very truly yours,

CRIMINAL GEN. CRIME SEC

Alphonse Dece

M.C.

Los Angeles, Calif.

District

RECEIVED

JUN 21 1968

DIVISION

7 [REDACTED]
June 12, 1968

The Honorable Alphonzo Bell
The House of Representatives
1504 Longworth Building
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Mr. Bell:

The capture of the Pueblo several months ago has been of deep concern to me and I am sure, to the whole nation. Is there any information that you have access to with regard to this tragedy? Specifically:

What, if anything, is President Johnson doing towards the return of the ship and our men (one of whom has since died)?

When can the people of this nation receive a public statement of concern from our government regarding this tragedy, and be informed as to an immediate solution?

It seems that the news media has had nothing whatever to offer in this regard, and it would be greatly appreciated if you could look into this as my representative for the 28th Congressional District.

Secondly, do you have any information as to WHY District Attorney Jim Garrison, of New Orleans, has been thwarted in all his attempts, by the government, in his investigation into the Kennedy assassination (President Kennedy); and why he has been prohibited from further prosecuting CLAY SHAW? Seems to me that now, especially, in view of another tragic assassination, that the government would do all in their power to look into any leads that might bring all persons responsible and connected with these tragedies to justice, particularly in light of all the mounting evidence and clues that have been turned up.

As a loyal American and interested citizen of this country, I would deeply appreciate any possible light you can shed on these grave problems that face our nation.

Respectfully submitted,

ecb

[REDACTED] 7c

6-11

June 25, 1968

Dear [REDACTED] 7C

On behalf of President Johnson, I should like to acknowledge your letter and thank you for writing. Your interest in letting him have your comments is appreciated and you may be sure they have been fully noted.

With the President's gratitude for your support, and with his best wishes,

Sincerely,

Whitney Shoemaker
Assistant to the President

[REDACTED]

7C

RECEIVED

JUSTICE:

129-11
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
JUL 1 1968
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME

low
R-217K
0-7(a)
Justice:

June 11, 1968

Lyndon B. Johnson,
President Of The United States
The White House
Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Recent television programs and public opinion polls have indicated that the public is generally unsatisfied with the findings of the Warren Commission as outlined in that Commission's report.

Because of this considerable doubt in the hearts of the public, and because you are the representative of the entire nation, I implore you to effect the re-opening of this investigation, or at least to effect the lifting of the Federal injunction against Jim Garrison.

If Mr. Garrison is just a publicity hound, and if he is personally motivated as the Federal injunction declares, then intense public scrutiny through the media will expose him as such. If he has ill-accused various individuals, such will be demonstrated through due process and restitutions will be made. We cannot let the fact that we do not wish to believe the Garrison allegations permit us to sweep the matter under the carpet for future historians to find and reveal in. The chance that Mr. Garrison's charges MIGHT be true makes the pursuit of the matter one of National security. We cannot afford to have such questions unresolved. The recent horrors involving the deaths of Dr. King and Senator Kennedy demand that the public mind be satisfied regarding who is responsible for the deeds. When representatives of large numbers of people are assassinated, democracy is radically weakened. The possibility that conspirators are allowed to go free in American society is a lethal threat not only to fine leaders such as yourself, but to all that America is supposed to stand for.

You are to be congratulated for your fine record of representing the interests of the people. Keep up the fine work, whatever you may think of my suggestions. So much of our National future is in your hands.

Sincerely,

[Redacted signature block]

129-11

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		R M C D D
5	JUL 1 1968	
R.A.O.		
CRIMINAL-GEN. CRIME SEC.		

7C
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ack
W. J. Garrison
Necessity referred to the President and appropriate handling.
Resistant to the President

7C

Typed: 6/17/68
FMV:RCN:ehd
129-11

June 19, 1968

Honorable John V. Tunney
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Congressman:

This is in response to your communication of June 6, 1968, transmitting a letter from [redacted] concerning the assassination of President Kennedy.

The authors who have criticized the conclusions of the Warren Commission do not claim to have any significant new evidence so far as we are aware. Rather, their criticisms and demands for new inquiry are based upon different conclusions they have drawn from parts of the same body of evidence that was examined by the Commission. The Commission made a thorough inquiry and detailed analysis of the facts concerning the assassination. The evidence amply supports the basic conclusions of the Commission. In these circumstances, we see no basis for a new inquiry.

With respect to the New Orleans matter, we can only point out that Mr. Garrison has not discussed his proceedings with Federal authorities. It would not be proper for us to comment on the evidence in a case pending before a state court.

I trust that this information will be of interest to [redacted]. It is always a pleasure to be of assistance. Your enclosure is returned herewith.

Sincerely,

FRED M. VINSON, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

Enclosure
Records ✓
Chrono
Nalley
Mr. Vinson
Deputy AG

SENT BY MESSENGER
COMMUNICATIONS SEC.
JUN 19 1968 TJ

PLEASE EXPEDITE

THIS MAIL SHOULD BE

ANSWERED WITHIN 48 HOURS

Receipt was acknowledged 6-10-68

Correspondence Section
Records Administration Office
Administrative Division

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C.

66 1968

Sir:

The attached communication is sent for your consideration. Please investigate the statements contained therein and forward me the necessary information for reply, returning the enclosed correspondence ~~with your answer.~~

129-11
DEPT. OF JUSTICE
11 JUN 10 1968
Yours truly,
Corres. Unit
CRIMINAL GEN. CRIME SEC.

RECEIVED

JUN 10 1968

CRIMINAL DIVISION

[Redacted]

7C

May 18, 1968

RECEIVED

John V. Tunney, Congressman
38th California District
care of House Post Office
Washington, D. C.

MAY 21 1968

JVT.....DAT.....
TVG.....JCH.....
RRM.....AJJ.....
MLS.....
52268

Dear Sir:

I recently read a copy of the January 1968 issue of Ramparts magazine in the local public library. This magazine is not one that I usually read but the article on Jim Garrisons investigation into the killing of President Kennedy looked interesting. Unfortunately it was very interesting, with an enormous number of names, places, dates and incidents, which taken althgether, makes the Warren Report look less than accurate.

I would like to suggest that now is the time for Congress to conduct its own very careful investigation into the death of the President, before the matter turns into another Dreyfus case. It would be far better to find out now that the government of the country had covered up a murder and lied to it's people for five years (if indeed it has?) rather than wait through the next twenty years to find out that the government had covered up time after time, lied again and again--for expediencys sake and the good of the nation--while the matter came up again and again always involving more and more people with ever increasing intensity, until chance or the sheer pressure of facts forced out the truth.

I am also suggesting that you personally start it by checking into the strange case of Richard Case Nagell currently in Federal Prison, convicted on strange charges indeed. As told in this particular issue of Ramparts magazine on pages fifty-six and fifty-seven his story is even stranger than the charges against him.

Yours truly

[Redacted]

7C

Form No. CM-1a
(Rev. 11-20-63)

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
ROUTING SLIP

TO:	NAME	DIVISION	BUILDING	ROOM
1.	Cliff Sessions			5116
2.	return to Criminal			
3.	Division, General Crimes Section			2110
4.				

<input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PER CONVERSATION
<input type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/> NECESSARY ACTION	<input type="checkbox"/> AS REQUESTED
<input type="checkbox"/> SEE ME	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND RETURN	<input type="checkbox"/> NOTE AND FILE
<input type="checkbox"/> RECOMMENDATION	<input type="checkbox"/> CALL ME	<input type="checkbox"/> YOUR INFORMATION
<input type="checkbox"/> ANSWER OR ACKNOWLEDGE ON OR BEFORE _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> PREPARE REPLY FOR THE SIGNATURE OF _____		

REMARKS

Cliff -

We "no commented" ~~xxxxxx~~ Garrison's recent press conference. Now we have facts which appear to conclusively rebut many of his allegations.

Would this be a good time to issue a statement in this regard?

Fred Vinson

FROM:	NAME	BUILDING, ROOM, EXT.	DATE
	ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL Criminal Division		12/29/67