

Garrison Released As Unfit in 1951, Army Files Show

By ORR KELLY
Star Staff Writer

New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison was discharged from the Army in 1951 as "totally disabled from the standpoint of military duty," according to his military medical record.

Garrison, who has claimed that he will prove that President John F. Kennedy was killed by a group rather than by a single assassin, was found at that time to be suffering from a severe and disabling psychoneurosis of long duration.

Since then, however, Garrison has been readmitted to service in the National Guard and, since February of this year, has been a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserve.

Garrison first joined the National Guard in 1939 and served on active duty in the Army for five years during World War II.

His Record

Shortly after the war, while he was a law student in New Orleans, his service record shows, he began to suffer from severe exhaustion.

From October 1950 until February 1951, his record shows, he was under the care of a psychiatrist at Louisiana State University. He was told then that he was suffering from "a deep-seated, chronic severe psychoneurosis."

He rejoined the Army as a captain on July 24, 1951. Almost immediately, he complained that he "just couldn't make it" and was hospitalized at Fort Sill, Okla.

In mid-September of 1951, he was sent to the Brooke Army Hospital at Fort Sam Houston, Tex., and was discharged for medical reasons on Oct. 31 after medical tests and disapproval before a Physical Evaluation Board.

Garrison Unreachable

Attempts to reach Garrison for comment on the medical records were unavailing. His office in New Orleans said he was in conference and no one knew how long he would be unavailable.

Sensitive to Wool Lint

Records accompanying Garrison from the hospital at Fort Sill showed a diagnosis of a "schizoid personality suspected, unproven."

Schizophrenia is a severe mental disease. The diagnosis by the doctors at Brooke of psychoneurosis is a less severe personality disorder.

In fact, the report said he was well-oriented and had no delusions or hallucinations, which would be characteristic of the

more severe disease. He reportedly described his symptoms openly and would comment, "I know this sounds crazy, but this is how I feel."

One of his "bizarre" symptoms was an extreme sensitivity to wool lint, which would cause him to lose his breath and burst out in hives.

Report at Brooke

In discussing his case, the report prepared by the physicians at Brooke said:

"This patient has a severe and disabling psychoneurosis of long duration. It has interfered with his social and professional adjustment to a marked degree.

"He is considered totally disabled from the standpoint of military duty and moderately severely incapacitated in civilian adaptability.

"His illness existed long before his call to active duty July 24, 1951, and is of the type that will require a long-term psychotherapeutic approach. . . . He can safely be discharged in his own custody."

Despite his later flamboyant life as a district attorney, the doctors at Brooke found that he had been "a somewhat shy, introverted type of individual throughout life."

GARRISON CALLS THREE IN PROBE

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison today subpoenaed three men—two from California and one from Nebraska—as "material witnesses" in his probe into the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The three were identified as Loran A. Hall of Kernville, Calif.; Thomas Beckham of Omaha, Neb., and Lawrence J. Howard Jr. of Los Angeles.

Criminal Dist. Court Judge Matthew S. Branniff issued the subpoenas and ordered the men to appear before the Orleans Parish grand jury Feb. 1 and 2. The documents said the three would be granted immunity from arrest for anything happening prior to their entry into Louisiana.

DeLoach
Mohr
Bishop
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

*Subj. [unclear]
L. [unclear]
R. [unclear]*

*Investigation of
President John F. Kennedy*

The Washington Post _____
Times Herald _____
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star (Washington)
The Sunday Star (Washington)
Daily News (New York) _____
Sunday News (New York) _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Sun (Baltimore) _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
People's World _____

Date DEC 29 1967

67-109060-11

NOT RECORDED
199 JAN 8 1968

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*File
5/1/68*

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- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
- Gandy _____

Edw. [unclear]
[unclear]

62-109060-17

NOT RECORDED
199 JAN 11 1968

- The Washington Post _____
- Times Herald _____
- The Washington Daily News _____
- The Evening Star (Washington) _____
- The Sunday Star (Washington) _____
- Daily News (New York) _____
- Sunday News (New York) _____
- New York Post _____
- The New York Times _____
- The Sun (Baltimore) _____
- The Worker _____
- The New Leader _____
- The Wall Street Journal _____
- The National Observer _____
- People's World _____

Date 12/29/67
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File 5/1/68

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