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Bradley 'Seen' in Dallas on Day of Assassination

Ex-Deputy Claims North Hollywood Man Posed as Federal Agent Near Death Site

BY JERRY COHEN AND ED MEAGHER

Times Staff Writers

New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's extradition request for Edgar Eugene Bradley is based, at least in part, on a report that the North Hollywood man posed as a Secret Service agent in Dallas on the day of the John F. Kennedy assassination, The Times learned Thursday.

A former Dallas County deputy sheriff swore in an affidavit that he had positively identified Bradley as the man he talked with on the steps of the Texas Book Depository minutes after the slaying.

The 49-year-old Californian "represented himself as a Secret Service man" as he mingled with Dallas policemen just after the killing, Roger D. Craig said in the sworn document.

Craig's claim that he was a deputy sheriff on Nov. 22, 1963, and active in the very early stages of the Dallas investigation is supported by testimony in the Warren Commission Report.

Bradley's Image

But in declarations to commission investigators, he did not mention Bradley, charged last month by Garrison with conspiring to murder President Kennedy.

He explains this by pointing out he did not associate the "Secret Service agent" with the North Hollywood man until he saw Bradley's image flashed on a television screen just before Christmas.

Bradley has denied the charge, has said he does not know any of the principals named by Garrison as plotters and that he will resist attempts to extradite him to New Orleans.

Craig, whose lengthy April 1, 1964, Warren Commission testimony was dismissed by the panel's analysts as "unacceptable," apparently is a prime Garrison witness against Bradley.

Craig's affidavit is contained in an extradition request, prepared by Garrison. Its legality was approved Wednesday by Jodie Stout, an aide to Louisiana Atty. Gen. Jack P. Gremlion.

The extradition papers Thursday awaited the signature of Louisiana Gov. John J. McKeithen, who reportedly was on a brief out-of-state visit.

A McKeithen spokesman in Baton Rouge said, however, the lieutenant governor is legally empowered to sign the papers and order them sent to California Gov. Reagan, who must make the extradition decision.

Says He Was Fired

Craig, who says he was fired by the Dallas sheriff's office shortly after the assassination, claimed he spoke with Bradley on the depository steps between 12:40 and 12:50 p.m. The President was shot at 12:35 p.m.

Craig told Garrison he sought to pass on to "the Secret Serviceman" information, but that the presumed agent "showed no interest whatsoever."

He described the man he thought to be a federal agent as being about 5-10 and having "darker than blond, but not very dark, hair."

That roughly matches the description of Bradley, West Coast business representative for Dr. Carl McIntire, a widely known broadcast radio evangelist of staunchly conservative bent.

It is Garrison's view that a combine of American right-wingers, anti-Castro Cubans and elements operating on the fringe of the CIA hatched a plot which reached fruition in Dealy Plaza in late November four years ago.

Funds Raised

Dr. McIntire has repeatedly supported Bradley's denials and recently appeared at Southern California rallies designed to raise funds for the latter's extradition fight.

Craig said he had made his identification of Bradley from newspaper photographs.

His was not the only affidavit sent to the Loui-

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

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I-4 Los Angeles Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

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Date: 1/26/68
Edition: Home
Author: Jerry Cohen and Ed Meagher
Editor: Nick B. Williams
Title: Assassination of President John F. Kennedy, 11/22/63, Dallas, Texas
Character: Misc. Info. Concerning
Classification: LA 89-75
Submitting Office: Los Angeles
 Being Investigated

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siana governor's office to support Garrison's request for Bradley's extradition, however.

The controversial district attorney himself also swore to an affidavit in which he claimed he had evidence to show Bradley was "in Dallas Nov. 22, 1963, not in El Paso as he claims" and that Bradley was "actively engaged in accomplishing" the assassination.

Bradley says he learned of the assassination near the terminus of a Tulsa-to-El Paso bus trip. He voluntarily surrendered to Sheriff Peter J. Pitchess here last month after Garrison forwarded a warrant for his arrest to Los Angeles.

Thursday, Bradley reiterated his statement about the bus trip upon learning of Craig's affidavit which appeared to take him by surprise and arouse his indignation.

"I challenge the propo-

to take the same lie detector test I took," he said. "I was not in Dallas on the day of the assassination; I was not involved in any conspiracy and I do not know any of the persons named in the case."

Bradley took a lie test about two weeks ago and the polygraph expert who conducted the test said it cleared him.

Bradley also speculated Thursday about the possibility he may have an exact double, and added: "These people who accuse me will fail any lie detector test, unless there is somebody who looks so much like me that they think they are telling the truth."

Garrison also contended in the extradition request that Bradley "personally and physically" met in New Orleans with other conspirators both before and after the assassination.

'Other Evidence'

Bradley says he has been in New Orleans just once in his life and that was for a short time in 1967.

Garrison said he has "other evidence" that Bradley discussed "in detail" with other plotters "measures to accomplish the assassination."

The district attorney late

last winter charged New Orleans civic leader Clay Shaw, whose trial is scheduled in mid-February, with plotting the assassination.

He also claims that the late David Ferrie, eccentric pilot-preacher-hypnotist who died just after Garrison's investigation first became public, was a key to the conspiracy.

Garrison has sought to subpoena two California men active in anti-Castro adventures in 1963, Lawrence Howard Jr. of El Monte and Loran Hall of Kernville, as material witnesses, but thus far has

been unsuccessful. He claims the two have intimate knowledge of the involvement of Bradley, Shaw and Ferrie in a conspiracy.

Ex-Deputy Sheriff Craig told Warren Commission investigators he saw a man he later identified as Lee Harvey Oswald run from the direction of the depository and jump into a light-colored Rambler station wagon. The vehicle, driven by a dark-complexioned man, then sped away, according to Craig.

Later in the afternoon of Nov. 22, claimed Craig, he saw Oswald in a police

interrogation room and that he told Homicide Chief J. Will Fritz that Oswald was the man he had seen running.

According to the commission's report: "Craig also claimed that when Fritz pointed out to Oswald that Craig had identified him, Oswald rose from his chair, looked directly at Fritz, and said: 'Everybody will know who I am now.'"

Fritz swore that no such incident occurred, and the commission reported it "could not accept important elements of Craig's testimony."

In Dallas Thursday, Craig told a Times reporter Garrison had "fingered" Bradley long before he, Craig, supplied his identification.

Craig moved back to Dallas about two weeks ago from New Orleans where he had worked for a month as personnel manager for an auto firm owned by Willard Robertson, who heads a businessman's committee supplying Garrison with investigative funds.

'Created' Job

Craig said he had quit the job because he felt it had been "created" for him and that he was not essential to the firm.

He said he first got in touch with Garrison in

October to correct what he considered errors by the Warren Commission in interpreting his testimony about Oswald.

He claimed to have walked into his New Orleans residence about three days before Christmas just as an image of Bradley was flashed on the television screen and was identified as a California man Garrison had charged with conspiracy. He claimed to have turned to his wife and said:

"That's the man who identified himself as a Secret Service agent to me."

Craig claimed: "I have always had that face in mind. Everything that happened that day is a picture in my mind. I can remember his smooth complexion and cleft in the chin. I can remember every word said that day."

Craig, 31, is married and the father of two small children. His wife supported his story during an interview at their Dallas residence.

The Dallas sheriff's office confirmed he was honored as its Man of the Year in 1960, an award based on his capture of a dangerous criminal. He served as a deputy for eight years.