

Assassination of President

John F. Kennedy

11/22/63

Dallas Texas

- Tolson _____
- DeLoach _____
- Mohr _____
- Bishop _____
- Casper _____
- Callahan _____
- Conrad _____
- Felt _____
- Gale _____
- Rosen _____
- Sullivan _____
- Tavel _____
- Trotter _____
- Tele. Room _____
- Holmes _____
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Taylor
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CISA
SHAW 2/10 NX
DAY LD
BY H.D. QUIGG

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)--THE STATE CALLED FERRY RAYMOND RUSSO TODAY TO TELL HIS STORY OF LISTENING WHILE CLAY L. SHAW, LEE HARVEY OSWALD AND DAVID W. FERRIE PLOTTED IN DETAIL THE MURDER OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

RUSSO, 27, AN INSURANCE SALESMAN, TESTIFIED AT A HEARING NEARLY TWO YEARS AGO THAT IN SEPTEMBER, 1963, HE HAD ATTENDED A PARTY IN FERRIE'S APARTMENT WHERE IN WHICH THE THREE--IN DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON'S OPENING STATEMENT WORDS--"DISCUSSED AND REFINED" THE PLOT.

SHAW, 55, A RETIRED BUSINESSMAN, IS CHARGED WITH CONSPIRING WITH THE OTHER TWO, NOW DEAD, TO ASSASSINATE KENNEDY BUT THE CHARGE DOES NOT ALLEGE MURDER.

CONVICTION WOULD BRING SHAW ONE TO 20 YEARS IN JAIL. HE HAS BEEN FREE ON \$10,000 BOND SINCE HIS ARREST IN MARCH, 1967.

RUSSO GAVE HIS ORIGINAL TESTIMONY ON MARCH 14, 1967. THE NEXT DAY HE SAID HE HAD BEEN PLACED UNDER HYPNOSIS BY GARRISON'S INVESTIGATORS THREE TIMES BEFORE THE HEARING.

HIS TESTIMONY IN SHAW'S TRIAL IN CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT WERE WILL FOLLOW THAT OF A STATE WITNESS WHO SAID HE HAD BEEN HYPNOTIZED AGAINST HIS WILL "POSSIBLY 50 OR 60 TIMES" OVER A 15-YEAR PERIOD.

THAT WITNESS, CHARLES I. SPIESEL, A NEW YORK ACCOUNTANT AND TAX CONSULTANT, TOOK THE JURY, AT THE DEFENSE'S REQUEST ON A BALMY NOONTIME JOURNEY TO THE FRENCH QUARTER SATURDAY IN SEARCH OF THE APARTMENT HE TESTIFIED HE VISITED IN JUNE, 1963.

THERE, HE TESTIFIED, HE HEARD ABOUT 10 MEN, INCLUDING SHAW AND FERRIE, DISCUSSING WAYS TO KILL THE PRESIDENT. SAID SPIESEL "SEEMED TO BE AMUSED" AT THE CONVERSATION. HE HAD SAID IN HIS OPENING THAT THE TESTIMONY WOULD BE SUGGESTED THAT THE MAN DOING THE SHOOTING WOULD BE "SHAW" KILLED BEFORE HE COULD MAKE HIS ESCAPE.

HOWEVER, THE WITNESS TESTIFIED THAT HE, SPIESEL, WAS THE ONE WHO HAD SAID--BEING ALARMED AT THE CONVERSATION--THE ASSASSIN "WOULD GET HIMSELF KILLED." HE SAID SHAW THEN ASKED FERRIE, A COMMERCIAL AIRLINE PILOT, IF "SOMEONE COULD PROBABLY FLY HIM (THE KILLER) OUT" AND FERRIE HAD "HEELED AND HAVED AND SAID YES."

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ON CROSS EXAMINATION, DEFENSE ATTORNEY F. IRVIN DYMOND DREW FROM SPIESEL DETAILS OF A FEDERAL COURT SUIT FILED IN NEW YORK SEEKING SIX MILLION DAMAGES FROM THE PINKERTON DETECTIVE AGENCY AND A NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING A PSYCHIATRIST AND HIS COMPETITORS, FOR TORTURING HIM MENTALLY, HYPNOTIZING HIM TO GET CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION, TURNING HIS LIGHTS OFF FROM TIME TO TIME AND OBTAINING ENTRANCE TO HIS APARTMENT BY POSING AS RELATIVES.

AS A RESULT, THE SUIT ALLEGED, HE WAS PREVENTED FROM HAVING NORMAL SEX RELATIONS AND FORCED TO TURN OVER HIS BUSINESS TO COMPETITORS.

"WHEN YOU'RE HYPNOTIZED, DO YOU REALIZE YOU'RE BEING HYPNOTIZED?" ASKED DYMOND.

"I KNOW WHEN THEY ATTEMPT," SPIESEL REPLIED.

"WERE YOU HYPNOTIZED HERE IN NEW ORLEANS?"

"I WOULD SAY FROM TIME TO TIME PEOPLE HERE IN NEW ORLEANS HAVE TRIED TO HYPNOTIZE ME," SPIESEL SAID. "I DON'T KNOW THEIR IDENTITY."

"HOW CAN YOU TELL THEY'RE TRYING?"

"THEY TRY TO CATCH MY EYE--CATCH MY ATTENTION," SPIESEL REPLIED.

"DID THAT HAPPEN TO YOU IN 1967?"

"I'VE BEEN COMING DOWN HERE SINCE 1962-61," SPIESEL SAID.

"HAVE YOU BEEN HYPNOTIZED SINCE YOU'VE BEEN HERE THIS TIME?"

"I'M AFRAID I MUST SAY NO," SPIESEL ANSWERED.

"YOU'RE AFRAID YOU MUST..." QUERIED JUDGE EDWARD A.

HAGGERTY JR.

THE ANSWER WAS INAUDIBLE IN THE HUGE COURTROOM.

"DID YOU TELL THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY ABOUT THIS LAWSUIT AND THE HYPNOTISM?" DYMOND ASKED.

"YES, I BELIEVE I MENTIONED IT."

"THAT'S ALL," SAID DYMOND, AND THE WITNESS WAS DISMISSED.

BUT BY THE TIME SPIESEL HAD STARTED TO TALK OUT DYMOND

REMEMBERED HE HAD ASKED SPIESEL TO TRY TO FIND

THE APARTMENT FOR THE JURY.

COURT WAS ADJOURNED SO THE JURY COULD BE TAKEN BY BUS TO THE FRENCH QUARTER, WHICH NOW IS BEING OVERCROWDED WITH TOURISTS COMING IN THE MARDI GRAS SEASON TO THIS SOPHISTICATED AND LOVELY CITY WHERE JAZZ WAS BORN AND POLITICS HAS HAD SOME OF ITS FINEST HOURS.

AT THE CORNER OF DAUPHINE AND ESPLANADE STREETS IN THE QUARTER, PEOPLE GAZED AT THE SPECTACLE OF SWEATING TELEVISION CREWMEN AND THEIR ODDMENTS OF EQUIPMENT AND THE CROWD OF REPORTERS SURROUNDING SPIESEL, 5-FEET-5 IN A LITTLE GRAY HAT AND HOLDING A CIGAR, AND THE JUDGE WALKING IN FRONT OF THE JURY.

ONE OF THE QUIANT NEW ORLEANS TOURIST HORSEDRAGN CARRIAGES WITH A FRINGE ON TOP PASSED, THE HORSE WEARING A GENDARME HAT WITH ITS EARS STICKING UP THROUGH HOLES AND A RED ARTIFICIAL FLOWER BLOOMING BETWEEN THEM, BUT ALL TOURIST EYES WERE ON THE JURY AND ITS FRINGE.

SPIESEL WENT INTO TWO BUILDINGS AND SAID LATER IN COURT THAT "THE SECOND IS SIMILAR IF NOT THE BUILDING,"

INTO WHICH HE WENT SHORTLY BEFORE MIDNIGHT AND HEARD THE TALK.

ONE MAY HE REMEMBERED, HE SAID, WAS THAT "WHEN I LEFT

THE PARTY THAT NIGHT, DOWN ESPLANADE A COUPLE OF BLOCKS

WAS A BAR ON THE CORNER."

WDEARAS