

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

# 'PLOT' PROBER TO CONFER WITH GARRISON IN N.O.

## Disclosures Forecast by Private Cop

By DAVID SNYDER

A Miami Cuban exile who helped guard President John F. Kennedy and has been working with Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison in a new investigation of the assassination was scheduled to confer

with the DA in New Orleans today.

Bernardo Torres, the 32-year-old exile, predicted in Miami, where he helped guard Kennedy, that "another chapter will be added to the Warren report when the investigation is released."

Meanwhile, Garrison kept mum on details of his investigation but insisted there will be arrests and convictions in connection with a New Orleans-based plot to assassinate the late President.

THE DA RELUCTANTLY admitted that the investigation was under way following disclosures Friday in a copyrighted story in the States-Item.

Torres said he would leave for New Orleans today accompanied by Ralph Bequer, his partner in a private detective business.

He said yesterday he believes the Warren Commission report, which pinpointed Lee Harvey Oswald as the lone assassin, will be proved incomplete.

HE SAID HE has been helping Garrison in a probe looking toward reopening the Kennedy assassination case.

Torres said he was one of 10 Cubans who helped protect Kennedy in Miami, which has a large Cuban colony.

He said the Secret Service had asked trusted Cubans to spot suspicious Cubans.

TORRES SAID Garrison engaged him to look into the background of some Cubans reported to have been with Oswald, named as the assassin, shortly before Kennedy was shot Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 1

New Orleans  
States-Item

Date: 2-20-67

Edition: Red Comet

Author:

Editor:

Title: ASSASSINATION OF  
PRESIDENT JOHN F.  
KENNEDY 11/22/63

Character:

or

Classification: 89-

Submitting Office: N.O.

 Being Investigated

ENCLOSURE

FEB 22 1967 451

Torres predicted that "the Warren Report and the FBI report (on the assassination) will crumble when the investigation is released."

The private detective said he has made several trips between Miami and New Orleans in connection with the Garrison probe.

**HE WAS LISTED** in the DA's records as receiving money for a "special investigation."

Torres said he had seen photographs of Oswald with some Cubans, although he was not acquainted with them. The photographs in question were reportedly taken in New Orleans shortly before the assassination.

Torres refused to discuss a report that Oswald had

visited Miami to talk with Cubans. Nor would he talk about reports that some exiles—angry at Kennedy's failure to take action which might have saved the unsuccessful 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion—were talking about killing the President.

**TORRES WAS** a member of the invasion brigade. He now is military coordinator of its veterans' organization, called Brigade 2506.

Garrison lashed out at newspaper stories on the probe.

"We have not mentioned anyone's name," he said. "I think that one of the most outrageous things, one of the most irresponsible things perpetrated by the newspapers in their sensational grab of our investigation, turning it into headlines, was to show pictures of individuals and infer that they were subjects either on the verge of arrest or to be arrested down the line." (No such pictures were published in the State-Item.)

**ASKED TO SUM** up his investigation this far, Garrison replied:

"Well, I can't sum it up in terms of individuals or what might turn out to be evidence. I can say that we have been investigating the role of the city of New Orleans in the assassination of President Kennedy, and we have made some progress—I think substantial progress. At least, we were making progress until the newspapers revealed a number of details."

The DA also replied to a statement by Rep. Gerald R. Ford, R-Mich., that he should forward his findings to the U.S. attorney general who could then convey them on to President Lyndon B. Johnson.

Said Garrison, "I am running this investigation, not the President, not the attorney general.

**"WE ARE** investigating a conspiracy which appeared to have occurred in New Orleans and they don't have a thing in the world to do with it. Now, if they want to help me, I'll welcome their help. But I'm not reporting to anybody."

He said involvement with federal officials would slow his probe.

Meanwhile, several Latins in New Orleans had something to say about the investigation.

Alberto Fowler, a Cuban refugee and director of international relations for the city, said of Garrison's probe into the assassination:

"If he's gone to all the trou-

ble of an investigation he must have some pretty hot lead."

Manuel Gil, New Orleans delegate to the Miami-based Movimiento Insurreccional de Recuperacion Revolucionaria, asserted that "the hand of Castro was directly behind the suspected plot."

Gil said there is a possibility of a conspiracy having been hatched in New Orleans and he expressed the belief that Oswald had other people working with him at the time of the assassination.

**COMMENT ALSO** was heard from another part of the country.

In San Diego, Calif., attorney Melvin Belli said yesterday that it was just a coincidence that Jack Ruby and Oswald were in New Orleans at the same time.

Belli, who defended Jack Ruby, the slayer of Oswald, said the two were in New Orleans at the same time but this was coincidental. He said he does not believe there was a conspiracy to kill President Kennedy.