

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

FEB 23 1967
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FBI NEW ORLS

10-03AM URGENT 2-23-67 LWH

TO DIRECTOR 62-10960

FROM NEW ORLEANS 89-69

SPD
Brown

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER TWENTYTWO, SIXTYTHREE. MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONCERNING.

APM

RE NEW ORLEANS TELS, FEBRUARY TWENTYTWO LAST CONCERNING THE DEATH OF DAVID WILLIAM FERRIE AND NEW ORLEANS TEL TWELVE THIRTY EIGHT P. M., FEBRUARY TWENTY LAST CONCERNING FERRIE'S CONTACT WITH AN AGENT OF THE NEW ORLEANS OFFICE.

AT THE TIME OF THIS CONTACT ON SATURDAY, FEBRUARY EIGHTEEN LAST, FERRIE, IN PASSING, MENTIONED THAT HE HAD BEEN QUITE ILL AND WAS SUFFERING FROM "VIRAL ENCEPHALITIS".

AW

DR. NICHOLAS CHETTA, ORLEANS PARISH CORONER, IS QUOTED IN TODAY'S "TIMES PICAYUNE" AS SAYING THAT TOXICOLOGICAL TESTS ARE CONTINUING IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEATH OF FERRIE. DR. CHETTA IS FURTHER QUOTED AS STATING ANATOMICAL FINDINGS SHOW THAT FERRIE SUFFERED THE RUPTURE OF A BLOOD VESSEL AT THE BASE OF THE BRAIN WHICH CAUSED A HEMORRAGE. DR. CHETTA IS FURTHER QUOTED AS

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cc to Ramp...

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FERRIE HAD AN ASSORTMENT OF DRUGS IN HIS APARTMENT BUT HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER FERRIE HAD CONSUMED ANY. CHETTA PLACES THE TIME OF DEATH "SOMETIME LAST EVENING" (TUESDAY).

ACCORDING TO THE TIMES PICAYUNE, ^UGEORGE LARDNER, A ^RREPORTER FOR THE WASHINGTON POST AND TIMES HERALD, WHO WAS IN NEW ORLEANS TO COVER THE GARRISON INVESTIGATION, SAID HE WENT TO FERRIE'S RESIDENCE ABOUT MIDNIGHT TO INTERVIEW HIM AND REMAINED UNTIL ABOUT FOUR A. M., FEBRUARY TWENTYTWO LAST. LARDNER IS QUOTED AS SAYING "ONCE YOU GET HIM TALKING IT IS HARD TO SHUT HIM OFF."

DR. CHETTA IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT RIGOR MORTIS HAD SET IN AT THE TIME OF HIS EXAMINATION AND THAT THE TIME OF FERRIE'S DEATH HAD TO BE BEFORE FOUR A. M.

GARRISON IS QUOTED AS SAYING "THE TIME OF FERRIE'S DEATH, ACCORDING TO THE CORONER AND ACCORDING TO THE TIME LARDNER SAYS HE WAS WITH FERRIE, REPRESENTS A MAJOR INCONSISTENCY IN THE CASE AND IS ONE OF THE MYSTERIES WE DON'T UNDERSTAND".

THIS SAME ARTICLE ^eSHOWS THAT GARRISON WAS ASKED IF HE HAD

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ANY REASON TO BELIEVE ANYBODY BUT LEE HARVEY OSWALD TOOK PART IN THE ACTUAL ASSASSINATION, TO WHICH GARRISON IS QUOTED AS HAVING REPLIED, "I HAVE NO REASON TO BELIEVE AT THIS POINT THAT LEE HARVEY OSWALD KILLED ANYBODY IN DALLAS THAT DAY."

ALSO, GARRISON IS QUOTED AS SAYING AT A PRESS CONFERENCE WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON THAT HE HAD DECIDED WEDNESDAY MORNING, BEFORE HE LEARNED OF FERRIS'S DEATH, TO ARREST FERRIE NEXT WEEK.

THIS SAME ARTICLE ALSO STATES THAT WHEN ASKED WHETHER HE WILL NOW ASK FOR HELP FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN THE PROBE, GARRISON RELIED BY ASKING, "WHAT WOULD BE THE PURPOSE OF SEEKING FEDERAL AID, TO DELAY THE INVESTIGATION THREE MORE YEARS? WE'VE DONE MORE IN THREE MONTHS WITH A SMALL STAFF THAN THE GOVERNMENT DID IN THREE YEARS WITH FIVE THOUSAND MEN."

MATTER BEING CLOSELY FOLLOWED BY NEW ORLEANS THROUGH ESTABLISHED AND RELIABLE SOURCES ONLY.

~~CORRECTION PAGE ONE BUREAU FILE NUMBER IS 62-109060.~~

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