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Former Cab Driver Repeats Oswald Claim

Former cab driver Raymond Cummings faced the press Friday and repeated his claim to have driven Lee Harvey Oswald and David Ferrie to Jack Ruby's strip joint.

He said he recognized his passenger as Oswald when he saw pictures of him, but he kept quiet until recently when he recognized a picture of the late Ferrie, a character in New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy.

Ferrie, who wore painted eyebrows and a wig, was recalled by Cummings as having "reddish type, maroon, Auburn" hair.

Attorneys Frank Wright and Charles Tessmer said they will accompany Cummings to New Orleans next week. They said he will submit to a polygraph examination there, but that he had not been requested to be tested by Dallas officials.

His first trip with Oswald,

Cummings said, was to Irving. His passenger was "down on his luck" and had only \$1.00. He took what he had, but let him ride the rest of the way for free.

Cummings was questioned by a battery of about 20 reporters and cameramen at Tessmer's office.

He said he "figured it was time I should let someone know."

His second trip with Oswald, he said, was also in early 1963. He said he took the slightly built Oswald and two men, one of them Ferrie, to Ruby's Carousel Club.

One of them gave him a \$1 tip, he recalled.

Cummings indicated he was upset because someone in Garrison's New Orleans office "leaked" his story to the public. He also denied that he ever said he had Russian documents, an unsubstantiated earlier report.

A statement by Attorney Jim Rudd, Tessmer and Wright stated that the attorneys were retained "solely to protect his civil and economic rights in view of his possible connection with the continuing New Orleans investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy . . ."

The attorneys emphasized that they have formed no opinion on Cummings' statements.

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