

Enid Man Called To Testify In New Orleans Probe Of Kennedy Assassination Disputes Information Given To Warren Commission

A man whom the Warren Commission hunted for many months has just returned to Enid from a visit with District Attorney Jim Garrison in New Orleans.

Garrison is conducting his own investigation of the Nov. 22, 1963, assassination of President John F. Kennedy. The Warren Report is the U.S. Government's

official investigation summary of the assassination.

The Enid man involved in the incident is James Hicks, 23, of 1713 E. Cedar, who was standing less than 100 yards from the Kennedy auto when the president was shot to death.

Hicks does not know how Garrison of New Orleans found out Hicks' name. But Hicks'

picture appears in Volume XII of the Warren Report, taken while he was standing on the grass watching the Kennedy auto race down the street immediately after the shooting.

After the assassination, Hicks stayed around Dallas for some time and during this time he met socially half a dozen persons. At the time the six new

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friends did not seem especially important.

But when Hicks visited Garrison in New Orleans this past week, he was shown pictures of 150 persons and asked if he could identify any of them. Hicks picked out six that he knew—six Cubans he had met in Dallas after the assassination.

Hicks first received a telephone call from one of DA Garrison's assistants several days ago. Then on Tuesday, July 18, he received another call, this one from Garrison himself, asking Hicks to come to New Orleans.

Hicks and his wife flew to New Orleans on Thursday and spent four days there. During that time, they spent many hours with Garrison, who grilled Hicks for every bit of information he could remember about the Kennedy assassination.

Hicks says, "It just didn't happen the way the Warren Commission said it did." For example, Hicks recalls hearing four shots—one of which seemed to go directly over his head (and not from the now-famous School Book Depository).

A man was kneeling in the trunk of a car near the School Book Depository, Hicks recalls. He remembers seeing the man in the trunk as he (Hicks) walked along the parade route looking for a place to stand.

It is Hicks' theory that the man in the auto trunk could have fired one or more shots, ducked into the trunk and closed the trunk lid over himself. Then another person could have driven the car away from the scene.

Hicks recalls that he was standing about 15 feet from a large highway sign which read

"Caution, Slippery When Wet."

But today the sign is gone. In fact, Hicks thinks the sign may have "disappeared" within a few hours after the shooting.

Why? He does not know. It's just another part of the mystery surrounding the assassination.

The Enid man, who works for Serv-Mr. Inc., as an instrument technician, feels Garrison is building a strong case for his contention that Kennedy's death was more than a one-man deal. In fact, he thinks that Garrison's case will stand up in court.

When the case goes to court, it is quite likely that Hicks will be called to testify as a witness.

Hicks describes Garrison as "a dedicated man," who does his regular work during the daytime and spends his evenings working on the assassination case. He interviewed Mr. and Mrs. Hicks as late as 12:30 one night and was still working on the case when they left his office. Garrison's office is cluttered with pictures and documents concerning the assassination.

Hicks is able to clear up one disputed event which occurred that fateful day.

Movie films show that, af-

ter the shots were fired, Mrs. Kennedy stood up, leaned back over the trunk of the car, then sat down again. The Warren Report contends that she was reaching to help a Secret Service man climb onto the car as it sped away.

Hicks says that Kennedy's head "literally exploded" with the shot and that, by some instinctive reaction, Mrs. Kennedy stood and reached across the trunk for a piece of blown-away skull—but did not succeed in reaching it.

This and many more unusual facts will be told when Garrison's case comes to court, Hicks feels. And that Enid man may be one of the star witnesses in what could be America's most-publicized trial.