U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE COMMUNICATION SECTION

TELETYPE

FBI WASH DC

FRI NEW ORLS

837PM URGENT 1/10/680LP

TO DIRECTOR (62-109060) AND DALLAS (89-43)

FROM NEW ORLEANS (89-69) P

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
DALLAS, TEXAS, NOV. TWENTYTWO, SIXTYTHREE, MISCELLANEOUS INFO CONCERNING. OO: DALLAS.

THE NEW ORLEANS STATES ITEM, FINAL EDITION, JAN. TEN, INSTANT, REPORTS THAT KERRY THORNLEY, REPORTEDLY A MARINE CORPS COMPANION OF LEE HARVEY OSWALD, STATED THAT HE HAS NOT SEEN OSWALD SINCE HIS DISCHARGE FROM MARINE CORPS, JULY, FIFTYNINE.

FROM SOUTH TAMPA, FLA. INDICATED HE DECLINED TO COOPERATE WITH DA GARRISON'S PROBE OF THE PRESIDENTIAL SLAYING 12 JAN 16 1968
BECAUSE HE "LACKS CONFINDENCE" IN THE DA.

THORNLEY WAS SUBPOFNAED TO APPEAR BEFORE ORLEANS PARISH GRAND JURY FEB. EIGHT AND NINE NEXT BUT WILL FIGHT EXTRADITION.

SPOKESMAN FOR DA SAID TODAY THAT "WE HAVE AT LEAST SIX WITNESSES WHO SAW THORNLEY AND OSWALD TOGETHER IN NEW END PAGE ONE

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JAN 1968

MR DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Toison __ Mr. DeLouch

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THAT THORNLEY WAS ASS LATING WITH OSWALD IN NEW LEANS,
SIXTYTHREE, WHEN THORNLEY WAS A WAITER IN THE FRENCH QUARTER.
THORNLEY DENIES THIS. ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT GARRISON'S
REQUEST FOR THORNLEY IS BASED UPON WARREN COMMISSION INTERVIEW
OF HIM "FOR THIRTYTHREE PAGES", CONCERNING MARINE
CORPS LIFE WITH OSWALD.

GARRISON SAID THAT HIS INFORMATION INDICATES THAT
THORNLEY WAS ONE OF OSWALD'S "MORE CONSISTENT COMPANIONS"
PRIOR TO OSWALD'S DEPARTURE FROM NEW ORLEANS, SEPT.
SIXTYTHREE. BECAUSE OF "THE FREQUENCY" OF THESE CONTACTS
GARRISON FEELS THORNLEY CAN PROVIDE SPECIFIC INFORMATION
ABOUT OSWALD'S ASSOCIATES.

ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT GARRISON'S SUBPOENA ASKS THAT
THORNLEY BE GRANTED IMMUNITY FROM ARREST DURING HIS STAY
IN NEW ORLEANS AND AUTHORIZATION TO COVER HIS EXPENSES.
THORNLEY TOLD NEWSMEN " THAT OSWALD AT THAT TIME WAS THE
TARGET CONSTANTLY FOR HIS RELIGIOUS AND POLITICAL BELIEFS."
THRE IS NO ELABORATION FOR THIS REMARK. THORNLEY CONTINUED
"EVERYBODY IN THE OUTFIT PUT HIM DOWN AS A COMMUNIST AND AN
ATHEIST".

THORNLEY, WHO CALLS HIMSELF A FREE LANCE WRITER SAID

HE WROTE AN UNPUBLISHED BOOK BEFORE THE ASSASSINATION TITLED

"IDLE WARRIORS" IN WHICH OSWALD IS MENTIONED AS ONE OF THE

NUMBER OF DISENCHANTED MILITARY MEN WHO HAD FLED THE

UNITED STATES.

NO LHM FOLLOWS.

END

GJM

CO MR. CUTTINAM

FBI WASH DC