

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

California Judge Delays Plot Probe Case Ruling

Garrison to Be Asked to Take Deposition

A Bakersfield, Calif., judge Wednesday delayed for two weeks a decision on whether to order Loren Hall to appear before the Orleans Parish grand jury in connection with the Kennedy assassination investigation.

At the same time the judge ordered Hall's attorney and the Kern County district attorney's office to urge New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison to come to Bakersfield to take a deposition from Hall.

Garrison issued a subpoena for Hall, who he says had dealings with Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby in Dallas. Garrison contends Hall was in Dallas for several days in November of 1963.

DENIES ASSOCIATION

Meanwhile, another man subpoenaed by Garrison, Kerry Thornley, Wednesday he said he never saw Lee Harvey Oswald after July, 1963.

Garrison contends that Thornley knew Oswald in the Marine Corps, was associated with Oswald in New Orleans during the summer of 1963 when Thornley was working as a writer in the French Quarter and Oswald was living on Magazine st.

Thornley said in South Tampa, Fla., Wednesday that he declined to cooperate in the district attorney's probe because he "lacks confidence" in Garrison.

In New Orleans James Hicks of Enid, Okla., who was subpoenaed earlier in the week by Garrison said he is convinced there was a conspiracy because "there had to have been for things to happen the way they did."

Hicks said he was in Dealey Plaza when the President was shot and that he saw a man hiding in the trunk of a car on the grassy knoll just before the presidential motorcade passed.

He also said the shots were fired from places other than the Texas Book Depository and that

a sign near the street had a hole in it after the assassination, but it was removed about a half hour afterwards and he hasn't seen or heard of it since.

Hall, at a brief hearing in California, also said he is afraid to return to New Orleans, but for fear that pro-Cuban agents may assassinate him.

The California judge, P. R. Borton, said he delayed taking action because of Hall's "absolute and categorical denial that he knew any of the conspirators or that he had overheard any conversation about a conspiracy to assassinate the late President Kennedy."

HEARING HELD

The hearing was conducted at the request of Garrison, who asked the court to order Hall to appear before the Orleans grand jury. A \$405 check to cover Hall's traveling expenses accompanied the request.

Under questioning by his attorney, Hall admitted he was in Dallas on 19 and 20 of 1963 and he was arrested by a Dallas city police officer for carrying pop pills and was ordered out of town.

Garrison has claimed Hall did not leave Dallas until after the assassination.

Asked if he knew Ruby or Oswald, Hall answered, "Certainly not."

Hall also denied that he worked for or was an agent for the CIA but admitted he knew Larry Howard, who also has been subpoenaed by Garrison. Hall said he met Howard in a Miami hotel in January, 1963, while working with a group training anti-Castro Cuban guerrillas.

TO FIGHT ORDER

The subpoena against Thornley ordered him to appear before

the Grand Jury Feb. 8 and 9, but Thornley said he will fight extradition.

A spokesman for the district attorney's office said, "We have at least six witnesses who saw Thornley and Oswald together in New Orleans during the summer of 1963" and that Thornley was one of Oswald's more consistent companions here prior

to Oswald's departure in late September, 1963.

Garrison said the frequency of Oswald's contacts with Thornley here indicate the latter may have specific information about other associations Oswald had in 1963.

The subpoena asks that Thornley be granted immunity from arrest for any past offenses dur-

ing his stay in New Orleans and asks authorization to pay Thornley \$148 to cover his expenses in coming to New Orleans.

Thornley told newsmen he knew Oswald about three months when both were stationed at El Toro, Calif., with Marine Air Patrol Squadron No 9.

'FRIENDSHIP ENDED'

But he said the friendship ended when they had a short argument one day over a parade starting time.

Thornley said Oswald constantly received criticism because of his political and religious beliefs. "Everybody in the outfit put him down as a Communist and an atheist," he added.

Thornley, 29, who calls himself a freelance writer, said he wrote an unpublished book prior to the assassination of Kennedy titled "Idle Warriors" in which he mentioned Oswald as one of a number of disenchanted military men who fled the U.S.

He said Oswald may have been considered his best buddy, "but I don't think Oswald had any close friends in the service."

Thornley said he worked as a waiter while living in New Orleans in 1963. In an interview Thornley described Oswald as "sort of a poor slob."

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Being Investigated

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