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Assassination of
President John F.
Kennedy

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5-10-67

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ASSASSINATION 5/17 DA2S
BY BILLY G. JAMES

UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL

NEW ORLEANS (UPI)—FBI AGENT REGIS KENNEDY APPEARED BEFORE THE
ORLEANS PARISH (COUNTY) GRAND JURY FOR OVER AN HOUR WEDNESDAY AFTER
HE WAS ORDERED TO DO SO BY A LOCAL COURT IN CONNECTION WITH DIST. ATTY.
JIM GARRISON'S ASSASSINATION INVESTIGATION.

GARRISON SAID AFTERTWARD THAT KENNEDY EXERCISED THE EXECUTIVE
PRIVELEGE TO AVOID TESTIFYING ABOUT SOME MATTERS.

GRAND JURY FOREMAN AL LABICHE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE PANEL WAS
SATISFIED WITH KENNEDY'S TESTIMONY.

DIST. JUDGE BERNARD BAGERT OVERRULED U.S. ATTY. GEN.
RAYSEY CLARK AND ORDERED KENNEDY TO APPEAR. BUT THE JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT INSTRUCTED THE AGENT NOT TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS
CONCERNING HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE WARREN COMMISSION INVESTIGATION
OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY.

~~THE STATE DEPARTMENT SUPPLAINED DEVELOP INTO A LANDMARK SETTLE BETWEEN
THE STATE COURT AND THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AS JUDGE~~

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NOT RECORDED
199 MAY 22 1967

82 MAY 25 1967

FOR MR. TOLSON

WASHINGTON CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

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THE SITUATION THREATENED TO DEVELOP INTO A LANDMARK CONFLICT BETWEEN THE STATE COURT AND THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT AS JIM GARRISON PUSHED HIS DRIVE TO SHOW THAT FEDERAL AGENTS "COVERED UP" MATERIAL ABOUT LEE HARVEY OSWALD WHEN THEY REPORTED TO THE WARREN COMMISSION. MEANWHILE THE DALLAS TIMES-HERALD APPEARED TO HAVE AT LEAST DENTED GARRISON'S THEORY THAT OSWALD AND NEW ORLEANS BUSINESSMAN CLAY L. SHAW SHARED A SECRET CODE. SHAW, 54, IS CHARGED WITH CONSPIRING TO ASSASSINATE KENNEDY.

THE NEWSPAPER, IN A COPYRIGHTED STORY, QUOTED LEE ODOM OF DALLAS AS SAYING HE GAVE HIS POST OFFICE ADDRESS TO SHAW WHILE ON A NEW ORLEANS BUSINESS TRIP LAST NOVEMBER. HE SAID HE WAS WILLING TO HELP SHAW IN THE LATTER'S CONSPIRACY TRIAL.

GARRISON LAST WEEK HINTED THAT ODOM DID NOT EXIST. HE SAID THE LISTING OF ODOM'S POST OFFICE BOX 19106 IN SHAW'S ADDRESS BOOK TIED IN WITH A 19106 LISTING IN OSWALD'S ADDRESS BOOK.

GARRISON SAID THE SIMILAR LISTINGS WERE THE KEY TO A CODE WHICH RESULTED IN THE UNLISTED PHONE NUMBER OF JACK RUBY, THE MAN WHO SHOT OSWALD SHORTLY AFTER THE ASSASSINATION.

ODOM SAID HE TALKED TO SHAW "FOR 15 OR 20 MINUTES" IN NEW ORLEANS LAST NOVEMBER WHILE SEEKING A LOCATION FOR A BULLFIGHT.

"HE GAVE ME HIS BUSINESS CARD AND I GAVE HIM MY ADDRESS IN DALLAS," ODOM SAID. "THE BULLFIGHT DIDN'T COME OFF AND WE NEVER COMMUNICATED AGAIN."

GARRISON TOLD NEWSMEN WEDNESDAY THAT HE WAS "WELL AWARE THAT THERE IS A MR. LEE ODOM" AND IS "LOOKING FORWARD TO TALKING TO THIS BUSINESSMAN FROM IRVING, TEX., ABOUT SOME OF THESE OTHER COINCIDENCES."

GARRISON ADDED IN HIS STATEMENT:

"THE FACT THAT THERE IS A REAL LEE ODOM, HOWEVER, IS NOT THE POINT. THE POINT IS THAT CLAY SHAW AND LEE OSWALD, NEVERTHELESS, HAVE THE SAME POST OFFICE BOX IN THEIR ADDRESS BOOKS AND THIS POST OFFICE BOX IN THEIR ADDRESS BOOKS AND THIS POST OFFICE BOX IS IN CODED FORM, THE UNPUBLISHED PHONE NUMBER OF JACK RUBY IN 1963.

"THE FACT THAT SOMEONE ACQUIRED THAT POST OFFICE BOX WHEN IT CAME INTO EXISTENCE IN LATE 1965 DOES NOT CHANGE THE ODDITY OF THAT CIRCUMSTANCE AT ALL."

"WE ARE VERY INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHO INTRODUCED MR. ODOM TO MR. SHAW, HOW MANY BULLFIGHTS MR. ODOM HAS ACTUALLY PRODUCED AND A FEW OTHER THINGS," GARRISON SAID.

GARRISON INTRODUCED THE THEORY LAST WEEK TO SHOW THAT HIS OFFICE SHOULD NOT HAVE TO SURRENDER PERSONAL ITEMS SEIZED IN SHAW'S APARTMENT NEARLY TWO MONTHS AGO. HE SAID THE ADDRESS BOOK AND OTHER ITEMS WERE IMPORTANT TO THE SHAW CASE.

JUDGE BAGERT, IN ORDERING AGENT KENNEDY TO TESTIFY WEDNESDAY, SAID THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT DID NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO ENCRACH UPON THE JUDICIAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT BY CLAIMING UNLIMITED PRIVILEGE AND IMMUNITY FOR ITS EMPLOYEES.

HE SAID THE NATION'S SYSTEM OF CHECKS AND BALANCES "IS SUSTAINED BY THE THREE DEPARTMENTS OF GOVERNMENT." HE ADDED THAT "NONE HAS THE CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY TO ENCRACH UPON THE JURISDICTION OF THE OTHER."

BJSOPCD

FOR MR. TOLSON