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LOS ANGELES (UPI)--A MAN DESCRIBED AS A KEY FIGURE IN NEW ORLEANS DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON'S PROBE OF THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY SAID THURSDAY THAT THE KENNEDY KILLING MAY BE DIRECTLY LINKED WITH THE SLAYING OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

LOREN E. "SKIP" HALL, A KERNVILLE, CALIF., BARTENDER, CALLED A NEWS CONFERENCE TO ANNOUNCE HE WILL NO LONGER FIGHT EFFORTS TO GET HIM TO LOUISIANA TO TESTIFY IN THE PROBE.

HALL TOLD OF A TAPE RECORDING HE SAID WAS MADE IN MIAMI, FLA., ON NOV. 9, 1963, DURING A MEETING OF A "BUNCH OF STATES RIGHTERS." HE SAID ONE MAN'S VOICE SAID THE GROUP HAD A MAN SELECTED TO KILL KENNEDY AND ANOTHER TO BE THE "PATSY."

THE VOICES, ACCORDING TO HALL, ALSO SAID "THE SAME PERSON HAS BEEN GUNNING FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING."

HALL WAS ASKED IF HE KNEW JAMES EARL RAY, ALSO KNOWN AS ERIC STARVO GALT, NAMED BY THE FBI AS A PRIME SUSPECT IN KING'S SLAYING.

HE SAID HE DID NOT. HALL SAID HE DECIDED TO GO TO NEW ORLEANS VOLUNTARILY AFTER HIS MEMORY WAS "REFRESHED" REGARDING A MEETING WITH EDGAR EUGENE BRADLEY, ANOTHER MAN WANTED BY GARRISON FOR QUESTIONING.

BRADLEY, 49, IS THE WEST COAST REPRESENTATIVE OF RADIO EVANGELIST DR. CARL MCINTYRE. HE LIVES IN NORTH HOLLYWOOD AND HAS REFUSED TO ANSWER GARRISON'S SUBPOENA.

HALL SAID THAT SINCE HIS INVOLVEMENT IN THE GARRISON PROBE BECAME KNOWN THERE HAD BEEN THREE ATTEMPTS ON HIS LIFE. ONCE, HE SAID, A CAR TRIED TO RUN HIM OFF THE ROAD, ONCE THE FRONT END OF HIS CAR FELL OFF, AND ONCE SOMEONE PASSED HIM IN A HALLWAY OF A TAVERN AND INJECTED HIM WITH HEPATITIS VIRUS. HE SAID HE IS STILL UNDER A DOCTOR'S CARE.

HALL SAID HE NOW HAS TWO BODYGUARDS PAID FOR BY SOMEONE WHOM HE DECLINED TO IDENTIFY.

HALL SAID THE MEETING HE ATTENDED AT WHICH BRADLEY WAS PRESENT WAS IN CONNECTION WITH HIS FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES IN THE ANTI-CASTRO OPERATIONS IN CUBA.

HE SAID HE PLANNED TO LEAVE FOR NEW ORLEANS SOME TIME NEXT WEEK.

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