

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

DA Probe Angers Orleans Cubans

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States Item
New Orleans, La.

Anti-Castro Lalins Rip Questioning

Questioning of anti-Castro Cubans in connection with the investigation of the Kennedy assassination has aroused a feeling of indignation among members of the New Orleans Cuban community.

Carlos Bringuier, New Orleans delegate of the Cuban Student Directorate, told The States-Item that if "Mr. Garrison discovers that an anti-Castro Cuban was involved in some plot to kill Mr. Kennedy, I will be the first to turn my hand against that man."

BRINGUIER said, however, that if District Attorney Jim Garrison fails to come up with some answers now after a number of Cubans have been questioned, "He has hurt all the Cuban community."

His point was that people will always have some "suspicion about Cubans."

One theory about the plot in question which has appeared in several news stories was that the assassination of President Kennedy was linked with a plot to take the life of Fidel Castro.

A member of Garrison's staff told a New York Times reporter that the conspiracy, hatched by anti-Castro Cubans, revolved around Lee Harvey Oswald as the gunman. When Oswald could not get into Cuba, so the story goes, the plot was then redirected at Kennedy, for his failure to launch a second military action against Cuba after the Bay of Pigs fiasco.

SEVERAL other similar stories about the "plot theory"

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ENCLOSURE

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also revolved around Castro Cubans.

stories, Bringuier said, suspect Cubans living in Orleans, who feel all Cubans here have somehow indicted.

Angelier's feelings were expressed in conversations with New Orleans residents, Cubans or persons who closely with Cubans.

Yesterday, Garrison said he "solved" the assassination and that death is the only hope for those he believes involved.

Garrison claims that his office discovered the answers was seeking "weeks ago" that now he and his staff are working to build air-tight cases against the individuals involved.

ALTHOUGH the district attorney says that arrests are months away," he said yesterday: "The only way they are going to get away from us is to kill themselves."

Garrison said that he would not say they had solved the Kennedy murder unless he had evidence "beyond a shadow of a doubt."

He went on to say: "We know the key individuals, the cities involved and how it was done."

he was training with Ferrie in jungle warfare "to help bring about more democratic government."

The friend's family had contacted Russo in an effort to break "Ferie's hold on their son."

Ferie, who was called a central figure in the investigation by Garrison, was found dead Wednesday in his apartment at 2330 Louisiana ave. pkwy.

He died of a ruptured aneurysm, a condition which could have been aggravated by extreme anxiety and a resulting rise in blood pressure.

Suspicion that he committed suicide was not confirmed by anatomical or toxicological tests.

IN VIENNA, Mark Lane, author of "Rush to Judgment," said today he offered the material of his investigation of President Kennedy's assassination to Garrison.

Lane said he made the offer in a telegram to the district attorney two days ago.

The author said he will meet with Garrison when he returns to the United States—in about two to three weeks.

Lane, who is in Vienna to discuss a German translation of his book, said, "Garrison is the first who has seriously tried to find out the truth officially."

to circumstances surrounding President Kennedy's murder was revealed by The States-Item in a story Feb. 17. The paper obtained from public records a list of agents, trips they made and money spent in seeking clues.

In order to keep reporters from checking future trips, Garrison got a \$2,500 bank loan 48 hours after the story appeared.

YESTERDAY a group of 50 New Orleans citizens, led by Willard E. Robertson, Joseph M. Rault Jr. and Cecil H. Shilstone, met at the Petroleum Club and pledged \$100 each a month at least for three months.

This will allow Garrison to investigate the possibility of a plot without accounting publicly for funds.

A reporter, joking with Garrison, asked, "Are you expecting a contribution from the Central Intelligence Agency?"

GARRISON laughed and replied, "No, but I'm expecting some from the FBI."

Garrison admitted for the first time he had accepted some aid from Life Magazine in developing his case. "But our office initiated the investigation," he said.

He told newsmen on his "word of honor" he will give them the story when arrests are made. "But it may be months away. We want to get jury verdicts, and we are confident we will."

MEANWHILE, a Baton Rouge insurance salesman claimed that David William Ferrie told him about a month before Mr. Kennedy's death, "We will get him and it won't be long."

Perry Raymond Russo, 25, was a student at Loyola University here when he knew Ferrie. He said that the assassination of a president was discussed several times by Ferrie in general conversation.

Russo said on two occasions he saw Ferrie in the company of Spanish-speaking persons dressed in green fatigue uniforms and helmets.

Russo said he met Ferrie through a friend who was a member of the Civil Air Patrol.

THE FRIEND told Russo

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CASE SOLVED, SAYS GARRISON

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that is not going to be ended by the death of anyone."

Asked if he feels there is a possibility that other principals in the investigation may be killed or may commit suicide, he replied, "I think that there will probably be other suicides, yes."

Reminded that Gov. John Connally of Texas said earlier Friday that it would not be in the national interest to reopen the investigation unless something definite was present, the district attorney answered, recalling a recent occurrence of water pollution, that it was decided in that case "not to let the people know the water was polluted because it might be bad for them to know."

"Well I happen to feel that truth can stand any kind of exposure. I said this before, and I don't want to run it in the ground, but I happen to feel that the order applies here to let justice be done though the heavens fall. And I'm not interested

in what somebody thinks would be good for the country if we put the lid on it. Perhaps it would make things nicer and everything would be more placid if nobody dug into the truth anymore. I'm going to ask them the truth, and let the chips fall where they may."

SEES AID FOR OSWALD

In Dallas Friday, District Attorney Henry Wade said he had believed all along that "someone might have encouraged or aided Lee Harvey Oswald" in killing Kennedy.

Wade said he explained this to the Warren Commission but added that he has "absolutely no evidence" to refute the commission's finding that Oswald acted alone.

"It seemed a little complicated for Oswald to figure out alone, and he did have a lot of Castro literature on him," said Wade. "He had to plan this pretty well, learn the route and learn to be in one certain place."

Wade said he has had no recent talks with Garrison, and has been getting his information on the probe from newspapers.

Locally, Garrison is known to have considered a theory that a group of anti-Castroites had been plotting to assassinate Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro. The group then later changed its target to President Kennedy.

When Garrison said there had been "several plots," it was believed that this plan was one he had in mind.

One aspect of the theory was that Oswald was to have been

the gunman in the Castro plot, which supposedly collapsed when he failed to enter Cuba.

When the accused Presidential assassin was denied entry to Cuba, the target was switched to Kennedy, according to the theory.

(date, page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

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Page 3

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Spanish speaking persons dressed in gre... forms and helmets... said two of them came to his home... at that time in New Orleans... and on the second occasion he met the third at Ferrie's home.

NOT TAKEN SERIOUSLY

Russo said he did not take any of Ferrie's statements seriously until he saw Ferrie's photograph in the newspaper this week.

The salesman said he was a political science student at Loyola at the time. He said he met Ferrie through a friend who was a member of the Civil Air Patrol. Ferrie was a pilot.

The friend told Russo that he was training with Ferrie in jungle warfare "to help bring about more democratic government," Russo said. The friend's family had contacted him in an effort to break "Ferrie's hold on their son," Russo said.

Russo said the reason for discussing presidential assassinations was his interest in politics.

The following is the complete text of the statement made by the working press members of the board of directors of the New Orleans Press Club:

"We emphatically condemn the recent irresponsible actions of New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison for excluding representatives of the news departments of the New Orleans Times-Picayune and States-Item newspapers from a press conference related to a worldwide news event of local origin."

"We lament such arbitrary action on the part of an elected official of this community and urge all members of the working press here to vehemently protest such tactics."

CITIES, INDIVIDUALS

During Garrison's second impromptu press conference in the Shell Oil Company bldg., the district attorney made the following additional comments, given in part here, in narrative form:

"We know what cities were involved, we know how it was done, in the essential respects; we know the key individuals involved, and we are in the process of developing evidence now. I thought I made that clear days ago."

"On the other hand though, that does not mean any arrests are imminent. There are some individuals that I would like to

arrest now, but... will be around to arrest later. I have to take the risk that they will stay around because you can develop a better case if you prolong arrests until you can have the whole group of key individuals.

"Now I may have contributed to some misunderstanding about imminence because I am so darn tired I guess I snap at some reporters who keep questioning me, and they said 'will arrests be imminent?' and I said no, they'll be maybe in the next 30 years."

SIDESTEPS QUESTION

"Sorry, I won't take that long but they're not that imminent because we're now building a case, and I might add, it's a case we will not lose. And anybody that wants to bet against us is invited to, but they will be disappointed."

Asked if he believes that Oswald did not shoot President Kennedy, Garrison replied: "I don't want to get involved in speculations as to individual, but I will say that there's no question about the fact that there was a plot and there were a number of individuals involved, and we will make arrests based on that and we will make charges based on that and we will obtain convictions based on that."

Asked again if Oswald was involved, the district attorney answered, "I can't answer that."

Questioned about the initiation of the plot, Garrison said there "were several plots, and a change of course did occur. Now, that's more than I wanted to say."

Replying to a question as to whether Ferrie's death will hamper the investigation, Garrison stated, "No, no, it created a problem as to time because I think Mr. Ferrie possibly would have... told us in time, but I'm not going to pretend that it entered the case."

OTHER SUICIDES

"You know I could say, well, we had a great case but it ended here, but I'm not going to say that. We're building a case

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PLANNED TO SUE

"The doctor also said that Ferrie was determined to sue District Attorney Garrison for a large sum of money. I believe the figure was something like \$500,000."

Meanwhile, a Baton Rouge insurance salesman, who said he knew Ferrie while he (the salesman) was a student here at Loyola University, said Ferrie told him about a month before President John F. Kennedy's death "we will get him and it won't be long."

Perry Raymond Russo, 25, said he had known Ferrie about 18 months when the statement was made. He said he had written Garrison about his contacts with Ferrie in the summer and early fall of 1963.

Once Ferrie told him that "you know we can get Kennedy if we want him," Russo said.

The assassination of a president was discussed several times with Ferrie before the statements, Russo said.

"It was just general conversation," said Russo.

According to Russo, he twice saw Ferrie in the company of