

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Harper Probe Yet Spreading

By **BILL TAYLOR**
News-Journal Staff Writer

A mother and brother here in Pensacola, a widow in Dallas, where President John F. Kennedy was assassinated almost 39 months ago, and an aggressive district attorney in New Orleans are all top concern for the Escambia County Solicitor Carl T. Harper Sunday.

Harper is investigating the bloody and mysterious death of Thomas Henry Killam, who had claimed special knowledge of the assassination of the President and who was found lying in his own blood amid shattered glass on south Palafox Street March 17, 1964.

Friday, Harper issued subpoenas for witnesses to appear before him and bare testimony that is hoped will shed light on what, if anything, Thomas Henry Killam might have known about the assassination of the President.

Harper talked Friday night with the widow of Killam in Dallas, who was a long-time acquaintance of Jack Ruby, who killed Lee Harvey Oswald, alleged killer of Kennedy. Killam's widow, Wanda, worked in Ruby's infamous Carousel Club for many years.

Harper has not divulged what his telephone conversation with Wanda Killam concerned, but said it was in an effort to piece together the story.

The county solicitor already has talked with Killam's brother, who lives in Pensacola. It was Earl Killam, Thomas Henry Killam's brother, who last week asked for an investigation to learn what really happened at 4:29 a.m. on March 17.

He said he became concerned after District Atty. Jim Garrison of New Orleans claimed he had evidence that there were "several plots" to kill the President.

Earl Killam said he could no longer hold back what his brother had told him shortly before death caught up with him on South Palafox Street. The death was passed off as "probable suicide" from having jumped through a plate glass window. The county medical examiner said he assumed the death was accidental.

But, Earl Killam has his doubts.

He told of his brother returning to Pensacola from Tampa with nerves that were frazzled and telling him: "I'm a dead man, but I've run as far as I'm going to run."

Earl Killam said his brother told of being harassed by "agents" from the time of the assassination. The harassment forced Thomas Henry Killam to leave Dallas and come to Pensacola, then to Tampa, where he lost two jobs before coming back to Pensacola in March, 1964, saying "I'm a dead man."

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

The Pensacola Journal
Pensacola, Florida

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Author:

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Title: Henry Thomas Killam

Character: Misc;

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Being Investigated

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'ENCLOSURE'

Two days after he returned to Pensacola, he was found dead on Palafox Street, his throat slashed.

Both Thomas Henry Killam and his wife Wanda knew Jack Ruby. Killam also knew another man, John Carter, who had worked with and lived in the same apartment with Lee Harvey Oswald in Dallas.

Garrison had said that he has solved a conspiracy to assassinate President Kennedy, and both Harper and Earl Killam have indicated they are very much interested in talking with Garrison.

So has the Pensacola News-Journal, which fired off a telegram to Garrison, Friday night, to which there has been no answer. "In view of your solving the conspiracy to kill President Kennedy, has the name of Thomas Henry Killam been involved directly or indirectly," the telegram read.

Garrison, a hard-nosed, determined district attorney, has gone so far as to say there were "several plots" to kill the President, but has hedged when asked about possible arrest dates. "It might be 30 years," he said one time.

To compound Garrison's troubles with the investigation, David W. Ferrie, a prime figure in Garrison's investigation, was found dead in his apartment in New Orleans. Garrison called Ferrie's death "suicide—without any question."

Ferrie was the 18th person, suspected of having special knowledge about the assassination of President Kennedy, who have died mysterious deaths since that Black Friday in 1963.

Wanda Killam has expressed her desire that the investigation here of her husband's death be carried out.

The investigation into Thomas Henry Killam's death launched by Harper this week drew the interest of ABC television and newsmen were flown in Thursday to film scenes of principals in the case here.

Harper has not said when all of the witnesses that have been subpoenaed here might be interrogated. The county solicitor could not be reached for comment Saturday night.

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