

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

Valley's Edgar E. Bradley Says Wrong Man Accused

By PAUL WERTZ

"All I can say is that he has the wrong Gene Bradley."

Edgar Eugene Bradley tried a smile as he stood in the living room of his North Hollywood home — where he has lived for the past 27 years — and pondered claims by New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison that Bradley was involved in the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

The 49-year-old Valley resident received the first hint of Garrison's accusation Wednesday when his 19-year-old son, who is home from college for the holidays, received a telephone call from a New York newspaper inquiring about the charges.

Garrison, who arrived in Los Angeles reportedly "in pursuit" of Bradley, issued news of the charge through his Louisiana office in a statement which claimed that Bradley, who also has a 7-year-old daughter, conspired to kill Mr. Kennedy.

Trip Not Necessary

Bradley said he was "shocked" at the charge and claimed he had called Sheriff Peter Pitchess to assure him of his surrender to the sheriff's

Dept. if a warrant for arrest is issued.

But, he added, "I don't think I need to go to New Orleans to get this thing cleared up."

The accused man, who works with radio theologian Dr. Carl McIntire as a promotion man, is the second person to be charged in the President's death.

Onetime New Orleans businessman Clay L. Shaw 54, who entered a plea of innocent to the same charge last March, is scheduled to be tried in February.

Surprised at Charge

Bradley displayed a mild-mannered personality to newsmen as he commented yesterday on the accusations:

"I am surprised that a man whom I believe had a good reputation in the past would release such news without having his facts. Mr. Garrison should investigate his information first.

"I'm not guilty," he said. "Mr. Garrison may be trying to further himself politically by this action."

Bradley admitted that a photograph which Garrison released was in fact one of Bradley himself, but he said he did not know how or where Garrison obtained the picture.

The accused father, a one-time moving and storage business owner, who lives at 12205 Emelita St., also denied any knowledge of persons involved in Garrison's allegations or in the Warren Commission Report on the assassination.

"They're grasping at straws. They must be trying to save face or something," said Bradley, who stood near

a decorated Christmas tree supported at the base by a miniature church.

"If there was a plan or plot, then the culprits have got to come up with 'patsies.' Naturally they're going to pick on those who believe in a Christian and Democratic America," commented Bradley.

"Hitting" at Employer

Bradley also speculated that the action might be an attempt to "harm Dr. McIntire through me." Dr. McIntire, president of the International Council of Christian Churches, has been described as an astutely conservative theology practitioner.

Bradley yesterday afternoon went into consultation with his attorney amid reports that Garrison had not at that time contacted the Governor's office or local law officials concerning a possible arrest and extradition of Bradley.

The North Hollywood resident, who said he has never been arrested, claimed he had been through New Orleans only once, and that was when he and his wife were on a vacation and visiting their son in a Southern college.

Admits Questioning

On the day of the assassination of Mr. Kennedy, Nov. 22, 1963, Bradley said he was in El Paso, returning home by bus from a business visit with Dr. McIntire.

He said he had never been approached by investigators concerning the assassination, but admitted that he had been questioned "recently" by an officer who told him he was looking for a man with a similar name.

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

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The Valley News and
Valley Green Sheet

Van Nuys, California

Date: 12/22/67
Edition:
Author: Paul Wertz
Editor:
Title:

Character
or

Classification: LA 89-75
Submitting Office: Los Angeles

Being Investigated

Bradley said the officer left, apparently convinced he had not found his man.

A Navy veteran who later served in civilian capacity as a government aircraft technician, Bradley expressed his own doubts about the validity of the Warren account.

"I still would like to see the real culprits captured and legally tried," he said.

"Due to the fact the public did not seem to accept the Warren Commission Report, in the beginning I had hoped that Mr. Garrison was on the right track and would thoroughly expose the culprits involved in the plot — if there was a plot."

Will See Attorney

"I haven't seen the (Warren) report, but I have questions in my mind about whether Oswald was involved in this," he added.

Bradley said he was going to consult with his attorney to consider what action he would take if and when he were exonerated of the charge.

The dreary-eyed Bradley, who said he had missed dinner Wednesday night and then was able to sleep "only about 20 minutes," left his home to get a haircut and "something to eat" before visiting his attorney.

His wife and children were not present at his home, but two long-time friends stayed at his side. The telephone rang almost constantly.

"I've been receiving calls from people from all over the country who have offered to help," he said.



EDGAR E. BRADLEY
discusses charges