

FORGIVE MY GRIEF

VOL. II

By PENN JONES, JR and SHIRLEY MARTIN

(This is part 3 of Installment 3 Conclusion of 3rd part next week)

Andrews described the "Mexican" as stocky, well built, and in conformity with the other descriptions of Leopoldo, and testifying about him, Andrews said: "There's three people I'm going to find: One of them is the real guy that killed President Kennedy; the Mexican and Clay Bertrand."

On November 23, 1963, Clay Bertrand had called on the telephone and asked Andrews about defending Oswald against the assassination charges. Andrews was so sick so he called Monk Zelden, another New Orleans attorney, and asked him if he would go to Dallas (32) Oswald was killed the next morning so Zelden never made the trip.

It matters not whether Oswald, or someone resembling him and using his name, was in fact the person involved in any of these episodes in so far a preponderance as legal evidence of a conspiracy is concerned. If it was not Oswald, the evidence becomes stronger and gravitates in the direction of an assassination plot with the further purpose of using Oswald as the scapegoat.

For centuries the rule of evidence developed, and presently it is recognized in all jurisdictions, that the flight of connected parties after a crime is in itself evidence of guilt.

There is cogent evidence of flight which appears plainly in the testimony taken by the Warren Commission. In Volume 22-A, Corpus Juris Secundum, page 467, the law is stated in the following words: Flight, as evidence of guilt, consists not only in the act of leaving the jurisdiction, but it also comprehends continued concealment, and in criminal law the term is defined as the evading of the course of justice by voluntarily withdrawing oneself in order to avoid detention. If Leopoldo, Angelo and Bertrand have not taken flight, where are they?

In the record there is overwhelming scientific

proof that Oswald could not have fired the rifle at the scene as rapidly as the shots were spaced. At the time of the killing, a picture was taken which portrays a man in a shooting stance at the top of the grassy knoll. The eye witness testimony of at least sixty-four people was that the shots came from the grassy knoll. The inevitable results of this is two or probably three participants when the crime was committed.

When the evidence at the point of happening and that of Oswald and his associates in New Orleans and Dallas in the few weeks prior to the murder are examined together, a conspiracy is proved beyond a preponderance of the evidence. There is no credible evidence which reveals who planned the assassination or why. This question remains open.

Allen Dulles and other members of the Commission have put the burden on the critics of the Commission to produce new suspects if they can. The two Latin American men, most likely of Mexican ancestry and placed with Oswald by reputable witnesses just prior to the assassination, one of which had spoken openly of Oswald's mentioning the possibility of assassinating President Kennedy, provide two definite suspects. Clay Bertrand is at least a material witness with germane information.

All of the witnesses are capable of recognizing one or more of these suspects, while Mrs. Odio and her sister can identify two of them. The need to locate, question and have the witnesses identify the suspects is obvious to the most innocent of observers. Over three years have elapsed, giving them a chance to disappear into oblivion. During all this time, the men, if innocent, would have come forward to explain their actions. While the authorities charged with solving the crime refuse to investigate and demand the conspirators be brought to their doorsteps, the suspects remain free and unquestioned.

The authorities have a complete description of Leopoldo, Angelo and Clay Bertrand. They have had this information since a few days after the assassination. (33)

RUBY, PRO-BATISTA CUBANS, THE ARMY
COLONEL AND THE LAS VEGAS GROUP

The Warren Commission stated in a preliminary

report that the Las Vegas gambling community and others might have been connected with Ruby in the assassination of President Kennedy. (34) The report further said a GOVERNMENT INFORMANT connected with the sale of arms to anti-Castro Cubans reported such Cubans were behind the assassination. (35) The final report ignores this information.

Batista and the Las Vegas gamblers were close friends and their cause thrived in Cuba. It is common knowledge that prior to January 1, 1959, Batista's Havana was second only to Las Vegas as the gambling center of the Western Hemisphere.

After Castro, the gambling interests from Las Vegas lingered on in Havana for a year or two, because of its vast investment in gambling in Cuba. The Las Vegas group gradually abandoned Havana and most came back to Nevada.

Nancy Perrin Rich, a former employee of Ruby, told of a series of three meetings in Dallas prior to November 22, 1963, in which Ruby, her husband, an army colonel (whose name was conveniently misspelled by the Commission) and others were involved. The purpose of these meetings were to arrange for furnishing guns and ammunitions to the anti-Castro Cubans and to bring anti-Castroites out of Cuba by boat. (36) Among the others attending, Mrs. Rich stated, were two men who just kind of sat off in a corner and one of them looked rather dark like he might have been Cuban or Latin American. Mrs. Rich's husband was a professional gun runner, having had experience aiding Fascist Franco dating back to the Civil War in Spain. He had also been employed by key members of the Mafia, the underworld organization, and he was qualified to pilot the boat to be used in the transaction. (37)

Mrs. Rich had been an informant in the employ of a number of law enforcement agencies including the Sacramento and Oakland, California, and Boston, Massachusetts police departments. Her employment record in the police field was verified by the police agencies. (38)

The army colonel was in full charge of the arrangements and offered Mrs. Rich's husband \$15,000.00 to pilot the boat in and out of Cuba. The colonel was dressed in full uniform at the three separate meetings in an apartment house in Dallas. (39)

At the second meeting, Jack Ruby brought a large roll of money and after a meeting in a back room with the colonel, the financing of the operation was arranged. One of the Latins flew to Mexico to complete the arrangements immediately after

Ruby provided the money. After the third meeting, Mrs. Rich's husband withdrew from the transaction at her insistence. (40) The husband has since died of arsenic poisoning. (41)

Loran Eugene Hall, who first admitted and then denied he had been at Mrs. Sylvia Odio's apartment, and his associates had made five trips into Dallas in 1963 for the purpose of obtaining arms and ammunition to be used against Castro. They had a Dallas contact who on one occasion made a \$5,000.00 felony bond when two of them had been arrested. This group would leave truck-trailers in the Dallas area and when they were loaded with arms, they would be taken to the anti-Castro Cuban military groups. (42)

The Hall and Rich gun running conspiracies occurred over a fifteen month period, the only army colonel shown by all of the evidence to be involved with the anti-Castro Cubans in the Dallas area was Colonel Caster, whose name was sometimes spelled Castor. (43)

Colonel Caster was in the role of an intelligence officer in his contacts with the Cubans, one witness, a Catholic priest, said. (44)

Another witness said Colonel Castor was very close to General Edwin A. Walker and both had been trying to arouse the Cuban refugees in Dallas against Kennedy. (45) The colonel and General Walker made numerous speeches opposing Kennedy before Cuban groups over several months prior to the assassination. (46)

Colonel Caster was not questioned during the

investigation and he did not come forward to explain his activities though he moved his residence back to the Washington, D. C. area shortly after the assassination. The Report leaves all of the questions raised by the foregoing evidence unanswered and without explanation.

Jack Ruby's activities in supplying weapons with the army colonel, to the anti-Castro Cubans as related by Mrs. Rich was not the first or the last such actions by Ruby. Mrs. Rich's testimony is well corroborated by fully documented numerous Ruby anti-Castro Cuban activities beginning in January, 1959 and ending just prior to the assassination. Ruby's financing of these transactions came from Las Vegas gamblers, according to Jack.

On December 21, 1963, Ruby gave germane information to agents of the FBI. He told the FBI that he placed a telephone call in January, 1959, to an individual in the vicinity of Houston, Texas, who, so he had heard, was engaged in gun running to Castro. Ruby told the agents that he had in mind making a buck by selling jeeps or other similar equipment to persons interested in their importation to Cuba. (47)

The person Ruby called was Robert R. McKeown, a close friend of Fidel Castro. McKeown had been Castro's principle arms source in the United States. Ruby made the call about one week after Castro took control of Cuba. McKeown said the caller stated he wanted to get three individuals out of Cuba who were being held by Castro. The three were necessarily pro-Batista men jailed after the Castro coup. He stated that if McKeown could achieve their release, he would be paid \$5,000.00 for each person. Ruby added that a person in Las Vegas, Nevada would put up the money. (48) *END*

