

IN THREE SPECIALS

CBS to Report on Assassination

BY DON PAGE

Times Staff Writer

After 18 months of costly and exhaustive research, CBS-TV will deliver a three-part examination of the involvements in the slaying of John F. Kennedy. It will arrive in consecutive reports on June 25, 26 and 27. (10-11 p.m.)

Officially titled CBS News Reports: The Warren Report, the project is unprecedented in the network's history and very likely could have been its biggest financial disaster.

It wasn't until eight months ago that Richard Salant, president of CBS News, decided that his 100-man task force had gathered enough substantial material to make a significant contribution to television journalism.

Definite Contribution

"Unless there was a definite contribution to the matter," Salant said via long-distance, "we would not have wasted our time on it. Naturally, hundreds of thousand of dollars would have been lost, but that's the risk we had to assume."

Salant and his network planned the special (three hour-long segments) when the effusion of Kennedy investigations became popular on the newsstands and book counters of America.

Everything was proceeding routinely, but still in the indefinite stage, when New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's investigation of the Kennedy assassination burst into the headlines. Immediately, a new facet of the CBS project materialized.

"We covered this phase (Garrison's) as well as we

could. There are legal problems here, since a trial is pending in New Orleans, and we cannot risk trying it on the air," he explained.

"We spent about 20 hours with Garrison," Salant revealed, "and he was extremely co-operative. In fact, he wouldn't stop talking."

Three Themes

CBS News Report: The Warren Report will explore three central themes:

"Did Lee Harvey Oswald act alone? Was there a conspiracy? Why is there so much skepticism over the Warren Report?"

Thus far, Salant and executive producer Les Midgley have had no luck in getting Chief Justice Earl Warren to appear on the program or comment in any manner on his investigation or the CBS probe.

"The only comments

Dennis Day to Guest

Dennis Day has been signed to guest star in "Little Old Lady," a segment of The Lucy Show.

Warren made were to Peruvian reporters," Salant said, obviously rankled. "He won't be interviewed on the subject."

Salant claims there are no new sensational facts in CBS' report, such as the evidence of a group of assassins, but he indicated there will be some surprises that cannot be revealed at this time, of course.

Meanwhile, the task force is still working and will function right up until air time on Sunday, June 25. "We will still be working on the third show while the first one is on the air," Salant added. **END**

AMUSEMENTS, TV, RADIO

States 1-19-67
**JFK Death Probe
Specials Planned**

By JAMES A. PERRY

Be on the lookout for:

All three networks are planning specials concerning some phase of the John F. Kennedy death or probe, and CBS calls its special on this subject "The Warren Report," a program that will show eye-witnesses to Kennedy's death being interviewed.

The network has interviewed scores of individuals who were touched by the events in Dallas' Dealey Plaza, or who have become the critics and defenders of the "Official Report on the Assassination."



JAMES PERRY

Also interviewed were rifle and camera experts, pathologists, and psychologists, writers, and public officials who have studied the report.

It will be a three-segment program to be broadcast on three consecutive nights at the same hour, June 25, June 26, and June 27 (at 9 p.m. in New Orleans).

AMONG THOSE scheduled to appear on the broadcasts

are James W. Altgens, AP photographer who took pictures of the assassination; Dr. Luis Alvarez; Andrew Armstrong Jr., Jack Ruby's assistant at the Carousel Club in Dallas; Gov. John Connally; Edward Jay Epstein, author of "Inquest."

CBS has lined up dozens more people who were (or are) involved with the death, so many, in fact, that it sounds like a strictly question-and-answer session between network quizzers and these individuals.

But the topic is so much in the news, especially in this area, that there is no doubt that many viewers will want to see how this particular phase of the situation is handled.

NBC's controversial "The JFK Conspiracy: The Case of Jim Garrison," is scheduled for 7 tonight over Channel 6.

There has been a hint that the network will be a little outspoken concerning some individuals involved with the probe being conducted in New

Orleans, but, as we said earlier, that is as much as we've been able to learn about the NBC entry on the Kennedy assassination (or probe). We've heard even less about the ABC special on the same subject—only that the network will have one for the 1967-68 season.

END

Return Conditions Given by Novel

By HOKE MAY

Fugitive witness Gordon Novel today told Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison he will return here and testify in the DA's Kennedy death plot investigation if he is protected against arrest.

The 29-year-old former bar operator made the offer in what he said was his "final legal challenge" to Garrison.

He said he will testify "at my expense . . . on a lie detector and under sodium amytol before your stacked grand jury."

BUT NOVEL MADE an important proviso. He will come only under the terms of the uniform interstate witness compact which would guarantee him against arrest or prosecution in any state through which he travels.

It was the second time this week that the matter of the interstate witness compact was raised in connection with reluctant Garrison witnesses.

The governor of Texas said he is delaying action on Louisiana's request for 44-year-old Sergio Arcacha Smith and suggested the state seek Arcacha's return under the witness compact.

Thus, Arcacha in Texas and Novel in Columbus, Ohio, almost simultaneously sought the same immunity from arrest and prosecution.

BOTH ARE CHARGED by Garrison with conspiracy to burglarize a munitions bunker at Houma in August, 1961. Both also are charged with the actual burglary by Terrebonne Parish authorities.

Novel had admitted making a munitions pickup at Houma, but says it was a routine part of his work as an intelligence agent here before the April, 1961, Bay of Pigs Invasion.

Arcacha was the New Orleans leader of a militant anti-Castro Cuban organization here in 1961 and 1962.

Both Novel and Arcacha are fighting extradition on the burglary conspiracy charges.

REPLYING TO Novel, Garrison said his office "will not negotiate with Novel nor any other fugitive from justice from the state of Louisiana."

The DA said the "phrases used by Novel are almost identical with the phrases used by Gov. Connally with regard to his refusal to cooperate in the extradition of Sergio Arcacha."

"In the last five years," Garrison said, "we have brought back hundreds of defendants and witnesses from other states without any trouble at all in a single instance. Suddenly everything is different, now that there is an independent investigation being conducted into President Kennedy's murder."

HE SAID HIS office has been blocked in every attempt to return out-of-state witnesses for

testimony in the Kennedy inquiry and added:

"Such a coordinated effort to obstruct justice can only come from Washington, D. C. The question arises as to why there are men in Washington who are fearful of a full and honest disclosure of the facts concerning the President's murder."

IN WHAT AMOUNTED to an open telegram to Garrison, Novel promised not to invoke "the fifth amendment, retroactive executive privilege, or this nation's national security act" if he is permitted to come here under the witness compact.

"I will testify on any question you . . . can dream up," he told Garrison in the wire.

Specifically, Novel said he would like to testify on a number of points, namely:

1. International fraud;
2. public and official bribery;
3. intimidation;
4. in my opinion the probable murder of David Ferrie;
5. seditious treason;
6. mysterious intelligence activities from Nov., 1959, to date in the southern quadrant of the USA and certain islands off Florida;
7. hot war games and cold munitions transfers;
8. ten 1950 model Canadian surplus Vampire jet support

fighter aircraft; 9. certain Cuban-Anglo-French sabotage affairs of early 1961."

SUGGESTING THAT Garrison seek Arcacha under the interstate witness compact — which guarantees immunity — Texas Gov. John Connally wrote Gov. John J. McKeithen Jr.:

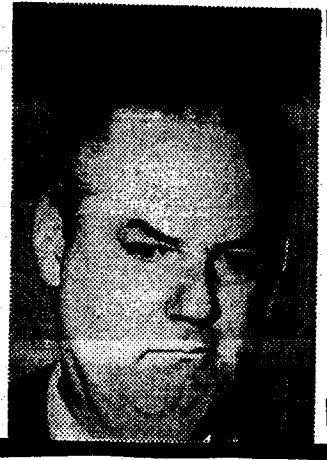
"Pending final disposition of your request pursuant to this act, your request for extradition of Sergio Arcacha Smith is being retained on my docket without prejudice." *EM*

Ruby Lawyer Tax Indictment Is Revealed

AUSTIN, Tex. (AP)—A federal grand jury indictment unsealed in open court today accused Jasper, Tex., lawyer Joe Tonahill, one of the lawyers in the Jack Ruby murder trial, of evading \$125,732 in income taxes.

Tonahill pleaded innocent before U.S. District Judge Jack Roberts.

The three-count indictment was returned last April 14 and then sealed by agreement of



both the government and defense attorneys, Roberts said.

The judge said the indictment was unsealed today "because the interests of the parties and of justice will be served by the unsealing."

Tonahill was one of the lawyers defending Ruby against the charge of murdering Lee Harvey Oswald, identified by the Warren Commission as the assassin of President John F. Kennedy.

Ruby was sentenced to death in the electric chair, but died of cancer last January while awaiting a new trial after his conviction was reversed and a second trial ordered. > END

NBC Will Air Critical View of Garrison Case

The National Broadcasting Co. definitely will telecast tonight a program criticizing aspects of District Attorney Jim Garrison's assassination investigation in spite of objections by Garrison to the Federal Communications Commission.

William R. McAndrew, president of NBC News, said yesterday the network also expects Garrison to demand equal time and the network is "prepared for it."

The program, called "The JFK Conspiracy—The Case of Jim Garrison," is scheduled for 7 to 8 p. m. New Orleans time.

GARRISON HAS said the actions of NBC make him believe it has a "calculated objective" of destroying his case against Clay L. Shaw in his investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

Garrison has obtained an indictment charging Shaw, a retired New Orleans businessman,

with conspiring to assassinate Kennedy.

The DA sent a six-page letter of complaint to Rosel H. Hyde, chairman of the FCC, saying that NBC "has been so aggressive in attacking the state of Louisiana's case against Shaw prior to trial as to have gone far beyond the pretense of merely gathering and disseminating news."

GARRISON ASKED that NBC not be allowed "to use the public airways to accomplish such mean ends."

A spokesman for the FCC said in Washington yesterday that Garrison's letter had not been received. In any event, the spokesman said, the commission is prohibited by law from determining the content of television programs. He said Garrison could demand network time to respond to the program under the so-called fairness doctrine. The commission then would determine whether Garrison should be given the time.

The DA also criticized NBC's local affiliate, WDSU-TV Corp., saying that the local station's participation had included harassment of witnesses by at least one member of the WDSU staff.

A. Louis Read, WDSU president, made the following statement on the station's position:

"In his letter to the Federal Communications Commission, Mr. Garrison made specific allegations regarding WDSU-TV. These allegations have no basis in truth except for Mr. Garrison's statement that WDSU-TV actively aided NBC in its investigation of Mr. Garrison's tactics.

"As we have stated in past editorials, this station has been concerned with the tactics and methods used by District Attorney Jim Garrison in his assassination probe, and we believe his letter to the Federal Communications Commission is another example of this."

Read said the program will be carried tonight on WDSU.

The NBC program tonight will include a statement that two principal witnesses in Garrison's case against Shaw had previously failed lie detector tests.

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