

'Plot Probe Role Small'

DA Labels Gurvich as Double Agent

see the I file
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District Attorney Jim Garrison today accused private detective William Gurvich of acting as a double agent while he was working for Garrison on the DA's probe of the Kennedy assassination.

Garrison said Gurvich had been given only limited information about the investigation after he discovered the detective was having meetings with a representative of the National Broadcasting Company. NBC produced an unfavorable documentary on the probe.

Friday it was reported by NBC that Gurvich told the late President's brother, Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, that Garrison's investigation has "no basis in fact" and "no material evidence."

"I AM SURE THAT almost everyone will recognize Mr. Gurvich's statement as the latest move from the eastern headquarters of the establishment to attempt to discredit our investigation into the true facts of President Kennedy's assassination.

"It becomes increasingly

apparent that elements of the federal government are absolutely desperate in their attempt to prevent the people of this country from finding out what really happened in Dallas.

"It will be noticed that we now are experiencing two forms of counterattack from the forces defending continued concealment. First, there is occurring a closely timed coalition of major news media and other cooperative agencies, seeking to create the impression that the assassination is a closed matter and anyone who raises questions is either sinister or misguided. Second, there is a tremendous amount of economic pressure being brought to

bear in the government's effort to smother our investigation.

"OF COURSE, IF the truth about President Kennedy's assassination had been brought out it would not be necessary

to continue to conceal from the people hundreds of essential documents as well as other vital pieces of evidence concerning the assassination.

"A possibility that this evidence may be brought to light showing that there was a conspiracy — a fact which elements of our federal government have apparently well known all along is behind the increasingly frantic counter measures coming from the Washington-New York area.

"If we are so far off the track, then why is there such an organized effort being made to discredit the investigation before the trial? If we are not in possession of facts showing what really happened in Dallas, won't that be made perfectly plain at the trial?"

"WITH REGARD to the curious actions of Mr. Gurvich — first in Washington and then in a secret conference with Sen. Robert Kennedy and finally in the news centers of the East — a few comments of clarification appear to be in order.

"Mr. Gurvich has never been at any time chief investigator for this office, as apparently represented himself during his secret trip to Washington and New York, nor has he ever been placed on the payroll of this office as an investigator.

"SOME MONTHS AGO, Mr. Gurvich, who operates a night watchman service, appeared out of the blue and offered his assistance to our investigation.

"After a few months, he just as quickly disappeared from view. We assumed that he became dissatisfied when he was made neither chief investigator nor a paid member of the staff.

"It should be noted that the chief investigator of this office during the course of this investigation has been officer Louis Ivon, a member of the

New Orleans Police Department, assigned to this office.

"MR. GURVICH'S role in the investigation was principally concerned with regard to photographic work, and in fairness to him it should be said that his photographic work was very good.

"He was assigned a limited amount of investigative work.

"One of Mr. Gurvich's increasing complaints, however, was that he felt that he was not being given enough information about the investigation itself. One of the reasons we did not give him all of our information was that we soon learned that he was having meetings with Mr. Walter Sheridan, a former federal investigator now working for the National Broadcasting Co.

"FROM THAT TIME on, Mr. Gurvich's assignments were limited to photography, chauffeuring and other technical work of a limited nature until he faded out of view about six weeks ago.

"As a practical matter, therefore, Mr. Gurvich has had no connection whatsoever with the staff for at least six weeks.

"I do not see how he can 'resign' when he has ceased to be a part of the investiga-

tion for so long, but apparently this is what they told him to do.

"I do not condemn Mr. Gurvich. I am sorry to see that he is willing to lend himself to the transparent effort to keep hidden the truth about the assassination.

"I PRESUME THAT when he says that the members of my staff do not have a professional approach that he means they cannot be bought.

"If that is the case, I am glad that they are amateurs, and I am confident that they will remain that way.

"It is because they are amateurs and because there is not enough money or power in this country to corrupt them, that we are going to work to expose the entire truth of the assassination to the people of this country."

END

Oswald Had Time for Three Volleys--CBS

NEW YORK (AP)—The Columbia Broadcasting System said yesterday its investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy found that Lee Harvey Oswald had enough time to fire three shots at the auto carrying Kennedy.

Many critics of the 26-volume Warren Commission report have contended that the rifle used by Oswald was not capable of being fired three times in 5.6 seconds — the time commission tests indicated was used in firing the shots.

Other critics have pointed to the amateur film taken by Abraham Zapruder on Nov. 22, 1963, in Dallas, which also puts the time angle in doubt.

CBS SAID IN THE first of a four-part series on the assassination that it concluded "a Mannlicher-Carcano rifle can be fired as accurately and rapidly — and probably more — as the commission believed."

Also, CBS said, the film shot by Zapruder "was quite possibly running slower than the commission thought." And blurs on three of the film frames indicates "something startled Mr. Zapruder," CBS said. It said evidence showed "a rifle is what startled him."

CBS News' analysis of Zapruder's film "suggests strongly that the first shot was fired at frame 186" while "the commission said only that the first shot to hit came between frames 210 and 225."

A SLOW CAMERA, CBS said, "most likely meant that the rifleman may have had additional time to get off three shots" in probably seven to eight seconds instead of 5.6 seconds."

"The first shot was fired from Dallas Texas School Depository building sooner than the Warren Commission said," CBS newsmen concluded.

CBS said that in its experiments from a 60-foot tower, the same height as the sixth-floor window of the school book depository, one of its 11 volunteer marksmen made three hits in 5.2 seconds. CBS said another

got one hit from three shots in 4.1 seconds—all with Mannlicher-Carcano rifles.

CBS SAID ITS investigation supported Warren Commission findings that Oswald owned a rifle, took one to the depository

building, and Oswald was in the building on the sixth floor when the three shots were fired. Walter Cronkite who narrated the program, said the network's second and third telecasts would cover conspiracy theories.

"We drew a distinction between Oswald as a killer and Oswald as the killer," Cronkite said. "The Warren Commission — despite the most widely accepted and often restated capsule version of its findings — did not state that Oswald was the only killer. It did state that it could not find any evidence that others had conspired with him."

"Yet," Cronkite added, "it is precisely on this point that most Americans question the commission's conclusion most strongly. Almost two out of three Americans seem to feel that behind such a monstrous deed there must have been a conspiracy."

CBS's other three telecasts dealing with the assassination will be shown tonight, tomorrow and Wednesday. **END**

CALLS IT 'ABSURD'

9.7-ends
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Why Gurvich Quit Inquiry by Garrison

6/29

BY JACK NELSON

Times Staff Writer

NEW ORLEANS — What prompted investigator William Gurvich to resign as an aide to Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison and blast Garrison's investigation of the Kennedy assassination?

Gurvich, operator of a private detective agency, told a reporter Wednesday that he decided to challenge the inquiry about June 1, after it became "so absurd I figured Garrison had gone completely nuts."

Talks With Newsmen

Actually, Gurvich, who early in the investigation boasted to reporters that Garrison had evidence to substantiate his charges, began talking confidentially with some newsmen about the shaky nature of the case more than a month ago. It was an NBC-TV special correspondent, Walter Sheridan, who helped persuade him that he should publicly tell what he thought about the investigation.

Sheridan, a key figure in the Justice Department investigation which led to conviction of Teamsters President James R. Hoffa, first arranged for Gurvich to meet with Sen. Robert F. Kennedy (D-N.Y.) in New York on June 8 to relate his views. Kennedy was attorney general at the time Sheridan worked for the department.

After word of the meeting leaked to the press, Gurvich acknowledged he had met with Kennedy and told the senator there was no substance to the investigation.

Gurvich, who on March 1 announced that Clay L. Shaw had been charged

with conspiring to murder President John F. Kennedy, Monday resigned from Garrison's staff and urged the district attorney to drop the charge against Shaw.

Gurvich now says he was never in favor of arresting Shaw, but when he announced the arrest he declared that other arrests would be forthcoming. Then he assured newsmen Garrison could back up the charges.

When Gurvich resigned, he said he did not want to "grandstand," but merely wanted to relate his views to Garrison.

But after Garrison commented on his resignation by ridiculing his role as an aide, describing him as little more than a chauffeur and a photographer, Gurvich heatedly denounced the district attorney as "irrational" and said his investigation had violated the civil rights of several persons, including Shaw.

Gurvich told a newsman Wednesday that he decided to denounce the investigation after Garrison allegedly plucked the name of his latest suspect from a letter written by a Texas woman whose husband had abandoned her and her children. She wanted help in locating him and described him as a man with a scar over his left eye.

"Garrison has always thought that a man with a scar over his left eye was a companion of Lee Harvey Oswald," said Gurvich. "So now this man became his suspect. It was so absurd I figured Garrison had gone completely nuts." END