

Transcript of Commentary by Tony Geiss on National Educational Television
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I just got a most unusual letter from a friend in New Orleans for the Mardi Gras.
Dear Tony: It goes ---

What a scene. Wild floats, grotesque masks. People drinking and dancing in the streets---screaming, turmoil, and on a balcony above it all, watching, guess who I saw---The Clay Shaw jury looking very bored and wanting to get back to some real action. Which brings me to this obviously crazy Mardi Gras rumor about a plot against Clay Shaw.

Recently, this fantasy goes, there was a secret meeting held in a Dallas night club between two people who have since died and a bearded man called Jim Harrison, or Barrison, who either did or did not resemble Jim Garrison. This Barrison or Marrison allegedly wrote a number in a matchbook which has been deciphered as a cryptogram of Mark Lane's chiropodist's unlisted phone number, supposedly corroborated by testimony taken under oath, hypnosis and drugs---the usual legal methods---from a recently institutionalized cocktail waitress who claims to have been present...and supported by a seance with the two other participants, rumored to have been (1) Judge Crater, who was until recently alive and well in Dallas, and (2) the late Allen Dulles, or at least one Henry Scott, who allegedly resembles him amazingly, though five inches shorter, swarthy and with a Lithuanian accent.

These three, the fantasy goes, with Barrison, or Marrison, or Clay Pringle, or Rinaldo Moreland as he was also allegedly known, supposedly conspired to get a certain flamboyant New Orleans public official out of a legal hole he had dug with his own jaws by using Shaw's rights and reputation to stage a notoreity circus and to rehash familiar arguments against the Warren Report before a jury not versed in that Report---with maximum publicity, gambling for a ballyhooed conviction, to be quietly overturned by a higher court after the propaganda damage was done, that is, Clay Shaw was assassinated.

This is of course preposterous as is the alleged plan for a countersuit against Garrison to keep him under indictment for two years while testing evidence in the press and on television, then devoting much of the trial to refuting "Rush To Judgment," with depositions from (1) a man who heard no shots at all in Dealey Plaza and insists President Kennedy is still with us (2) another who saw a herd of elephants on that grassy knoll and has a blurred photograph to prove it (3) a member of the American Civil Liberties Establishment, with a long overdue statement...

But enough of this fantasy. Back to the carnival---wild, abandoned, incredible.

You would never believe it's mostly papier-mache, and that so many intelligent people would be willing to travel such incredible distances for so brief and grotesque an orgy.

Sincerely.....

This is Tony Geiss.