

Shortly before my arrival to testify before the Grand Jury, Jim Garrison and a number of his associates attended a party thrown by Barbara Gold, who seems to be the major witness against me.

In 1963, around the time she "came" to with Oswald in the Bourbon House, Barbara Gold was going around the quarter, holding a voodoo doll out of her purse, and boasting that she had used it to "kill" Sidney, a Bourbon Street stripper who had died that summer under sensational circumstances.

The L.A. TIMES 1963, which can hardly be accused of smearing the New Orleans RA or distorting his claims, billed my arrest as a "chilling indictment for Garrison." Other sources were also apparently told by someone representing Garrison's office that Garrison had obtained a Grand Jury indictment against me, which he DID NOT. Turning off my arrest as an indictment did, however, automatically secure wider publicity for Garrison's "press release" containing incriminating remarks about me.

When I went to New Orleans to testify, I turned up in Garrison's office a day early and offered WYBARKEN to submit to unrestricted questioning under his detention equipment, truth serum, and hypnosis. These offers were not accepted.

Barbara Gold is now denying that she ever claimed to be a witch or to practice witchcraft. The voodoo altar that once took up a large portion of her den is now dismantled and packed away in the closet. That, at least, is what she told a friend recently.

Though my book, OSMITH, which was written in November of 1964 shortly after the publication of the Warren Report tended to confirm the correctness of the Commission's conclusions, I have been since 1965 an outspoken skeptic of the lone-assassin theory, and my editorial comments have received a far larger audience than my book ever did. I was much pleased that Garrison is regarding the conclusions of the Warren Commission. It took the almighty opinion of a U.S. Senator to change his mind.

The Georgetown, Guyanese are always yelling that Garrison is not headline hungry and is not running a carnival. I found out from the WASH. POST that I was going to be arrested for perjury on the day BEFORE the warrant was served on me. Further, I found out from the wire services that I was to be subpoenaed a WEEK before papers were served. Garrison could save his money by just letting the courts file his charges on people.

Part of the "evidence" which Garrison says "indicates" that I was a Federal agent is that, for a few months after my 1961 arrival in New Orleans, I had a post office box in a Federal building (which was also my neighborhood post office). I'll be charged me without talking to the person who came with me to New Orleans and was my roommate during those months -- and this man had written Garrison a letter offering his co-operation. The FBI's people apparently could be only one of my close friends, and he told them he was sure they were on the wrong track.

Aida Andy Scianbra was assigned as go-between between me and Garrison, who was too pompous to see me in person except before the Grand Jury. Later I was told that Scianbra and Barbara Reid are long-time friends. Before I was charged Scianbra told me that Barbara played "a ~~big~~ very small part" in my case. Every time I tried to explain how unreliable Barbara was and how he could check this out for himself, he just laughed at me.

Scianbra told me that the Dolton Ford incident had occurred "within a few days" AFTER my late February 1961 arrival in New Orleans, and that this was a major reason why I was under suspicion. Later I learned that this incident took place a month BEFORE my arrival. This and other distortions were apparently part of a thumb-screw-and-rack operation designed to torment me into giving information Garrison thought I was holding back. All it did was make me think I was being framed by the true assassins. My wife and I went through utter hell until independent research began to convince us that much of what Mr. Scianbra had told me was just not ~~TRUE~~ so.

At one point Scianbra said he personally was not sure I was lying, but that Garrison "called the shots" and he and Alecock were "only troops following orders." Adolph Dickman Scianbra I now call him.

I offered to go out and round up everyone in the quarter with whom I'd been associating during the critical period and request them to attend a brainstorming session in Garrison's office where, in front of him, we would endeavor to reconstruct my activities over the time span in which he thinks I was hopping around as a secret agent. This would've involved at least thirty or forty people and would almost certainly have been a most valuable session to anyone interested in finding out the truth. I further offered to let the RA include anyone else in this group he wanted to. This was rejected because, "Garrison thinks you are lying or holding something back or something."

Hal Weisberg used to work for the OSS, ~~WHICH~~ which later had its initials changed to CIA. He has also pleaded for Senate investigations. And he still talks about "our society and its institutions" like a true servant of the system. I find it ironic that this little establishmentarian thing should have ~~PERHAPS~~ practically written the script for a man who thinks I ever worked for the CIA in any capacity. I've never worked for that or any other spy outfit. I think further that secret agents are the cause of insanity. The James Bond case is sicker than Bony and Clyde. Sicker than Garrison. As sick as Weisberg.

I have a pronounced streak of paranoia. That I am keenly aware of it is probably all that keeps me out of the ~~INMATE~~ Napoleon factory. But this thing of Garrison's will either cure me or kill me. I'm CERTAIN I was being followed on the night after I appeared before the Grand Jury. And when I was in New Orleans the last time, I jumped into a cab and the driver turned out to be Perry Raymond Russo. No kidding. This is about coincidence 9,999!

Compared to Garrison's persecution mania, however, mine is mild. Confronted with evidence which contradicts his view, he just holds up the obligatory double book to pretend it isn't there. There is no real evidence for a man's crime was which comes to mind. It is a ~~THEORY~~ a sufficiently comprehensive conspiracy theory. ~~THEORY~~

If you read the charges you'll see that I'm being prosecuted for stating that in my opinion Barbara Reid is wrong. That isn't perjury -- it is heresy! I'm charged with contradicting blessed Saint Barbara the Bullthrower and the Gospel According to Garrison. The whole thing revolves around a matter of opinion.

Beneath the exterior of a mild-mannered DA lurks the Jolly Green Frankenstein Monster. People like Hal Weisberg and Barbara Reid created it, and those are the people it will destroy in the end.

If Jim Garrison is mistreated by the wire services, the newspapers within his jurisdiction are most co-operative with him. Avid Garrisonite Hal Weisberg has called this "the true Pulitzer-Prize journalism." When I was there to testify the New Orleans TIMES PICAYUNE ran my name as Harry Lee Thornley -- even though my correct middle name, Wendell, was available on any number of public records. Better subliminal advertising for Garrison's charge that I was "closely associated" with Lee Harvey Oswald would be hard to buy.

Hal Weisberg's claim that his book is being suppressed in New Orleans is a big joke down there. "Look, everywhere but on the newspaper," said one French QUARTERITE during my last visit. I bought my copy of ORLAND IN HIS UNIFORM there -- and all my New Orleans friends seem to have copies which they purchased locally. It is about as "suppressed in New Orleans" as is THE NEW YORKER in Mecca.

Once, one of Garrison's men, kept looking at me like I was already convicted and hanged. Louis Iven, a side-arm-toting tough-guy type, screamed, "You can't fool me. I know ~~well~~ you're lying. It's no kiddo. I'm a professional policeman!"

Wort Schil came walking into the office and I smiled, because I had always liked him on records and television and thought he was funny. He gave me a very frightened look and dashed out of sight, into another office. Since then I have learned that Wort is paranoid about burpies and thinks there is something sinister about love-ins. If he has his way, Garrison will probably claim the real assassins were on LSD when they killed the President.

When I mentioned during questioning that I had been employed at one time passing out leaflets for merchants, assistant DA Jim Alcock wanted to know if they were political in nature. I answered that of course they were not -- they contained advertising for merchants. "Oh," he said, "I thought you said 'for Democrats.'" Alcock is said by some to be one of the few somewhat objective people in that office -- yet, like the others, he could not seem to get ~~it~~ it through his head that I was not some sort of traditionalistic nationalist. I tried to explain the difference between individualism and nationalism, but they just looked at me. ~~They just looked at me.~~

Garrison has indicated he thinks I'm a CIA agent because I have the education to hold white collar jobs and get work. In an interview he gave me in New Orleans voluntarily last year, he claimed as they say "I think about you and your job in the back of my mind." He can't seem to believe anyone would actually prefer to work for others than create better jobs, build better machines, and play golf.

After my arraignment I had to wait in the court room while my attorney attended to the details of my bail bond, and there I watched a representative of Garrison's office argue for the swift return of a fugitive black man to a state which had sent five lancers to take custody of him -- Mississippi. I wish some of my idealistic friends in California who think Big Jim is such an antifascist here could have seen the fear on that lily face as the State ~~MINN~~ argued him into the hands of those gentlemen from Jackson.

An AP dispatch which got wide circulation ~~MINN~~ credited me with suspecting that there was a conspiracy afoot to frame me by someone "with a large amount of money." What I actually said was that if I was being framed, which I thought possible, it was by whoever had committed the assassination -- and that anyone with enough power and money to get away with an act like that would have little trouble passing a law tap on me. I feel that Associated Press certainly missed the main point of what I said. But it seems to be the AP line to support the lone-assassin theory, so they couldn't be paying too much attention to anything these days. Every dispatch on me has contained the "news" that the Warren ~~MINN~~ Commission concluded that Lee Harvey Oswald, acting alone, killed Kennedy. They even have this set ~~MINN~~ paragraph that they insert in every release. In Moscow that's considered good journalism, I've heard.

It was under Kennedy that the U.S.-financed operation against Kabanga took place. Bertrand Russell, who is basically a rightist boob, felt the Congolese atrocities against Kabangese women and children surpassed any he'd heard of during the Rosenberg trials. I detested Kennedy when he was alive and saw no reason to change my opinion about him simply because he managed to get shot. I was ~~MINN~~ on 11 November 1963 and that night I sat at the bar in the Bourbon House, drinking and talking wisecracks to a highly unappreciative audience. Under the circumstances you'd think the unvarnished truth about my notions on that night would be enough, but one of Garrison's men promptly told one of my former associates that I "threw a party and gave out three drinks." This, apparently, is how they get their witnesses -- not by asking questions, but by telling lies in order to make converts to the cause.

I campaigned for Goldwater in 1964 because I thought he would cause less suffering in the world than LBJ. ~~MINN~~ I may well have been correct, too -- but by election time I decided that to vote for either of them would be a crime against both myself and humanity-at-large. So my record is a good deal less "brightwing" than that of Garrison, who up until recently was defending U.S. involvement in Vietnam, walking strip joints, "speaking down" on nonconicals, and putting heads in prison. My this man calls himself a libertarian in beyond -- I don't tell people I'm a BA.

You'd think that those who were going all the way with LBJ in '64 and who once called Bobby Kennedy as a hero would by now have learned something worthwhile as to the principles of power. The alternative might be a world of hell or no better: the slumber show. There's all the time. My dear, the world's best person the lessons of history, God? My dear, they know of Garrison -- a BA who tries to come on like an enemy of the State. ~~MINN~~