

7/6/68

Interview with Maude Ellen Stampe Farmar (kirkpatrick) 3:15-5:00 p.m.

Maude Ellen serves the most refreshing spring water I have had since I was a boy. After three trips to see her, the first when she was leaving to be interviewed for a job, the next day, when at 11 a.m. she was still asleep, yesterday afternoon when she was bicycling to the grocery store at 6 p.m., by prearrangement I went today at a time she designated, to permit her going swimming this morning. She hadn't because the electric hot-water heater exploded and she was awaiting the repairman, who came ~~in my presence~~ while I was there.

Yesterday I had told her of my interest in the assassination, the possibility of Godfrey having been on the edges or being framed to look that way, and in his poetry and sketching. She then told me of a Secret Service investigation, the date of which she could not recall.

After we started chatting today, after she told me that she had been unable to find the few of his poems (including two long ones on yellow second-sheets) but would send them to me ~~before~~ if she found them, and after she had found a few of his small sketches, I began by honestly telling her my beliefs, including of Shaw, Bertrand, Garrison (because she dislikes him and thinks he is engaged in persecuting homosexuals), the Cuban involvement, the FBI and CIA, etc. I told her that Shaw's friends who were silent were withholding what might be exculpatory information and might be acting against his interest. I think we had a sort of rapport. Marge says she is a Fullbright scholar. She has cultural interests, is well informed, had an extensive vocabulary, is intelligent. She strongly dislikes Marge, says a doctor told her Godfrey's tests show traces of damage from Sacretina, agree his homosexual interests may have provided the extra stress he could not cope with.

She has been a friend of Clay Shaw since 1945. She is a friend of John Dusa (and I had also mentioned Dodt, but she made no reference to him or the Bultmans, who I also mentioned.). She thinks Shaw innocent and ruined by Garrison, but she also agrees that delaying his trial makes him look guilty and does not seem to serve the interest of the accused in an immediate trial, which his lawyers alone have delayed.

She knows Bill Martin well. He is and has been her lawyer.

Godfrey applied so often to Wm P. Burk, then local CIA head, that he was a nuisance. He sought a job.

"We all hung out at La Casa", she said when I explained the interest I had in it. She volunteered that she saw Mario Bermudez there. She described him as a pederast and a flagrant one. She said she had been going there since 1950, when her brother "discovered it", and that she and Godfrey had been going there since 1956. They were married in 1958.

She thinks there is a strong Cuban involvement in the assassination but not from fact, from a feeling she has.

About two years ago, she is not clear on the date or time, two Secret Service

agents came to see her one afternoon. She gathered it was because Godfrey had written a letter threatening the life of the President. They told her little and asked questions in a way that did not disclose the kind of information they were really seeking. She says ~~she~~ emphasized his mental condition. She says she was told he has strong homicidal and suicidal tendencies, aside from undiscriminated schizophrenia. She had known nothing about it earlier and had seen little of Godfrey. (I told her of threat to JG, the Walther, giving her serial no, etc.) They also asked her about Gammon. She describes him as mentally ill for some time and out of practice at the time Godfrey knew him, but living in the vicinity. She says he is a pederast, was often marked as though from beating, had been confined in the north, and was recently in the neighborhood again. She describes him as hopeless. About a year ago, again she is uncertain of the date, but says the weather was about like now or it was a little later in that year, she got a series of phone calls from a Secret Service Agent named Camp who was looking for Godfrey. They would have had to have been before he left Mandeville when transferred to Jackson, which was well over a year ago and might tend to date the visit by the two agents earlier. Godfrey was then out of the hospital. She says Camp called "constantly", asking if she had seen Godfrey.

She will look for other information about Godfrey. I am to phone her before I leave. The interview was somewhat circumlocutions because of the presence of Lucinda, her daughter, who is called by her middle name, Kempe, is bright, pretty, draws well, has pale blue eyes like Godfrey, and was intelligently curious. Maude Ellen pretended no knowledge of where Godfrey is and that we talked about him only because of his poetry and sketches.

Ed Butler one of G's best friends.