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JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM

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Memorandum

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Holmes
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TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: 4/4/67

FROM : C. D. DeLoach

cc Mr. DeLoach
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sullivan
Mr. Wick

SUBJECT: ASSASSINATION OF
PRESIDENT KENNEDY

Jack Anderson came in to see me at 11:55 a.m. today. He has just returned from New Orleans where, at the invitation of District Attorney Jim Garrison, he interviewed Garrison for approximately six hours at his home. Anderson and Garrison later had dinner at the Latin Quarter restaurant in New Orleans.

Anderson stated that he went to New Orleans fully prepared to present a hostile viewpoint to Garrison. After listening to Garrison for approximately 90 minutes he began to believe Garrison's story. Anderson describes Garrison as a very convincing talker who has considerable facts at his disposal. Anderson now believes there is some authenticity to Garrison's claims and future plans. Garrison told Anderson that he will undoubtedly hold a full-scale trial within six months.

Basically, Garrison told Anderson that the entire assassination plot stemmed from David W. Ferrie, who was the genius and mastermind of the entire thing, and with Clay Shaw, who was in the beginning subsidized by the Central Intelligence Agency. Garrison has facts, as well as witnesses, according to Anderson, to prove that Lee Harvey Oswald came to the attention of Ferrie and Shaw when Oswald first arrived in New Orleans. At that point both Ferrie and Shaw recognized the fact that Oswald was a former marine, had had lengthy experience in the Soviet Union, was married to a Soviet citizen, and therefore had ties and background which would lend themselves to gaining easy access to Cuba. Shaw at this point already had been approved by the CIA, through an appropriate cut-out, to engineer a plot that would result in the assassination of Fidel Castro.

Upon learning of Oswald's background, Ferrie conceived the idea of setting up Oswald in an attempt to establish a Fair Play for Cuba organization in New Orleans. Ferrie and Shaw arranged for Oswald to obtain an office which formerly had

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been rented by an anti-Castro organization. Ferrie and Shaw also conceived the idea of sending Oswald to Mexico in a fake attempt to obtain permission to re-enter the Soviet Union. Garrison, according to Anderson, can prove that Oswald did this merely to establish a good atmosphere so that he could gain ready access to Cuba.

Garrison claims that it was at this point that Oswald became disillusioned and refused to go through with the plot to assassinate Castro. Upon returning to New Orleans from Mexico, Oswald advised both Ferrie and Shaw that he would not go through with their plans. Shaw and Ferrie, being guided by several Cubans in their midst, then conceived the idea (mostly because of the fiasco at the Bay of Pigs) of assassinating President Kennedy. Ferrie and Shaw believed that Oswald could be the "patsy" and instructed him to go to Dallas for the purpose of the assassination.

They also engineered the idea of him buying the gun under the name of A. J. Hidell, and the use of the mails in procuring this gun so that it would be an open, public record which could be traced to Oswald. They additionally told Oswald that he should keep certain papers in his possession which would trace back to the gun.

On the day of the assassination, Ferrie traveled to Houston, allegedly for the purpose of ice skating. Witnesses at the ice skating rink remember Ferrie as being at the rink and have indicated to Garrison that Ferrie, while he did not ice skate, did stand near a pay telephone at all times on the day of 11/22/63.

Garrison also has witnesses who will testify that Jack Ruby was the eyes and ears for Ferrie at all times. Ruby sent two of his people to Houston so that, upon the success of the assassination attempt, these two people could use a local pay phone to advise Ferrie of the success of the plot. Garrison claims that a long distance phone call from Dallas to Houston could, of course, have been traced; hence the desirability of using the local phone. Anderson stated that Ruby was definitely in on the plot and was later instructed by Ferrie and Shaw to take care of Oswald.

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Mr. Tolson

Anderson next sprang the "Sixty-four dollar question." He stated that at the close of Garrison's six-hour recitation of facts, he (Anderson) was of the opinion that Garrison was not only sincere, but very convincing. Anderson stated that Garrison firmly believed his facts. Anderson then told me that he bluntly asked Garrison why Garrison had not given all these convincing facts to the FBI, whereupon Garrison replied, "I got started off on the wrong foot with the FBI." Garrison added, "I would be more than willing to give the FBI everything I have and let them finish the investigation if they so desire."

Anderson told me that he, of course, is now in a position to contact Garrison and indicate that the FBI will or will not take over this case. I told Anderson that the FBI would not under any circumstances take over the case. I stated that Garrison had made it quite plain that he did not want the cooperation of the FBI and, as a matter of fact, Garrison had threatened to put handcuffs on any of our agents who approached him for information.

I also told Anderson that, while we of course would accept any information that was voluntarily given to us, we at the same time would not take over Garrison's "dirty laundry."

Anderson told me that if the Bureau had any change of policy in the above regard he would appreciate knowing about it. I told him we would keep his offer in mind; however, there definitely would be no change of policy.

WASHINGTON, D.C

Anderson also told me that he had discussed this entire matter with George Christian, the President's Press Secretary, at the White House. He stated that Christian was also convinced that there must be some truth to Garrison's allegations. Christian told Anderson to get in touch with the FBI. Anderson stated he had already been planning to do this, but that he now especially wanted to advise us of the full facts because of Christian's request.

D.C

LYNDON B JOHNSON

In this connection, Marvin Watson called me late last night and stated that the President had told him, in an off moment, that he was now convinced that there was a plot in connection with the assassination. Watson stated the President felt that CIA had had something to do with this plot. Watson requested that any further information we could furnish

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in this connection would be most appreciated by him and the President. I reminded Watson that the Director had sent over to the White House some weeks back all the information in our possession in connection with CIA's attempts to use former agent Robert Maheu and his private detective outfit in contacts with Sam Giancana and other hoodlums, relative to fostering a plot to assassinate Castro. Watson stated this was true and he remembered our memorandum in this regard, but that if we had anything else we should by all means forward it to the White House. I told him we had no further information in this regard.

ACTION: For record purposes. There is no need to make further contact with Anderson.