

HOAX: Oliver Stone's JFK Assassination Mardi Gras

In 1967 popular, articulate and often eloquent New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison charged the dead Lee Harvey Oswald, the soon-to-die weirdo David Ferrie and businessman-playwright Clay Shaw with conspiring to kill President John F. Kennedy. This and his many and not infrequently self-contradictory conspiracies attracted sensational international attention. He tried Shaw in 1969. The jury, which believed there had been a conspiracy, acquitted Shaw within an hour. Five years later Shaw died.

In 1988 Garrison published his self-justification of his spectacular fiasco, "On the Trail of the Assassins," a book sparing of truth and fact, lavish in its untruth and knowing dishonesty. In it he adds still another invention, rewriting his own history to allege that the CIA conspired to ruin his case and him.

Twice-Oscared and otherwise honored Oliver Stone decided to make a movie of Garrison's book, beginning with a reported \$40,000,000 from Warner Brothers. Stone also contracted other books, including a compendium of all the nutty theories to add to Garrison's CIA-did-it whodunit.

As soon as I learned that he was basing his movie on the Garrison fairy tale and calling it "history," I wrote Stone warning him that he risked his reputation in making a Mack Sennett of himself producing a Keystone Kops farce starring a Pink Panther. He did not respond and instead proceeded to film what he proclaimed would be "history" in which he told the people "who" killed their President, "why" and "how" in his version of that "trail" neither of them took.

One of Garrison's innumerable ludicrous fantasies lied about in the book about which I informed Stone is that Garrison had intended to commemorate the fifth anniversary of JFK's assassination by charging a man who had killed himself 15 months prior to the assassination and another innocent man with having been part of his imagined conspiracy.

Garrison and others have woven an incredibly large number of conspiracy theories and "identifications" of three winos photographed after being removed drunk from a parked railroad boxcar 90 minutes after the assassination a block west of that scene and two and a half blocks south of it. Stone lustily denied the embarrassing truth when I had it brought to light and insisted that fiction is unquestionable fact. He offered no proof. None exists. None is possible. Like Garrison, whatever he imagines he wants believed. No matter how false, even impossible, it becomes instant fact. *Our real "history":*

The innocent man Garrison intended charging also has been "identified" as, among many others, Watergaters E. Howard Hunt and Frank Sturgis. A second wino, dubbed "Frenchy," was "identified" as LBJ's farm manager!

Stone also sees LBJ behind the conspiracy!

With assistance from Garrison's staff, which enlisted my help after they had failed to dissuade him, I did what forced Garrison to abandon that

charge. He fired the investigator <sup>he</sup> had had personally hired to circumvent his professional police investigators on the fabricated allegation that he had been infiltrated by the CIA to sabotage the "investigation." In fact, that man, now also dead, was making up what he knew Garrison wanted.

I have my report that got him fired, the documentary support of it from Garrison's own files, and a confirming memo from an assistant district attorney.

I am the author of the first book on the Warren Report, of five others on the JFK assassination and its investigation, and one on that of Dr. King.

I am a former investigative reporter, <sup>a</sup> Senate investigator and editor and wartime intelligence analyst.

Of the time I spent in New Orleans not investigating Oswald's past, most was spent on Garrison damage control. I have personal knowledge of his fiasco, his incompetence and his fantasies and of the deliberate dishonesties in his book, plus relevant records, his and the FBI's included. *He is Stone's hero*

Under the Freedom of Information Act I've obtained about a third of a million pages of once-withheld official records, mostly the FBI's, on the JFK crime. In 1974 Congress amended the investigatory-files exemption of this Act over FBI abuses of it in one of my earliest FOIA lawsuits. This made possible my getting these records by about a dozen FOIA lawsuits. I make these records available to all. I offered access to Stone. He declined it. *3/*

The proposed book will address Garrison at two different times: when he officially charged the baseless conspiracy and <sup>larger</sup>, as the author. In adding other ill-conceived inventions to Garrison's, Stone proclaimed he was filming "history," a factual account of that terrible crime.

(I have the original script and, aside from the impossibility of eliminating Stone's dependence upon Garrison's book by any revision, he has repeatedly reaffirmed his dependence on it. The script will not be used because of the decision against The Nation for publishing an unauthorized excerpt from Gerald Ford's book. The script is rendered unnecessary by Stone's many public statements and interviews. It also is subject to last-minute revision.

Stone has also stated often that he draws upon all the "information" that has been disclosed since Garrison's "disclosures." He refers to all the nutty theories only. He has not asked for access to any of the many records I have and make available and offered him free.

Along with a selection of what ranges from ludicrous to outrageous in Garrison's book - about which I warned Stone several months before he started shooting - the proposed book will bring to light what Garrison knew about and ignored in his "investigation," what he overlooked or omitted and what he knew was available to him as a result of my FOIA litigation. He confirmed his knowledge in a letter I have saying that a statue should be erected to me for bringing to light those hundreds of thousands of pages he and then Stone ignored.

In common with others theorizing "solutions" to the JFK assassination,

Stone and Garrison confuse whether or not there was a conspiracy (which neither proves) with who conspired, of which they have no evidence or fact at all and just make it up and call it our "history."

What Garrison knew about and omitted or ignored will be in the proposed book, not in advancing any theory or whodunit, which I have never done, but in the form of Garrison's own records and those of the government I have. These federal records establish beyond question that there was a conspiracy and that from the very first the FBI, which dominated the Warren Commission that in turn lived in secretly confessed terror of it, also secretly disputed the Commission's conclusions. The documentary proofs are repetitious and are unpublished or in a few instances are in my books, the last of which appeared in 1975. Most are FBI reports and pictures and are entirely beyond question.

These documents include FBI Lab reports, the report of the Department of Justice's secretly convoked panel of outstanding forensic experts and even an FBI damage-control tickler disclosing that its investigation consisted of "waiting around with pockets open waiting for evidence to fall in;" that it immediately prepared "dossiers" on the eminences of the Commission, the Chief Justice, two Senators, two Congressmen and the internationally respected John J. McCloy; that it twice prepared dossiers on the Commission's staff, one now a judge, another a senator; even that it prepared "sex dossiers" on critics of the official solution to discredit them.

In some ways perhaps the most exciting of this new evidence is that Oswald - one of Garrison's alleged plotters - never had an active duty assignment as a Marine that was not connected with the CIA; that he then had Top Secret and Cryptop clearances, expunged from his personnel record; that when he went through the motions of defecting he was suspected by the KBG of being an American "sleeper agent" or agent-in-place; that the CIA tried to prevent the defection of Yuri Nosenko, a KGB official, by a series of contrived and baseless arguments and who, after he was able to defect, from his knowledge of the KGB's records on Oswald, told the FBI that he was a suspected spy and had an openly anti-Soviet record when in the USSR; and that, when the CIA got copies of the FBI reports stating what Nosenko said, it abruptly changed the conditions of his confinement from "princely" to incredibly subhuman for three years during which a CIA official considered how it would dispose of Nosenko, ranging from driving him crazy to dropping him into the ocean depths.

This does not mean that Oswald was CIA but it does suggest some such possibility.

It also does not mean that the CIA was behind the assassination, a common suspicion basic in the Garrison/Stone unproven and unprovable concoction touted as "history" and a full and true explanation of "how" and "why" it killed JFK.

It does mean that there was an abundance of solid evidence available to Garrison for his prosecution that he knew about and disdained in favor of his innumerable theories and it does mean that Oliver Stone also knowingly disdained fact and evidence in favor of wild fantasies for his "history" even after it was proven to him that Garrison's book was a big lie.

In the factual exposure of the Garrison/Stone sham and travesty to rewrite history, the book thus becomes a vehicle for bringing to light what

is new, important and unknown about the JFK assassination and its official investigations by previously secret official records.

There is more documentation of this and of Garrison's fiasco than can be used. Some may be regarded as more exciting and important than these few illustrations.