

NO 89-69/emh

Source: HUGH AYNESWORTH
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To Whom: Houston Office of the FBI
By Whom: HUGH AYNESWORTH
Magazine:
Name: Newsweek Correspondent - Not From Magazine

PERRY RAYMOND RUSSO, a former friend of DAVID FERRIE, testified he had been present in FERRIE's apartment in September, 1963, when LEE HARVEY OSWALD, FERRIE and others discussed the assassination conspiracy. RUSSO, under cross examination, was unable to provide much information that he should have possessed if he had actually witnessed these activities. To buttress RUSSO's testimony, GARRISON produced a 27 year old Negro, VERNON BUDNY, a narcotics addict beginning at age 13, who was then in the Orleans Parish Prison. BUNDY testified he observed SHAW give money to OSWALD.

PERRY RUSSO stated he had offered aid to GARRISON only after FERRIE had died. RUSSO was initially interviewed by Assistant District Attorney ANDREW J. SCIAMBRA on February 25, 1967, which was two days after GARRISON had "solved" the case.

[redacted] learned that SCIAMBRA wrote up the interview of RUSSO in a 3,500 work memorandum to GARRISON. [redacted] has stated that GARRISON let him read this memorandum and nothing in it made any mention about a party, plot or a "BERTRAND," a name RUSSO later stated was used by CLAY SHAW. In this memorandum, RUSSO reportedly stated he had seen CLAY SHAW only twice, once while attending a New Orleans speech delivered by President KENNEDY and once in an automobile with FERRIE. When challenged by [redacted] SCIAMBRA claimed he must have simply forgotten to include the crucial details of the conspiracy session in his report.

[redacted] stated information available to him indicated that it was only after "repeated prodding" while under hypnosis and the influence of a so-called "truth serum" that RUSSO had been able to recall the meeting in FERRIE's apartment.

Newspaper:

Name: The States-Item, New Orleans, Louisiana
Date: May 10, 1967
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"District Attorney GARRISON contends FERRIE conspired with LEE HARVEY OSWALD, whom the Warren Commission concluded was the President's lone assassin, and 54 year old CLAY L. SHAW to commit the slaying.

"SHAW, a retired New Orleans businessman, was indicted in the conspiracy March 22. He is free on \$10,000 bond pending trial.

"In recent days GARRISON has declared that OSWALD was not a Communist, as the Warren Commission said, but a federal undercover agent who aided the cause of anti-Castro Cuban organizations here."