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CITIZENS' COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY

Box 150, 308 Westwood Plaza
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- NEWSLETTER -

GARRISON SUBPOENAS EX-CIA HEAD
ALLEN DULLES

NEW ORLEANS, LA. Feb. 16: New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison announced today that ex-CIA director Allen Dulles would be subpoenaed before the grand jury to testify in Garrison's continuing probe of the Kennedy assassination.

Dulles, formerly a member of the Warren Commission, will be asked to testify about possible CIA connections with the assassination, Lee Harvey Oswald, and other curious events in New Orleans. He could not be reached for comment on the subpoena.

Several Warren Report critics have speculated about the possibility that the CIA was involved, directly or indirectly, with the assassination. Harold Weisberg, whose latest book, OSWALD IN NEW ORLEANS, is subtitled "Case for conspiracy with the CIA", has documented indications of Oswald's double role.

For example, Oswald had a high security clearance in the Marine Corps while he received newspapers from Russia and identified himself as a communist. For a time, he was stationed at Atsugi Air Base in Japan, a known U-2 air-field. Among all of Oswald's friends and acquaintances mentioned in the Warren Report, there appear no left-wingers or communists but many rightists.

Dulles ended his tenure as Director of the CIA in 1961, while Oswald was in the Soviet Union. It is reported that Garrison plans to question him about an incident in New Orleans on Jan. 20, 1961, in which two men, one of whom used the name Oswald, tried to purchase several trucks from the Bolton Ford Co., for the Friends of Democratic Cuba.

Oscar Deslatte, assistant manager of Bolton Ford Co., told the FBI on Nov. 25, 1963, that he was visited by a Mr. Joseph Moore and a man only identified as Oswald in 1961. He said that they asked to purchase ten trucks for the Cuban organization and that the bill was to be sent to Oswald, who had the money to pay for them. Deslatte could not identify a photograph of Lee Harvey Oswald as the man who visited him.

The incident could bear no relevance to the Kennedy assassination, or it could be an attempt to associate Lee Harvey Oswald with Cuban organizations. There is some indication that the Friends of Democratic Cuba was a CIA organization.

In other developments regarding the Garrison case, the L.A. Times revealed new evidence which could further implicate Edgar Eugene Bradley, the second man accused by Garrison of conspiring to assassinate President Kennedy.

Times reporter Jerry Cohen located a court clerk in New Orleans, Max Gonzales, who witnessed meetings at the New Orleans Airport between the late David Ferrie and Bradley. Ferrie was named a co-conspirator in the indictment of Clay Shaw, retired director of the New Orleans International Trade Mart. Ferrie died mysteriously a few days after Garrison's investigation became public a year ago.

Bradley has repeatedly denied that he was ever in New Orleans before 1967. He is currently awaiting a hearing on whether or not he will be extradited from California to Louisiana.

HOWARD GOES TO NEW ORLEANS

NEW ORLEANS, LA. Feb. 25: Jim Garrison subpoenaed Lawrence J. Howard, Jr. of El Monte, Calif., last month, contending that he was a material witness "in a unique position to observe the operations of a conspiracy to murder President Kennedy". Howard fought the subpoena and won, removing any legal obligation for him to come to New Orleans.

This weekend, Howard came to New Orleans voluntarily and spoke with D.A. Garrison for over four hours.

As he left Los Angeles, Howard said, "I don't know if Garrison is on the right track or not. I'm not aware of what I know that could help him. But I'll tell him anything I know."

"He made some pretty damaging statements about me that are not true. I want to straighten things out", he added. "I never visited Sylvia Odio nor did I know of a plot to kill the President."

Howard was referring to an incident told to the Warren Commission by Mrs. Sylvia Odio, a Cuban refugee in Dallas. She said that she was visited by two Cubans and an American named Leon Oswald two months before the assassination. One of the Cubans said that Oswald thought that Kennedy should have been killed after the Bay of Pigs debacle.

If this was Lee Harvey Oswald, the incident could show that he had accomplices. If it was not, it could be an attempt to set Oswald up as a patsy.

The Warren Commission concluded that three anti-Castro raiders, William Seymour, Loran Eugene Hall, and Howard had visited Odio. In a letter to the Commission, J. Edgar Hoover noted that the name "Howard" bore a phonetic resemblance to "Oswald".

Howard has consistently denied his presence at Odio's. When he emerged from Garrison's office, he told Liberation News Service, "Mr. Garrison is now convinced that I was not there. He told me that he will shortly make a public statement thanking me for my help and cooperation". Howard said that he believes that he was able to help the investigation in connection with his

anti-Castro activities in 1962-3. He could not disclose exactly what was talked about.

"My impression is that Mr. Garrison is a very sincere and dedicated man who seeks only the truth", he said. "He treated me fairly and honestly."

"I believe that he's probably on the right track", he added. Howard said that he went through a great deal of anxiety before deciding to come to New Orleans. He said that many friends and reporters had urged him not to go because Garrison was out to 'get him'.

"I don't think that Garrison's a nut. He was truthful with me and I was truthful with him", he said. "He did not try to do anything to me, except find the truth about my trip to Dallas."

GARRISON SUBPOENAS ZAPRUDER FILM

NEW ORLEANS, LA. March 15: District Attorney Jim Garrison today subpoenaed the famous Zapruder Film of the Kennedy assassination from LIFE magazine. LIFE, which owns a copyright on the film, has never permitted the public to view the assassination as it was captured by Abraham Zapruder and his 8 mm amateur camera. The only place the public can see the film is in the National Archives, where a poor copy is available.

Critics of the Warren Report who have made extensive analyses of the film, such as Ray Marcus, Vincent Salandria, Harold Weisberg, and Josiah Thompson, claim that the film proves that President Kennedy was killed by at least two gunmen. By carefully analyzing the movements of the President and Governor Connally, it can be determined exactly when each shot hit its target and, to some extent, from what direction the shot came.

Although the critics do not agree on all points, they are in unanimity on two: Pres. Kennedy and Gov. Connally were hit by two separate bullets, thus disproving the Warren Commission's single bullet theory and destroying the validity of the Report. The gunshot that hit Pres. Kennedy in the head and drove him to the rear and left came from the front, thus establishing gunmen both behind and in front of the Presidential limousine.

In the subpoena, Asst. Dist. Atty. James Alcock said that the original film was needed for study. There are two reasons why the original film is needed and the copies in the National Archives and published in LIFE are insufficient.

The copies which are available to the public are incomplete. Four frames are missing at one point in the government copy. The copies end before the original film ends. The original is believed to include a glimpse of the grassy knoll, where one or more gunmen probably were stationed, at the end. The copies are of poor clarity as compared to the original.

Furthermore, the copies do not show the complete image. On the original some of the image is printed between the sprocket holes on the far left. In the process of duplicating, this part of the image is not reproduced.

LIFE has been under fire for years for merely possessing the film. It has been maintained that the film is evidence and,

as such, cannot be copyrighted and held by a private corporation. Congress has the power to take the film from LIFE, as they took the Mannlicher Carcano rifle from Marina Oswald, but they have not.

LIFE has consistently refused to grant permission to authors for reproducing its frames to augment books and magazines dealing with the film. They claim that the film is, "an invaluable asset of Time-Life, Inc."

It is reported that LIFE paid Abraham Zapruder over \$400,000 for the film. Their reaction to the subpoena will be significant itself.

MOVE TO CITE GARRISON FOR CONTEMPT

NEW ORLEANS, LA. March 20: Life Magazine reporter David L. Chandler charged that Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison should be held in civil contempt of court because of Garrison's attacks on the federal government.

Chandler was recently subpoenaed by the Orleans Parish (county) Grand Jury to testify about Life's charges that organized crime is rampant in New Orleans. When Chandler contended the subpoena a federal court ruled that he did not have to appear and testify.

When Garrison spoke to the National District Attorney's Association here, he charged that the federal government was actively trying to put an end to his investigation of the Kennedy assassination. Chandler's attorney, Cicero C. Sessions, said in his motion that Garrison used the court ruling on Chandler as an example of federal interference and that Garrison should be held in civil contempt of court.

Among other statements by Garrison, said Sessions, were charges that Life Magazine is withholding evidence from the investigation at the direction of the federal government and that there is a federal conspiracy to withhold evidence.

Sessions said that these statements constitute contempt because the matter is still pending before the court. Judge Comiskey ruled in the matter two days ago, but has not yet filed his formal written opinion.

If the federal court does charge Garrison with contempt, it will not be his first experience of this kind. Several years ago, when Garrison was earning a reputation for his strong anti-vice actions on Bourbon Street, the eight criminal judges for New Orleans tried to block the funds for vice raids. Garrison fought back, charging that the judges' actions "raise interesting questions about racketeer influences".

The judges charged Garrison with criminal libel and he was fined \$1,000. Garrison appealed his conviction to the U.S. Supreme Court which reversed his conviction in a landmark decision on the right to criticize public officials.

In other news related to Garrison's assassination probe, it was learned that Life Magazine will show the famous Zapruder film of the Kennedy assassination to the grand jury in closed session. Garrison had subpoenaed the film for study earlier in the month.

BRADLEY GETS 6 MONTH CONTINUANCE

LOS ANGELES March 29: Edgar Eugene Bradley, accused of conspiring to murder President Kennedy, today received a six month continuance in his fight against extradition to Louisiana.

Bradley was charged last December by New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison. His attorney, former FBI agent George C. Jensen, requested an extradition hearing from Governor Ronald Reagan in hopes of preventing a trial in New Orleans. Extradition of accused criminals is normally a routine procedure.

In the request for extradition, Garrison included an affidavit from former Dallas Deputy Sheriff Roger Craig, who claims to have seen Bradley at the assassination site on November 22, 1963. When questioned by reporters after the hearing, Bradley said, "If this is not a case of honest mistaken identity, I have to assume that someone is paying Mr. Craig." Bradley was also questioned about Senator Robert Kennedy's statement that he believes the Warren Report. "If it is good enough for Senator Kennedy, I don't see why it shouldn't be good enough for me", he said. "I know that if my brother were killed, I would do everything possible to uncover the truth."

As Bradley said this, I remembered an informal conversation we had several weeks ago. As we spoke in his living room, Bradley told me that he never believed that the assassination was the work of one man. He recalled a trip he had made to the assassination site in 1967. "I could tell just from being there that Oswald could not have done it alone," he said. "There was a tree in the line of sight from the depository building."

Bradley asked me what I knew about the theory that the storm drains in Dealey Plaza were used. "That would have been perfect, just perfect", he said. "A man could have shot from in there and disappeared. When I first heard about Garrison, I was really pulling for the guy. I really hoped that he had something. But when he brought me into this thing, I knew that he was wrong. I didn't do it, believe me."

At that time, Bradley considered it possible that Clay Shaw, scheduled to stand trial on similar charges sometime this spring, could be found guilty.

Bradley said that he still wanted to see the National Archives opened to the public. (About one-third of the Warren Commission's files are classified and unavailable for public scrutiny.) "If the American people really knew what was in there," he said, "they would never, I mean, they would most certainly want to see them."

--Steven J. Burton

SHAW CHANGE OF VENUE DENIED

NEW ORLEANS April 4: Judge Edward A. Haggerty, Jr. denied a defense motion to move the trial of accused presidential assassination conspirator Clay L. Shaw out of New Orleans because of pre-trial publicity. Attorneys for Shaw contended during the hearing that publicity in New Orleans makes it impossible for Shaw to get a fair trial here. They asked that the trial be moved at least 100 miles away from the city to as remote an area as possible. They

charged that Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's public statements were designed to prejudice prospective jurors against Shaw and that Garrison had participated in a conspiracy with authors Mark Lane, Harold Weisberg, and William Turner to mold public opinion against the defendant.

Early in the hearing, Judge Haggerty made it clear that statements about the Warren Report or the Kennedy assassination in Dallas would not be considered prejudicial. "You could have had 50 conspiracies throughout the United States that had nothing to do with what happened in Dallas," he said. "As long as there was an overt act connected with each, the law has been broken."

Haggerty went on to say that the defense must prove that public opinion is "overwhelmingly against the defendant," and that it is impossible to find an impartial jury in New Orleans.

In an attempt to prove that this is the case, the defense entered into evidence the January 1968 issue of Ramparts Magazine, the January 22, 1968 issue of the National Observer, several television interviews, and the November 17, 1967 issue of the Los Angeles Free Press (in which Garrison's speech before Southern California newsmen is reproduced).

Jim Garrison was called to the witness stand and questioned about the interviews. He acknowledged them and said, "If you read them, you'll see that I refused to comment on the case of Mr. Shaw."

Defeated in this round, the defense called a procession of witnesses that included author Mark Lane, comedian Mort Sahl, witness Perry R. Russo, a number of television newsmen and engineers, and the editors of the New Orleans newspapers (both of which are owned by Samuel Newhouse). While a great deal was learned about the method and extent of news dissemination in New Orleans, little was established pertaining to the immediate purpose of the trial. The testimonies were heavily peppered with state objection to defense questions that were judged to be irrelevant or improper.

Having established nothing tangible so far, Shaw's attorneys charged that Garrison's statements violated the publicity guidelines set down by Judge Haggerty last year. Haggerty replied that the question currently before the court is whether or not Shaw can get a fair trial in New Orleans. He said that the question of the guidelines "would come up at a later time." (Previously, he had warned that he may cite several principles for contempt of court at the conclusion of the trial for violating the guidelines.)

Defeated again, the defense asked Judge Haggerty to subpoena all 1,300 names that comprise the jury panel to determine if the jurors can give Shaw a fair trial. Haggerty said that it would take weeks to question so many people and decided to question a sample of 80 prospective jurors.

Ten witnesses were chosen by each of the eight criminal district judges from their jury panels. Each was dismissed from any possible jury duty after being questioned. At the conclusion of two

days of questioning, only 13 out of the 80 people questioned said that they had a fixed opinion as to the guilt or innocence of Clay Shaw. They were not allowed to state what their opinions were.

The defense was defeated on all sides. Judge Haggerty refused to grant a change of venue. It is the opinion of most observers, including this reporter, that Shaw's attorneys never expected to win the change of venue motion, but were only interested in getting a further delay. It has now been almost 13 months since Shaw was indicted by both the grand jury and a three judge panel. Every delay has been due to defense motions. When the trial was scheduled for last September, the defense asked for a six month delay or a change of venue. They received a shorter delay and trial was scheduled for mid-February. Then they filed a motion for a change of venue, which has just been denied.

Haggerty gave the defense 15 days in which to appeal his decision to the La. State Supreme Court. After that, they can appeal to the federal courts and even to the United States Supreme Court.

Meanwhile, it is up to the Dist. Atty's. office to set a tentative trial date.

Haggerty urged Garrison to set a date soon.

Copies of Jim Garrison's speech at Albuquerque, New Mexico, are available at no charge from the Citizens' Committee of Inquiry for broadcast. Running time = 53 minutes (speech = 24 minutes, questions = 24 minutes).

On May 3, 1968, Jim Garrison will speak at the American University in Washington, D.C. Tape recordings of that speech, which will be in commemoration of President Kennedy's American University Speech in 1963, will be available for broadcast.

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