

Waldron questions Lt. Norman Leonard, NOPD 1/12/66

19. Have New Orleans police officials interrogated a man  
named [redacted]  
said in February, 1964, that police officers asked him  
if he had ever seen [redacted] in the company of a man wearing  
a wig? If so, did Mr. Waldron agree that such questions were  
asked him?

Examination of Layton Martins 7/12/63 N.O. System Board of Adjustment  
E.H. One, transcripts of Captain David Perrier 15-63, 29-63, 43-63  
Not signed

Q. What is your name?

A. Layton P. Martins.

Q. What is your address?

A. 136 General Gardner, Lafayette, Louisiana.

Q. Are you of legal age?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know Captain David Perrier?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you ever been a member of Civil Air Patrol?

A. Yes.

Q. What Squadron?

A. New Orleans Senior Squadron.

Q. Have you ever been a member of the Falcon Squadron?

A. Yes I have.

Q. Did you hold any position of authority in the Falcons?

A. Yes, I did.

Q. Would you name that position and describe its duties?

A. I was the sergeant. I was responsible for all the equipment, files, records, publications, etc. I kept the squadron paper and so on.

Q. Did the Falcon Squadron ever receive any awards or honors from Civil Air Patrol?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever receive any awards or honors from Civil Air Patrol?

A. No, sir.

Q. Did you ever receive any awards or honors from the Department of Defense?

A. No, sir.

Q. State, if you remember, who were the incorporators of the Falcons?

A. Dave Ferris, John Irion, Jim L. Wallan and Red Mendon

Q. Were they members of the Falcons?

A. Yes They were seniors.

Q. What is a senior?

A. A senior is an adult member over 21. Under 21 we called them Cadets.

Q. Were CAF I.D. Cards ever issued to any members?

A. Yes as Temporary I.D. Cards until we decided to go independent.

Q. What happened to these temporary I.D. Cards?

A. They were withdrawn or recalled and our own issued.

Q. Is this such an I.D. Card (showing a blue card)?

A. Yes.

Q. To whom was this card issued?

A. To John Esperian

Q. Who wrote the word temporary across the face?

A. I don't recall. It could be my handwriting, though or Captain Ferris's or the First Sergeant's.

Q. Was Mr. Esperian a member of the Squadron?

A. Yes, Here is a copy of his application for membership.  
(Presents a paper to Mr. Gill)

Q. Who has had charge of these files?

A. I have.

Q. Was Mr. Esperian a senior or a cadet?

A. This application is for Esperian's father and he was a senior, and Johnny the son was a Cadet.

Q. You say the Falcons were an independent organization. Was this generally known?

A. Definitely.

Q. How do you know?

A. Everybody in the Squadron knew it because we had meetings to discuss our future status and what we wanted to do. Besides I sent out a copy of the Squadron paper to everybody in the mail.

Q. Did a Mr. Espanen ever come and pick up any papers or charter covering the Falcons?

A. Yes he did.

Q. When did that occur?

A. In August 1961.

Q. How can you be certain of the date?

A. It was at the time Mrs. Landry was making it hot for everybody. I remember it because he came to Captain Ferris' house. Captain Ferris was not home. His boy went in and got the papers from Captain Ferris's desk.

Q. Was this a State Charter?

A. Yes, it was the State Charter.

Q. In the year 1960 you belonged to New Orleans Squadron Civil Air Patrol?

A. Yes.

Q. Did that Squadron have a summer encampment that year?

A. Yes.

Q. Where was it held?

A. At Kessler Air Force Base.

Q. Who was in charge of that engagement?

A. Col. Samuel B. Davis.

Q. What position did Captain Ferris hold at that engagement?

A. He was Commandant of Cadets.

Q. What was the chain of command at that engagement. In other words, starting with Col. Davis, how did orders or commands come down to the cadets?

A. By the chain of command, orders would originate with Col. Davis go through Captain Ferris to the individual Cadet Commanders in charge of each barracks of cadets.

Q. Who was immediately over the Cadets?

A. Captain Ferris.

Q. Was a Lt. Col. Christensen in charge?

A. No.

Q. Was he there?

A. Yes.

Q. In what capacity was he there?

A. As a sort of adviser. He did not have any command function.

Q. Did any dispute arise at Kasaan that involved Captain Ferris?

A. Yes it did.

Q. What was the nature of that dispute if you know it of your own knowledge?

A. Well, every senior that showed up thought he was a commanding officer and started issuing orders. The result was confusion. Every senior was contradicting everybody else. The Cadets then complained to Captain Ferris who was immediately above them. Captain Ferris said we should follow the chain of command. Then some seniors went to Col. Davis and he told them the same thing. So they went to Christensen. All the seniors wanted to be chiefs and nobody wanted to be Indians.

Q. Have any decisions arrived at in this matter?

A. Yes.

Q. What were those decisions if you know them?

A. That a bunch of us quit and walked out.

Q. Why was that?

A. Because we got disgusted with the Air Force. They had preached military courtesy and discipline and chain of command. Then Christianson wanted to turn this all upside down. A lot of the fellows thought that something was wrong with what the Air Force had told us about how they worked. We could not see how it was possible for Col. Christianson to preach one thing and practice another.

Q. Do you know of these criminal charges against Captain Ferris?

A. Yes.

Q. How do you know of them?

A. I was subpoenaed as a witness at his trial.

Q. Did you know James Landry and Eric C. Couchet?

A. Yes I did.

Q. To what did you testify at the trial?

A. I testified that since I was a resident of Captain Ferris's house I had first hand knowledge of the impossibility of these charges being true. After all I lived there and if anyone would have known I would know.

Q. How did you come to live at Captain Ferris's house?

A. My mother and father separated and our home broke up. My mother asked Captain Ferris and his mother if I could stay with them as I had no place to go.

Q. Are you working?

A. I am a student at Southwestern.

Q. What activities went on in the Falcon Squadron?

A. Captain Ferris taught us reciprocal engines and had us overhaul a couple under FAA supervision. They were passed. We recovered an airplane and it passed. We did metal and

and it passed the FBI. It also studied mathematics, aerodynamics and physics. I learned geometry in about three weeks this way.

Q. What was the object or purpose of this squadron?

A. Most of us wanted careers in aviation. Either we wanted to go to the Air Force Academy, or Aviation Cadets, or in aerospace. We don't have a very good school system and this was the best way to get the things we needed but did not know. Captain Ferris had helped 4 fellows into the Air Force Academy before and we knew he could help us. That was why we went to him and asked him to form this squadron.