

Dec. 7, 1966

ULIFE

Dear Dick,

Herewith a suggestion concerning television ads. But before getting into that, I have a story to tell you which may be no more than interesting gossip, ~~but~~ ^{but} if Life plans to do more on the assassination, it might be worth filing.

none of this discussion with J.G. W.

A New Orleans detective (12 years on the force, college education) says Oswald was connected ~~with~~ with a wierdo pilot here who kept a gun arsenal, fake passports and a library on post-hypnotic suggestion. The detective headed a team which two nights after Oswald's capture raided the uptown New Orleans apartment of DAVID FERRIE, at ~~the time~~ the time suspended pilot for Eastern Air Lines.

Ferrie had been under suspension six months, had no visible income and was awaiting trial on homosexual charges. The police hit his pad after they learned from newspaper accounts Oswald had been a member of the New Orleans civil air patrol. Ferrie, until his airline suspension was commander of Oswald's small CAP group. (Oswald was a member in his teens but the detective says Ferrie indicated he knew Oswald during his 1963 residence here). The police had been watching Ferrie for other reasons, but remembered the CAP connection.

They raided the pad and found Ferrie absent but two 17-year-old high school boys there. The boys had in their possession visa applications for South America and when questioned handed police a card bearing the name of JACK WASSERMAN, Washington D.C., attorney for racketeer CARLOS MARCELLO. Police did so and Wasserman arranged for their parole.

A. MARTIAL
~~supposedly~~

The boys told their parents they were members of an anti-Castro group organized by FERRIE. They were sworn to secrecy and could say no more. (MORE)

In the apartment police found "at least three" ^(United States) passports stamped with a number but not bearing names, identification or photos. There was an armory of rifles and pistols--maybe 10 rifles, some with scopes. The detective said they were the type usually found in mail order catalogs. There were at least a dozen books in the library exclusively dealing with post-hypnotic suggestion. On Ferrie's desk, was a 20-page, self-made outline (or abstract) of how to instill post-hypnotic suggestion, step-by-step. In the drawers were letters ~~to~~ from East and West European nations in which the writer implied Ferrie was somehow helping them enter the United States. There was a log book of private plane flights by Ferrie. The last six months of it (up until about Nov. 15) was ~~almost~~ exclusively Texas flights--Dallas repeatedly, Laredo, Houston.

The police took the boys and the guns and left the rest. The next day they advised WASSERMAN'S associate attorney here they wanted FERRIE to surrender himself. He showed up in about a week with that attorney ~~who~~ ^{AND} they paid a \$3,000 bribe to a member of the District Attorney's office to drop all charges. That was done. End of case.

The detective, however, has questions.

First, the night they seized the stuff, the detective phoned both the FBI and the Secret Service, told them of the passports, etc. Both agencies said they were too busy with important things. He added that the animosity between the two agencies "was unbelievable" and felt they were more interested ~~in~~ in embarrassing one another than in good investigation. As far as he knows, they never followed up on Ferrie.

Why?

(more)

