

11/19/68

Dear Harold:

I came across some court notes I had made during the Drennen hearing which I thought might be useful to supplement the material you already have in your new book.

Judge George M. Dell, in turning down DA Garrisons extradition order, noted that the affidavit was "not sufficient". He also said the document merely said that Garrison had information that Drennen was present in 1963 at meetings involving discussions concerning President Kennedys assassination but that the affidavit did not mention a specific place, time or contents of the alleged discussion. The Judge therefore ruled: "It is my finding that Dr. Drennen is not a material or necessary witness".

Following the rather strange conference in Judge Dell's chambers, which I mentioned to you previously, Drennen's attorney, Bertrand L. Camparet of San Diego, allowed Drennen to take the stand..a move he seemed reluctant to make before the closed chamber session with the Judge and Deputy District Attorney Joe Carr (who was there allegedly representing the interests of the N.Orleans DA's office). Once Drennen was sworn, Camparet asked if he had ever been present at such meetings as described in the Garrison affidavit. Dr. Drennen responded: "No sir, I was not". Drennen said he first learned of the assassination the day it happened.. on the radio, while he was making a house call. Deputy DA Carr then asked Dr. Drennen if he had also heard about anyone being identified as the Kennedy assassin. The doctor answered: "As I recall Mr. Warren made the statement that it was done by a radical right-winger". Drennen said he heard sometime later that day that Lee Harvey Oswald had been arrested as a suspect. Asked whether he was out of the State of California between 1962 and 1963 (when the meetings or discussions were allegedly held in N.Orleans in which he supposedly was involved), Drennen said: "Not to the best of my recollection". In his remarks, Drennen's attorney, Camparet, also argued that if the doctor would have to go to Louisiana he would suffer a financial loss of approximately 3 to \$350 dollars per day and that one of his 80 patients would probably die. Camparet also said that the trip would be an "undue hardship" on Drennen because of "exposure to danger". Camparet noted that "since the assassination, 12 or 14 witnesses have mysteriously died".

\*HAROLD - THIS IS THE ADDITIONAL PIECE YOU WANTED ME TO WRITE RE:  
THE JFK-SIRHAN MATTER WHICH, AS YOU KNOW, I FEEL IS FRAUGHT WITH  
HOLES. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO EDIT AND RE-ARRANGE IN ANY WAY YOU FEEL.

---

There is very little chance that major questions surrounding the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy will ever be answered. In fact, officials seem to be doing all they can to hide facts which will have to be the work of later authors, such as in the case of the death of President Kennedy.

For example, the mysterious polka-dot dress lady has been dropped as a suspicious character in the tragedy. She was alledged to have been seen standing next to accused assassin Sirhan Sirhan when he fired the fatal shots. Police said that a female witness who had spoken extensively about the polka-dot dress lady was simply "incorrect and had retracted her original statement". What police forgot to add was that the strange polka-dot dress lady had been seen with Sirhan Sirhan in the area of the murder by at least two other witnesses! ~~One of them is on record~~ One of them is on record with the grand jury! The other is a well known and respected member of the local Negro community whose credibility is beyond question. But he was never even called to testify! I tried repeatedly to obtain an official police artists sketch of this lady in the polka-dot dress but was told by Los Angeles police authorities that none existed. This despite the fact that an FBI friend told me that that is where they had obtained their sketch of this woman! And then the question, why was ~~an~~ an artists sketch never made public? This is normal procedure in "normal" murder cases where suspects are sought..normal, that is, except in this case. Later, another LAPD source told me that "we didn't make up a sketch of this polka-dot dress gal at the very beginning because, frankly, we didn't give the story credence from the start". Again my FBI source told me this was not true..that the artists sketch they were using in their files came from Los Angeles police!

And what of the mysterious "priest" who has not been seen since the night of the Kennedy murder? He said he was a former cleric. He administered some prayers to the Senator as he lay dying. I have run checks on clerical records throughout the United States with all possible orders and find his name is listed with none!

Then there is the developement <sup>with</sup> which the author of this book is familiar. There is good reason to believe that certain elements in the New York area, and other points, knew an attempt would be made on Robert Kennedy's life somewhere here in California, two weeks before it actually happened! Months after I aired this story, Los Angeles police have still not ~~attempted~~ attempted to check its authenticity!

And finally, something revealed here for the first time. There is strong evidence to believe that Sirhan B. Sirhan was in some way connected with elements who had allegiance to a well known counter-insurgency group, a terrorist organization that operates on the Arab-Israeli border. We developed this with some hard work by reporter Reger Aldi who conducted many interviews in the local Arab community and at all times was either a step ahead or a step behind Federal agents who maintain that they are not still investigating the Robert F. Kennedy assassination! We know for a fact that certain meetings were held here in Los Angeles [REDACTED] in which donations were made to this terrorist group!

Because of rigid so-called "fair trial" tenets established by the judiciary, it is not likely that anything noted here will ever be developed in a court of law. It will be up to author-reporters such as Harold Weisberg to dig in the hope that truth will someday emerge from the dark corners of secrecy whose shadows were cast on the afternoon of November 22, 1963.

Art Kevin