

*Documents
w/ held on file*

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : MR. LOUIS C. LACOUR
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

DATE: May 23, 1967

FROM : HARRY F. CORNICK *H.F.C.*
ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

SUBJECT: VISIT AT MY RESIDENCE FROM [REDACTED]

7(c) On Saturday, May 20, 1967, at approximately 4:00 o'clock p. m., the
7(d) door bell rang. I answered the door bell, and it was [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] from the office of District Attorney Garrison.

7(c) I invited [REDACTED] into the home. He advised me that he wanted to talk to me.
7(d) We went to the den, and he informed me that he had received a subpoena to
testify at a deposition on Monday (May 22, 1967) in the case involving Dean
Andrews and Garrison. *Civil
damages*

After briefly describing the fact that he had received the subpoena and that
he did not know exactly what to expect, as he was not familiar with federal
procedures, I suggested that he retain an attorney to counsel and represent
him in the matter. He said that he was not familiar with the procedure in
federal court, and this is why he was asking.

7(c) I described the usual procedure of a deposition. [REDACTED] asked if he could use
7(d) his tape recorder to record the deposition. I told him that I did not see why
he could not but that he should consult with an attorney and let the attorney
make that determination.

After a general, and brief, discussion about the deposition he stated, as he
was about to leave the den area, [REDACTED]

7(c) [REDACTED]
7(d) [REDACTED]

7(c) [REDACTED] then walked to the front door. I followed. I let him out and walked
7(d) with him for a few steps, shook his hand and told him goodbye.

7(c) For purposes of clarification it should be pointed out that I have known [REDACTED]
7(d) [REDACTED] for approximately 4 years. I first met [REDACTED] when he was an attorney
with the Criminal Division of the Legal Aid Bureau. We have always been on
friendly terms. [REDACTED] knows, I believe, that I am now an Assistant United

7(c)

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Memorandum

TO : HENRY C. SACON

DATE: [REDACTED]

FROM : HENRY C. SACON

SUBJECT: VISIT AT MY RESIDENCE FROM [REDACTED] PAGE 2

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b7(d)

States Attorney. [REDACTED] also known as, as I understand, is very friendly with one of my neighbors, [REDACTED]. This will possibly account for his coming to my house--the last [REDACTED] probably visited [REDACTED] home and decided to visit me because he was in the neighborhood. [REDACTED] one occasion within the last 5 months saw me in my front yard, as he went [REDACTED].

HFC:cs

7(c)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Memorandum

TO : THE FILE

DATE: 29 May 1967

FROM : Louis C. LeCour
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Louisiana

SUBJECT:

On Sunday morning, May 28, 1967, at approximately 11:30 a.m., I received a telephone call at home from Assistant Special Agent Joseph Sylvester of the FBI, wherein he informed me that sometime between the hours of 11:00 p.m., May 27 and 1:00 a.m., May 28 a telephone call was received in the local office of the FBI from Criminal District Court Judge Edward A. Haggerty, Jr., who left a message for Special Agent Regis L. Kennedy to call him at his office. Agent Kennedy was notified by the FBI office immediately and he, in turn, immediately returned Judge Haggerty's telephone call. The conversation between Judge Haggerty and Special Agent Kennedy was to the effect that Judge Haggerty wanted to speak with Agent Kennedy, that he did not desire to do so over the telephone as he feared his telephone was tapped and arrangements were made whereby Agent Kennedy was to meet Judge Haggerty at his home on Sunday, May 28 at 4:00 p.m. Judge Haggerty also indicated in the course of the conversation that he was at his office working on an order which he intended to issue on Monday, May 29, and he did not indicate that this order had anything to do with that he wanted to discuss with Agent Kennedy. It should be noted that Judge Haggerty is the Judge to whom the Clay Shaw case has been assigned.

Agent Sylvester informed me that he had notified the Washington office of the FBI of the call and tentative arrangements for Agent Kennedy to meet with Judge Haggerty on Sunday, May 28. He further informed that his instructions were that he was to request that if I approved of such a meeting that either I or a designated Assistant United States Attorney accompany Agent Kennedy and that prior to any such meeting that Agent Kennedy inform Judge Haggerty that it was his intention to be accompanied by someone from the United States Attorney's office. I instructed Mr. Sylvester to do nothing until he heard further from me.

I attempted first to reach Mr. Kossack at his home in Chevy Chase, Maryland but he could not be reached. I then telephoned the home of Assistant Attorney General Fred Vinson and he, too, was not available; however, I urged Mrs. Vinson to attempt to locate either Mr. Vinson or Mr. Sanders. I subsequently reached Mr. Sanders at the White House and discussed this matter with him. We agreed that I would telephonically contact Judge Haggerty and ascertain, if possible, the purpose of his wanting to see Agent Kennedy. Subsequent to speaking to Mr. Sanders, contact was made with Mr. Kossack

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and we agreed that I should talk to Judge Haggerty and attempt to convince him that it would be to his best interest as well as ours that there be no personal contact between himself and Agent Kennedy.

At approximately 2:00 p.m. I contacted Judge Haggerty by telephone and had a discussion with him stating that I thought perhaps it would be better for everyone concerned that Agent Kennedy should not meet him at his home. He agreed that this was probably the best course and proceeded to explain to me why he had called Agent Kennedy.

He explained that several weeks before Clay Shaw or anyone had been arrested as a result of the Garrison investigation that he had gone to dinner one evening at Gentilich's restaurant on Tulane Avenue. That after dinner he went to the bar to get an after dinner drink where he met two longstanding friends of his by the name of Sonny Bennett and Ben Lahann (phonetically). These two men were in the company of Gordon Novel to whom they introduced Judge Haggerty. The purpose of Bennett and Lahann's being in Novel's company was that they were negotiating with Novel to take over Novel's lease on the Jamaican Village Bar and Lounge. In the course of the brief conversation with Novel and the Judge's two friends, the subject of the Garrison investigation arose wherein Novel is alleged to have told the Judge that while he had been interviewed by the FBI and Secret Service that he had not told them everything he knows. Judge Haggerty said he then told Novel that he should have told the whole truth that if he would come to his, Judge Haggerty's, office the following day he would arrange to have Agent Kennedy present in his office and that he would urge Agent Kennedy to telephone the Director of the FBI J. Edgar Hoover direct from his office. Novel did not appear in the Judge's office though Messrs. Bennett and Lahann did. Consequently no call was even made to Agent Kennedy relative to this conversation with Novel.

on phone
Novel's business partner in the English

Judge Haggerty indicated that this is the one and only contact he has ever had with Gordon Novel. Presently reports have indicated that Novel has been spouting off that he has in his possession some seven (7) tapes which he desires to make public. Judge Haggerty believes that Novel was wired for sound when he had this conversation with him in Gentilich's.

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The reason for his call to Agent Kennedy was to inform him that should his name come up as a result of divulgence of tapes by Gordon Novel, he wanted him to know the circumstances of his, Judge Haggerty's, use of his name. Aside from having used his name Judge Haggerty informed me that he has known Agent Kennedy for more than twenty (20) years dating back to the time when he was Assistant District Attorney for the Parish of Orleans.

Judge Haggerty further informed that he has learned from talking to Mr. Fred Berthelson, Station Manager of Radio Station WTKX that one Blake Edwards, presently employed by Nashville Radio Station KMGK and form-

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erly employed by New Orleans Radio Station WNOE, that Mr. Edwards is attempting to sell and may have already sold the seven (7) tapes he claims Novel has. The tapes are allegedly of Willard Gurvich, Investigator for Garrison, Louis Ivon, Investigator for Garrison, Judge Haggerty, Jim Garrison, Aubry Young and Governor John McKeithen. Judge Haggerty indicated that divulgence of the tape contents of his conversation does not concern him as he urged him, Novel, to tell the whole truth. He said, however, that he may have made some derogatory remarks about Mr. Garrison, however, that does not concern us. Judge Haggerty further informed that he had had a background investigation of Novel make and that he wanted to turn this over to Agent Kennedy. We agreed that he should mail this directly to me. He further informed that it was his intention to issue on the morning of Monday, May 29, 1967, another order as a guide for the news media and the bar regarding public statements being made concerning that case. He informed that he has already issued three (3) separate orders, that this order he intends to issue on the 29th of May is a further clarification of his existing orders. Judge Haggerty informed me that he will also mail the three (3) orders he has already issued along with the one he intends to issue on Monday, May 29, to me.

Judge Haggerty also informed me that when he met Novel in Gentilich's he had given him his personal card and that when Novel was arrested in Gahanna, Ohio, this card along with about seventy-five (75) other cards was found in Novel's possession. Judge Haggerty informed that one Bill Bailey employed by a Baton Rouge newspaper called him from Baton Rouge and inquired as to Novel's possession of his personal card. Judge Haggerty said he informed Bailey that he is not appointed for life to the bench, that he has to run for office and that he thinks that is good politics to give his card to those he meets so that they will remember who they met.

We closed with the agreement that it would be better that Agent Kennedy not call on him and Judge Haggerty requested that I inform Agent Kennedy as to the reason for his call. Judge Haggerty also informed me that he is keeping a close record of all the public statements being made in the Clay Shaw case and that he intends at the conclusion of the Shaw trial, regardless of the verdict, to bring contempt action against those who violate his orders and guidelines.