

MEMORANDUM

February 6, 1967

TO: JIM GARRISON, DISTRICT ATTORNEY

FROM: KENT SIMMS AND CHERCY NAVARRE, INVESTIGATORS

RE: 1302 CLAY STREET, KENNER, LOUISIANA

1302 Clay Street, Kenner, Louisiana, is located in Moisant Place, Lot 8, Square 6. This property is a single wood frame dwelling which appears to be in a very run-down condition. This property is presently owned by one James R. Parrott, Jr. of which an Act of Sale was passed on September 29, 1966, and filed under Folio COB 645-454. The owner before this date was Mr. Billiot presently residing at 409 Stewart Avenue, Little Farms, Louisiana. Mr. Billiot purchased his property in 1961 from Vivian Waugh Blackburn Linch for \$9,600 and the Act of Sale is filed under Folio 52867. This information was obtained from Mr. Hoffmann, Tax Assessor of Kenner, Louisiana, on January 31, 1967.

The present resident of 1302 Clay Street at this time is Mr. and Mrs. Ryale, two sons and one daughter. Mr. Manning Ryale is now in Viet Nam serving with the Armed Forces. The previous address of the Ryale family was Hawaii until they moved into 1302 Clay Street on December 9, 1966. Mrs. Ryale is paying rent to the Jean Williams Real Estate Company.

From an interview on January 30, 1966, at 5:00 P. M., Mrs. Ryale stated that she is not familiar with the neighborhood as she has only lived there a short while. Mrs. Ryale related that she is not familiar or has ever known any Cuban or Spanish type persons. She was shown a picture of Ferrie, and she could not identify it with anyone she is familiar with, either in New Orleans or elsewhere.

A check of the neighbors residence at 1300 Clay Street indicated that it is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Bernius, Jr. In an interview of Mrs. Bernius, she stated that she has been residing in this residence for approximately four years. Mrs. Bernius related that her neighbors at 1302 Clay Street before Mrs. Ryale was an Adams family of which she could give little information. Before the Adams family, it was Mr. and Mrs. Donald Tierney (Ruth Tierney). Before the Tierney family it was the owner, Mr. Melvin Billiot. Further, that Mr. Raymond Walker was the owner before Mr. Billiot. At present, Mr. Walker is residing in the State of Texas. Mrs. Bernius could not give the present addresses of these families except Mr. Billiot. Mrs. Bernius was shown the photograph of Ferrie, and she could not identify it, especially pertaining to in and around her neighborhood in the past four years. Mrs. Bernius stated that she did not know or had not seen any type people or Cuban type people frequent this area during in the past four years.

On January 31, 1967, at noon, Mr. Billiot was interviewed, and he stated that he owned and resided at 1302 Clay Street from 1961 to 1966. In 1965 he leased the residence to Mr. Danny Dibble and family for a period of six months. Mr. Dibble is of English decent and was employed at Boeing Company, Michoud. Further, while Mr. Billiot was residing at 1302 Clay Street, his phone number was 729-7252 and was registered to Billiot and Brothers Termite Control. Prior to Mr. Billiot's taking residence, he stated that the property was vacant for the past two years.

Mr. Billiot viewed the picture of Ferrie and stated that it looked very familiar, and he believed that this person may be connected with a residence located at 1210 Clay Street as a person who at one time visited this address during the years of 1962 and 1963. Mr. Billiot could not be positive of this person's identity. Mr. Billiot could not recall any Spanish type persons in this neighborhood during the period that he resided there.

An interview with Mr. and Mrs. Bernius, Jr. of 1300 Clay Street indicated that a Mr. John Hinds, retired merchant seaman, is the owner of the residence located at 1210 Clay Street and has been for the past twenty years. Mr. and Mrs. Bernius again verified that no Cuban-type persons have frequented this residence or the neighborhood.

Mr. Bernius, Jr. stated that Mr. John Hinds is presently on vacation in the British West Indies and isn't expected to return for approximately one month.

Mr. Hinds will be contacted upon his return for an interview.