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Sees Conviction In Garrison Probe

NEW ORLEANS (UPI) — Mark Lane, an original critic of the Warren Commission's report, said Thursday he has reviewed New Orleans Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's evidence of a Kennedy assassination conspiracy and predicted Garrison will get a conviction.

"They are going to be embarrassed when the jury says guilty," Lane told about 400 persons. His talk was sponsored by the Crime Committee of the New Orleans Young Men's Business Club.

BY "THEY," Lane meant news magazines, newspapers, wire services, television and radio which, he said, were trying to discredit Garrison's investigation.

"I have seen the evidence," Lane said. "The water has been poisoned. If he disregarded the evidence he would deserve the criticism he has received for following it."

"THE FOUNDATIONS of the country will be shaken when the evidence is disclosed in court."

"There are some in high places who will do all they can to prevent that day coming."

THE ORLEANS Parish grand jury, at Garrison's behest, has indicted retired businessman Clay Shaw, 54, on a charge of conspiracy. Shaw is free, on \$10,000 bond. His trial date has not been set.

Lane, in his talk, derided Dallas, Tex., Dist. Atty.

Henry Wade, the Dallas police and the Warren Commission. He said President John-son, Warren and Atty. Gen. Ramsey Clark are involved in suppression of evidence in the case.

ONE OF the five Delta Airlines pilots killed Thursday in the crash near New Orleans was an attorney and represented a witness in Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison's Kennedy assassination investigation.

He was George Piazza II, 30, who represented James Lewallen when he was subpoenaed to Garrison's office last month. Lewallen was a former roommate of the late David W. Ferrie, a former Eastern Airlines pilot, who Garrison has named as one of the three men who plotted to assassinate the president.

W. J. Dupont 4-20-67

New Orleans Probe Figures Differ on Who Plotted What

By JOHN CHAMBERLAIN

The Russian nihilists of pre-Communist days would presumably find themselves right at home in modern New Orleans, where District Attorney Jim Garrison is attempting to prove that a conspiracy pushed Lee Harvey Oswald and/or some other killers into assassinating President John F. Kennedy in Dallas.



Chamberlain

Garrison's case is still a mystery to everyone but himself. But Mark Lane, the lawyer who contended in a book called "Rush to Judgment" that the Warren Report was wrong in pointing to Oswald as Kennedy's sole killer, has been going around boasting that he knows what is in Jim Garrison's mind.

Lane says categorically that "no foreign power played any part in planning or executing the assassination."

He thinks it was a home-grown conspiracy, a possible right-wing job, and he adds that "anti-Castro Cuban forces played a vital role in the execution of the assassination."

BUT PERRY RUSSO, one of the witnesses in the Garrison hearings, claims that the recently deceased Dave Ferrie, the air pilot who was allegedly a prime mover in a conspiracy to kill Kennedy, "was obsessed, more or less, with the idea of Kennedy and what he was doing to Cuba — or, to Castro."

So what we seem to have in District Attorney Garrison's foray is a problem of deciding between opposites.

Lane is suggesting that anti-Castro Cuban refugees helped kill Kennedy, presumably because he didn't permit U.S. forces to take conclusive part in the Bay of Pigs invasion.

And Perry Russo, supposedly

speaking for the dead Dave Ferrie, is implying that pro-Castro plotters did the horrible deed.

AS A FASCINATED onlooker who was disappointed that William Manchester didn't investigate Oswald's New Orleans background for his "The Death of a President," I wish I knew what Garrison has up his sleeve.

How can he handle the split between Mark Lane and Ferrie? Well, it could be done.

Going back to those Russian nihilists who would have delighted in the snarled atmosphere of the beatnik-DuBois Club America of the 1960s where mysterious forces move in the depths, they would have found a way to reconcile Mark Lane's charge that "anti-Castro Cuban forces" plotted to kill Kennedy with Perry Russo's countering suggestion that pro-Castroites did it.

THE RUSSIAN nihilists would simply have said that Castroite infiltrators in the Cuban refugee groups — i.e., "Double Agents" — could have been involved in the plot.

Such things happened in Russia before 1914. They became part of the conspiratorial element in Bolshevism.

In the present anarchical atmosphere in the United States, such things could be happening here. The days of our innocence are gone, and God help us.

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