

*David Ferrie
June 1963*

report

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A copy of the

~~the~~ original, still classified report of a 1963 investigation of David W. Ferrie by the Secret Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation was in the hands of the States-Item today.

It shows a cursory inquiry concerning the strange, hairless pilot whom Dist. Atty. Jim Garrison called "one of history's most important men."

Ferrie, a key figure in Garrison's Kennedy murder plot investigation, died Feb. 22 --- five days after the DA's probe became public knowledge.

The federal investigation of Ferrie was halted abruptly after the Secret Service says it discredited a confidential informant.

There is no mention of the informant or his credibility in information supplied by the FBI, which touches briefly on the ~~possibility that~~ ^{presence of} Lee Harvey Oswald's killer, Jack Ruby, ~~was~~ in New Orleans ^u during the summer of 1963.

(more)

1 add report

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The report, which ~~is~~ reached this reporter surreptitiously, opens with a five-page summary by the Secret Service ~~field~~ office here. The summary, ~~dated~~ dated Dec. 13, 1963, concludes:

"Case remains open at New Orleans ~~pending sub-~~ mission of additional reports covering investigation thus far conducted, after which the case will be closed here and investigation discontinued ~~in accordance~~ in accordance with Chief's instructions."

There is no direct indication of the "Chief's" identity, but presumably it ~~is~~ refers to the chief of the Secret Service, which ranked ^{above} the FBI in the conduct of the investigation.

In hitherto unknown disclosures, ~~the FBI reported~~ confidential ~~FBI~~ reports attached ^{to} the summary ~~show~~ show that:

1. ~~the~~ Bourbon st. nightclub owner Frank Caraci was questioned five days after Kennedy's death. He told ~~Special Agent~~ Special Agent Furman G. Boggan ~~that~~ that Jack Ruby visited his place, the Club 500, in June of 1963 looking for dancers.

(more)

2 add report

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2. Jesse R. Core III, a New Orleans public relations executive, tossed a pre-Castro leaflet in the face of Oswald in front of the old International Trade Mart in September, 1963.

Later, Core picked out a photograph of Oswald's companion ^{at the mart} and gave a detailed description of ~~six~~ six foot, one inch youth with brown hair and a suntan. But the FBI report does not indentify the companion of the man whom the Warren Commission ² labeled as the late president's lone killer.

3. Ferris told the FBI on October 27, ^{1963,} he was "very embarassed and concerned" over the lack of air power provided the Cubans" at the April, 1961, Bay of Pigs invasion.

Ferris admitted "that he severely criticized President John F. Kennedy both in public and in private." The FBI report adds:

"He stated that he does not recall specifically what he said in making these criticisms ^{My} and might have used an off-hand or colloquial expression, 'He ought to be shot.'"

(more)

3 add report

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"He stated that he has never made any statement that President Kennedy should be killed with the intention that this be done and has never at any time outlined or formulated any plans or made any statement as to how this could be done or who should do it," the report by Special Agents Ernest C. Wall Jr. and Theodore R. Viater continues.

Garrison has charged that Ferrie conspired with Oswald and 54-year-old retired International Trade Mart Managing Director Clay L. Shaw to kill the late President. Shaw, the only member of the trio still living, is free on \$10,000 bond awaiting trial here.

Ferrie told agents he was a liberal and supported Kennedy's Civil Rights and fiscal programs. He denied ever lending Oswald his ^{New Orleans} library card, but there is no explanation of why the question was asked.

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4 add report

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Ferrie said he could not recall knowing Oswald in the Civil Air Patrol, of which Ferrie was a squadron leader here, and he denied ever owning a telescopic^c sight or a rifle equipped with a telescopic sight.

Caraci, the French Quarter bar proprietor, told agents he was in his office with his partner Nick Carno ~~in~~ ~~1963~~ "probably in June" of 1963 when Ruby called at the Club 500.

Cleeve Dugas, the night manager, came to the office and reported ~~that Carno~~ "there was a man out front who ran the Carousel Club ~~in~~ in Dallas ~~and Carno~~ who wanted to talk to Caraci about hiring ~~a~~ some dancers."

Caraci said he instructed Dugas "to tell this person to go to the She-Bar and talk to ~~the~~ Jeanette Conforte, a stripper who was dancing there.

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~~"Caraci stated that neither he nor Carno met this individual and he had concluded that this individual actually was Ruby since he has~~

5 add report

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"Caraci stated that neither he nor Carne met this individual and he had concluded that this individual actually was Ruby since he has read in the newspapers and heard on television that Ruby operated the Carousel Club," the report says.

(Bourbon st. sources ~~and~~ recall that Mrs. Conforte danced under the name ~~Francesca~~ "Jada" and was dancing at Ruby's Carousel Club in Dallas when Kennedy was assassinated Nov. 22, 1963.)

Neither Ferrie, Core nor Caraci was called as a witness by the Warren Commission which concluded in its 26-volume report that Oswald acted alone ~~as~~ ~~the~~ Kennedy's slayer.

The Secret Service summary deals at great length with how it received its original tip on Ferrie.

Its information came from a former roommate of Asst. DA Herman W. Kohlman who was called by a confidential informant ~~and~~ and advised to question Ferrie.

Kohlman declined to disclose the informant's name, even after Ferrie was ~~apparently~~ picked up for questioning here three days after Kennedy was shot. (more)

6.

The first identification the informant came from Ferrie, ~~whom~~ questioned him after he was booked for First District police station on Nov.

"As the interview with David to end," the Secret Service Summary says had a very good idea who had reported with Oswald, training him in the use of lenses, etc."

Ferrie named a ~~well~~ known local enforcement officers, attorneys, etc. identical language is of the case.

No mention of ~~any~~ indication of interest in him, is ~~in~~ FBI report