

To Gini Shea from Harold Weisberg, JFK assassination records against Gordon Novel - TD claims 8/20/79

Attached is 62-409060-5078. It has a General Investigative Division note that is on a printed form headed "Informative Note." In this instance I believe it is informative. It begins with a withholding relating to Gordon Novel. The claim is TD. I appeal this withholding.

It cannot be sole source information that is withheld.

For some time I have been interested in the welcome given to Novel by various FBI field offices at the time he was a fugitive. The available FBI reports abound in unquestioned detail of what is attributed to him. (In the case of this serial his information was sent to the Director.) I believe offices were given advance notice of his coming by other offices.

Novel was a major diversion with Garrison. In fact he was a virtual operation against Garrison, who required no misdirection, providing more than enough of his own.

The clear inference of this withholding is that Novel was an informant, not just a source. (He claimed publicly that he had a CIA connection.) If the inference is not justified disclosure can establish that and the withholding would have been no more than one of thousands of prior improper withholdings.

On the other hand, if there was intrusion by any federal authority into a local prosecution and situation I believe there is no sanction for protection.

From the public press it appears that no harm will come to Novel from Garrison, because they had made up and Garrison had provided him with legal representation.

What I do not recall seeing in the H.O. files is any account of the leaking of Garrison's military medical records to Novel's lawyer. An internal investigation was promptly announced and as promptly forgotten. The leak had to be from a federal source. If there is a "previously processed" claim that does not enable leaking any relevant information. I also appeal the withholding of these records, which may well be filed in other than the FBI's assassination files.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATION SECTION

APR 7 1967

TELETYPE

REC-43

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Wick	_____
Mr. Casper	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

FBI WASH DC

FBI NEW ORLS

1051PM URGENT 4-7-67 JLC

TO DIRECTOR (62-109060) AND DALLAS (89-43)

FROM NEW ORLEANS (89-69) 4P

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY,
DALLAS, TEXAS, NOVEMBER ELEVEN, NINETEEN SIXTY THREE,
MISCELLANEOUS -- INFORMATION CONCERNING. OO: DALLAS.

NEW ORLEANS STATES ITEM FINAL EDITION, APRIL SEVEN
INSTANT, REPORTED GORDON NOVEL, MISSING WITNESS IN DA GARRISON'S
PROBE OF ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY, TODAY OFFERED
TO RETURN TO NEW ORLEANS UNDER LONG LIST OF CONDITIONS, ONE
INCLUDED IMMUNITY FROM PROSECUTION ON A NINETEEN SIXTYONE
BURGLARY CHARGE. ARTICLE REPORTED THE ORLEANS PARISH DA District Attorney
QUICKLY REJECTED NOVEL'S LIST OF CONDITIONS AND REPRESENTATIVE
STATED NOVEL WAS GOING TO BE RETURNED UNDER CONDITIONS OF
DA'S OFFICE.

ARTICLE ALSO REPORTED THAT CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT JUDGE
FRANK SHEA POSTPONED HEARING ON MOTION TO QUASH INDICTMENT
FILED BY DEAN A. ANDREWS ATTORNEY UNTIL FRIDAY, APRIL FOURTEEN,

NEXT.

END PAGE ONE

62 APR 25 1967

MR. DELOACH FOR THE DIRECTOR

COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

REC-43

62-109060-5078

15 APR 19 1967

ST-100

VIA 8 15 ST

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

[Handwritten signatures and initials]

PAGE TWO

GORDON NOVEL CONTACTED NEW ORLEANS OFFICE BY LONG
DISTANCE TELEPHONE, AFTERNOON INSTANT DATE, STATING
JIM GARRISON IS QUOTE LEANING UNQUOTE ON SOME OF HIS FRIENDS AND
IS GETTING CLOSE TO THREATENING FRIENDS WITH PHYSICAL VIOLENCE.

NOVEL DESIRED TO KNOW WHETHER THERE WAS ANY WAY HE COULD GET
PROTECTION FOR THEM. HE IDENTIFIED THESE FRIENDS AS
ROBERT ^{Phonetic} SONGY (PH); LEWIS GOMEZ (PH), CHIEF BUDGET OFFICER;
RANNY EHLINGER (PH); AND RICHARD SCHMIDT (PH). *La*

NOVEL ALLEGED GARRISON HAS TWENTY FOUR HOUR SURVEILLANCE
ON NOVEL'S RESIDENCE, THREE SIX SIX EXCHANGE PLACE AND HE
HAS BEEN TOLD REPRESENTATIVES OF DA ARE PROBING INTO HIS BANK
RECORDS AT INTERNATIONAL CITY BANK.

NOVEL INFORMED AT TWELVE THIRTY PM, APRIL EIGHT NEXT,
HIS ATTORNEY AND SOME FRIENDS ARE GOING TO HIS APARTMENT
TO PICK UP VARIOUS RECORDS, ITEMS OF CLOTHING AND HIS
AUTOMOBILE FOR DELIVERY TO A RELATIVE NAMED ROBERT SCOTT, ONE
THREE ONE TWO ZERO CHEF MENTEUR HIGHWAY. *1170 42 23*
New Orleans, La

NOVEL STATED THAT HE DOES NOT WANT TO LOSE ANY OF HIS
RECORDS SINCE THEY CONTAIN CHECK BOOKS SHOWING FLOW OF FUNDS
FROM POLITICIANS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF STATE WHO MADE PURCHASES
END PAGE TWO

* District Attorney

PAGE THREE

FROM HIM. ALSO STATED OTHER DOCUMENTS FROM HIS APARTMENT WILL BE OF ASSISTANCE IN FIGHT AGAINST GARRISON.

NOVEL STATED LEWIS GOMEZ IS HAVING TREMENDOUS PRESSURE BROUGHT TO BEAR ON HIM BY GARRISON ATTEMPTING TO TIE GOMEZ INTO CORPORATION IN WHICH NOVEL INVOLVED, BUT NOVEL CONTENDS IF GOMEZ TIED INTO THIS CORPORATION, GARRISON'S CHIEF SUPPORTER, MR. ROBERTSON, WILL ALSO BE TIED IN.

NOVEL ALSO CONTENDS PRESSURE BEING BROUGHT BY GARRISON AGAINST L. V. FARINGTON (PH), OWNER AND OPERATOR OF A MECHANIC SHOP, THREE THREE THREE NORTH GALVEZ, NEW ORLEANS. *La*

NOVEL STATED HE BELIEVES INFORMATION IN HIS POSSESSION WILL QUOTE BLOW JIM GARRISON OUT THE WINDOW AND SHOW HIM FOR THE JACKASS HE IS UNQUOTE. NOVEL STATED HE HAS NO INTENTION OF INVOLVING THE FBI IN ANY WAY, THAT HE IS DEFENDING THE WARREN COMMISSION REPORT AND NO MENTION WILL BE MADE OF FBI. NOVEL STATED THAT ONCE THE PRESS GETS COMPLETELY DOWN ON GARRISON, HE WILL BE QUOTE OUT OF BUSINESS UNQUOTE. NOVEL INFORMED GARRISON IS GOING INTO NINETEEN SIXTYONE BURGLARY APPARENTLY AT SOME DEPTH, BUT HE (NOVEL) IS NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING IN THIS REGARD SINCE IT IS A SIMPLE BURGLARY ON WHICH THE ^{Statute} ~~PRESCRIPTION~~ HAS RUN.

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

NOVEL ADVISED THAT RANNY EXLINGER APPEARED BEFORE ORLEANS PARISH GRAND JURY AND HAD TAKEN THE FIFTH AMENDMENT IN REGARD TO ANSWERING QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE SIXTYONE BURGLARY.

NOVEL SAID HE IS GOING TO QUOTE POT SHOT UNQUOTE GARRISON UNTIL HE PUTS HIM OUT OF BUSINESS AND SHOWS UP HIS POLITICAL EXTORTIONS AND SHOWS GARRISON FOR WHAT HE ACTUALLY IS. NOVEL STATED HE HAS HEARD RUMORS THAT GARRISON IS AFTER NOVEL'S EXWIFE AND THAT GARRISON PLANS TO CALL JIM RILEY (PH), FORMER COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION UNDER FORMER GOVERNOR JIMMIE DAVIS. STATES ONLY REASON FOR CALLING RILEY IS TO DISCREDIT FORMER GOVERNOR DAVIS SO GOVERNOR MC KEITHEN WOULD NOT HAVE TROUBLE BEING REELECTED. NOVEL CONCLUDED BY STATING QUOTE IT IS GOING TO BE A BATTLE TIL THE END UNQUOTE.

LHM FOLLOWS.

END

NHM

FBI WASH DC

CC - MR. SULLIVAN

cc - Sullivan
Brannigan
Lauhan

74 8 15 03 48 03

FBI

Domestic Intelligence Division

INFORMATIVE NOTE

Gordon Novel 4/8/67

[REDACTED] has furnished us some information concerning certain facets of Jim Garrison's investigation. He was subpoenaed to testify before an Orleans Parish grand jury, failed to appear, and a warrant was issued for his arrest.

Dean A. Andrews is the lawyer who testified before the Warren Commission concerning a Clay Bertrand having asked him to represent Lee Harvey Oswald after the assassination. Andrews has been indicted for perjury.

Information in attached will be furnished to the Department and Secret Service.

FJC:cop

STK

[Handwritten signature]