

BBC
Panorama
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Judge Daniel, Baton Rouge

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PANORAMA - KENNEDY ROLL 9 5348/5503

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Int: What have you learned from Edward Partin, concerning Hoffer threats against the Kennedys?

Man: I learned, in 1962, that Mr. Partin had been entrusted with the mission of securing plastic explosives, to be used in either blowing up Mr. Bobby Kennedy, then the U.S. Attorney General, in his automobile, or in his home.

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Int: Did you learn anything that backed that up, from your own personal experience?

Man: Yes, there were 2 telephone calls, that were monitored by me, the calls originated with Mr. Partin, and terminated with Mr. Hoffer on the other end of the line; Mr. Partin discussed, as briefly as possible, being cut off by Mr. Hoffer, that he had obtained the plastic explosives, that Mr. Hoffer was seeking.

Int: Do you consider that Mr. Hoffer's hatred, or motive for murder, was directed against the Kennedys in general?

Man: Yes I do.

Int: And could also have been directed against the President.

Man: Yes, I believe that.

Int: What did Mr. Partin do about the Kennedy threat?

Man: He reported it to me, in September of 1962, but prior to that time he had endeavoured to alert the Justice Department, by making telephone calls, seeking someone, in authority, to whom he could confide the plot to assassinate the then U.S. Attorney General, Mr. Robert Kennedy.

Int: Do you know what the Justice Department did about the

threat when they heard of it?

Man: When they heard of it from me they sent agents - F.B.I. agents and Assistant U.S. Attorney Generals down to interview Mr. Hoffer - Mr. - pardon me, Mr. Partin, Mr. Partin was spirited up.

Int: Would you like to just start that one again.

Man: All right, would you ask the question again.

Int: What did the Just - what did the Justice Department do about it?

Man: The Justice Department sent special agents and representatives from the Justice Department to interview Mr. Partin, and to put Mr. Partin on a polygraph, which was done, in my presence, in New Orleans, To accomplish this Mr. Partin was spirited out of the jail, generally after midnight, and returned to the local jail, the East Battenbridge Parish Jail, before daybreak.

Int: And did the polygraph lie detector tests suggest that Partin was telling the truth about the Hoffer threats?

Man: Invariably in the opinion of the operator.

Int: So the Government and the authorities, and presumably the Secret Service were aware, from 1962, that Jimmy Hoffer had been making threats against the President.

Man: I think that that is pretty well documented.

Int: Why would Mr. Partin have been reluctant to discuss this matter openly over the years?

Man: Mr. Partin is a very suspicious man, where legal authority is concerned. He was concerned about his own safety, naturally, but he was also concerned that he might not

be given full credit for disclosing the plot. In other words I think his pride was such that he felt he would be considered something of a nut, and had some personal axe to grind, with Mr. Hoffer.

Int: Was Martin had reason to be afraid ^{over} of the last 15 years?

Man: In my opinion ample reason.

Int: You mentioned that on one occasion he'd actually been shot at - I wonder if I ask you the question again you could refer to that. Was Mr. Partin had reason to be afraid over the last -

Man: Yes, I think he's had ample reason; on one occasion he was shot at, on another occasion I monitored a conversation between 2 men, from this area, who were actively seeking the occasion to shoot Mr. Partin. I believe that they were recruited through the efforts of Mr. Hoffer, or someone, I think, for Mr. Hoffer.

Int: Are there close links, or were there close links, between Hoffer and the leaders of organised crime?

Man: **B** Those who are purportedly members of organised crime, such as Mr. Carlos Marcella of New Orleans, was closely linked to Mr. Hoffer, according to what Mr. Hoffer told me, in 1964.

Int: If Hoffer did make threats against the Kennedys, is that something that should have been taken seriously? Was he capable of carrying out his threats?

Man: **C** I think that he fully intended to carry the threats out, I really think that he had the capability. It was a question of how and when, not a question of whether he

had doubts as to the necessity of eliminating ~~the~~

Bobby Kennedy.

Int:

And possibly his brother also.

Man:

And possibly his brother also.

Int:

Judge Daniels, thank you.