

M E M O R A N D U M

April 2, 1968

TO: JIM GARRISON, District Attorney

FROM: ANDREW J. SCIAMBRA, Assistant D. A.

RE: Interview on March 21, 1968 with
MRS. BARBARA CAREY
11168 Forest Edge
Reston, Virginia - Telephone - A/C 703 - 471-1378
* * * * *

The gist of Harold Weisberg's and my interview with MRS. BARBARA CAREY is as follows:

MRS. CAREY first came to New Orleans when she was a freshman at Newcomb College. She stayed one semester and left. She returned to New Orleans around June of 1962 and stayed until December of 1962 and lived at 935 Bourbon Street and was a constant companion of Phillip Boatwright, who in turn was a very close friend of KERRY THORNLEY. The three were together on many, many occasions. They were constantly in the Bourbon House. She knew VIC LATHAM and for a while worked at Castillo's Restaurant as a waitress. THORNLEY got her the job. At the time THORNLEY was going with JESSICA LUCK. She recalls a letter written by KERRY THORNLEY to the Saturday Evening Post which was printed in the magazine. She said this letter appeared after the assassination and spoke in behalf of the assassination. As a result of this horrible letter, BOATWRIGHT whom she describes as a Kennedy fan, completely broke off his relationship with THORNLEY. She said this was rare because BOATWRIGHT and THORNLEY were very close. BOATWRIGHT worked for KENT COURTNEY as a writer on the INDEPENDENT AMERICAN and earned \$400 a month. She described the type of writer that COURTNEY wanted as pure propoganda. It seems that BOATWRIGHT was not suited for this type of writing, and so she and THORNLEY wrote articles and gave them to BOATWRIGHT who in turn published them in the Independent American under his name. She said it seems that she and THORNLEY contributed so much to BOATWRIGHTS' articles that they were in effect ghost writers for him. BOATWRIGHT is now in Omaha, Nebraska. MRS. CAREY, who has just moved into a new house, said that she would go through her boxes of old mail and dig out letters to her from BOATWRIGHT. She said that BOATWRIGHT wrote her frequently after she left New Orleans and that almost every letter he made some reference to KERRY THORNLEY. She said that BOATWRIGHT, who is an avid correspondent with his friends, keeps everthing that is written to him and that it may be useful if we talk to BOATWRIGHT and look over his letters. (Weisberg said that he would go to Omaha, Nebraska, to see BOATWRIGHT if we wished.) MRS. CAREY said that BOATWRIGHT also kept a daily journal of his activities in New Orleans which may be very useful as he had wanted to write a book about his association with KENT COURTNEY and his involvement with the anti-Castro Cubans and the anti-Castro movement in general.

BOATWRIGHT also knew many people in the French Quarter. She said that BOATWRIGHT and THORNLEY corresponded with each other at least once every two weeks. She said BOATWRIGHT left New Orleans right after the assassination and went to Omaha, Nebraska, where he now publishes a small weekly newspaper the Steppin-Wulf. MRS. CAREY said she first met THORNLEY in the Bourbon House and was aware he was writing his book "The Idle Warriors". THORNLEY never mentioned OSWALD's name to her. She said that she can remember THORNLEY meeting with a man quite regularly in the Bourbon House. It seemed that this man was a very avid right-winger of Spanish descent, who wore glasses, was sort of plump, and not dark complexioned. He was rather well-to-do, as he lived in the Garden District. He was around 23 to 25 years old and was a little taller than THORNLEY. Also, he was an avid follower of Ian Rand. They both subscribed to her publications. She said that after BOATWRIGHT left the job at the Independent American, KERRY was talking about applying for the job. She said that she had heard KERRY talk about COURTNEY and KERRY gave her the impression that he knew COURTNEY. She said that after KERRY got her the job at Castillio's Restaurant she had occasion to see and meet many Cubans and Mexicans and people of Latin-American descent at Castillio's Restaurant. She said that Castillio used to bring in refugees and let them stay on top of his restaurant; that KERRY and Castillio were very close friends and KERRY got to know these people very well through CASTILLIO. She said the restaurant became a haven for refugees and KERRY had some connection with these refugees, but she could not say what it was. However, THORNLEY spent a lot of time upstairs with these people, and on many occasions she had to take food upstairs to them; that she did not see any short wave radio upstairs over the restaurant, and also that she has never heard of or been to Mancuso's Restaurant on Camp Street. She said that she can remember everyone around the restaurant being very excited and concerned during the Cuban Missile Crises in October of 1962. She said that BOATWRIGHT told her that COURTNEY and the Independent American were helping the anti-Castro Cubans, but that she did not pay any attention to the "cloak and dagger" antics of the people around Castillio's Restaurant as she never took them seriously. BOATWRIGHT told her that there were a lot of people always coming into Castillio's office whom BOATWRIGHT described as agents. BOATWRIGHT told her that COURTNEY had agents all over the world, and even one in Paris. She said that BOATWRIGHT's journal would include events that happened around this time, and that she feels that BOATWRIGHT still would have this journal and may let us copy it.

MRS. CAREY said that THORNLEY told her that he was doing intelligence work in the Marine Corps. He never elaborated on the specific type of intelligence work that he was doing, but he said that in order to do this work you would have to prove that you could kill a man and sleep with a homosexual, and he indicated to her that he has passed both tests. She said that THORNLEY was an odd sort of person, but was certainly not stupid; that he was a great believer in Ian Rand and told her that he believed that murder was justified under certain conditions.

THORNLEY never mentioned anything about the CIA, and he never talked about LEE HARVEY OSWALD. She now says that if THORNLEY patterned the main character in his book after OSWALD, then in effect he was saying that OSWALD was not a Communist because the main character in his book is not a Communist.

As for places that she can remember on Decatur Street, she recalls that she and BOATWRIGHT and THORNLEY used to go to La Casa's quite frequently; that there were many Cubans and people of Latin-American descent at La Casa's and THORNLEY knew many of them.

MRS. CAREY said that she has never met CLAY SHAW and THORNLEY never mentioned that name. She said there was a lawyer who was a homosexual who ate at Castillio's about 3 or 4 days a week who was very friendly with THORNLEY. He was bi-lingual, dignified, and under 6 feet tall. She said that CARLOS BRINGUIER does not ring a bell and that she does not know of any official connection that THORNLEY may have had with any group. She said she cannot be sure of this, but she somehow remembers THORNLEY mentioning something about a meeting in Miami, Florida which had something to do with General Walker. She said she somehow relates that meeting with KERRY and doesn't know if he was talking about it or had said something about attending it, or would like to attend it. She said her memory is very vague on this point, and that maybe BOATWRIGHT could furnish additional details.

MRS. CAREY said BOATWRIGHT told her that COURTNEY raised \$10,000 for GENERAL WALKER when he got in trouble she believes at Oxford, Mississippi.

MRS. CAREY said she knows absolutely nothing about THORNLEY's trip to Mexico except from what she has read either in the paper or in somebody's book. She said she finds it very hard to believe that THORNLEY would not have met OSWALD in the Quarter if they were both in New Orleans at the same time. She said that one of the reasons she contacted Weisberg is that she noticed the great resemblance between OSWALD and THORNLEY, and that THORNLEY would be the type of person who would seek a relationship with someone like OSWALD. She said THORNLEY lived to play parts, and talked about doing some work for the Little Theatre either as an actor or behind the scenes. She said THORNLEY also used to go to Papa Joe's on Bourbon Street and used to come around her apartment quite a bit to talk to her and BOATWRIGHT. She said that sometimes he would not come around for 2 or 3 days and then just pop in; that THORNLEY talked about going to work for a theatre group in the Quarter where VIC LATHAM was working. She said there was a man named GUY who wanted to start a theatre group. This man had a secretary, and lived in an expensive apartment in the Quarter. She cannot recall his last name. She went to work for him for a short period of time before he ran off with the money. The name GUY BANISTER does not ring a bell for her, and she does not recognize the picture of BANISTER.

She said that while she was working at Castillio's Restaurant, CARLOS talked about smuggling and shipping things in and out of Cuba. He also had long talks with these refugees, and she said that some times CARLOS would chase the people out of

the restaurant and close the restaurant so that he could talk to these people. She said that she was not privy to these conversations. She does not know how CARLOS managed to keep the restaurant open as they did not make money, however, everyone always seemed to get paid their salary.

MRS. CAREY has never heard the names of CLAY SHAW, CLAY BERTRAND, JOSEPH MOORE, ARCACHA SMITH, DAVID FERRIE, LEE OSWALD or GUY BANISTER mentioned. She said that the picture that appeared of KERRY THORNLEY on November 24, 1963 in the paper does not represent how THORNLEY looked when she knew him in 1962. She never saw KERRY with that short, combed-down haircut that he had after the assassination. She said it looks almost as if he made himself into a different person. She said a picture of SERGIO ARCACHA SMITH looks familiar even though the name does not ring a bell. She also said a picture of HAROLD SANDOZ looks very familiar, and is close to the man who used to meet with THORNLEY in the Bourbon House on a regular basis. She cannot say that it is the man, but the person definitely is on that type. She can remember that on a couple of occasions some Cubans coming into the Bourbon House to talk to THORNLEY, and on one occasion being brought in by CASTILLIO. She said a lot of people who worked for CASTILLIO lived in an old house which THORNLEY visited from time to time. She does not know where the house was, but remembers some talk about the Lakefront. She said we should talk to JOE SAGE and "MIMS" who were constantly in the Bourbon House and who knew THORNLEY. Also PAT PATTERSON and CHUCK EDGERTON were around the Bourbon House.

MRS. CAREY can remember an art professor at Tulane University, and his wife, telling her and BOATWRIGHT about an S & M man in the Quarter who particularly likes young Negro boys. This man was a cultured man who lived in a beautiful apartment in the French Quarter, and was considered prominent by the community. This couple lived in the Quarter about 2 or 3 doors away from the S & M man and the couple used to tell them how they sat on the porch and watched people going in and out of his apartment, and how some times they would hear screams in the middle of the night coming from his apartment. The S & M man used to hold orgies in his apartment. The art professor and his wife also frequented the Bourbon House and were particular friends of a lawyer who used to spend a little time in the Bourbon House. (possibly BILL CRAIS) I then drew a map of the French Quarter and MRS. CAREY pointed out Dauphine Street as the street where the professor and his wife lived, and she seemed to believe that it was around Esplanade. She also remembers that they lived close to a big vacant lot in the Quarter. (Cabrini Playground on the corner of Dauphine and Barracks). She said that BOATWRIGHT will be able to give us the name of the art professor and his wife, and possibly the S & M person.

MRS. CAREY said that BOATWRIGHT wrote poetry and a professor at Loyola used to help him get his work published in some of the smaller magazines.

MRS. CAREY said she has never heard of the Galley House Bar, although she knows that BOATWRIGHT used to go to Dixie's Bar from time to time. She said BOATWRIGHT is the type of person that homosexuals would be attracted to although he was not homosexual.

Mrs. CAREY remembers going to a place with BOATWRIGHT and THORNLEY where they had a coffin and candle in the place, and where people used to get in the coffin to get their pictures taken. She seems to believe that this place was the Ryder Coffee House on Rampart.

Getting back to the S & M man on Dauphine Street, she said she can remember her friend telling her about this man picking up a young colored boy and taking him into his apartment, and hearing screams in the night, then not seeing the boy leave the apartment until 2 days later. She said there was another S & M couple that she met in the Quarter whose names were BRUCE and JUDITH, who worked at the Old Opera House, and she said that they spoke quite freely about their love life. BRUCE fashioned himself after the Marquis Desaid. BRUCE and JUDY spoke freely about how they went in for whips and how sometimes he would beat her to a point where she would have to remain in bed for a few days. She also said that the art professor mentioned to her that the S & M man who lived by him also went in for whips and would beat people which would account for the screams in the night. She said the S & M couple used to come to her apartment and talk freely about their experiences and that THORNLEY knew this couple also. She cannot be sure, but JUDITH was either a dancer or B-drinker at the Old Opera House.

She can also remember CASTILLIO talking about buying washing machines and refrigerators and shipping them to Cuba. It seems that CASTILLIO had some connection with someone in the shipping business. She said that THORNLEY was well aware of this. That CASTILLIO mentioned something about smuggling guns into Cuba through this connection, but she cannot remember any details. She said she cannot remember CASTILLIO actually saying that he was running guns to Cuba, but she does remember CARLOS saying something related to smuggling guns to Cuba. She was also under the impression that he was. The only captain that she saw in the Quarter was a captain who used to walk around with a parrot on his shoulder. She said that Captain Andy and the Neptune Shipping Company does not ring a bell. She also had occasion to meet several airline pilots at La Casa. She said THORNLEY knew these pilots also.

MRS. CAREY said she always wondered why THORNLEY went to the bars with she and BOATWRIGHT because she never saw him drink. Also she wondered if he ever slept because he seemed to be up all of the time. Although THORNLEY did not work, he always seemed to have money and never had to borrow money from anybody.

SECOND INTERVIEW WITH MRS. CAREY ON MARCH 23, 1968.

BARBARA remembers a JACK HEIDLOFF who was a friend of BOATWRIGHT and THORNLEY and who was a political writer. He was also a part of the Bourbon House crew. AL SCOTT was the bartender in the Bourbon House at the time, and ROBERT was the main waiter. BARBARA said that she talked to BOATWRIGHT on the phone last night, and that although BOATWRIGHT seemed to be hedging quite a bit he said he would talk to us since, as he put it, he did not have much choice. BARBARA said BOATWRITE is an honest person and that she does not think that he would lie for THORNLEY or anyone; that he might want to help us since he is a J.F.K. fan, and it was his admiration for J.F.K. that caused him to severely break off his relationship with THORNLEY after the assassination. BOATWRIGHT told her that he could not stand THORNLEY's letter to the Saturday Evening Post. BOATWRIGHT did tell her that he did not say that COURTNEY had agents all over the world but would rather classify

them as informants. MRS. CAREY believes that when we talk to BOATWRIGHT he will cooperate.

BARBARA said one of her letters made referent to "826 Sunday Times". She does not know what this means, but it may be in reference to an article in the paper or magazine. She also has a "12/13" date in the letter which may be the date of the letter in the Saturday Evening Post. She stated that she can also remember THORNLEY being very impressed with the movie "The Manchurian Candidate" and talked quite a bit about it. THORNLEY identified himself with the hero in the movie, and said that in his opinion it was all right to kill political figures if they were extremists. BARBARA said she can also remember CASTILLIO talking about gun running at the table one night when she and THORNLEY were eating in the restaurant. She said CASTILLIO could tell us everything about THORNLEY if he cared to because they were the closest of friends. That all the people around CASTILLIO liked to give the impression that they were involved in something big and important, but that she never really paid any attention to them. She said THORNLEY also worked for some right wing publication in California as a staff writer, and that BOATWRIGHT has a copy of the paper (probably "The Innovater"). She said AL THOMPSON, who is now in San Francisco, was also a member of the Bourbon House crew and a distinguishing feature about BRUCE and JUDITH was that BRUCE used to always have a Siamese cat on his shoulder. She said that BOATWRIGHT is soft-peddling his relationship with THORNLEY now, but this is not true.

BRUCE, in addition to working at the Old Opera House, also worked at the Cafe deMonde. She said that last night when she talked to BOATWRIGHT, he told her that after she left New Orleans his circle of friends dwindled down to THORNLEY, and MARTIN McAULIFF.

McAULIFF arranged for BOATWRIGHT to make several speeches at Tulane University, consequently, McAULIFF and BOATWRIGHT became close friends. She feels relatively sure that THORNLEY must have had many occasions to be with BOATWRIGHT and McAULIFF as both McAULIFF and THORNLEY had the habit of dropping into BOATWRIGHT's apartment.

MRS. CAREY said BOATWRIGHT only met COSTILLIO on a couple of occasions as he spent most of his time involved with his job at COURTNEY's, or writing poetry in his apartment. BOATWRIGHT confirmed that the Independent American raised \$10,000 for GENERAL WALKER. BOATWRIGHT admitted that he was not quite the type of writer that COURTNEY wanted for his paper, and that he was glad to get help from BARBARA and THORNLEY.

BARBARA recalls the "gay" attorney who used to eat at CASTILLIO's, and who was a friend of THORNLEY, getting drunk at a party which was given for the cast of "Toys In The Attic" when it was filmed in New Orleans. The attorney and a group of gay kids marched down the street in parade fashion, quite intoxicated. She said that this was out of character for the attorney who normally was very discreet about his homosexual tendencies.

She said she asked BOATWRIGHT whether or not he still had his journals and letters relating to his stay in New Orleans, and he said that he guessed he did, but that he would have to check through his old stuff. She said the more she thinks about

the more she feels sure that THORNLEY at one time told her that he had had a job at COURTNEY'S before BOATWRIGHT went to work for him. He gave them the impression that the job could be his if he had wanted it. She had a piece of paper which showed that the application for subscriptions to the Independent American were to be sent to Post Office Box 4223, New Orleans, Louisiana, and that the address of the Independent American was 7314 Zimple Street. She did not know if the Post Office Box was in the Camp Street Branch of the Post Office. She said that, although it would be difficult for her to go over all her old letters because they remind her of her mother's death, she would to see and make a note of all the material relating to THORNLEY and BOATWRIGHT. (Weisberg keeps insisting that he be allowed to read these letters, but she said she would have to read them first because they may be of a personal nature.) She said she is convinced that every letter she received from BOATWRIGHT after she left in December of 1962 had some reference to KERRY THORNLEY in it, and probably McAULIFF who had become quite friendly with BOATWRIGHT.

She now remembers that HEIDLOFF had boasted that he had contacts in Jefferson Parish, and that a Mr. LAROCHE who worked for an employment agency got BOATWRIGHT the job with KENT COURTNEY. He also got him a job with a JOHN QUESON who was some sort of writer. In addition to HEIDLOFF saying that he had connections in Jefferson Parish, she remembers HEIDLOFF having some connection with a shipping company that possibly this could be CARLOS CASTILLO's connection with a shipping firm that had contacted friends of hers in New York for more information on HEIDLOFF. She said that he was a political writer and hung around with her crowd and she presumes that he knew MARTIN McAULIFF also.

Harold Weisberg said that he will contact
PHILLIP BOATWRIGHT in Omaha, Nebraska,
Nebraska Psychiatric Institution
a/c 402 - 556-6211

Residence - 3332 Harney Street
a/c 402 - 342-8759