5/12/79 NY TIMES (THEY LEFT OUT JACQUELINE RUBY KEELER)

Reported Carter-Assassination Plot Given Credibility by New Evidence

LOS ANGELES, May 11 (UPI) — Investigators have found evidence, including a gun case, ammunition and corroborative testimony, that adds credibility to a reported plot to assassinate President Carter, originally dismissed as a tale spun by an intoxicated man.

Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation said today that they had found support for the story told by Raymond Lee Harvey, who was arrested by the Secret Service when he was found carrying a starter pistol near the President.

Mr. Harvey, 35 years old, contended that he was supposed to have fired the harmless starter pistol into the ground at an appearance by Mr. Carter in Los Angeles last weekend, creating a "diversion" for the real assassins to shoot the President.

After his arrest about 50 feet from where Mr. Carter was speaking Saturday, Mr. Harvey told Secret Service agents that he was part of a four-man plot to kill Mr. Carter.

Arrest Despite Disbelief

Another man, identified as Osvaldo Espinoza-Ortiz, 21, was also taken into custody, but agents initially dismissed the tale and turned both over to the police.

As information was uncovered this the week, Mr. Harvey was charged with conspiring to kill the President and was held in $50,000 bail. United States Magistrate Harvey A. Schneider yesterday ordered Mr. Espinoza-Ortiz held under $100,000 bail as a material witness after weighing an affidavit from the F.B.I. Mr. Espinoza-Ortiz, Mr. Schneider said, "might turn out to be a defendant."

Agents said that Mr. Espinoza-Ortiz had admitted being with Mr. Harvey and test-firing a starter pistol on the eve of the alleged assassination attempt.

Knowledge of Plot Denied

He originally denied he knew of any plot or was acquainted with Mr. Harvey, although he was about 10 feet away from Mr. Harvey when arrested.

In the affidavit submitted yesterday, Federal agents said that Mr. Espinoza-Ortiz had since confirmed Mr. Harvey's story that they went to the roof of the Alan Hotel the night before Mr. Carter's arrival and "fired seven rounds from a starter pistol in order to test how loud the pistol was."

Mr. Espinoza-Ortiz also agreed with Mr. Harvey that they knew two Mexicans at the hotel who had rifles. Mr. Harvey told agents that he had been told of the plot by the three others in a room at the hotel and that he understood they would fire the fatal shots when he created the distraction with the starter pistol, which could fire only blanks.

Two Mexicans did live at the hotel, and one of them frequently associated with Mr. Espinoza-Ortiz, the F.B.I. said. They checked out the day of Mr. Carter's visit. One of them gave his name as Umberto Camacho, agents said.

City police detectives found a gun case and three rounds of live ammunition in the room rented to Mr. Camacho, the affidavit said.

Man Sentenced in Carter Threat

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 11 (AP) — A 23-year-old Bloomington, Ill., man has been sentenced to 10 years in Federal prison for threatening the life of President Carter. Keith Rodney Roberts Sr. was sentenced yesterday by Federal District Judge J. Waldo Ackerman. Mr. Roberts was convicted April 21.

United States Attorney Gerald D. Fines said that the threats were made last Aug.

Democrats to Journey To Four Cities in Hunt For a Convention Site

By WARREN WEAVER Jr.

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 11 — Democratic leaders decided today to tour all four cities still in the running as sites for the party's 1980 convention before making a final selection late next month.

The site selection committee had been expected to narrow the field to two contenders, New York City and one other, but agreed instead to keep Dallas, Detroit and Philadelphia all in the running for a series of two-day inspection visits.

The committee, headed by Don Fowler, the South Carolina party chairman, adopted the following schedule of visits: New York City, May 22-23; Detroit, June 5-6; Philadelphia, June 7-8; and Dallas, June 13-14. A deadline of June 28 has been set for selecting the site.

Discussion at the meeting indicated that the Dallas convention bid was encountering legal problems that the other three cities had escaped. Under the new campaign law, party conventions cannot be financed by private donations, except that local retail corporations can make contributions in proportion to the profits that they expect to realize from a convention.

Lawyers to Examine Plan

While the other three cities plan to use public funds as part of their bids, Dallas proposes to raise its entire offer from private contributions. Party attorneys say that a detailed legal review will be required to determine whether the Dallas plan is acceptable.

Democrats despair of getting any ruling on the question from the Federal Election Commission before the June 28 site selection deadline. The commission has yet to rule on several similar issues that arose from Memphis's financial assistance to the off-year party conference there five months ago.

New York representatives expressed confidence that keeping the four-city field would not impede their chances of winning. It was Patrick V. Cunningham of New York, a national committeeman and site committee member, who made the motion to inspect all four cities before reaching a decision.

The full cost of the inspection tours will be paid by the respective cities. Membership on site selection committees of both parties is regarded as a major social, if not political, plum since a good deal of

Books of The Times

Figure in a Land

By ANATOLE BROYARD

BERNARD BERENSON: The Making of a Connoisseur. By Ernest Samuels. Illustrated. 477 pages. Belknap. $15.

Bernard Berenson said that he experienced his earliest "sensation of rapture" in the presence of art while still in his mother's arms, when he reached out "towards a picture of grapes on a wine bottle." During the rest of his life, Mr. Berenson's raptures in front of paintings set the tone for the appreciation of art in the Western world. As a young man, he said that "to a great extent culture consists in a precise discrimination of distinctions." In his development of more accurate criteria for the identification of paintings, he exercised his precise discrimination to a degree unequaled in the history of art criticism.

When the great English poets of the 16th and 17th centuries fell in love, their first thought was to catalogue in verse the details of their loved one's beauty. Mr. Berenson's response to Italian painting also was a cataloguing of beauty. In fact, his approach to attribution originally derived from the writings of Giovanni Morelli, a former medical student turned art critic, who saw each painter's individual way of treating the details of human anatomy as a signature.

Saved the Best Bits

In "Bernard Berenson: The Making of a Connoisseur," Ernest Samuels examines his subject with the same close and loving scrutiny that Mr. Berenson brought to his work. It is difficult to imagine a better biography or a better subject for one. Mr. Berenson wanted to improve the world, and he did. How he did it is a heroic and terribly human story. The heroism was in the service of art; the human drama was often in the service of Bernard Berenson. Fortunately for us, he was something of an egomaniac and wrote down everything he saw, felt, did or thought. Mr. Samuels, who is already admired for his biography of Henry Adams, read it all, and saved the best bits for his book.

Here is Mr. Berenson, the son of a poor, itinerant peddler from Lithuania, somehow enrolled at Harvard, where he accepts William James's irresistible invitation: "Come let us gossip about the universe." Too cocky for the taste of the fellowship committee, the brilliant, young Mr. Berenson goes abroad on a private scholarship, subscribed by friends, to learn to be a novelist. At the age of 22, he makes a very nice distinction between ancient tragedy, which produces pleasure, and modern tragedy, "which was merely excruciating, being founded not on fatality but on accident so that the waste of life merely exasperates."

Frustrated in his literary ambitions, the young man begins to study paintings without any conscious purpose beyond becoming cultivated. An admirer of Walter Pater, he corrects Pater's static esthetic with Morelli's practical severity, then corrects Morelli by adding "quality" to Morel

E

and appreciat
the trained ey

Interesting
Mr. Berenson
landscape, an
opportunity to
the American
just before t
Near the end c
noisseur," we
peak of his far
most famous
By this time,
when to hold hi

In the begi
world's leadi
painting could
tributions, wi
proud hosts
"masterpieces
by lesser arti
Berenson was
house in the n
after having d
lection. His e
more comforti
anxiously awa
Berenson mer
never in my l
convenient col
as I found on
bedroom."

Collaborato

Judging fr
count, Mr. Be
done all that h
Mary Costello
a long time l
Trained by the
was not only h
the perfect am
down and rec
swering all ma
practical matt
far as to revie
most of Mr. B
times in more t

Everybody
art world at th
nard Berensor
noisseur." The
ket, the quart
the convolute
for even better