

Skyjacker Told of '63 RFK Plot

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DALLAS (AP)—National Archives documents show that Garrett B. Trapnell, the man shot and captured Saturday in New York following the hijacking of an airliner, had been questioned by FBI agents concerning a plot to kill Robert F. Kennedy when he was Attorney General.

Federal agents were told Aug. 19, 1963, by Trapnell that he had met with three Cuban refugees who were planning to kidnap and kill Kennedy.

The Dallas News reported yesterday in a dispatch from its Washington bureau that the material was contained in 23 pages of documents on file at the archives.

Bad Check Charge

The FBI questioned Trapnell again Nov. 23, 1963—the day after John F. Kennedy was assassinated—at which time he used the name "Oswaldo" for one of the Cuban refugees with whom he said he had met in Miami in May, 1963.

Trapnell later denied his story, saying he had fabricated it to confuse and complicate facts surrounding a bad check charge against him in Chestertown, Md.

Trapnell was once hospitalized in a Maryland hospital from where Dr. Oscar G. Prado wrote an opinion of Trapnell for the courts.

Trapnell "is a menace to society by virtue of his psychotic-insane mental illness whose prognosis for full recovery is very poor," Prado wrote.

Trapnell told FBI agents he had met in Cuba with Miguel Amados Fuentes and two other Cubans plotting to kill Robert Kennedy "to sabotage any relationship between the Cuban revolution and the U. S."

Had a Rifle

Trapnell, according to archives documents, was given a Russian-made 7.62 rifle by the group. His German-born wife turned the weapon over to Quincy, Mass., police following Trapnell's arrest June 19, 1963.

Trapnell, producing a gun from inside a phony cast on his arm, took over a TWA flight carrying 101 persons from Los Angeles to New York. He let the passengers deplane in New York, demanded that a relief crew come aboard after making an erratic series of demands that included ransom of \$306,800, freedom for Angela Davis, a chance to talk to President Nixon and a flight to Dallas to consult with his psychiatrist.

An FBI man posing as a member of the relief crew shot Trapnell in the arm and hand. Two days later, at his arraignment for air piracy, Trapnell told a U.S. magistrate: "I'm the one who committed the crime—why take up government time and money for nothing?" A judge subsequently ordered him to Bellevue Hospital for 30 days observation.