

Hijacker Linked to Plot To Kill Bobby Kennedy

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

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

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

The FBI questioned him again Nov. 23, 1963 — the day after John F. Kennedy was assassinated — at which time he substituted 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 lodged against him at Chestertown, Md.

Trapnell was once hospitalized in Maryland, 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 revolutionary movement and the United States."

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

(Editors Note: According to Quincy Police records, Trapnell was arrested there July 18, 1963, as a fugitive from justice in Maryland on bad check charges while he was on a rented yacht, "Rinki Dink," tied up at the Quincy Adams Boatyard. The following day he waived rendition and FBI agents turned him over to a security guard from the Kent County Jail in Maryland. He gave his wife's name as Ingrid (Schoenke), and his parents, Walter and

Elizabeth.)

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 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.

Trapnell's medical and criminal history is said to include nine hospitalizations, three escapes and six bank robberies in Canada.