

5/28.67

Dear Hal,

If I mail this without checking typos, please understand it is to get the outgoing mail. We have but one a day and none Sunday.

Your stuff on the Ferrie Texas trip is accurate but not quite complete. He was also at a skating rink. If you'd like, when my current work, on which I was to have mailed the ms today, is done, I'll send you a set of copies.

Brown is radical right. I knew him slightly in the 30s when he also was a Senate investigator. He was to have collaborated on WHITWASH. I wanted someone to do the writing while I continued the research, the publisher supplied him, he did a lousy job, too late, I had to stop and write part of the book and when I saw what he had done he agreed to resign. Then he tried to change his mind. He has most of my notes. So, his Dal-Tex shot makes different sense now, doesn't it? That magazine is Brent Bozell's. He is Buckley's brother-in-law.

The clippings, which I'll read while I'm eating, are always helpful. Ditto Masferrer stuff. On the Oswald broadcast editing. I've written that part, given you credit, which I can take out of you are apprehensive, then remembered I have a tape of it. I checked the tape, and I can refer to that, so either way. If you fear it will or can hurt your friend, tell me and I'll take credit out.

The AP letter may have to do with one of the suits Marguerite was always threatening....I've met Garzer. He was working in the archive. He didn't know what he was looking at when he was reading it. None of these people seem to know enough about the subject for the material to have significance.

Castro speech helpful. Checks exactly with another unofficial copy I've obtained. No time to check for official. I have someone checking Library Congress, Times. I've told Harve it checks out. Jim Eason has quit. Wonderful guy.

If anyone out that has anything on that Cuban camp in N.O., closed July 31, 1963, could be important. I have some good reports on it. That part, too, written, but can be improved if I get stuff in time. Also, exile plant to attack buildings in which Russians were staying in Miami, HASKINNY, Rosita de Hornedo, First Ave and C st., Bellota refinery, Naranjito power station, or if there ever was an operation called Charlie Chan, and air group known as "Antonic Maceo".

Cerniglia is Mrs. Elise. Raul Diaz, assistant. She is, probably recently, involved. Ditto Diaz. Know anything about Rudolf Richard (Ricardo) Davis, the McLaney's? I've lost my Pearson clipping connecting Marcello and Wray Gill with Safie and need. Ferrie was Gill's investigator, flew to Guatemala twice just before assassination....Haven't been able to get AP cable from Miami. Not filed up here, from report back....I clattered Ross on syndicated Barry Gray show, am sending stations on which he appears copies of EX 1444. Know it?...Know nothing of Cie-index link, not inclined to believe....Good newsletter, except for editorial judgement Lane, who in his writing disagrees with theory Garrison is working on and didn't know what he had when he read Doc 1553. He has the conscience of a stiff prick, and less scruple....Are you sure of Brenda Steuer. Seem to me she's the girls who organized, beginning with the Vienna congress and was recently on Huntley-Brinkley defending CIA...I need any connection CIA-exiles I can get. Anything on Arsachia, others, like Quiroga, Bringier, Bennister, Gil, INCA (is it CIA?).... Can you send copies Garcia-Gonzalez clip, billboard. Don't know which billboard, but some of my other work carried further by another may show....Post story not intended as good. Did credit to hurt Garrison....At this point a copy of anything giving a Cuban name could be very valuable. I cannot send you all the things it could fit with....Rumor Garrison - LIFE deal here also...On AP cable, could name be Sergio Carbo? What have you on him, for this is name...Anything on Japanese O'Hari or Ehara, export-import business Kasuga. Sentana, Cuban from Miami...I must finish this book within a week, must go to DC ~~XXXXX~~ Monday, have interview coming this p.m., must tape some radio shows end coming week, should have had

March 11, 1967

Dear Harold,

I finally managed to get together the information I promised I would send you and am enclosing it with this letter. There is one further report that I will send but first I want to Xerox it and then I'll send that one along this coming week.

Most of the items I've included are self-explanatory but I want to call your attention to several of these:

To begin with I'm enclosing the transcript of the WDSU radio interview of Oswald (August 21, 1963). Page 6 contains the Freudian slip of Oswald's being "under protection". I agree with you that the editing out of this remark by the Commission in the volume is what is significant. I still believe, though, that Oswald felt he was being protected at the very time when he could least feel so if he were indeed as pro-Castro as he allegedly maintained. The transcript was given to me in confidence by that wire editor whom you met at Paul Elder's bookstore. He doesn't want it to be traced to him so I hope you will use it with discretion. I see no reason, though, why it could not be quoted for there is a record of Oswald in the Archives (and, of course, the Hargis record). I wonder if the Archives record has this censored from the tape too now that I think of it. You ought to check this out. The wire editor says he believes NBC was the station making the release but he can't recall exactly. You can probably check with NBC there and see if they know which station sent it out.

Refer to the letter of April 19, 1966 from AP (enclosed). This was also given to me in confidence by the same wire editor we both met. Please use discretion in handling this one. Isn't it interesting that AP had this letter prepared at such an early date (April, 1966) long before the present wave of doubts arose? Do you think they got wind of something? What's your evaluation of this? One way of checking this out would be to call AP and speak to Bernard Gavzer, an AP feature writer, there at Rockefeller Plaza. He has covered Dallas and New Orleans and knows me quite well. I passed a few tips on to him which he checked on and it would be good if you could establish a close relationship with him. He could prove valuable.

Third, I'm enclosing a copy of an article that appeared in a conservative Catholic magazine. (See "Kennedy's Assassination-Let's Solve It" by Lawrence Brown, enclosed). The reference to yourself is what is interesting as are his other points. Notice that his diagram of the Dealey Plaza area has lined up the Nix and Muchmore films together with Altgens. He may have some basis for fixating these points other than an educated guess and I would suggest you contact him. I'm going to write him myself. Notice, too, that his diagram was made up long before any had appeared with a shot source point originating from the Dal-Tex building.

March 11, 1967

Fourth, I'm enclosing the speech by Castro of November 24, 1966 which I mentioned to you on Harve Morgan's show. (By the way, Carl Young is no longer with the Harve Morgan show. He was bounced recently. Jim Eason, who is still with CBS, is helping me out as much as he can) This copy is a transcript taken from short wave radio by a listener who listened regularly to Radio Habana and typed from short-hand notes a copy which she gave to me. Note the reference to the November 19, 1963 AP cable where the head of the Executive Council of the Inter-American Press Association is quoted as saying - "I believe that a serious event soon to take place will oblige Washington to modify its policy of peaceful co-existence." Have you been able to get a hold of the AP cable, yet? As you may well know the Inter-American Press Association is of a reactionary character and is no doubt a front for the CIA in Latin America, especially. Jules DuBois was, I believe, at one time its President and Stan Ross who was and now more recently is still peddling the pro-Castro theme of the Kennedy Assassination are the key people connected with the IAPA.

Other items you will find of interest deal with Masferrer or Ray (of JURE). There are press clippings included (see the one on Liebler, particularly). What do you make of the Oakland Tribune story of February 24 claiming there is a CIA index to the Warren Report? Anything to this?

Note, also, that we finally got our assassination newsletter out. The first copies are going out shortly and you are the first to receive it by mail. If you have any suggestions or comments please let me know.

Now for some other items you would be interested in knowing about: If you want more info on the CIA, there's a gal in New York City by the name of Brenda Steuer who lives on east 17th Street, who could probably give you some details. She is, I've learned, gathering information and intends to write on what she's learned. I suggest you contact her when you are able to. Her name is listed in the New York directory.

According to the AP wire report of 2-19-67 which I have Bernardo Torres (who guarded Kennedy in Miami) "declined to discuss a report that Oswald had visited Miami to talk with Cubans". The report adds that Torres was "A member of the invasion brigade. He is now military coordinator of its veterans organization, called Brigade 2506". --- Articles referring to Manuel Garcia Gonzales mention that he was hiding behind a "billboard" in Dallas 11/22/63-what billboard are they referring to? --- I have an AP wire dated March 7 that says "Herald's WK Bureau has story that a Cuban lawyer - using name Enrique Tagle is head of Castro's spy organization. Story sez statement made today before Senate Internal Security Subcommittee." This probably refers to the assassination and the attempts to link the pro-Castro people behind it --- I understand Wash. Post of 3/3/67 had story on you. --- one of my students called woman at Catholic Cuban Refugee Center in New Orleans (name sounds like Cerniglia?) concerning Gonzales. She played down Bringuier's leadership. Said that photo purporting to be Gonzales in Pizzo Exhibits (which appeared in Miami News of 2/21/67) was not him. She says she knows Gonzales and that he is somewhere on the West Coast. The student thought she was trying to steer him in a wrong direction --- A reporter with the name

March 11, 1967

Elanshard of the Detroit News claims Life and Newsweek were "sitting on" Garrison's story long before Times-Picayune broke it. He says Garrison had a contract with Life magazine before the story broke --- Blanshard said a columnist in the Times-Picayune ran items on Garrison's probe weeks before the story leaked out. The columnist's name is Jack Dempsey -- I understand that Times-Picayune's Rosemary Jeans is "the" reported to "talk to" if you want the real lowdown on what's happening in New Orleans --- ran across the name of Sam Steele in some article, could he be related to Charles Steele who passed out Oswald's handbills? --- Similas can probably be located by calling operator in Toronto. He is supposed to live in one of the suburbs closest to Toronto. I don't know name of suburb but it is most probably a Western one. --- The Greater Phila. magazine ran a story on Tippit in the February 1967 issue. Have you seen it? --- Dave Lifton's article on his "camouflage theory" of the grassy knoll will appear in Esquire of May --- Sergio Arcacha Smith who won't talk unless it's before Bill Alexander works for an air conditioning company in Dallas. Could this be the same air conditioning company that Julia Ann Mercer mentions in her affidavit? Possibly Smith might be one of the two people she saw that day. It'll probably be difficult to locate her, though. Lane once told me that Mercer can't be located and even the company she works for has disappeared! --- A woman author by the name of Mrs. Coral E. Lorenzen who has written a book entitled "Flying Saucers" published by the New American Library claims that she saw a double who resembled Oswald in a Phoenix, Arizona super market. She stared at him and was stunned by the resemblance. (Could this be William Beymour?) If you write her c/o New American Library maybe she can give you more details. I haven't written her but only was told about it --- My students are hard at work indexing names and we'll do the best we can if we come up with something --- I'm working on looking up documentation of CIA attempts against Cuba - will pass them on as I come along some. --- Your list is being gone over by myself and others and if anything turns up we'll let you know. --- I'll call the TV stations and Stanley of the Examiner just as soon as I can.

Hope this letter finds you well, will write you shortly.

Best,

*Hal*

Hal

*P.S. Before I forget, I just found out the address of Similas.  
This is his probable address:*

*NORMAN SIMILAS  
C/O MRS. C. SIMILAS  
125 STRAFFORD  
WILLOWDALE,  
ONTARIO, CANADA  
TEL. #416-225-0193*

*② Referring to the AP Cable of Nov-19, 1963 for some reason the name of Acabo comes to mind. A note I saw somewhere in my files says Acabo was involved in an assassin plot on Brazil President Goulart.*



VOLUME I NUMBER I A PUBLICATION OF THE SAN FRANCISCO CITIZENS COMMITTEE

MORE ASSASSINATION WITNESSES MEET WITH DEATH  
by Hal Verb

Two key witnesses to the events surrounding the assassination of President Kennedy have met with violent deaths and their names have been all but suppressed by the news media here in the Bay Area. The names bring to more than 20 the number of persons--in some way related to the assassination--who have died mysteriously since the assassination.

The two--Harold Russell, Jr. of Davis, Oklahoma and James R. Worrell, Jr. of Dallas Texas--are mentioned briefly in the Warren Report.

Russell was listed as an "eyewitness" to the Tippit killing immediately after the Dallas police officer was shot on November 22, 1963. The report claims Russell stated Oswald was the man he and others at a nearby used car lot saw fleeing the scene of the crime. It said that Russell "confirmed this statement" in a sworn affidavit he signed for the Warren Commission.

A check of the sworn affidavit (see Vol. VIII, P. 594 of the Commission's Hearings and Exhibits) reveals however, that the affidavit does not contain Russell's "statement" but only that he had been shown the written report of an interview he had with the FBI and that he agreed that this "represented" a "correct" report of what he saw. The FBI written report is not published, however.

James Worrell, Jr. was in the crowd at the vicinity of the Texas School Book Building which Oswald is alleged to have fired from. He also claimed to have seen a man running from the rear of that building shortly after the assassination but could not identify him.

Russell died July 28, 1965 after a brief scuffle with a Davis, Oklahoman police-man. Early reports of his death listed him as having succumbed to a heart attack.

(This story continues on Page 3)

EVENTS UNFOLD IN NEW ORLEANS..  
AS SAN FRANCISCO CITIZENS  
COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY KEEPS PUB-  
LIC INFORMED THROUGH NEW ORLEANS  
SPECIAL BRIEFINGS.....

As this issue of Assassination Bulletin goes to press, the San Francisco Citizens Committee of Inquiry into the Assassination of President Kennedy is in the midst of compiling, indexing, and analysing the materials flowing from New Orleans. We hope in the next issue to present as fruitful and penetrative an analysis as manpower makes possible. At this time, staff writers and researchers for the Assassination Bulletin are checking out all leads and new material available. Meanwhile, the Workshop on the Kennedy Assassination conducted by Hal Verb every Wednesday night at San Francisco State College is giving special attention to all late developments breaking in New Orleans.

ASSASSINATION BULLETIN SPECIAL  
--NEW ORLEANS IN A CAPSULE--

- the death of David Ferrie is another in a long series of deaths connected in one way or another with the assassination inquiry
- many feel that exiled anti-Castro Cubans figure heavy at this time in inquiries of the assassination.

3-15-67

→ PROGRESS REPORT ON KENNEDY ASSASSINATION WORKSHOP ←  
AT SAN FRANCISCO STATE COLLEGE

by Robert Hyatt

Seventeen weeks ago, a class was formed at San Francisco State College under the leadership of Harold Verb entitled, "A Workshop on the Kennedy Assassination." During the past four months, the members of the class have done research surrounding the deaths of John F. Kennedy, Officer J.D. Tippit, and Lee Harvey Oswald. The course was quick to interest the students as Penn Jones, author of Forgive My Grief, told members of the workshop at the first meeting "At least two riflemen were firing simultaneously that day in Dallas in a crossfire." The speech by Penn Jones set the mood of the class.

On Wednesday, November 16, David Lifton addressed the workshop. Lifton, the U.C.L.A. graduate engineering student who had been working full time on the photographic evidence, told the class that Oswald had been framed. Lifton attempted to show that the fatal shot, Zapruder 313, didn't, couldn't have come from the sixth floor of the Texas School Book Depository. By means of projecting slides on to two screens, Lifton showed the class how the head of President Kennedy would only go back starting with frame 313. He said that you would think that if someone was hit by a bullet moving at 2000 feet per second from behind, the person should go forward. But the F.B.I., according to Lifton, said Kennedy's head snapped backward and leftward. He then went on to show how the Zapruder slides from frames 313 to 316 verify what the Federal Bureau of Investigation said. It is interesting to note that 2/3 of the eye-witnesses to the assassination did believe the shots came from the front from areas such as the grassy knoll. The class was astonished when Lifton revealed a letter from J. Edgar Hoover acknowledging the fact that the Zapruder frames 314 and 315 were printed in reverse order in Volume 18 of the Presidents Hearings on the Assassination of President Kennedy. The reversed order of the frames made it appear as if Kennedy's head went forward, instead of backward and to the left as is now known.

In recent weeks, the class has examined the eight proofs submitted by the Warren Commission upon which they base their contention that Lee Harvey Oswald murdered President Kennedy. The members of the class have been able to demonstrate the non factual basis of the proofs, which in turn proves that Oswald didn't murder President Kennedy.

The class has examined the articles by William Manchester which have recently appeared in Look Magazine and has found Mr. Manchester to be in error regarding many crucial aspects of the assassination. (The next Assassination Bulletin will contain a critical analysis of the Manchester Articles. The analysis will prove that Manchester's charges about Oswald fall down when the evidence is examined.)

Raymond Marcus, author of "The Bastard Bullet," addressed the class a few weeks ago. The main points he brought up were 1) Commission Exhibit 399 is probably not legitimate, 2) the first shot was fired at Zapruder frame 189 or 190, and that 3) President Kennedy was hit once at Zapruder frame 312 OR 313 and once again at Zapruder frame 313 OR 314. According to Mr. Marcus, the first of these two shots came from the left rear and the second came from the right front in the vicinity of the grassy knoll.

The class was most fortunate to have Harold Weisberg, former newspaper and magazine writer, senate investigator, and intelligence and political analyst address the class. Harold Weisberg, author of Whitewash and Whitewash II, and also Whitewash III which will be out shortly, discussed the F.B.I. and Secret Service Coverup and also the mutilation, destruction, alteration, and suppression of the photographic evidence.

The workshop includes weekly class preparation, weekly evaluation of research, guest speakers, films, slides, tapes, maps, documents, clippings, research into the 26 volumes of the Warren Commission, and materials unavailable to the public at present.

In recent weeks extensive files have been compiled on the New Orleans situation. The class will analyse this material and their findings will be reported here in this regular feature of the Assassination Bulletin.

MORE ASSASSINATION WITNESSES MEET WITH DEATH--by Hal Verb--(Continued from pg. 1)  
This newsletter has learned, however, that several independent investigators who looked into the details of his death found that Russell had been knocked in the head by a police officer and died within a few hours after arriving at a Davis Hospital.

According to one investigator Russell had been out the night of July 28, 1965 drinking with a lady friend at a bar. While under the influence (in bar) of liquor Russell caused a commotion and nearly went "out of his mind." He kept insisting that people were threatening to kill him. Someone then called the police and after his scuffle with the policeman Russell was taken to the hospital. The hospital certified that he died of "heart failure."

Checking with the hospital the investigator queried the hospital attendant if it were true that Russell had died of a heart attack. The aide replied "Well,--if you hit a man hard enough on the head enough times he's bound to die of heart failure."

James Worrell died in an automobile and motorcycle crash on Saturday November 5, 1966. The Dallas Morning News and the Times-Herald reported his death the next day but made no mention of the fact that he was an assassination witness.

On February 23, 1967 an article listing the "mystery" deaths based on a compilation the Associated Press prepared ran in several West Coast newspapers (See, for example, The San Jose Mercury, February 23, 1967--or the Los Angeles Herald Examiner, February 23, 1967.). Except for the Palo Alto Times of February 23, 1967, Harold Russell's name was not included in the listing despite the fact he died almost two years ago.

Russell's name was left out after the Associated Press ordered its wire editors to "make certain" the story of his death was not published.

The order read...."Editors--the fifth graf (paragraph) from end of the Dallas datelined story dealing with the death of Harold Russell has been killed. A kill is mandatory. Make certain the graf is not published."

A bulletin issued just prior to the AP order stated--"Dallas--kill 5th graf starting from end of New Orleans deaths --Harold Russell death circumstances unsubstantiated."

Ironically, articles based on the Associated Press compilation in referring to Worrell's death stated that he had been shot to death. As noted above, Worrell died in a car crash.

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WORLD REACTION TO  
EVENTS IN NEW  
ORLEANS.....

A brief look at world reaction to events in New Orleans...the Sunday edition of the London Times headlined the New Orleans investigation. The National Guardian report says "around the world, every piece of new information is front page news because most persons have rejected the Warren Report."

MARK LANE COMMENTS ON NEW ORLEANS DEVELOPMENTS

These statements were carried in the March 4, 1967 issue of the National Guardian and we re-print them here. Said Lane in response to recent developments in New Orleans, "I hope Garrison is strong because there are ruthless and powerful forces in the U.S. who seek to prevent a full exploration of the facts. If the matter is reopened, it will be reopened in New Orleans. If Garrison indicts people for complicity in the assassination, it seems unlikely to me that President Johnson could hold off the appointment of a new commission of inquiry until after the 1968 elections." The National Guardian further reports that "Lane said he was prepared to go to New Orleans and put in Garrisons hands all the information that he had. He supported Garrison's refusal to present his evidence to the commission. He is quite justified in not wishing to share the evidence with those who have falsified the facts, said Lane."

"Let justice be done, though the heavens fall."

"One man who knows the truth constitutes the majority"

Jim Garrison--New Orleans D.A.