

Dec 68

John & Neil
Dec 68

Authorized as second class

Mysterious new book

Kennedy death linked to U.S. establishment

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PARIS — A book of mysterious origin accusing the entire U.S. power structure of complicity in the assassination of President John Kennedy has spread through Western Europe and is now crossing the Atlantic.

The book, called Farewell America in its English-language edition and L'Amérique Brûle (America Burns) in French, says several dozen persons participated directly in the plot and many more, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, knew about it before the event.

Farewell America was printed in Belgium for a company chartered in Liechtenstein, apparently for that purpose. It was marketed in France, with considerable success, by a new company that has no other product, and is now being offered to Americans outside regular book channels by a Montreal concern.

The author is listed as James Hepburn. He is described in publicity for the book as an American, but a biography on the cover flap says he was born abroad 34 years ago, went to the London School of Economics, was graduated from the "Institute

of Political Studies" in Paris, met Jacqueline Bouvier, who later became Mrs. Kennedy, in 1951, first visited the United States in 1960 and twice met Mr. Kennedy that year.

Rene Lamarre, head of Editions Nouvelles Frontières, the French company marketing the book, affirmed in an interview that "James Hepburn" was actually "pretty much a pseudonym," representing a "group of European and American researchers."

This is supported by author's acknowledgements in the book, in which 16 collaborators in the French edition and 11 in the English are thanked. Only first names are given for most of those thanked, who are listed as living in six countries, including the United States.

Mr. Lamarre said the manuscript had been offered to and rejected by "practically all" U.S. trade publishers before it appeared in West Germany and France last summer.

An apparent reason for its rejection by U.S. publishers was the fear of libel action. A number of prominent citizens are accused in the book, either directly or by implication, of having had guilty knowledge of the plot to kill the President.

Farewell America

Lamarre

Hepburn

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Marina's Testimony Called Helpful in Death Plot Probe



LEAVING the Orleans Parish Grand Jury room at the Criminal Courts Building Thursday afternoon is Mrs. Marina Oswald Porter, being escorted by Deputy Criminal Sheriff Anthony Constanza. Behind the two is Assistant District Attorney Andrew Sciambra. Mrs. Porter, the remarried widow of accused presidential assassin Lee Harvey Oswald, testified before the grand jury for nearly three hours.

Oswald's Widow Quizzed Almost Three Hours

By ROBERT USSERY

Mrs. Marina Oswald Porter appeared before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury Thursday for nearly three hours, at least part of the time with District Attorney Jim Garrison, whose Kennedy death probe brought her to New Orleans.

When she left the jury room shortly after 5 p. m. she was escorted through a horde of newsmen by Assistant District Attorneys Andrew Sciambra and James L. Alcock.

Alcock said the jury would have no further need of the widow of accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald.

He said her testimony was helpful to Garrison's probe, but would not comment on how valuable he considered it.

However, when she was asked if she had contributed anything, the petite Mrs. Porter replied, "I don't think so," in a tiny, feminine voice.

ANOTHER WITNESS

Another probe witness, Kerry Lee Thornley of Tampa, Fla., also spent several hours before the jury in the morning.

Thornley, a Marine Corps buddy of Oswald in the late 1950s, emerged from the jury room at the lunch break and told reporters he never saw Oswald again after June of 1959.

Garrison contends they were associated during the summer of 1963 when Thornley lived in the French Quarter.

During an interview following his appearance Thornley disagreed with Garrison on two issues.

Thornley said the Warren Commission was accused of not asking him if he knew Oswald in New Orleans.

"They did ask that, and I told them no," he said.

He also disagreed with Garrison's opinion that Oswald was a right-winger.

OSWALD MARINE BUDDY CHARGED

Perjury Said to Thornley in Garrison Probe

A Marine Corps buddy of accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald who denied knowing Oswald when both lived in New Orleans was charged with perjury by the district attorney's office Wednesday in connection with Kennedy death probe testimony.

Free lance writer Kerry W. Thornley, Tampa, Fla., was accused in a direct bill of information of lying in testimony before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury on Feb. 8. The allegedly untruthful testimony was contained in the charge.

In it, Thornley in effect denied having seen Oswald in a French Quarter restaurant bar in late September of 1963.

In response to questioning by District Attorney Jim Garrison, Thornley said he had an acquaintance, Barbara Reid, told him after the assassination that she had seen him and Oswald together in the Bourbon House Restaurant.

However, Thornley testified that he concluded that the meeting could not have been possible, according to the charge.

FALSE CLAIM
Thornley has written two novels dealing with Oswald. He



KERRY W. THORNLEY
Charged with perjury.

has denied ever having seen Oswald again after their Marine Corps days in the city.

In Tampa, Thornley held the perjury charge false, and he had a "feeling" of futility about going through the rest of my life bailing myself out of debt over this thing.

He said he probably would not fight extradition and would ask for a public defender to represent him in court.

Concerning the charge, Thornley said there is either a conspiracy afoot to "frame me" by someone with a large amount of money or the Grand Jury was misled by "the overweigh-

ing amount of circumstantial coincidentals."

'DELIBERATELY LIED'

Many witnesses apparently "deliberately lied" in testifying that they saw him with Oswald in restaurants and other places, he said.

"I have neither the resources investigative-wise nor legal-wise to prove that these witnesses were lying," he added.

"I feel a comprehensive investigation would clear me."

He has said that before he left New Orleans in September, 1967, he gave Garrison an affidavit concerning Oswald and his relationship with him at the Marine Corps base at El Toro, Calif.

In a press release following the charge Garrison said that "evidence indicates" that Thornley did meet Oswald in 1963, and that both were "part of the covert federal operation operating in New Orleans."

Garrison described Thornley as the Warren Commission's "star witness concerning Oswald's early 'left wing' orientation."

NEVER 'COMMUNIST'
Garrison said Oswald was never a "Communist," and added:

"Inasmuch as he was sent to Russia as an employe of the United States government, it was necessary to have a major witness testify in great detail to create an early image as a Marxist so that there would not be too much public curiosity about the real reasons for Oswald's abrupt departures from the Marine Corps to sail to Russia."

Since other Marine acquaintances did not describe Oswald as a "demilitarized" their testimony was presented in brief affidavits, Garrison charged.

"It is thought provoking that the only one of Oswald's former Marine comrades who testified that he was a 'Marxist' is also the only one who was in personal association with Oswald in New Orleans in 1963 just before he returned to Dallas before the assassination," Garrison said.

Thornley's "associates and pattern of activity," Garrison claimed, "plainly mark him as an employe, like Lee Oswald, of the Central Intelligence Agency."

1963 LINK CLAIMED
Thornley and Oswald had post office boxes in the Federal Building, 1000 Poydras Square, Garrison said.

"Such post office boxes are customarily used by federal employes with their assignments as 'meal drops' as well as an acceptable excuse for regular visits into a federal building," Garrison said.

Garrison alleged that Thornley in 1963 was also in the company of "one of the men now charged in connection with the assassination of President Kennedy."

Clay L. Shaw, former managing director of the International Trade Mart, and Edgar Eugene Bradley, of California, are the two persons charged with conspiring in Kennedy's death.

Other persons drew charges including perjury, theft, and intimidation of public witnesses as a result of Garrison's investigation.

Concealment of CIA involvement in the assassination was successful because "the seven distinguished men on the Warren Commission literally adopted the scenario developed by the assassins," Garrison charged.

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS

Questions by Garrison and answers by Thornley cited in the perjury charge follow:

Q. You left the Sheraton Charles the second time on September 20, 1963. Now going back, can you remember about a week afterward where you were?

A. I have been going through this whole September thing so much in my mind . . .

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Q. Have you reached some result as to this last week in September?

A. No, the only thing referring to this time period, ever since the assassination, Barbara Reed (sic) said mark my words, when the truth of the assassination comes out, and this was within a week after Oswald was killed, and it was in her house one night, and she said when the truth of the assassination comes out it will be a New Orleans based conspiracy it will have right wing elements involved and it will have something to do with Latin elements.

THOUGHTS-RECALLED

Q. What do you recall thinking about this last week in September?

A. Let me tell you first how I got on to thinking about it to begin with. She said she had seen me sitting with Oswald in my little corner of the Bourbon House, where I sat whenever it was empty, and she had said to me a couple of times, "you have a nice voice," or something like that, I did not know her too well but I had seen her around and I had been introduced to her casually, we weren't friends or anything. She was sitting up at the bar and I was sitting down here and somebody was on my right and she said I am sure you were sitting there with Oswald, I am positive it was Oswald, because I never forget a face, I have been a casting director and I never forget a face. He was very neat and he was sitting there and talking to you and I made that comment to you about your voice—and I remember the incident, I was sitting there one day, I was talking to somebody and Barbara did make a comment about my voice, and the reason I think it was not is because first of all that night she was talking to me and we decided after talking about two hours, that she was so sure of herself, and all of this travel pattern had emerged and I am saying Barbara is suggesting, she is saying, well maybe you didn't recognize him, he came walking in and of course there is always the other consideration that I was revising the book at that time and he could have come walking in, and she convinced me that this is what probably happened, he came walking in and sat next to me and we were talking to her and she made this comment on my voice and

'BECAME CONVINCED'

Q. All right, have you finished giving me the basis for getting to what you were doing the last week in September?

A. That is the only thing I don't know what I was doing.

Q. Are you sure that you never saw Lee Harvey Oswald in New Orleans in 1963, for a while you seemed to be on the fence.

A. No, the only time I ever thought I did was when Barbara Reed was so sure about it, and I became convinced, but I am sure I did not see Oswald and recognize him in New Orleans of 1963.

Q. You are telling me there was a point when she had convinced you that you were with Oswald?

A. Yes, she convinced me, certainly, there was the two hours or so she was talking to me and she said, "Garry, what must have happened was this, you must have walked into the Bourbon House and he must have walked in, you must have seen that his face was familiar,

but not recognized him out of uniform and with this stuff, and he must have been next to you . . . she was so certain, so positive.

Q. Did it seem to you that was possible?

A. It seemed possible, when I got all through, until the next day and people began to say Barbara Reed connects herself with everything that happens, then it seemed impossible.

Q. Does it seem possible now?
A. Well, no, it doesn't seem possible to me unless I was drugged or something . . .

21 Feb.

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Oswald Buddy Lied, Says DA

Free-lance writer Kerry W. Thornley, once a Marine Corps buddy of Lee Harvey Oswald, was charged with perjury by District Attorney Jim Garrison today in connection with his testimony Feb. 8 before the Orleans Parish Grand Jury in its Kennedy assassination probe.

The 29-year-old Thornley was accused of lying before the jury when he testified that he had not been with Oswald in New Orleans in September of 1963.

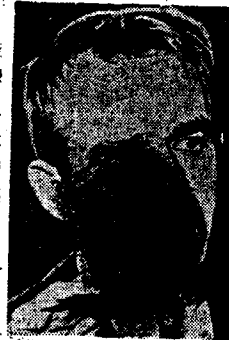
OSWALD WAS THE MAN NAMED by the Warren Commission as the lone assassin of President Kennedy in November, 1963, in Dallas, Tex.

The charge details the testimony of Thornley and the questioning by Garrison,

who has spearheaded the Kennedy investigation.

IN IT THORNLEY DENIED meeting with Oswald In reply to Garrison's questions, the witness said he had been told by Barbara Reid, a French Quarter resident, that he had been seen with Oswald that September in the Bourbon House restaurant. Thornley told the jury, the charge alleges, that he was sure he had not met with Oswald despite Miss Reid's statements.

THE CHARGE SAYS THAT Thornley knew this testimony was "false and untrue." Thornley, who has written two novels



KERRY THORNLEY

See PROBE—Page 4

Continued from Front Page

concerning Oswald, "Idle Warriors" and "Oswald," has said repeatedly that he never saw the accused murderer after they went their separate way in the Marine Corps.

Now a resident of Tampa, Fla., Thornley had first fought extradition to New Orleans to testify before the jury, but later changed his mind.

In Tampa, Thornley said the perjury charge was false and said he had a "feeling of futility about going through the rest of my life bailing myself out of debt over this thing."

He said he probably would not fight extradition and would ask for a public defender to represent him in court.

IN RESPONSE TO the charge, Thornley said there is either a conspiracy afoot to "frame me" by someone with a large amount of money, or the grand jury was misled by "an overwhelming amount of circumstantial coincidences."

Many witnesses, Thornley declared, apparently "deliberately lied" in testifying that they saw him with Oswald in restaurants and other places.

"I have neither the resources nor the legalwise nor legalwise to prove that these witnesses are lying," he said. "I feel a comprehensive investigation would clear me."

He has said that before he left New Orleans in September, 1967, he gave Garrison an affidavit concerning Oswald and his relationship with him at the Marine Corps base at El Toro, Calif.

Along with the charge, Garrison filed these quotations from the testimony of Thornley before the grand jury:

Q. You left the Sheraton Charles the second time on Sept. 20, 1963. Now going back, can you remember about a week afterward where you were?

A. I have been going through this whole September thing so much in my mind

Q. HAVE YOU REACHED some result as to this last week in September?

A. No, the only thing referring to this time period, ever since the assassination Barbara Reid said, "Mark my words, when the truth of the assassination comes out,"—and this was within a week after Oswald was killed, and it was in her house one night—and she said, "When the truth of the assassination comes out, there will be a New Orleans based conspiracy, it will have right wing elements involved and it will have something to do with Latin elements."

THORNLEY

testimony

Q. What do you recall thinking about this last week in September?

Sub A. LET ME TELL you first how I got on to thinking about it to begin with. She said she had seen me sitting with Oswald in the little corner of the Bourbon House where I sat whenever it was empty, and she had said to me a couple of times, "You have a nice voice" or something like that. I did not know her too well but I had seen her around and I had been introduced to her casually—we weren't friends or anything. She was sitting up at the bar and I was sitting down here and somebody was on my right and she said "I am sure you were sitting there with Oswald. I am positive it was Oswald, because I never forget a face; I have been a casting director and I never forget a face, he was very neat and he was sitting there and talking to you and I made the comment to you about your voice" and I remember the person who was sitting there and I was talking to me and Barbara did not make a comment about my voice and the reason I think it was not Oswald is because first of all that night she was talking to me and we decided after talking about two hours, that she was so sure of herself, and all of this travel pattern had emerged and I am saying Barbara is suggesting, she is saying, "Well, maybe you didn't recognize him, he came walking in," and of course there is always the other consideration that I was revising the book at that time and he could have come walking in, and she convinced me that this is what probably happened, he came walking in and sat next to me and we were talking to her and she made this comment on my voice and she went back to her conversation and I went back to mine . . .

Q. DID SHE SEE you with Oswald?

A. I don't think she did because the next day I started asking people . . .

Q. You don't think so?

A. I don't know whether it was Oswald. I can't remember who was sitting there with me, I don't think it was

Oswald for two reasons, the first thing is if I could remember who it was then I could say definitely in view of the fact that . . .

Q. I understand the facts, but in view of the fact that you were writing a novel about him, I should think you would recognize him, no?

A. YES, THIS was Barbara's theory.

Q. Was her theory right?

A. I don't know. First of all, the next day I started saying to people "Barbara is sure she saw me with Oswald in the Bourbon House," that is the first thing. I kept asking people.

Q. Did you ask them if they saw you at the Bourbon House with Oswald?

A. No I did not ask them, how would they know? Barbara was there. I said Barbara is sure she saw me at the Bourbon House with Oswald, I don't know whether it is true or not but she is sure she saw me there and she convinced me that she saw me. And afterwards she said, "Oh, Barbara Reid gets involved with everything that happens."

Q. IS IT POSSIBLE that you were with Oswald at the Bourbon House?

A. I don't think it possible. For here is the other reason. I remembered this thing that happened after she turned away and after she went back to conversing with this person at the bar and I felt obligated to explain to this person sitting with me, "That is Barbara Reid, she is a character around here," to somebody who did not know Barbara." She is a witch or something like this, and I felt that there was a barrier to my explaining this to this person and this could only have been one of the Cuban waiters at the Sheraton Charles and the only barrier would have been a language barrier . . . why did I feel that this was a barrier, and on the basis of that—that is all I know. On the basis of that, I am sure I was not with Oswald, but Barbara is sure I was.

Q. All right, have you finished giving me the basis for getting to what you were doing the last week in Septem-

ber?
A. That's the only thing I don't know what I was doing.

Books

Q. ARE YOU SURE that you never saw Lee Harvey Oswald in New Orleans in 1963? For a while you seemed to be on the fence.

A. No, the only time I ever thought I did was when Barbara Reid was so sure about it, and I became convinced, but I am sure I did not see Oswald and recognize him in New Orleans in 1963.

Q. You are telling me there was a point when she had convinced you that you were with Oswald?

A. Yes, she convinced me, certainly, there was the two hours or so she was talking to me and she said, "Kerry, what must have happened was this, you must have walked into the Bourbon House and he must have sat down next to you . . ." She was so certain, so positive . . .

Q. Did it seem to you that was possible?

A. It seemed to be possible, when she got all through, until the next day and people began to say Barbara Reid connects herself with everything that happens, then it seemed impossible.

Q. Does it seem possible now?

A. Well, no, it doesn't seem possible to me unless I was drugged or something. . . .

Narr.

Subj

OSWALD'S WIDOW TESTIFIES

Continued from Page 1

viously went to the jury room about 9 a. m. but left shortly after arriving.

An attractive woman with blue eyes and close-cut blonde hair, Mrs. Porter walked with her head high and with an unperturbed expression. She made no comment to newsmen.

A few minutes later she and Garrison were seen walking up the stairs leading to the third floor jury room.

DOOR IS GUARDED

A door leading to the stairway was guarded by criminal sheriff's deputies, and newsmen waited in the second floor hallway. Garrison reportedly entered the jury room with Mrs. Porter, but it was not known how long he stayed.

In another probe develop-

ment, attorney Dean A. Andrews took a pauper's oath before Criminal District Court Judge Frank J. Shea.

This allows his attorneys, John P. Dowling and Walter D. Kelly to get a free copy of the transcript of last August's trial before Judge Shea in which Andrews was convicted of perjury.

The transcript will be used in an appeal of the conviction and three-month sentence.

In another action, Thomas Beckham, who is scheduled to testify on Feb. 15, got permission to return to Nebraska.

Beckham, who was ordered to New Orleans by an Omaha judge last week, previously won a postponement of his grand jury appearance to Feb. 15 so



KERRY THORNLEY
Oswald buddy appears before grand jury.

he could confer with his attorneys.

THREE MUSIC SHOWS

Beckham told Judge Matthew S. Braniff he must be present Saturday for three country music shows in Alliance, Neb., for which \$4,000 worth of tickets have been sold.

There was no objection from the district attorney's office, but Judge Braniff said he would be held in contempt if he did not return.

Beckham was accompanied to the court by his brother and a bodyguard.

Mrs. Porter and Beckham fought their return to New Orleans. A Dallas judge ruled that Mrs. Porter was a "material and necessary" witness. She and her husband drove to New Orleans Wednesday.

Thornley at first said he would resist attempts to take him back, but changed his mind and arrived voluntarily Wednesday.

Beckham, who says he is a minister and a psychologist, is from the New Orleans area. Garrison reportedly wants to question him about his alleged association with deceased pilot David W. Ferrie.

Ferrie has been implicated in an alleged assassination conspiracy by Garrison.

Books

MARINA
ANDREWS
BECKHAM

9 FEB

MARINA

Thomley

'COMMUNIST TYPE'
Thomley described Oswald as
an "old party Communist
type."

"But when he became disillusioned with the Soviet Union, perhaps he changed his views. I never thought he was a rightist," he added.

Mrs. Porter arrived on the second floor of the Criminal Courts Building for the afternoon session at 2 p. m.

She, her husband, Kenneth Jess Porter, and Criminal Sheriff Louis A. Heyd Jr., were surrounded by a tangle of newsmen and photography equipment which accompanied them into the district attorney's office. The Porters pre-

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