

March 20, 1967

Mr. Jim Garrison
District Attorney
New Orleans, Louisiana

Dear Mr. Garrison:

A few days after information of your investigation into the assassination of President Kennedy hit the news, I received a telephone call from a man named William (Bill) Hugo Williams. He said he thought he might have information about Lee Oswald, David Ferrie and your investigation.

I will add that he has not mentioned any names involved--at least made public in your investigation--except those already announced through the news media.

Nevertheless, I sent two reporters by his home to get the man's story, just in case. Our conclusion is that he was indeed in New Orleans in 1963 and probably was involved with some extremist group; but whether the group had any connection with Oswald, and/or Ferrie I cannot be sure.

Still, I thought I would pass this information on to you. If any of the names mentioned by Mr. Williams ring a bell with your department I can let you know how to contact the man involved.

Here, roughly, is his story:

Mr. Williams was released from East Louisiana State Hospital at Jackson, Louisiana, on March 13, 1963. He claims to have been illegally confined in a cell for three years under a fraudulent commitment. He was released by a Judge John R. Rarick at Clinton, Louisiana, on an unopposed writ of habeas corpus. He claims when he was released the hospital kept his money and some of his other personal belongings.

He says an attorney, Richard G. Van Buskirk, said he could get the money, more than one hundred dollars, on deposit. He says he was sent to New Orleans on March 21, 1963, by attorney Van Buskirk and Judge Rarick to meet a Max Banks.

Through Banks he claims to have met a man named Gerald Stablier. Mr. Williams stayed with Stablier as did five or six other men for several weeks

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at a place on Chartres Street near Jackson Square. He claims, through the same group, to have met a man named Lee Harris and another named David Ferry (F-E-R-R-Y is Mr. Williams' spelling). He said the man he knew as Ferry was a pilot. The man he knew as Harris strongly resembled a man he saw later in pictures and on TV identified as Lee Harvey Oswald.

Others he mentioned were David Little, or possibly David Lewis, and also a Jack Mule or Jack Muir. Mr. Williams claims they had talks in large and small groups, and on one occasion went into the Gulf on a boat for target practice with World War II M-1 rifles. He said the group would go to Cuba, and assassinate Fidel Castro. For this act they would receive five thousand dollars each before the mission and ten thousand dollars each if and when they returned.

Mr. Williams adds that on April 6, 1963, he left the group and New Orleans and went to Dallas, Texas, and met still another man (apparently on advice of someone in New Orleans) named Dr. Robert Morris. Morris is identified by Mr. Williams as President of the Defenders of American Liberties. His address is supposed to be 2001 Adolphus Towers Building, Dallas, telephone RI 8-7247.

Mr. Williams told me on the telephone, though he would not make a recorded or filmed statement to this effect, that he had overheard the men he knew as Lee Harris and David Ferry discussing the assassination of a president. The discussion was not detailed--they referred to no specific president--they did not mention Kennedy, Dallas or anything else, only discussed the fact that a president COULD BE hit if someone wanted to hit him.

Mr. Williams said he had been approached at one time by a federal agent but had had no further contact since a few months after the assassination. In response to the question of why he was telling me all this he said, "I think I have some information someone should have. I do not want to go to jail--I do not want publicity. I do not want to be thought of as a crazy man, a publicity seeker or anything else. But after the New Orleans investigation started, several things began to add up. If I do know something that could help, I want the authorities to be aware of it."

At the present time Mr. Williams is managing an apartment house in Oklahoma City.

I am certain, Mr. Garrison, that you have received all sorts of letters of this nature since your investigation became known. And most likely this will be of no help. But still I felt I should pass the information along. Let me know if we can be of any assistance.

Very truly yours,

-3*- Jack Ogle, WKY-TV News