

EB51 (400)

NEW ORLEANS, FEB. 18 (AP)-DIST. ATTY. JIM GARRISON SAID "IT'S VERY POSSIBLE" WHEN QUIZZED ABOUT A PUBLISHED REPORT HE HAS BEGUN AN INVESTIGATION TO FIND OUT IF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S ASSASSINATION RESULTED FROM A POSSIBLE PLOT INVOLVING NEW ORLEANS.

THE STATES-ITEM, IN A COPYRIGHTED STORY, SAID YESTERDAY HIS OFFICE IS SPENDING "OUT-OF-THE ORDINARY SUMS OF MONEY" ON SUCH AN INVESTIGATION.

MEANWHILE, THE MIAMI HERALD QUOTED "HIGH SOURCES" AS SAYING THAT NEW ORLEANS AUTHORITIES WERE SEARCHING FOR A CUBAN WHO LIVED IN MIAMI.

LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS IN MIAMI REFUSED TO TALK, THE HERALD SAID, BUT OTHER SOURCES REPORTED GARRISON'S MEN HAD "LOOKED THROUGH THOUSANDS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PHOTOGRAPHS IN VISITS TO MIAMI."

THE AFTERNOON STATES-ITEM SAID "THE POSSIBILITY OF A WELL-ORGANIZED ASSASSINATION PLOT IN WHICH NEW ORLEANS AND NEW ORLEANS RESIDENTS WERE SOMEHOW DIRECTLY INVOLVED IS SAID TO BE AT THE CENTER OF THE INVESTIGATION."

THE WARREN COMMISSION SAID IT FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF A PLOT AFTER INVESTIGATING THE ASSASSINATION OF KENNEDY IN DALLAS ON NOV. 22, 1963. THE COMMISSION'S REPORT NAMED LEE HARVEY OSWALD AS THE ASSASSIN.

OSWALD LIVED IN NEW ORLEANS THE SUMMER BEFORE KENNEDY WAS KILLED. HE WAS ARRESTED HERE ONCE WHILE PASSING OUT HAND BILLS FOR THE PRO-CASTRO "FAIR PLAY FOR CUBA" COMMITTEE.

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THE MIAMI HERALD SAID THE NEW ORLEANS INVESTIGATORS HAVE OBTAINED A PICTURE SHOWING THE HUNTED CUBAN POSING WITH OSWALD AND HAD MADE AT LEAST SIX TRIPS TO MIAMI SINCE LAST NOV. 25. THE HERALD SAID IT WAS NOT KNOWN WHETHER THE CUBAN STILL LIVED IN MIAMI.

RECORDS IN THE CITY FINANCE DEPARTMENT AND CRIMINAL DISTRICT COURT HERE SHOW MORE THAN \$8,000 HAS BEEN SPENT IN THE PAST MONTHS BY GARRISON'S OFFICE FOR A "SPECIAL INVESTIGATION."

THE RECORDS LISTED EIGHT TRIPS TO MIAMI WITH MOST OF THE \$8,000 SPENT ON TRIPS TO MIAMI, DALLAS, HOUSTON, WASHINGTON, SAN FRANCISCO AND THE LOUISIANA STATE PENITENTIARY.

ADRIAN ALBA, A GARAGE OPERATOR WHO BEFRIENDED OSWALD HERE, TOLD NEWSMEN HE WAS APPROACHED IN MID-JANUARY BY A DETECTIVE FROM THE DA'S OFFICE. ALBA SAID THE OFFICER QUESTIONED HIM FOR 30 MINUTES ABOUT OSWALD AND HE QUOTED HIM AS SAYING THE INTERROGATION WAS "JIM GARRISON'S PROJECT."

CHARLES LEBLANC, WHO WORKED AT A COFFEE PLANT WITH OSWALD, SAID HE WAS QUIZZED ABOUT FIVE MINUTES SOME TWO WEEKS AGO BY A DETECTIVE.

"DON'T TELL ME THEY'RE GOING TO START THAT AGAIN," SAID MRS. J. J. GARNER, OSWALD'S LANDLADY IN NEW ORLEANS. BUT SHE SAID NO ONE HAD CONTACTED HER RECENTLY FROM GARRISON'S OFFICE.

"I'LL ALWAYS BELIEVE OSWALD DIDN'T DO IT ALONE," HER HUSBAND TOLD NEWSMEN.

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